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INDEX.

LEADING ARTICLES:—

Affairs in France	565
An Emergency Fund	218
Another Liberal	9
Cost of Japan's War with China	592
Count Okuma on China	516
Dreyfus	541
Economic Situation at end of 1898	38
Educational Question	541
Emperor's Visit to Yokohama	468
England and Japan	163
Encouragement of Navigation	217
Extra-Settlement Leases in Kobe	84
Family and Individual	110
Finnickin Finance	84
Formosa	191
Foreign Trade of Japan	59
Foreign Settlements	369
Foreign Ignorance of Japan	665
French Affairs	618
French Trappists in Yez	516
International banquet	370
Italy in China	244
Japan and her foreign friends	110
Japanese Dolmens	444
Japanese Education	417
Japan's Foreign Loan	108
Japanese Ideas on Lord Charles Beresford's Policy	107
Japanese Progress	10
Japanese views of the Anglo-Russian Entente	468
Judicial Patents and land ownership	392
Kobe and the Revised Treaties	57
Kobe Land Question	8
Law of Election	266
Lord Charles Beresford on the Revised Treaties	83
Missing Fractions of Revenue	109
Moral Standards of East and West	298
New Physical Law	618
New Treaties	592
Raw Silk or Manufactured	107
Rights of British Subjects	324
Russia in the Far East	493
Russia in Eastern Asia	58
Standards	56
Steamship Subsidies	33
Succession to Landed Estate in the Foreign Settlement	493
Superficies and British Subjects	393
Taxation of Foreigners	418
The Philippines	138
United States and the Philippines	33
United States and Japan	191
Wealth of Japan	347

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—

A Big Concern	137
Aborigines in Formosa	132
Accident at Yokohama Station	104
A Censor	29
A Commercial Difficulty	466
A Contrast	66
A Correction	132
A Cryptic Telegram	326
A Daylight Robbery	611
Admiral Mori's Dinner	326
A Clog-making Machine	34
Adulterated Silk Fabrics	407
Adulterated Wine	488
A Dangerous Pastime	88
Affairs in France	586
Affairs in the Philippines (interview with Dr. Clay MacCauley)	114
A Financial Complaint	535
A Humorous Thief	116
Alleged Train Robbery	29
Allowances of Members of the Diet	238
American Postal Service	615
"American Imperialism"	587
An Angry Journal	410
An Electric Train	85
An Emergency Reserve	105
An Exponent of Japan's Foreign Policy	387
An Exceptional Mitigation	506
An Important Case	210
An Invention	31
An Indemnity for Korea	364
An Incident of the Tobacco Monopoly	81
A "Lecture-room Lawyer"	345
A Legal Point	2
A Ladies' Peace Congress	492

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—

An Inventor	78
An Eventful Voyage	14
An Arrested Conflagration	52
Antarctic Research	492
An Invisible Agitation in Yokohama	386
Another Accident to the Tokyo Water-works	564
Another Correction	113
An offence against Ethics	443
Anti Tax-Increase League	536
An Interesting Sepulchre	5
Arbitration between Foreigners and Japanese	135
Arbitration between Foreigners and Japanese	342
Armaments and Foreign Policy	462
Arms and Explosives Bill	134
Armaments and Diplomacy	515
Art Lottery in Tokyo	389
Armament of the Navy	27
A Record	31
A Scandal	515
A Sensational Telegram	462
A Serviceable Slop	6
A Singular Community	443
A Spark Extinguisher	190
A Social Experiment	396
Assassination of Marquis Daigo	511
A Storm in a Tea pot	344
A Strange Story	442
A Struggle for Independence	206
Attacking the Foreign Office	386
A Winter Retreat	4
Ball in Tokyo	364
Ball at the Italian Legation	106
Bank Trouble	80
Bank of Korea	104
Bank of Formosa	463-540
Bank of Japan	184-214
Barley Crop for this year	564
Baron de Biegleleben	323
Baron Kataoka and the Doshisha	299
Brazil	215
Blue Books	341
Burns and the Japanese Yen	28
Brigadier-General Furston	589
Buddhists and Public Recognition	613
Cabinet, The	263
Cabinet and its Enemies	510
Cabinet Changes	5
Cabinet Reconstruction	36
Calendars, etc.	81
Captain Coghlan	416
Castle Gates in Tokyo	387
Casualties to N. Y. K. steamers	116
Central Tabernacle	7
China and Italy	262
"Chao-yu" Cult	365
Charges at Japanese Inns	412
Chief of Tokyo Police and Flower-Viewers	363
"Chinese Curios"	321
Chinese Students in Japan	294
Chinese and Japanese Iron Foundries	294
Chinese Idiosyncrasies	322
Chinese and Mixed Residence	588
Chinese in Japan	613
Chinese in Yokohama	491
China beginning to awake	487
"Chitose," The	391-412
Chiong-chin Outrage	340
Christianity and Diplomacy	295
Christianity and Buddhism	513
Civil Service Reforms	323
Code of Criminal Procedure	182-238
Collision between Japanese and Chinese Coolies	368
Colonization in the North	133
Colonel Arisaka	52
Colonies and the Tariff	26
Commercial Museum	441
Commercial Code	439
Consular Appointment to Yokohama	252
Confused Critic, The	144
Conservation in Education	413
Contrasts	620
Contract proposed by the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce	342
Constitutional Party and the new Taxes	80
Coming Era	2
Coming Event	297
Constitution Day in Tokyo	160

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—

Copyright and Translations	611
Cost of the Beresford Dinner	146
Count Okuma and the Chinese	559
Count Okuma on Current Politics	338
Count Okuma and his Omori Critics	4
Count Okuma	158-364
Court of Cassation	321
Court of Cassation and the Dreyfus Affair	240
Cotton Spinning	466
Crime in Tokyo	213
Criminal Procedure	102
Criminal Class	487
Criticism of Amateurs	489
Currency in Korea	464
Customs Committee	325
Customs Receipts	363
Cut to pieces on the Line	279
Deficit of Revenue	131
Deficiency of Revenue	78
Democratic Spirit in Japan	211
Department of Lieut. Meincke	467
Destructive Fire in Tokyo	160
Development of Railways during the Past Three Years	415
Diet (The) and Religion	239
Difficult to Please	391
Difficulties of the Progressists	182
Dishonest Sizing of Habutaye	462
District Grand Lodge of Japan	15
Distribution of Kerosene	215
Disturbances in Korea	563
Dogs and Diplomacy	537
Dog Poisoning	490
Docking of Vessels	492
Doki Club	31
Doshisha	7
Dreyfus Case	322-341
Dr. Mayers	365
Dynamitards in Korea	612
Dysentery	537
Earthquake in Central Japan	243
Education	190
Educational	587
Education of the Judiciary	268
Educational Problems	443-463
Educational Effort by Japanese in Siam	161
Effect of Increased Post and Railway Charges	442
Elections for City and Prefectural Assemblies	540
Electric Railway	441
Emigration to Korea	464
Emigration to Peru	35
Empythisis	411
Emoluments of Members of the Diet	187
England and the Transvaal	590
Envoy of Bribes	388
Evangelization and Education	510
Events in the Philippines	438
Exchanges	469
Extensive thefts	564
Extensive Changes of Local Governors, &c.	362
Fatal Accident	53
Fatal Accident at the Japan Brewery	63
Fatal Fire at Hironaki Mission House	63-821
Female Recluses	492
Female Education in Japan	441
Finance	30-389
Financial deficit	54
Fight between Chinese and Japanese in Hawaii	512
Filipino and the Tariff	120
Fires	39
Formosa	322
Formosa Affairs	489
Formosa Bandits	415
Formosa News	6
Formosa Railway	28-54-365
Formosa Amoy Cable	27
Foreign Loan	104-158-363-534
Foreigners in Japanese Legislation	441
Foreign Affairs	553
Foreign Newspapers	615
Foreigners as Pilots	290
Foreign Yoke	204
Foreign Population of Japan	510
Foreigners in Japanese Prisons	397
Foreign Mail Regulations	526
Foreign Auctioneers and a Japanese Buyer	61
Foreign Employees at the Iron Foundry	242

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—

Foreigners as Journalists in Japan...	263
Foreigners and Shares in Japanese Enterprises...	28
Foreign Chambers of Commerce after the Operation of the Revised Treaties...	215
Forest Fire in Hokkaido...	540
Foreshores...	81
France in China...	7
France and Japan...	36
France and Japanese Silk Fabrics...	80
French Affairs...	267
French Army...	266
French Silk Fabrics...	440
Franchise in Japan...	486
Funds for Education...	103
Funeral of Mr. Kiel...	143
Funeral Service for His Excellency the late M. Faure...	188
Funeral of late Princess Sada...	55
Fukushima-Yonezawa Railway...	387
Fukushima-Yonezawa Railway...	486
Gambling in Japan...	614
Garden Parties in Tokyo 365—389—416—490	
General Viscount Kawakami...	412
Germany in China...	242—339
Germany's Proceeding in China...	368
German Demands in China...	416
Germany and Habutayo...	563
German Minister for Foreign Affairs and Japan...	611
Germany's New Acquisitions in the Pacific...	561
Government Purchases of Public Bonds...	51
Government and the Revised Treaties...	135
Great Expectations...	391
Gwan-getsu Railway...	111
Hangyang Iron Mine...	387
Hermil Foreign Community at Shiribetau...	488
Hibiya Park...	466
High Schools in Japan...	239
Hokkaido...	187
House of Peers and the Pilot's Law...	239
House of Representatives' Attitude...	79
House Tax Withdrawn...	161
Imperial Visit...	486
Imperial Estate...	322
Imperial Library...	321
Imperial Palace in Shizuoka...	491
Imports and Exports...	515—535
Import Duties...	514
Imported Wines...	34
Import Tariff Revised...	162
Income Tax in America...	614
Income Tax...	367
Individual Morality and State Morality...	389
Indian Sugar Duties...	613
Indemnity Accounts...	302
Industrial Bank 186—241—291—366—467	
Increase of Railway Fares...	137
International Banquet...	307
Interpreters in Courts of Law...	60
International Committee...	344
Iodine...	490
Iron...	345
Iron Foundry...	133
Is there any exodus?... 538	
Italy and China...	512
Iteration...	540
Japan-China Bank...	103
Japan Railway Company...	137
Japan at Paris International Exhibition...	443
Japan Fishing Enterprise in Korea...	467
Japan Tea in Canada...	390
Japan Tea Dealers...	414
Japan and China...	362
Japan Silk...	343
Japan's Export of Silk...	79
Japan's Foreign Trade...	136
Japan's Foreign Policy...	292—419
Japan's Foreign Politics...	486
Japan's Future Food Supply...	342
Japan's Foreign Loan...	206
Japanese Silk Fabrics and the French Government...	53
Japanese Chambers of Commerce and the Quadruple Union...	52
Japanese Character Painted by a Japanese...	210
Japanese Immigration...	186
Japanese Public Opinion on Extramarital relations...	104
Japanese Fishermen in Saghalien...	131
Japanese Consul in Montreal...	133
Japanese Refused a Landing...	145
Japanese Politics...	210—363
Japanese Public Opinion on Italy's Doings...	242
Japanese Statesmanship...	291
Japanese Public Opinion and the Chinese Affair...	299
Japanese Women...	321
Japanese Consular Reports...	319
Japanese Nobility...	560

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—

Japanese Settlement at Amoy...	488
Japanese Ladies and the Peace Conference...	561
Japanese in Korea...	536
Japanese in Australia...	492
Japanese Justice...	511
Japanese Ladies' Costumes...	467
Japanese Claret...	466
Japanese Silk Fabrics in France...	412
Japanese Ladies...	366
Japanese Manufacturing Industry...	344
Japanese prospecting for coal in China...	467
"Jiji Shimpō" on Foreign Policy...	319
Journalists in the Philippines...	294
John Bull in Japan...	561
Judiciary...	29—469
Judicial Affairs...	267
Judicial Officials and Foreign Languages...	416
Keifu Tetsudo...	588
Kiin Brewery...	345
Kobe Warehousing Company...	132
Kobe's Progress...	160
Kobe Trade for January...	147
Kobe's Demonstration...	292
Kobe...	299
Korean Dynamitards...	589
Kyoto Chamber of Commerce and Lord Charles Beresford...	80
Lake Kawaguchi...	466
Lakes and Forests...	419
Land and Marine Transport in Hokkaido...	412
Land Lease Question...	183
Land Tax and Land Rent...	411
Last Day of the Diet...	243
Latest American Victory in the Philippines...	319
Late Count Katsu...	137
Laws and their Study...	538
Laws of Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs...	189
Land Tax and Land Rent...	105
Legations in Tokyo...	10
Legion of Honour for the Prince Imperial...	442
Lenpold Bankruptcy...	368
Liberals and the Government...	297
Liberals and the Land-tax...	132
Loans of the Bank of Japan...	241
Lord Charles Beresford and his Entertainers...	78
Lord Charles Beresford's Farewell...	91
Lord Charles Beresford and the Japanese Press...	51
Lord Salisbury and the Russian Loan...	563
Lord Charles Beresford...	50—62
Look at Home...	535
Lotteries in Yokohama...	442
Luhan Railway...	302
Mad Dogs...	132
Maltreatment of a Prisoner by the Water Police...	416
Manila...	323
Marriage of the Prince Imperial...	413
Marquis Ito...	296—365
Marquis Ito on China...	538
Marquis Ito on the Election Bill...	185
Marquis Ito and the San Moon Incident...	291
Marquis Ito on Cabinet Reconstruction...	34
Marquis Ito on the Progress of Constitutional Government in Japan...	162
Massacre near Newchwang...	323
Masonic...	491
Mediation in the Philippines...	190
Meeting of Chief Public Prosecutors...	419
Meeting of Bankers...	463
Metaphysical Lectures at the Imperial University...	391
Military Expansion...	491
Minobu...	412
Minister of War and Foreign Languages...	293
Minister of Justice and the Police...	441
Missionaries and Preaching...	589
Missionary Items...	279
Misconduct of Japanese Nobles...	339
Miss Wheeler's Wedding...	396
More Chinese Assassins...	614
Mortgages of Immovables by Foreigners...	212
Movables Bank...	264
Movements of Political Parties...	297
Mr. Dioso on Japanese Credit...	587
Mr. Dioso...	366—390
Mr. Eckhardt...	319
Mr. Felix Régamsey...	325
Mr. Hoshi Toru...	560
Mr. Itohe Vachiro...	186
Mr. Kaneko Kentaro...	491
Mr. Mariano Ponce...	268
Mr. Masujima and the Tokyo Municipality...	53
Mr. Okura's Commercial School...	4
Mr. Okura's Party to Lord Charles Beresford...	79
Mr. Ralph Page...	490
Mr. Yates' Pictures...	492

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—

Mr. Yamada's Philosophy...	513
Municipal Autonomy...	214
Mural Brothers...	346
Nagoya "Yoro In"...	443
Nationalization Law...	215
Nationalization of Railways...	241
National Unionists...	3
Negotiations between China and Korea...	487
New Anglo Japanese Bank...	53
New Bank...	31—215
New Book on Japan...	161
New Commercial Code...	388
New Chief of Staff...	489
New Chinese Periodical of Yokohama...	6
New Degree Holders...	323
New Election Law...	136
New French Duties on Silk Fabrics...	6
New Iron Mine...	294
New Japan China Bank...	52
New Japanese Settlements in China...	388
New London Journal...	162
New Loan...	558—586
New Political Party 111—299—363—387—559	
New Political Party and Religion...	339
Next Political Question...	4
New Postal Rates for Newspapers...	81
New Privy Councillor...	325
News from Paris...	216
Newspaper Troubles...	55
Newly Discovered Island...	29
New Storm...	265
New Tariff...	2
New Torpedo Destroyers...	390
New Year Luncheon...	26
Neutral Zone...	322
"Nichi Nichi Shimbun" as a Conservative...	80
Nikko Restorations...	415
Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Special Subsidiary...	32—130
Nippon Yusen Kaisha...	344—388
Notes on Current Events 514—564—590—616	
Official Appointments...	443
Official Establishment in Japan...	415
Onnado Harbour...	190
Omniscient Journalism...	322
Operation of the Revised Treaties...	345
Operation of the new Commercial Code...	464
Opium Smoking...	111
Opposition to Increased Postal Rates...	106
Osaka Harbour Works...	321
Osaka Banks...	469
Parallels...	588
Parental Officialdom...	242
Patents...	185
Patents, Designs and Trade Marks...	491
Pawnbrokers in Japan...	81
Peace Conference, The...	71
Pending Questions...	3
Petroleum in Hokkaido...	338
Physicians' Associations...	104
Philippines...	29
Plague at Hongkong...	564
Pilot's Law...	264
Piracy on the West River...	574
Policy of Privacy...	185
Political Talk...	440
Political Notes...	318
Political Parties...	130
Political Outrages in the North...	53
Political Parties and the Cabinet...	318
Police and the Jails...	268
Police and Foreigners...	410
Police Misconduct...	345
Policy of Headquarters Staff...	514
Politicians in the Provinces...	32
Popular Representation in Japan...	188
Posts, Telegraphs, Telephones and Railways...	213
Preliminary Investigation in Criminal Cases...	131
Preliminary Examination of Suspects in Japan...	54
Prince Iwakura...	34
Private Schools and Conscription...	216
Printer's Errors...	472
Prisons...	240
Press and Amended Law of Election...	137
Press and Viscount Aoki...	341
Progressists...	136—159
Progressists at Sendai...	422
Progress in Hakone...	492
Prologation of the Diet...	269
Project for a new Eastern Cable...	81
Prospect under the Treaties...	296
Proposed Associations of Medical Men...	6
Proposed Increase of Telegraph Rates...	78
Quadruple Alliance and Lord Charles Beresford...	5
Queen and Empress...	318
Question of Bail...	134
Question of Titles...	211
Railways...	296

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—

Railway Fares	54
Railway Accidents	111 492
Railway Scheme	159
Railway Question	28
Railway and Telegraph Rates	190
Railway Purchase Scheme	323
R. I. P.	346
Reason of Chinese Decadence	111
Reduction of Military Armaments	344-345
Registration of Foreigners' Right of Prop- erty	243
Religious Teachers in Prison	267
Respect paid to Scholarship	187
Retrospective Retrenchment	31
Reuter's Telegraphic Service	589
Revised Commercial Code	368
Revolution in Life Insurance	562
Rice Crop for 1898	265
Riot near Ning-po	67
Robberies with violence in Railway Car- riages	3
Roughs	366
Royal Niger Company	614
Rule of the Road	159
Rumoured Agitation	538
Russia in China	510
Russia in the Far East	339
Russia, England and China	438
Russians and Japanese in Nagasaki	469
Salaries and Allowances of members of the Diet	106
Salaries of Members of the Diet	158
Salaries and Allowances of Diplomatic and Consular Officials	364
Salt Monopoly in Formosa	162
Samoa Complication	611
Saturday's Storm	574
Seditious Philippine Documents	561
Sendai News	520
Sendai Affair connected with Mr. Snyder	419
Sensations Again	414
Serious Charge against a Shanghai Re- sident	82
Shashi Affair	325
Shanghai Cotton Mills	345
Shanghai-kwan Railway	511
Shinagawa Electric Light Company	560
"Sino-tome"	439
Share taken by Japanese Merchants in Foreign Trade	441
Shareholders	216
Shooting Fatality on a Sailing Ship	216
Signs of Civilization	325
Silence of Political Parties	291
Silk	189-320
Silk Crop in China	535
Silver Coins	340
Singular Accusations	26
Situation in the Philippines	617
Slander	293
Snow Storm	163
Soul-Chemulpho Railway	27-514
Soul-Fusan Railway	214
Soul-Wiji Railway	559
Soy Tax	136
Specie Bank	266-294
Specie Capital Reserve	387
Special Japanese Settlements in China	442
Spinning Industry in Japan	160
Stabbing Affray at Kosuge	113
State and Education	137
State Forests	29
State Railway Question	4
State Purchase of Private Railways	105-187-611
State of Christian Religion in Japan	593
Steam-boat Competition	439
Shilly-shally Devices	213
Street Improvement in Tokyo	512
Streets of Tokyo	53
Succession to Landed Estate in Foreign Settlements	464
Sugamo Prison Affair	463
Suicide of Mr. Oscar Keil	102
Superficies	266-295
Superficies Once More	415
Supply of Iron in Japan	489
"Supersensitive"	36
Tanko Railway Company	187
Taxing of Japanese Bonds	135
Tea	443-488
Telegraphic Rates	133
Telegraphic Intelligence	207
Telegraph Concessions in Korea	589
Tenure of Land by Foreigners	343
The "Asama"	404
"The Times" Correspondent in Tokyo	513
This Year's addition to the Japanese Navy	55
Three Interesting Reforms	27
"They don't know Us"	386
Theft on the Bluff	279
Theft from a Gudown	88

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—

Tobacco Monopoly	391
Tobi-no-mono	540
Tokyo	295 414
Tokyo Academy of Music	366
Tokyo City Assembly	615
Tokyo Election	560
Tokyo Roads	270
Tokyo and its Men of Gotham	491
Tokyo Stock Exchange	344
Tokyo Tram Company	323
Tokyo Waterworks	135
Tonnage Dues Bill	216 265
Tonnage Duty Law	137
Toyo Kisen Kaisha and its Subsidiary	294
Treatment of Alleged Criminals	145
Transvaal Troubles	610
Translation of the Tariff	60
Trouble in Kobe about receiving Lord Charles Beresford	80
Two Houses, The	264
United States Military Expansion	52
United States Minister in Sendai	562
Unification of East and West	340
Unlucky "Kushin Maru"	60
Verbeck Memorial	325
Victoria Cross	540
Viscount Kawakami	407
Viceroy Chang and Education	79
Wakamatsu and Hanyang	186
War in the Philippines	159
Weather, The	51
Wedding (Miss Divers) in Tokyo	55
What will Italy Do?	243
White Breaches	491
Why Tokyo is so Unprogressive	562
Wills and other Things	320
Winter Campaigning	130
Wireless Telegraphy	590
Work of the Diet	265
Work of the International Committee	34
Wool	403
Ying-chow	31
Yokohama Customs House	490
Yokohama and Kobe	388
Yokohama Literary Society	14
Yokohama Recreation Ground	190
Yokohama Water Rates	516
Yokota Affair	413
"Yorozo Choko" and Baron Iwazaki	134
Young Japan	219
Young Japan and America	319

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE:—

A correction	65
A dog Epidemic	494
A French Heroine	144
Amateur Theatricals	374
A new way to Pay Humanity's Old Debts	173
A reply to "Observer"	398
A sad case	250
A Word to Missionaries	144
Best Hotel for "Tall Men"	494
Can Foreigners preach in Japanese?	573
Charges at Japanese Inns	451
Criticism of Amateurs	494
Disloyalty to the Emperor	398
Doshisha	65
Endowed Occidental Theology and Japanese Christianity	351
Endowed Theology and Japanese Chris- tianity	425
Evangelization and Education	599
Faithful Servant Fund	305
Female Education in Japan	451
First Aid Class	306
Fire at the Y.U.C.	13
Foreign Speakers of Japanese	64
Foreign Restaurant at Oso	573
Foreigners' Rights under New Treaties to lease land in Japan	277
"Form of Contract"	374
"Glenavon's" Mail	66
Hokkaido Recluses	541
Japanese and Foreign Morality	303
Japanese Hotel	450
Lake Kawaguchi	495
Last Year of the Century	227
Late Prof. K. Murita	495
Mails for the South	352
Meguro Leprosy Home	92
Missionaries and the Carolines	600
Missionaries and the Japanese Language	574
Moral Standards of East and West	276
Mr. Dioso and Rude Little Boys	621
Mr. Ploumides Protests	173
Music in Yokohama	398
Nagoya Yoro Iu	450-495
Outcome of the Doshisha Case	304
Police at the Gates	173
Reform of the Judicial System	227
Religious Aspects of the Single Tax	65
Religion and Education in Japan	424

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE:—

Religious Liberty and Schools	277
Rise of Prices in Japan	494
Rev. R. P. Alexander	113
Sugamo Prison Chaplain	303
Taxation of Foreigners	621
Telegraph Rates	303
The Recent Appeal	199
The Marquis and the Cardinal	600
The Work Before Us	573
U.S. Colonial Policy	92
Value of Democracy	113
Windfalls of 1898	113

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS:—

A Mock Parliament	278
American Topics	571
A noble family's vicissitudes	15
A study of Kenseitism	423
Chinese "Rights" in Africa	624
Devotion to the Emperor—Kinnu	64
Die Medicinische Monatschrift in Tai- wan	542
Fancy Dress Ball (Presentation to Dr. Wheeler)	38
Fighting at Manila	197-231
Germans and Britishers Abroad	198
How Capt. Stornaway abducted the Rus- sian Admiral	428
Imperial Visit to Yokohama	465
International Convention for the Protec- tion of Copyright	69
Indo-China Notes	17
Is Dr. Kato's Teaching Demoralizing	598
Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1592	354
—377-401-429-455-479-548-576	
Japanese Finance	524
Japanese in Hawaii	623
Kumiai (Congregational) Churches in Japan	574
Kwantai's Rebellion in Formosa	15
Logic	399
Loss of the "Glenavon"	15
Mr. Hoshi Toru's Sendai Speech	395
Meredith Cult (The)	326
New Docks at Uraga	596
Plain Speaking to an Emperor	17
Present Condition of Japanese Industry	146
Railways in China	621
Rebellions in Hupeh and Anhui	123
Revival of Confucianism in Korea	550
Sendai Festival	543
Serpent Cult among the Ainu	147
Soul Electric Railway	569
Soul Notes	306
Strange South Sea Records	94
Sugar Industry in Hawaii	602
"Terrible" Earthquake in Yokohama	370
The Doshisha	281
The Philippine Crisis	70
Viewing the Cherry Blossoms	371
Yokohama Docks	454

REPORTS:—

Ladies' Benevolent Society	120
Negishi Hospital	515
Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Association	597

ENTERTAINMENTS:—

"A Mother of Three"	368
Bishop Awdry at the Literary Society	69
Chamber Concert	471
Concert at Uyeno	269
Herr Junker's Second Concert	113
Junker String Quartet Concert	190
Junker's Third Concert	303
Miss Janet Waldorf	596
Mr. Doomscheff's Concert	622
Mr. Patton's Concert	597
"Sign of the Cross"—"Harbour Lights" —"Silver King"—"East Lynne," etc.	520
Tokyo Dramatic and Musical So- ciety	32-161-469

MEETINGS:—

Asiatic Society of Japan	196-397
Christ Church Subscription Dance	95
Club Hotel, Limited	547
Dinner given by the Foreign Internation- al committee	371
Ferris Seminary	340
Grand Hotel, Limited	91
Inns of Court Association in Japan	499
International Committee entertained in Tokyo	596
Japan M. E. Conference	370
Japan Baptist Conference	400
Japan Conference of the M. E. Church	353
Japan Brewery Company	452
Japan Brewery Company (reconstruc- tion)	347
Japan Brewery Company Ltd. (Report)	502
Kumiai Churches Conference	400
Ladies' Lawn Tennis Club	93

MEETINGS:—

Langfeldt & Co., Limited	150
Lord Charles Beresford's Speeches at Yokohama and Tokyo (supplement)...	99
Members of the Inns of Court resident in Japan	273
Methodist Episcopal Conference	325
Mr. Arthur Dioso in Yokohama	594
Nippon Yusen Kaisha Half-yearly Meeting	537
Nagasaki Hotel, Limited (Debutantes)...	18
Nagasaki Hotel, Limited	151
Orient Mark Lodge of Japan	540
Salvation Army	346
Salvation Army in Japan	546
Social Conference	403
St. George's Society	308
Supplement: Yokohama Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting	335
Tonic Sol-la Society	37
Union Church, Yokohama	148
Yokohama Cemetery	253
Yokohama Engine and Iron Works	120
Yokohama Fire Brigade	149
Yokohama Rowing Club	93

OBITUARY:—

Baron Nakajima	326
Death of Archdeacon Warren	504
Death of Baron Yasuba	513
Death of Capt. Coffin, U.S.N.	191
Death of Mr. Le Poer Trench	603
Death of Rear Admiral Nomura	442
H.I.H. Princess Sada	26
Late Archdeacon Warren	590
Late Count Caprioli	147
Late Count Katsu	82
Late Mr. Kleinwort	351
Late Viscount Kawakami	487
President Faure	203
Rev. C. E. Garst	7

REVIEWS:—

"A Fleet in Being"	174
"A Mariage de Convenience"	452
"Anacostia, the Gaul"	497
A Practical Introduction to the Study of Japanese Writing	496
"A Romance of Canvas Town"	66
"A Romance of Summer Seas"	141
Civil Code of Japan	534
"Domitia"	222
Feudal and Modern Japan	37
Handbook for Travellers in Japan	7
"Her Memory" (Maarten Maartens)	66
Literary Notes	346
New System of Stenography for Japan	512
Notes on the Nicaragua Canal	452
"Off the High Road"	497
Over seas Library	451
Prince Bismarck's Autobiography	118

REVIEWS:—

"River of Pearls"	497
Selected Relics of Japanese Art	513-536
Supplement to Dr. Loebholm's Digest	619
"The Day's Work" (Kipling)	66
"The Floral Art of Japan"	390
"That Little Cutty" (Oliphant)	67
"The London Letter"	513
"The New Far East"	222
"The Resident Councillor"	119
"The Red Axe"	37
"The Plunder Pit"	600

LAW REPORTS:—

A shocking Crime	353
Berrick Banto Case	123-175
Collision in Moji harbour (finding)	68
H.B.M. Court for Japan (Insurance case)	120-201-230-329
Important Contract Case	623
Inquest on Mr. O. Keil	120
Kushu Maru-Miyagawa Maru collision	379
—Judgment	120-199-281-311-335
Leopold Bankruptcy	522
Robbery at Messrs. Herb's	254
Shooting Affair on a Sailing Ship	254
Washed overboard in a Hurricane	254

SPORTS:—

Baseball (Yokohama v. Japanese)	544
Baseball (Merriman v. Blake)	600
Baseball Match at Sendai	397
Bicycle Meet at Yokohama	376
Bicycle Road Race	449
Cricket—Sailing—Rowing	625
Interport Football Match	174
Interport Regatta	544
Ladies' Paper-chase	325
Opening the Rowing Season	522
Queen's Birthday Sailing Races	521
Spring Meeting of the N.R.C.	472
Spring Regatta	522
Y. C. and A. C. Athletic Sports	502

TRANSLATIONS:—

Important (Business) Ordinances for Foreigners	621
Law Concerning Nationality	352
Minister of Home Affairs and Local Gov. orders	394
New Laws of Japan	477
Registration Law	42
Revised Income Tax Law	17
Supplementary Convention between France and Japan	41
Supplementary Treaty between Japan and Germany	40

POETRY:—

Kitchener's School (Kipling)	95
The White Man's Burden	230
The Women's Burden	572

SUMMARY OF NEWS...	I-25-49-
77	101-129-157-181-209-237-
261-289-327-337-361-385-409-	
437-461-485-509-533-557-585-609	

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS	11-164-270-348-445-566
--	------------------------

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE...	86-219-299-419-517
---	--------------------

KOREAN NEWS	14-39-250-448-623
-------------	-------------------

CONTINENTAL NOTES	328
-------------------	-----

POLITICAL NOTES	391-462
-----------------	---------

CHINESE NEWS 14-67-116-143-198-	
228-250-280-306-328-354-427-	
448-476-498-523-514-575-601-622	

GERMAN NEWS...	70
----------------	----

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF THE BANK OF JAPAN	174-230-243-308-
328-376-431-475-504-528-550-572	

NEWS OF THE WEEK	16-40-68-
92	117-145-173-197-228-252-
279-307-327-354-375-399-431-	
454-475-498-523-546-576-602-625	

TELEGRAMS	19-44-71-
95	123-152-175-204-231-254-
284-313-333-356-379-403-431-	
450-480-503-527-551-579-603-626	

IMPERIAL DIET	36-62-
89	112-139-167-192-223-244-275

CHESS...	20-45-73-
96	124-152-176-205-232-255-
285-313-333-357-381-404-433-	
457-481-504-528-552-581-604-627	

LATEST SHIPPING	21-45-74-
97	125-153-177-205-233-255-
286-314-334-358-382-405-433-	
457-481-505-529-553-582-605-628	

LATEST COMMERCIAL	22-46-74-
98	126-154-178-206-234-256-
286-315-334-358-382-406-434-	
458-482-506-530-580-544-606-630	

AMERICAN NOTES...	229-280-308-376-570-601
-------------------	-------------------------

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[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	609
The Transvaal Trouble.....	610
Copyright and Translations.....	611
A Daylight Robbery.....	612
The Samoan Complications.....	613
The German Minister for Foreign Affairs and Japan.....	614
The State Purchase of Private Railways.....	615
Dynasties in Korea.....	616
Buddhists and the State.....	617
The Indian Sugar Duties.....	618
The Chinese in Japan.....	619
Gambling in Japan.....	620
More Chinese Assassins.....	621
The Royal Niger Company.....	622
Income Tax in America.....	623
Foreign Newspapers.....	624
The Tokyo City Assembly.....	625
The American Postal Service.....	626
Notes on Current Events.....	627
The Situation in the Philippines.....	628
Leading Articles:—	
French Affairs.....	629
The New Physical Law.....	630
The Bookshelf.....	631
Important Ordinances for Foreigners.....	632
Contracts.....	633
Railways in China.....	634
Correspondence:—	
Taxation of Foreigners.....	635
Foreign Speakers of Japanese.....	636
Mr. Lacey and Rude Little Boys.....	637
M. Doornik's Concert.....	638
Affairs in China.....	639
Important Contract Case.....	640
Korean Notes.....	641
Japanese in Hawaii.....	642
Chinese "Rights" in Africa.....	643
News of the Week.....	644
Saturday's Sports.....	645
Telegrams.....	646
Chess.....	647
Latest Shipping.....	648
Latest Commercial.....	649

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

MANAGERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:—

The Japan Mail Summary has been merged in the Japan Weekly Mail. Subscribers to the Japan Mail Summary whose subscriptions for the year have been paid will receive the Japan Weekly Mail until the expiry of their terms of subscription without extra charge, but after that period will be placed on the subscription list at full rates—24 yen per annum, postage extra—unless notice is given to the Office to stop the paper.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH, 1899.

DEATH.

At the Grand Hotel, Yokohama, on June 20, 1899, FRANCES DANA, wife of Frederick C. Walcott, of New York Mills, New York.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Australians won the second test match at Lord's by ten wickets.

THE tribunal for discussing the Venezuela question has assembled in Paris.

OVER 350 emigrants left for Hawaii by the steamer *Coptic* on Saturday.

BARON ROSEN, the Russian Minister, has left Tokyo for Vladivostok via Nagasaki.

MR. TAKAHIRA, ex Minister to Vienna, who has

recently returned to Tokyo, is appointed Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

It is reported that His Imperial Majesty will pay a visit to Yokosuka at the beginning of July.

A TELEGRAM announces that in Amoy and the vicinity the black plague is more prevalent than ever.

THE Australians have won the match against Oxford University, Past and Present, by ten wickets.

A NEW YORK telegram states that the silk market is dull, and there is no present prospect of revival.

THE Nippon Railway Company invites tenders for 120 miles of rails, locomotives, passenger coaches, &c.

MR. MAKINO has been appointed Minister to Vienna, and is to leave for his post at the end of this month.

MARQUIS SAIGO, Minister for Home Affairs, who has been in the western cities, returned to Tokyo on the evening of the 19th.

ON the 18th about 200 yards of telephone line were cut and stolen at Miyoshi-cho, Yokohama. The offender is not yet found.

PRINCE HENRY of Prussia returned from Seoul on the 19th to the *Deutschland* at Jinsen, and thence put to sea. He will shortly visit Japan.

THE plague in Formosa is more severe than ever. From the beginning of this year down to the 19th, there were 2,507 cases, and 1,746 died.

THE attempts to form a Cabinet in France have failed. Politicians shrink from the probable consequences of the new Court-martial on Dreyfus.

THE police station in Tankiji Settlement, Tokyo, will be abolished from 17th July, and its business transferred to the Kyobayashi Police Station.

MR. HAYASHI, new Japanese Minister to Seoul, left Tokyo for his post on Friday. His departure was hastened by the occurrence of the recent outrages.

M. DOORNICKEFF, the great Russian violinist, gave a concert on Thursday evening. It was artistically a great success, though the attendance was meagre.

THE new transport *Kosai Maru*, of the Red Cross Society, has arrived at Nagasaki, and will be employed by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on the Hongkong-Vladivostok line.

Six cases of bar gold, value yen 500,000, were brought from London by the steamer *Kama-tura Maru*, and were delivered on the 19th inst. to the Yokohama Specie Bank.

TELEGRAMS from Hongkong state that Chinese rice has risen about 10 sen per bag. The reason is that in Canton and the vicinity the weather has been unfavourable this spring.

CONCERNING the explosion at Toyokuni colliery, an official telegram states that the disaster was caused by a fallen lantern. As a result, 222 coolies were killed and one was injured. Twelve dead bodies have been found.

A DESPATCH from Jinsen, Korea, announces that three military officials have been arrested at Seoul charged with a plot to dethrone the Emperor, and to put on the throne Prince Li

Sung-young, who is staying in the United States.

A WOMAN named Cho (26), wife of Yoshida Kinjuro (30), living at Imagawa-cho, Kanda, Tokyo, strangled her young son Tsunetaro (4) early on the morning of the 19th. She afterwards jumped into a well, where she was found by neighbours.

A MAN named Anzai Seijiro (20), an employe of Mr. Durand, No. 83 Settlement, Yokohama, attempted to commit suicide on the 21st with a girl named Wakamatsu (19) at a house of ill-fame. Both were found with their throats cut, and as they were still alive they were sent to the hospital.

COMPARATIVE statistics of tea transactions in Yokohama show that up to the middle of June last year 117,966 cattie were brought into the market and 9,970,900 lbs. sold, while this year 129,384 cattie have been brought in and 11,303,300 lbs. sold. There is thus an increase as regards quantity, but the quality is inferior to last year.

MR. GEORGE WYNNDHAM has introduced a bill in the House of Commons authorizing the Government to raise a sum of four millions sterling for the purpose of arming the defences abroad with heavy guns, and building barracks both at home and abroad. The bill is merely a continuation of the policy inaugurated by the Government in 1897.

THE Marquis of Lansdowne, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for War, held a lengthy conference with the principal officials of the War Office on Monday, the 19th instant. The conference is believed to have had reference to affairs in the Transvaal. A large exodus of women and children has taken place from Johannesburg and Pretoria. The natives are quitting the mines.

A DEBATE has taken place in the House of Commons on the motion of Sir H. Fowler for disallowing the Indian countervailing duties on sugar. Lord George Hamilton, in the course of a speech opposing the motion, said that he entertained a strong impression that the Currency Commission would be able to submit a report containing propositions for establishing a stable rate of exchange. The motion was rejected by 293 votes to 153.

THE German Reichstag has adopted the bill embodying a loan for the purchase of the Caralines. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Herr von Bülow, speaking with reference to the bill, predicted a splendid future, both political and commercial, for the islands, and expressed the hope that their possession by Germany would lead to increased intimacy with her new neighbours, the United States and Japan. The Minister added that Germany had never entertained any thought of closing the path to the active and talented Japanese.

IT is expected, says the *China Mail*, that the Oregon Volunteer Regiment, now in Manila, will go home in the transport *Hancock* calling in at Nagasaki. This will be the first American regiment ordered home from Manila. The Oregon was one of the first regiments to land at Cavite, and, although the regiment took no part in the attack on Malate fort, they have had a considerable amount of fighting in the outskirts of Manila since the American occupation. It is considered probable that the Californian Volunteers, now in the Island of Negros, will be sent home in the transport *Warren*.

THE TRANSVAAL TROUBLE.

Saturday, June 17.

Affairs appear to have entered a very ominous phase in the Transvaal. The crisis—for such it must now be called—had its proximate cause in a petition which was presented by the Uitlanders to the Queen, some time ago. The document, which bore more than 21,000 signatures, declared that, owing to the utterly defective protection afforded by the Transvaal Authorities, the lives and properties of the petitioners were in constant peril; that the general administration was radically detrimental to the petitioners and to the country, and that the Uitlanders generally were denied all the public rights to which they were duly entitled by every principle of political justice. For a moment this petition was slightly discredited by a counter-petition bearing 9,000 signatures—British, American, German, French and Dutch—which categorically denied all accusations embodied in the former document. But the second petition only served to evoke a third, confirming and emphasizing the first. Moreover an analysis of the state of affairs in the Transvaal showed that out of a total white population of about 100,000, there are certainly a good many who find their account in the very abuses condemned by the respectable section of the Uitlanders, and who would consequently be injured by any administrative reforms. These conservatives consist of the sellers of illicit liquor, who number some 5,000; the sellers of illicit gold, who are supposed to total 2,000, a not unreasonable estimate, seeing that from 10 to 20 per cent. of the aggregate output of the gold mines is stolen every year—a theft of from 2 million to 4 million pounds sterling; the whole official class of the Netherlands Railways—and the idle section of the Boer population. These people were the signatories of the counter-petition. The Uitlanders are not at all unreasonable in their demands. What they ask for is full franchise after five years' residence, with property and education tests; and a redistribution of representation on lines that would still leave to the Boers an effective voice. The Uitlanders form two-thirds of the whole white population, and it is monstrous that they should be excluded, as they are at present, from any real share in the administration of a country which lives almost entirely by their labour and capital. But President Kruger seems to have resolved that he will make no tangible concessions. We admire his courage, but marvel at his rashness. If he had nothing to fear at home his bold attitude abroad would be less remarkable, but with a hostile element of almost overwhelming dimensions in his own camp, his defiance of England must be due either to insanity or to a profound faith in her pacific proclivities. He has probably gone too far now to recede. Certainly the Queen's Government has.

Tuesday, June 20.

The Emperor of Germany is acting a fine part in the Transvaal difficulty. If his Majesty has really instructed the German Consul at Pretoria to urge upon President Kruger the advisability of conceding England's demands as "just and reasonable," he has taken a step which will win for him much good-will from the people of his mother's country. We see no reason to doubt the correctness

of the telegram, for certainly Great Britain has not asked for anything which can possibly be called excessive, and certainly the attitude of the Boers is irreconcilable with any principle of fair play. It has been well said that the spectacle now presented by the Transvaal is not to be seen, and never has been seen, in any other part of the world. A large British population, considerably larger than the entire burgher population of the country, is living in a country surrounded by British possessions, and entirely excluded from any participation in its government. These men have asked for a moderate measure of the rights, privileges, and liberties which civilization regards as the natural possession of every educated individual having a vested interest in the land of his residence, and they have been met by proposals little better than a farce. Mr. Kruger offers them an arrangement which takes no account of their past residence in the Transvaal; which asks them to qualify by living there for a farther period of almost prohibitive length; which requires that two-thirds of the burghers must approve before the franchise is granted to any Uitlander; which calls for a humiliating form of oath, and which prescribes that a candidate for the rights of citizenship must renounce his previous allegiance for several years before becoming eligible, thus losing the citizenship of his own country without any assurance of gaining that of the Transvaal. Proposals of that character can scarcely be regarded as *bona fide*. The Boers would be more likely to find some approval if they boldly stated their intention of departing from the custom of all civilized countries, and declining to recognise domicile, however lengthy, as conferring on any alien a claim to the rights of citizenship. They might plead, with some show of justice, that to enfranchise foreigners who outnumber the natives would be virtually to surrender to the former the control of the country. But when they acknowledge, on the one hand, that the Uitlanders have a claim to the franchise, and propose, on the other, to make its acquisition conditional on prohibitive qualifications, they are merely flouting Great Britain. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman fails to see any reason for military preparations. He is probably one of the Radicals that follow the example of Mr. Bryn Roberts, and are shocked by such a violation of time-honoured proprieties as the official reception by England of a political petition from British subjects living in a foreign country.

Wednesday, June 21.

The burghers of the Transvaal appear to be persuaded that they can defy Great Britain. They are men of slow mental processes, and probably their memory of the successes they achieved at Majuba Hill and on the occasion of Jameson's raid is more vivid than their perception of England's real strength. The proposals referred to in this morning's telegram are those which we spoke of in a recent issue, and the reference to Bloemfontein is explained by the fact that a federal union is contemplated between the two South African republics, and in the negotiations for that purpose President Kruger made known to the Orange Free State the franchise concessions which he was prepared to offer to the Uitlanders. There is no probability whatever that the Imperial Government will endorse such proposals, and the at-

titude now assumed by the burghers renders the prospect of a peaceful solution very remote. The Uitlanders ask for the franchise after five years' residence, as a matter of right, subject, of course, to certain qualificatory tests. The burghers offer a remote possibility of obtaining the franchise after 7 years' residence, and couple the grant with virtually prohibitive conditions. They fear to be swamped by the Uitlanders if they enfranchise them, and they consequently regard this question as one of life and death. We can not refuse tribute of admiration to their courage, for they are defying not merely a great foreign Power, but also a preponderating element of their own population.

Friday, June 23.

The news just received with reference to affairs in the Transvaal seems to indicate that a dangerous crisis has been reached. President Kruger and the burghers will not recede from the illiberal position taken by them, and it is quite impossible that Her Majesty's Government can agree to the illusory scheme of enfranchisement elaborated by Kruger at Bloemfontein. The Boers are probably relying on Great Britain's reluctance to undertake a campaign which must inevitably involve a large loss of life. The Transvaal has a population of 750,000, but only 150,000 are whites, and of these 63,000 are Transvaal Boers and 87,000 Uitlanders, no less than 69,600 of the Uitlanders being British subjects. It is probable that the Boers could place a force of fully ten thousand men in the field, and as they are splendid marksmen and thoroughly acquainted with the features of the country, they could offer a formidable opposition to an invading army.

Since the above was written further intelligence confirms the alarmist view suggested by the telegrams of the 21st instant. Of course Mr. Chamberlain's hand can be plainly detected behind the policy that Great Britain is now pursuing. He will have the support of the nation, despite the opposition of men like Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and Mr. Bryn Roberts. Moreover, the foresight which induced him to begin the massing of troops in South Africa some months ago will now be fully appreciated. Mr. Chamberlain's career has certainly been a series of paradoxes. His political training and associations should render him a man of peace *par excellence*, yet, ever since the bombardment of Alexandria, he seems to have been engaged in trying to hold open the doors of the British temple of Janus. In the present instance he has the right unquestionably on his side. If Mr. Kruger and his fellow-nationals are incapable of appreciating the impossibility of the situation they are obstinately trying to uphold, then the sooner they are deprived of their mischievously exercised authority, the better. If, though appreciating it, they arbitrarily decline to remedy it, then they are simply flouting Great Britain. *The Times* recently put the case in a nut-shell when it charged the Transvaal Government with "showing a determination to refuse political rights to the portion of the population who have brought in capital and created wealth and upon whom almost the whole burden of taxation is piled up for the benefit of a small minority." We can not doubt that the feeling in England is much accentuated by Kruger's meeting with Sir Alfred Milner. The Boer President had

never, throughout the course of those long complications, made any attempt to confer with the British High Commissioner, though he must have well understood that no overture pointing to a conference could come from the Suzerain Power. Hence, when he did at length step forward, it was reasonably expected that he entertained some rudimentary idea of behaving in a practical and conciliatory manner. But his proposals proved to be a mere farce, so that the meeting assumed an almost insulting complexion. It would appear that he expects to repeat the experiences of 1881 if Great Britain has recourse to arms. But England now understands the nature of the task, and will make no mistake in dealing with it.

COPYRIGHT AND TRANSLATIONS.

The Law of Copyright provides that the copyright of literary and scientific works includes the right of translation, but that if the proprietor of a copyright does not publish a translation within 10 years from the date of publication of the original work, his right of translation ceases. These provisions have been regarded as very important from a Japanese point of view, inasmuch as the translating of works published abroad has hitherto been freely and largely undertaken in Japan, many valuable books being thus brought within reach of Japanese students. The law is decidedly accommodating in one respect, however. The 49th Article says:—

Translations made or commenced prior to the operation of this Law, and not regarded as illicit at that time, may be completed and sold and circulated. But such translations must be published within 7 years from the date of operation of this Law.

In carrying out this provision, the question whether a translation has been commenced depends solely upon due notice in that sense being given to the proper Authorities. The Law will go into force from the 15th July. There is still, therefore, an interval of nearly a month during which the notice alluded to may be given, and the translation need not be finished and published for seven years thereafter. It will be in the interest of persons connected with the enterprise of translation, to prepare and submit, between now and 15th July, an exhaustive list of all the European and American books that may possibly repay the task of rendering them into Japanese. They need not necessarily be translated, but the notice will secure the right to translate and publish them at any time before 1906.

A DAYLIGHT ROBBERY.

Shiozawa Yoshiji (13), an employer of the Wakao Silk Store, 4-chome, Honcho, Yokohama, was yesterday morning walking near the *Boyski Shimbun* office, having in his possession 6,000 yen belonging to the firm which he had received from the Specie Bank, when a man suddenly attacked him and forcibly robbed him of the money. He was on the point of running away when the boy cried for help, and a constable of the Kagacho Police Office arrested the thief. He proved to be a coolie named Aoshiba Torazo (25), living at Fukutomicho.

The property of the North China Insurance Company in the Hankow Road, Shanghai, has been sold for Tls. 14,000, the purchaser being a Chinese.

THE SAMOAN COMPLICATIONS.

We are at a loss to understand Herr von Bülow's declaration that Germany will not consent to any encroachment on the rights secured to her by the Samoan Treaty. Germany does not possess under that Treaty any rights which are not guaranteed equally to the United States and Great Britain. One of those rights is the nomination of the Chief Justice and the Municipal President by the three Treaty Powers, and one of the charges preferred against the German Consul-General, Herr Rose, is that, in conjunction with the Municipal President—who also is a German—he declared the office of Chief Justice to be vacant, thus contravening the letter and the spirit of the Treaty of 1889. It would seem, indeed, that the "encroachment" upon the rights secured by the Treaty may be laid at Germany's door. Concerning the indemnity for loss of property, the reference is evidently to German claims arising out of the bombardment of Apia by the ships of Great Britain and the United States. But the bombardment was necessitated by the violent proceedings of Mataafa, Germany's *protégé*. The Germans themselves have never made any secret of the fact that Mataafa could always be controlled by them. Thus, in a telegram dated at Apia, April 22nd, and published by the *National-Zeitung*, it was plainly stated that after orders had been sent from London and Washington to cease hostilities, "Mataafa withdrew far westwards into the interior, in compliance with the demand of the German Consul." Of course, Germany retorts that Mataafa was the lawful king, and that, had not Malietoa been encouraged by England and America, there would have been no trouble. That is the main point to be decided by the Commission now sitting at Apia under the auspices of the three Powers. The "illegal arrest of a German subject" spoken of by Herr von Bülow, refers, we presume, to the case of the German planter Hufnagel, who is believed to have been in collusion with the rebels that ambuscaded an Anglo-American force on April 1st, killing one British and two American officers, and killing or wounding 11 men of the allied detachment. The party, *en route* for Vailele to break up the assemblage of rebels there, reached the plantation of which Herr Hufnagel was manager, and, having inquired of the latter whether any Samoans were in the neighbourhood, received a negative answer, although there had been a large body of Mataafa's men within a few hundred yards. Hufnagel advised the party to take the main road through the plantation, as all was safe and there were no rebels about; advice which was heard by three other Germans, none of whom gave any warning of danger. The detachment followed the route indicated, and, marching into a gulley, was caught in an ambuscade. This led to the arrest of Hufnagel. He was ultimately transferred to the German ship *Falke*. It can not be doubted, however, that the German Government has full faith in the justice of the position taken by it, and we do not imagine that such a petty business will be suffered to disturb the good relations of the three Powers concerned.

THE GERMAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND JAPAN.

The Japanese will justly be gratified by the friendly and flattering terms in which Herr von Bülow alluded to them when supporting the Bill for the Carolines-purchase loan. A prudent reticence has been preserved by Japan throughout the course of events leading to the acquisition of the Philippines by America and the Carolines by Germany. But it may fairly be taken for granted that this re-drafting of the map did not find the Japanese unmoved. They believe that Phœnician civilization came to them in ancient eras *via* the Philippines; their history shows that they have had more than ordinarily close relations with the islands in mediæval days, and ever since Mr. Inagaki Manjiro and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi directed public attention in modern times to the field of South-Sea opportunities, there has been in the minds of many Japanese a hope, more or less clearly outlined, that the star of empire would ultimately travel in that direction. Herr von Bülow had doubtless been informed of all this, and the information made him stand up in the Reichstag, and promise "the active, intelligent Japanese" that the exclusive policy which certain States have adopted towards them will not be imitated by Germany, and that they may expect to find an open field for their enterprise and a welcome for their labour in the Carolines. We are a little at a loss to understand the German Minister's rosy predictions about the future of islands which can not boast a population of more than 150,000, do not produce anything of special value, and offer no prospect of becoming a market for imports. But some allowances must be made for the exaggeration of parliamentary rhetoric.

THE STATE PURCHASE OF PRIVATE RAILWAYS.

We have heard nothing lately of the project which attracted so much attention when it came upon the *tapis* in a practical sense during the last session of the Diet, namely, the State purchase of private railways. But the *Yorozu Chohan* now states that the Committee of Investigation has been making great progress with its labours, and has decided to recommend the immediate acquisition of the Hokkaido Tan-ko Railway, the Nippon Railway, and the Kōbu Railway, 35 million yen of the purchase money to be paid during the "First Period." From this we infer that the Committee contemplates dividing the execution of the project into periods after the plan pursued in the case of railway construction. What that involves we do not clearly perceive. Does it mean that the State's title of ownership is to remain merely nominal until all the instalments of the purchase money are paid, the companies meanwhile working the lines; or does it mean that the State takes over the lines from the time of paying the first instalment? Our contemporary's information is decidedly vague, and its conjecture that the money representing the first instalment—35 million yen—will be defrayed out of the loan just raised abroad, appears to be based on a misconception. The scheme, as we understand it, does not contemplate any hard-money payments. The companies would receive bonds only.

DYNAMITARDS IN KOREA.

Saturday, June 17.

We mentioned in our last issue that certain Japanese adventurers had been arrested in Sōul on suspicion of being implicated in the recent dynamite outrages. The Government of Japan has deemed it expedient to adopt special measures with regard to these agitators. An extraordinary Cabinet Council was held immediately on receipt of the news, and an Imperial Ordinance has now been issued, empowering the Japanese Authorities to deport from Korea all Japanese subjects proved to have taken part in the outrages or to have harboured their perpetrators. It will appear to most observers that this is a wise measure. Japan is most unfortunate in her relations with Korea. Just as the execrable part acted by some of her subjects in connexion with the murder of the Queen was beginning to be forgotten, these dynamite complications come to renew the injury to her credit and popularity. It is evident that the Cabinet knew better than the Houses of the Diet what was needed when it enacted its *Tokō Jōrei* for controlling the passions of its subjects in the peninsula. The regulations were denounced by the Diet as altogether despotic, but they were obviously needed.

Monday, June 19.

The Japanese Government has considered it necessary to revive the restrictions formerly imposed on the travel of Japanese subjects to Korea. Briefly stated, the restrictions are that, with the exception of civil officials and military or naval officers, as well as persons specially authorized, no Japanese is allowed to cross to Korea without a permit from the authorities.

We need scarcely say that the opposition press does not fail to make capital out of these occurrences in Sōul. The burden of the hostile refrain is that the Foreign Office has lost its head, and fallen into a ferment of quite unnecessary trepidation. The *Nippon* and the *Mainichi* especially appear to think that since the Government had not sufficient foresight to prevent these dynamite outrages, it need not trouble itself particularly to punish their perpetrators or to restrict the circle of mischief. The former journal goes so far as to declare that the Tokyo Foreign Office is like a woman who gets into a flutter about petty details of her toilet and gives herself no concern about public questions. Are we to conclude, then, that the *Nippon* counts it a petty matter to throw dynamite bombs into the residences of Ministers of State? It is precisely owing to the prevalence of such views among certain sections of the Japanese people that a very false estimate exists as to the responsibility attaching to acts which are elsewhere considered of the greatest gravity. A philosophical frame of mind is a very fine thing, but one respects it more when it is associated with some show of consistency. This very *Nippon*, for example, which condemns the Government for adopting strict measures to put an end to outrages perpetrated by its own nationals against the lives and properties of a neighbouring country's statesmen, devotes article after article and note after note to stirring up public excitement about a petty theft of five hundred pounds sterling from the Bank of Japan.

The theory now regarded as most probable with regard to the origin of the outrages is that they were designed to intimidate the Korean Government into abandoning its intention of reviving the barbarous legislation of old times which included the whole of a political offender's family in the punishment to which he became liable. So far as that is concerned the dynamitards seem to have achieved their purpose, for the Korean Cabinet is reported to be in a state of great trepidation, several of its members not venturing to emerge from hiding places to which they have retired. Meanwhile the conspirators, probably seeing that their bombs are not likely to be of further use, have exploded two of them in a secluded place.

Tuesday, June 20.

After all, the wool in the Korean affair does not appear to have been nearly commensurate with the cry raised by the public or with the measures taken by the Japanese Government. The general impression now existing is that quite a number of Japanese *sōshi* were engaged in the dynamite outrages, and that several were arrested and are now undergoing trial. But the facts are that not even one was arrested, and that suspicion attaches to one only. That one is a man who lent his name to Pak Yong-ho when the latter was obliged to fly from Korea. Pak being charged with a political offence, his house and all his property would have been confiscated after his flight had they stood in his own name. He therefore persuaded a Japanese friend to lend his name for purposes of registration, a service which the Japanese was doubtless very willing to perform, inasmuch as Pak's crime had been nothing worse than too loyal devotion to the cause of civilized progress. Now it was in Pak's house, or rather in the house really belonging to Pak but nominally owned by his Japanese friend, that the recently employed dynamite bombs are supposed to have been manufactured, and a certain responsibility consequently attaches to the registered owner of the place. The latter is therefore undergoing examination at the hands of the Japanese Consul in Sōul. That seems to be the whole story. It is evident that only very slender *prima facie* grounds exist for suspecting collusion on the part of the Japanese. The strong probability is that, after lending his name to save Pak's property, he did not interfere any further in the matter, or give himself any concern about the uses to which the house was put. Still, so long as he appeared upon the register, he was more or less answerable, and it is likely that he will have difficulty in clearing himself altogether. Such, then, seems to be the sole basis of the agitation raised about Japanese *sōshi* in Sōul and about their implication in the bomb-throwing enterprise. Such, too, seems to be the Tokyo Government's sole reason for enacting special laws to provide for the deportation of suspicious Japanese and to bring under close official scrutiny all Japanese subjects travelling to Korea. We are disposed to agree with the Opposition journals that the effect was quite out of proportion to the cause. Japanese Consuls in Korea have already ample competence to deport objectionable characters, and it can hardly be claimed that the possibility of one man's indirect implication constitutes a sufficient reason for compelling every one that

crosses to the peninsula to carry a passport. Perhaps the action of the Japanese Authorities is based upon facts of which they alone have cognisance, but it is unfortunately certain that a very exaggerated idea has been conveyed to the general public.

Thursday, June 22.

The Government's action in connexion with recent events in Korea is vindicated by the *Kokumin Shinbun* in an article which, though cleverly written, will scarcely pacify the Cabinet's opponents. Its gist is that Japan's special interests in Korea are recognised—interests based not merely on political considerations but also upon Korea's value as a source of supply—by Western Powers as well as by Korea herself, and that the utmost circumspection ought therefore to be observed in dealing with the peninsular empire. Japan's influence and prestige suffered severely from the action of her people on the occasion of the murder of the Queen, and, just as that evil memory has nearly been lived down, it would be most unfortunate if the good faith of this nation were again brought into suspicion by an appearance of connexion with the dynamite outrages. The Government has therefore deemed it advisable to adopt precautions of a more than ordinarily stringent character.

We may notice in this context a really entertaining essay in the *Mainichi Shinbun*. Two or three days ago the *Mainichi* published an article headed "Don't get into a fluster and panic" (*rōbai kōbō suru nakare*), the object of which was to prove that the Government had lost its head, and that the special powers of deportation created by Imperial Ordinance, and the special restraints imposed upon travel to Korea, were the outcome of pure nervousness and perturbation on the part of the Cabinet. Now, however, the same journal preaches on the text "the degree of sensibility is a measure of civilization" (*kankaku no teido bummei no kōge*), and the only conclusion we can arrive at after reading the article is that our worthy contemporary has engaged in the operation of "hedging." It intends to make a case against the Cabinet under any and all circumstances, and accordingly, whereas on the 17th instant it denounced the statesmen in power for adopting overactive measures in the Korean complication, it now accuses Marquis Yamagata of uncivilized imperturbability because he remains quietly in Kyoto while a solitary Japanese subject is suspected of having lent to Korean dynamitards a house nominally owned by him in Sōul, and while tongues are wagging in Tokyo about a theft of five hundred pounds from the Bank of Japan. That is heads-I-win-tails-you-lose criticism with a vengeance. A note of colour is given to the *volte-face* performance by an anecdote in which M. Boissonade figures. On the occasion of the Formosan complication in 1873, says the *Mainichi*, when war with China seemed imminent, a Cabinet meeting was held to discuss the situation, and one of the Ministers, instead of attending to the proceedings, occupied himself shaping pot-books and hangers in an English copy-book, the study of that language being his hobby at the moment. M. Boissonade complimented him sarcastically on his *sang-froid*, and observed that a French Cabinet Minister under similar circumstances would have displayed a

very different demeanour. "Was the Japanese statesman right and would the Frenchman have been wrong?" is the *Mainichi's* suggestive question. Eighteen hundred and seventy-three is a retrospect of 26 years. We remember very vividly the excitement that prevailed in Tokyo among all classes of the people at that epoch. If civilization produces highly strung nerves, the Japanese were then very civilized.

A telegram to the *Fiji Shimpō*, despatched from Chemulpo at 6 p.m. on the 19th instant, says that two captains in the Korean army and two other persons have been apprehended on a charge of plotting to dethrone the present Emperor. The Korean people seem to have a fever of conspiracy in their blood. The wonder is that failure does not act as a febrifuge. During the past twenty years, plot has followed plot and conspiracy has succeeded conspiracy, yet not in so much as one solitary instance have the plotters been able to congratulate themselves on the result of their machinations. All that they have effected is to people the neighbouring empire of Japan with political refugees. Some hope of respite was entertained when the Tai Wōn-kun died, but the spirit of that arch schemer still appears to stalk abroad. What a pity it is that international ethics do not sanction the peaceful assumption of administrative authority in the peninsula by some foreign Power competent to secure the maintenance of good order.

THE INDIAN SUGAR DUTIES.

The House of Commons, by rejecting the motion of the former Secretary of State for India, Sir H. Fowler, with reference to the Indian sugar duties, seems to have practically declared its unwillingness to impose any restraint on the competence of the Indian Legislature, acting in conjunction with Her Majesty's Secretary of State, to enact whatever laws may be considered conducive to the interests of the Dependency. It would scarcely have been possible to apply a severer test of the House's willingness to recognise the autonomy of the Indian Legislature, for the proposed countervailing duty on sugar is altogether contrary to the economic convictions of Englishmen in general. Such a measure is distinctly at variance with the principles of free trade. Still we must not interpret the defeat of Sir Henry Fowler's motion as an admission on the part of the House that, although free trade is good for Great Britain herself, it is not necessarily good for countries acknowledging British sway. In all probability the House's action was based solely on the consideration that interference of such a nature would be mischievous under any circumstances, and the merits of the question raised by Sir H. Fowler did not directly influence the voting. Indian Viceroy, however, have always endeavoured to be loyal to the economic doctrines of the Sovereign State. It was avowedly for that reason that Lord Elgin declined to endorse the proposal for a duty on imported cotton fabrics, and Lord Curzon's approval of the sugar duty will, of course, be criticized as an unwholesome departure from sound precedents. Of course England herself has no direct interest in India's attitude towards foreign sugar, whereas she has a very lively interest in the free admission of Manchester goods to the markets of the

great dependency. But we are disposed to think that the constitutional issue alone was the basis of the House's vote, and that the economic question did not materially affect the result.

BUDDHISTS AND THE STATE.

Monday, June 19.

It does not appear that the Buddhists themselves are agitating for State recognition as strongly as might have been supposed had rumour been entirely trustworthy. Certain politicians have adopted the question as a principal plank of their platform, but they do not seem to have inspired the Buddhists with much enthusiasm. Such at least is the inference we draw from the report of the recent meeting of Sect Prelates held at the temple Kennin-ji in Kyoto from the 5th to the 12th instant. Among over sixty resolutions adopted by the meeting, we do not find one indicating a determination to seek State recognition. The only noteworthy features of the resolutions were, first, that, if Japanese disciples of Buddhism residing in a foreign country apply for a minister of their creed, the Government shall provide due facilities for his despatch; secondly, that if the Authorities contemplate any change in the present laws relating to Buddhism or the enactment of any new laws, reference must first be made to the assembly of Sectarian Prelates; and thirdly, that exemption from conscription up to the age of 28 should be granted to students in Buddhist schools. The second and third of these proposals are distinctly important, for, while one of them aims at virtually declaring the Buddhist priesthood to be independent of all legislative enactments which have not received their previous endorsement, the second seeks to pledge the Government to the very course which it shows so much reluctance to adopt, namely, the abandonment of all discrimination against religion in the field of education. We sincerely hope that the Buddhists may succeed in the latter enterprise.

Very bitter articles are published by both the *Fiji Shimpō* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* with reference to this question. The *Fiji Shimpō*, reverting to its favourite argument that Mixed Residence will constitute a test of Japanese conduct and morality, taunts the Buddhists with devoting their time to agitation of a more or less political nature when they ought to be wholly engrossed in endeavouring to lead the people into the right path, and speaks in scathing terms of disgraceful lives of self-indulgence led by certain Buddhist prelates who should be shining examples of high morals, but are, on the contrary, influences for encouraging evil. The *Nichi Nichi* devotes its columns chiefly to denouncing the idea that the State should associate itself with a creed, and declares that, since the absence of any connexion between Church and State has always constituted a highly commendable feature of Japan's polity, it would be infinitely regrettable now to depart from such a wholesome custom. We presume that the *Nichi Nichi* has Japan's modern history alone in view when it speaks in the above strain, for certainly her ancient records do not justify any such eulogium.

Thursday, June 22.

Referring to the recent meeting of Buddhist prelates in the temple Kennin-ji in

Kyoto, we noted that, so far as the published reports showed, there was no evidence that the Buddhists really entertain the project attributed to them, namely, to have their religion recognised as the State creed of Japan. But later and fuller accounts of the meeting's proceedings show that a resolution in that sense was actually introduced, and that it found support from the representatives of the Shingon, the Rinzai, and the Soto sects. But the great Shin sect resolutely condemned such a notion. Count Otani, the chief prelate of the Hongwan-ji, seems to have delivered a most enlightened speech. He pointed out, in the course of his remarks, that the step proposed by the other sects would be contrary to the Constitution, which, by declaring absolute freedom of conscience, has given to all religions an equal status in the eyes of the law. The result of this opposition was that the proposal fell through, and nothing more is likely to be heard of it for the present at all events. It is significant that Count Otani alluded, in terms of unequivocal condemnation, to the tendency shown by some religious leaders to associate themselves with politics. We may therefore infer that the talk of an alliance between the Shin sect and the new political party has no foundation in fact.

THE CHINESE IN JAPAN.

The discussion continues about the advisability of throwing open the country to the Chinese in common with other foreigners from next month. We strongly advise the Japanese to refrain from doing anything of the kind. Nothing is easier than to make such a concession; nothing more difficult than to retract it. There can not be any special desire at present to add a large Chinese element to the population. Granting all the good points of the individual Chinaman—and they make a very long list—it is not to be denied that he is an undesirable member of any community which adapts itself to Western civilization. His scale of living is very low; his habits are insanitary; he introduces customs which are not conducive to morality; he keeps himself apart from the native population; and he does not regard as his home the country to which he emigrates. There are people who deny that the last objection applies as forcibly to the Chinaman in Japan as it applies to the Chinaman in Australia and America. In either of the latter countries he finds easy opportunities of making money, and his constant aim is to escape to China with his earnings; whereas in Japan he is not able to save money quickly, and he usually ends by marrying a Japanese wife and settling here permanently. Granting all that, we still say that the lower classes of the Chinese are not desirable additions to the population of this country, and that to throw the gates open to them without any limitation would be a mistake which Japan might repent too late. Between China and Japan as places of residence and bread-earning there is no comparison. Life in China is, as a rule, an unlovely, grimy struggle, without any redeeming features of environment or climate. Life in Japan is comparative elysium. The shrewd Chinaman discovered the difference long ago, and has proved his appreciation of it. There are already three Chinese settlers in Japan for every one European or American, and that, too,

although the Chinaman at present is not much more than a parasite on the foreign Settlements. The ratio would become more striking if the Chinese had free access to the interior. Numbers of them would certainly find means of livelihood in or about all the chief cities, and vested interests would quickly be created which would render it almost impossible to adopt any restrictive measures hereafter. Of course it is not a neighbourly act on Japan's part to withhold from the Chinese privileges that she grants to other peoples. But one of the chief difficulties lies in that very fact of neighbourhood. If the Chinese empire with its teeming millions were five thousand miles distant instead of being at her very doors, she might treat this problem differently. Under existing conditions, however, she has to face a danger far more imminent and of much larger dimensions than the peril against which the United States and Australia have deemed it necessary to enact special legislation. The Chinese may swamp her at any moment if she opens her gates to them. Besides, in her case there is not even the consideration that has been urged by critics of American and Australian exclusiveness; the consideration that Chinese cheap labour may be useful to develop her resources. She has sufficient cheap labour of her own for all immediate purposes. From every point of view it seems to us that this is essentially an occasion for caution. No importance attaches to the argument advanced in some quarters, that since China does not throw open her whole territories to the Japanese, the latter are under no obligation to throw open theirs to her. Occidental Powers never allowed any such consideration to weigh with them against Japan in the days of her semi-isolation, and they do not now attach any importance to it as against China. The really cogent reason is that Japan had better not take too many burdens upon her shoulders simultaneously. She can grant this privilege to the Chinese hereafter just as easily as she could grant it now. Let her be content to wait and see how things fare with her under the new system to which she is already pledged. She need not be deterred by reluctance to discriminate against China. She has been discriminating against the Chinese in other ways ever since the war.

GAMBLING IN JAPAN.

The prison statistics for 1896 show that out of 184,062 criminals, no less than 53,896, or nearly one-third, were imprisoned for gambling. Taking that figure on a basis, Mr. Taguchi Ukichi has written in the *Keizai Zasshi* three articles advocating the abolition of the law which declares gambling an offence. He deems it a hopeless undertaking to attempt to put down gambling, and is persuaded that the evils resulting from the effort outweigh the advantages secured. One of those evils is the corruption of the police. Considering the widely extended practice of gambling, it is evident that if the police arrested gamblers without favour or affection, the jails would be quite inadequate to accommodate these offenders. But the custom at present is to set aside 4 per cent. of the profits realized by gambling as *tera*, or remuneration for the use of the room where the

game is carried on, and out of that sum the owner of the premises "squares" the police, so as to secure immunity for his guests. Were the law abolished, the Code would cease to be disfigured by what is virtually a dead letter, the standard of police integrity would be raised, and the cost of maintaining the prisons would be reduced by 30 per cent. On the threshold of mixed residence, too, it behoves the Government to consider this question from another point of view—that of the foreign resident. The *Keizai* says that nearly all the foreign residents gamble. Gambling was openly carried on at the races last month when the Emperor was present. Gambling is carried on at the regattas. Tickets for lotteries are publicly sold in the Settlements, and gambling takes place perpetually in clubs and private houses. Is it proposed to arrest every foreigner detected engaging in such pursuits? Better recognise at once the unpractical character of such action, and abolish the law which declares gambling a crime.

The law referred to by our contemporary is this:—

Whoever shall have held games of chance to profit personally by them, or shall have formed an association of gamblers, shall be punished with imprisonment with labour for a period of from 3 months to 1 year, and a fine of from 10 to 100 yen.

All individuals taken in the act of playing at a game of chance, or who shall have knowingly supplied premises for gamblers, shall be punished with imprisonment with labour for a period of from 1 to 6 months and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen. Games of chance in which the stakes are articles of food or drink are excepted from the present provision. The instruments of games of hazard and the stakes present shall be confiscated.

Whoever shall have organized a lottery to make personal profit by it, shall be punished with imprisonment with labour for a period of from one to six months, and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen.

The law requires, it will be observed, that a man must be taken in the act of gambling in order to be punishable. The idea that the police can raid a private house or a club on the chance of finding a party playing whist or poker is, of course, a mere chimera. Further, it is very doubtful whether betting, as conducted on a race course, falls within the category of games of chance interdicted by the above law.

MORE CHINESE ASSASSINS.

In 1897 it was commonly rumoured that seventeen Chinamen had come to Japan charged with the duty of assassinating Sun Yat-sin. This Mr. Sun is a person with a history. He made himself conspicuous, in the first place, by plotting a rebellion which had its headquarters in Canton, and aimed at the overthrow of the Manchu Dynasty. Having failed in that enterprise, he made his way to England, and was there inveigled into the Chinese Legation and held prisoner until the British Government interfered to procure his release. The case made a great noise at the time, and is doubtless well remembered now. Sun then came to Japan, whither it was said that no fewer than 17 of his fellow-countrymen followed him, with a commission from their own Government to take his life. They did not succeed. Apparently, however, Peking can not sleep quiet so long as Sun is above the ground, for it is said that five fresh assassins have now reached Japan under similar orders. We do not vouch for the truth of the story.

THE ROYAL NIGER COMPANY.

The Royal Niger Company, whose possessions the British Government now contemplates taking over, is one of those colossal organizations characteristic of British enterprise. By some writers it has been compared to the celebrated East India Company which played such a memorable part in history. It is the son and heir of the "National African Company," which, 14 years ago, acquired by purchase or amalgamation the conventional privileges and belongings of the various French companies then trading on the Niger, and negotiated treaties conferring territorial rights with some three hundred native chiefs and States. The immediate result of these proceedings was that the British Government, in 1885, declared a protectorate over the whole coast from Lagos to Rio del Bey; in other words, over an area of 500,000 square miles, with a population of from 20 to 30 millions. Nearly the whole of this vast district was granted to the Royal Niger Company, which received its charter on July 11th, 1886. The Company is not a sovereign, of course. Its administrative and political powers are exercised under the control of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. But for many practical purposes it is virtually autocratic, and a great many good people of the Little-England type have, from time to time, raised their voices against the vesting of such competence in a private corporation. But, whatever may be said by theoretical politicians, it is certain that the Royal Niger Company has done splendid work as a civilizing and commerce-developing agent. It has sternly repressed slave-raiding, that heinous practice which disgraces the 19th century, and it has put an end to inter-tribal war by compelling the native chiefs to submit all their disputes to arbitration. That it has been able to rule so vast a district and such a large population by means of an armed force of only 1,000 men—natives with European officers—supplemented by small squadrons of police at each of the Company's 42 stations, affords a striking object lesson as to the importance of mobility, for if the Company's fleet of 30 steamers, navigating the Niger and its tributaries, did not enable it to concentrate its strength at any given place in the briefest interval, the machinery required for preserving law and order would have to be very largely augmented. The resumption of the administrative power by the British Government does not mean that the British Empire receives a territorial addition equal to more than three times the area of the whole Japanese Empire, but merely that functions hitherto discharged by the Company's officers will now be entrusted to Crown officials.

INCOME TAX IN AMERICA.

The State of Michigan is about to put in operation a graduated income tax from which an annual revenue of a million dollars is expected, and the principal conditions of which are as follows. Incomes of one thousand dollars, or less, are untouched. Upon those ranging from a thousand to twenty-five hundred, a quarter of one per cent. will be levied. Those between twenty-five hundred and five thousand will pay one half of one per cent., and all above five thousand are assessed one per

cent. The tax is applied not only to citizens actually dwelling in Michigan. All corporations organized within the State are held liable, even though the stock-holders may be non-residents. The penalty for making false returns of incomes is imprisonment for not less than five or more than fifteen years.

An attempt was made in the legislature to modify the stringency of the last-named provision, but the Senate, not satisfied with rejecting the proposal, enacted an amendment to the effect that proof of intent to deceive should not be essential to a conviction. It is apparently hoped that the severity of the punishment will deter capitalists from following the example of their class in other parts of the country, and flagrantly repudiating their legal obligations. The disposition to escape the burdens of taxation is common enough, all over the world. Few persons are sufficiently tender of conscience to feel ashamed of cheating the Customs on the sly; many, indeed, act as if they considered this species of fraud a perfectly innocent, if not a commendable, practice. But the unconcealed evasions of taxes on property in the United States seem to have passed all bounds of decency. In New York alone millions upon millions go free of impost, for no reason but that the people who possess them do not choose to pay. Mr. Rockefeller, whose income alone would be a gigantic fortune for most individuals, acknowledges only three hundred thousand dollars worth of personal property. The two richest of the Vanderbilts declare four hundred thousand personally each. The younger Rockefeller, Russell Sage, and Pierpont Morgan, all multi-millionaires, are taxed upon less than half a million. For years these men have openly defied the Government, in common with hundreds of their kind, not one of whom has ever been properly held to account. No tax-commissioner has the courage to take proceedings against the pillars of plutocracy. There was a feeble attempt, long ago, to make the wealthiest of railroad proprietors disgorge, but it ended in a compromise that looked very much like the compounding of a felony, and added little to the public revenue. Since then the great capitalists, in New York at least, have had everything their own way. It will be interesting to see what happens in Michigan, when the experiment is fairly tried.

FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS.

We read in the Tokyo *Asahi* that the chief of the Yokohama police was good enough to send an official to visit the offices of the foreign newspapers in this Settlement, a few days ago, in order to remind the managers that certain formalities as to registration will have to be complied with in connexion with the operation of the Revised Treaties. The Tokyo newspaper says that the official was politely received at the offices of the various journals with one exception. By the foreign staff of a certain newspaper—which is easily identifiable without being named—he was told that he had better go home and send some one fully acquainted with the English language, and that, if any information as to procedure were required, the journal could obtain it from the British Minister without interference on the part of Japanese offi-

cials. We presume that there is another side to this story, and that it will be related by the journal concerned. To one point of the *Asahi's* information we ourselves have a word to say, however. Referring to the security—700 yen—which each of the journals published in Yokohama will be obliged to put up, the police official is said to have stated that deposit receipts of the Specie Bank would not be accepted, a reply which caused some consternation in the offices of the various newspapers. The law being perfectly clear upon this point, we are at a loss to understand the *Asahi's* information. In the 8th Article of the Press Regulations it is provided that a journal published in Tokyo must put up security to the amount of 1,000 yen; journals published in Kyoto, Osaka, Yokohama, Hyogo, Kobe, and Nagasaki must furnish 700 yen, and journals published elsewhere, 350 yen. With regard to the nature of the payment, it is provided that public loan bonds or deposit receipts of a national bank may be used. There are at present no "national banks" in Japan, but a deposit receipt of the Specie Bank would doubtless be accepted without query. At all events, so long as a newspaper is allowed to put its security into the form of public bonds there can be no complaint on that score. The question of having to furnish security at all is one thing, but so long as the law imposes that necessity, newspapers have only a right to expect that they shall not be deprived of the interest on the money, since they would thus be virtually compelled to pay a tax of from 12½ yen to 50 yen annually in addition to the regular business tax and income tax.

THE TOKYO CITY ASSEMBLY.

The Tokyo City Assembly held its first session on the 15th instant after the election of one half of its members. Contrary to all expectation, Mr. Hoshi Toru did not stand for the presidency, and Mr. Sudo Takiichi, an Independent, was elected, the choice for the Vice-Presidency falling on Mr. Nakajima Matagoro, a Liberal. The members of the new City Council are Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi (Independent), Yoshino Seikei (Independent), Hoshi Toru (Liberal), Taguchi Ukichi (Independent), Hatoyama Kazuo (Progressist) and Suzuki Nobuto (Independent). This result is regarded as a great victory for the Liberals, for, though they elected only one of their number, they combined with the Independents to oust all the Progressist candidates except Mr. Hatoyama. The names of these City Councillors ought to be a guarantee that Tokyo will be roused from its slumber of municipal incompetence, but hope has become very slender.

The City Assembly's first act was to adopt, by an overwhelming vote, a resolution that absence from Japan in the discharge of official duties does not constitute an interruption of the period of residence prescribed as a qualification for electing or being elected. We may add that the Headman of the Kojimachi District, who attempted to establish the opposite proposition, has been removed from office. He tendered his resignation, but was not allowed to retire in that simple fashion.

THE AMERICAN POSTAL SERVICE.

The Postmaster-General of the United States has recently published an account of the Department under his control which, though wholly informal,—or, it may be, partly for that reason,—contains a much greater variety of interesting information than is ordinarily found in the regular official reports. It is evidently not his intention to offer instruction to the world at large, yet there are few countries in which many of the details described might not be profitably considered. Especially in Japan, those who have brought discredit upon the postal system by the retrogressive features lately introduced, could not occupy themselves more advantageously than by giving their days and nights to a study of the liberal and public-spirited methods employed in America. At the same time they might be warned against the one fatal defect which impairs a service otherwise almost above criticism, and which even its administrative chief has not the hardihood to defend or excuse.

Telegraphic communication is not in the hands of the United States Government, but the postal business alone exceeds in magnitude that of the posts and telegraphs combined in any European country. More than sixty-two hundred million pieces of mail matter were received and delivered last year, and of these nearly one half were letters. It is mainly with letters and newspapers or magazines that the service deals. The transmission of money orders, though extensive, is not so large as in Germany or Great Britain. This is explained, in a measure, by the universal use of cheques, great numbers of which are drawn for much smaller sums than is customary in Europe, and which travel by mail without trouble to the sender. Still, the aggregate amount of money orders, last year, was more than two hundred million dollars,—of which, it may be incidentally mentioned, only forty dollars were lost. In Great Britain, during the same period, upwards of three hundred million dollars were thus transferred; while from Germany the astonishing figure of eighteen hundred millions is reported. In the branch of parcels-conveyance America is also behind. There is, in fact, no domestic parcels post, the opposition of powerful express companies having prevented all efforts in that direction; but parcels are exchanged with many foreign countries, the number of which will be largely increased before the beginning of the next century.

The supreme distinctions of the United States service are the energy and thoroughness shown in all the details of its management,—with the single exception to which we have referred, and of which we shall speak more particularly in due course;—in the daring enterprise which extends the benefits of swift communication to the remotest and least accessible regions with unerring certainty, and in the splendid liberality with which it avails itself of every resource of ingenious invention to promote the efficacy of its operations. Nothing is left undone that can contribute in the slightest degree to the needs or desires of the public. The annual expenditure exceeds one hundred million dollars; and, though the revenue is not far below this sum, it is not because of any economical attempt to secure a balance. A much larger deficit would be ungrudgingly accepted, were it necessary for the further improve-

ment of the service. The low rate of postage is adhered to on principle. The boldest of politicians would not dare to suggest such an increase as the Japanese Government has unwisely decreed this year. There are places in America where no letters can be delivered at a smaller cost than fifty cents or even a dollar each; but two cents carries them safely and surely to their destination. The entire mass of second class matter, which is mailed at one cent a pound, averages an outlay of eight cents a pound for transportation. The same care is exercised in supervising the business of small stations in the wilderness, the annual receipts of which do not rise above twenty-five dollars, as is bestowed upon the great city offices, some of which bring a revenue of six or eight millions.

It is in the methods of quick transmission and distribution that the greatest vigour and activity are displayed. The quantity of work done while the mails are actually en route is immense. In the large cities, postal cars, with boxes attached, are run on the street tramways. There is not a railroad of importance in the whole country which has not its detachment of mail-carriages, and many steamships, on the ocean and the great lakes, are likewise provided with post-offices. Eight thousand clerks are employed on express trains, and the number of pieces of mail matter assorted by them is above twelve billion a year. That this figure is much in excess of the total received and delivered is accounted for by the fact that many letters and packages are necessarily handled several times over, as they pass from road to road. In order that no time shall be wasted at any point, the labour of the central offices in populous towns has been greatly reduced. These no longer receive deposits from the various branches, but all matter except that which is purely local is sent directly to one railway station or another, where it is prepared for immediate transportation. Swiftmess of carriage has been brought to such a point that the mails outstrip the fastest passenger traffic, in many instances. Travellers from New York to San Francisco, for example, arrive four hours later than the letters and newspapers that started with them, and between intermediate points the time is proportionately shortened. This has been brought about by the establishment of trains exclusively for the service, as well as by the application of a mechanical device for taking up and discharging bags while the cars are running at full speed.

Time-saving expedients are practised as effectively on water as on land. Ocean steamers are met, as they enter their harbours, by rapid boats which take possession of the mails and land them long before the big ships arrive at their berths. For all matter to be carried inland, cars are waiting at the wharf, ready to begin their journeys at a moment's notice. The industry with which the lake service is conducted may be illustrated by what takes place each day at the mouth of the Detroit River. Steamboats pass through this channel every three and a half minutes;—a marine procession of more than four hundred vessels in twenty-four hours. Mails are carried out from Detroit to all of these, without exception, by tenders which bring back a harvest of bags in exchange; and the receipt and delivery are effected as the large craft sweep by without deviating from their course or slackening speed.

When the "star routes," of unsavoury history, were first introduced, the Government caused it to be understood that "celerity, certainty, and security" were the conditions which every contractor must bind himself to fulfil. If any one of these requirements was thought more essential than the others, it was undoubtedly the first. It had been the custom to employ only stage-coaches in districts which could not be reached by railroads or steamboats; but with the establishment of "star routes" all restrictions were removed, with the result that many unexpected and extraordinary methods of conveyance were adopted, either as regular processes or as expedients in emergencies. In the northwest, the mails are often carried on horse-back, in carts drawn by dogs, in canoes, on rafts, and by pedestrians on snow-shoes or skimmers on skates. Rivers have been crossed by swimming, and floods set at naught by recourse to small balloons guided by ropes. Cords have been flung by bow-and-arrow across chasms from which the bridges have been torn away, and the pouches thus exchanged. It was long ago discovered that ordinary mail-bags were not suited to such exigencies as these, and new receptacles have been devised, from time to time, to meet every conceivable need. The latest of these novelties is a sack contrived to carry queen bees alive from Western ports to islands in the Pacific. Who would have imagined that such a necessity as this could arise, or that it would be recognized and provided for by a great national department?

It is surprising to learn that all the progressive developments of the system have been put in operation almost within a single generation. Before the civil war, slight consideration was given to the public convenience, even at the north, while in the south, the deficiency of postal accommodation was notorious. Thirty-five years ago, free delivery by carriers was unknown, and every citizen was obliged to apply for his mails at the general post-office. Now the army of carriers numbers fourteen thousand, with an annual pay-roll of more than fourteen million dollars. All the devices of expedition above mentioned have been introduced in the last quarter of the century. It is satisfactory to know that the people have cordially responded to the efforts made on their behalf. The postal revenue, in 1880, was only about one-third of what it is now. Since that date, the population of the United States has increased one-half, but the volume of postal business has multiplied three-fold.

That the working of this marvel of elaborate and complicated machinery should ever be deliberately crippled by the Government which exhausts the last possibilities of enterprise and energy in the endeavour to perfect it, seems almost too paradoxical for belief. Yet the fact is visible to all observers. The very hands that have toiled to build up the service do not shrink from periodically degrading it. Official reputation, the credit of a department of State, the honours of past achievement, count for nothing, and may all be sacrificed to the craving for public office that seizes the community after each change of party rule at Washington. The "spoils" of the Postal Department are enormous. Four thousand places are at the disposal of the President. Seventy thousand are nominally in the gift of the Postmaster-General,

but the right to apportion them is claimed by Congressmen, as a reward for the exercise of political influence in their various districts. In addition, there are the countless minor employees appointed by local postmasters. The rage for office is one of the inexplicable phenomena of American society. Those who succeed in obtaining positions are not well paid. The great majority of successful applicants could earn much more by following the avocations which they rashly abandon, besides preserving their own respect as self-supporting citizens. Nothing in American life is more demoralizing than the temptation which lures so many men from their natural career, to wait upon the caprices of political fortune. But we are now considering the injurious effect of "official rotation" upon a national service,—not its evil influence upon the character of the people. The Postmaster-General makes no concealments. He shows that during the long period when one party retained control of the government, with comparatively infrequent changes, the increase of efficiency was sure and steady; whereas when the parties began to alternate, and the re-distribution of "spoils" was renewed, deterioration at once set in, and continued for several years, until "the enforcement of a stricter discipline and more exacting requirements" led to a gradual improvement. Among other evidences of the danger of transferring difficult duties from skilled to inexperienced hands, the hazards of the lake and railway systems are noted, especially the latter. By the machinery which enables flying trains to take in mail pouches, sixty-nine clerks have been killed and thirteen hundred rendered incapable of duty, since 1889.

Thus, while abundant examples of praiseworthy enterprise and endeavour are found in the United States postal records, one adverse lesson is taught, which all who run may be expected to read,—except those that run for Republican or Democratic office,—and which may serve a salutary purpose in more than one part of the world.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Prince Henry of Germany returned to Chemulpo from Seoul on the 19th instant—says the *Kokumin Shimbum*—and was to sail from the former place on the 20th instant. The Prince will make a brief visit to Kiao-chou and then come over to Japan, arriving in Tokyo about the 29th instant.

In the *Official Gazette* of the 20th instant we find the detailed regulations for putting into operation the new laws of patents, trade-marks, and designs. The compilation of these regulations has evidently been a work of some difficulty. We hope to lay a translation of them before our readers at an early date.

Foreign capitalists, according to the *Tokyo Asahi*, are beginning to seek investments in Japan. A wealthy Frenchman has made application for one half of the total shares of the Tokyo Tramway Company and the Kyoto Electric Railway Company. It sounds curious that such a cut-and-dry project should be entertained, but the *Asahi* seems to have no doubt about the matter.

The coal mine in Wakamatsu Prefecture, where such a terrible explosion occurred on the 14th instant, is of considerable

magnitude. At the time of the accident the number of workmen employed was 800, and the daily output was about a million catties. It is estimated that the loss resulting from the catastrophe will be at least a hundred thousand *yen*. The principal owner, Mr. Hiraoka, is now travelling in Europe.

Extensive changes are gazetted in the personnel of the Japanese Navy. It is not necessary to enter into details. The purpose of the measure is to carry out an idea said to have been entertained by the present Minister of the Navy ever since he served as head of a bureau in that Department, the idea that neither shore service nor sea service should be too continuous, but that men should be drafted from the one to the other at intervals of moderate length.

The *Official Gazette* of the 19th instant contains an Instruction issued by the Department of Home Affairs for the guidance of local officials in dealing with foreigners who may be overtaken by sickness or sudden death while travelling in Japan. No interest attaches to the details of the Instruction, its principal object being to prescribe a routine so that there may be neither confusion nor hesitation in the treatment of such cases.

Mr. Kato, who recently returned from London, where he had represented Japan for several years with exceptional ability, has inaugurated a new custom. He has presented to the Emperor, the Empress, and the Prince Imperial certain articles procured in England. To the Emperor he presented two bronze figures, one of a guardsman, the other of a royal marine; to the Empress, a parasol and a fan; and to the Prince Imperial an electric clock and a folding chair.

We invite our readers' attention to two important Ordinances promulgated on the 15th instant and published in an Extra of the *Official Gazette*. It will be seen that foreign companies are allowed a period of six months within which to comply with the provisions of Japanese law as to registration. That is a liberal arrangement. It disposes of all the difficulties that have been suggested of late by vernacular newspapers in connexion with this subject.

An Imperial Ordinance has been issued extending to Formosa the operation of the Law of Nationality (No. 66 of 1899); the Law (with the exception of Art. XI.) for assisting to apprehend and detain Deserters from Foreign Men-of-war (No. 68 of 1899); the Law relating to Persons who have lost their Nationality (No. 94 of 1899); and the Laws of Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs. Another Ordinance rescinds Notification No. 30 (issued in 1876 under the authority of Imperial Ordinance No. 293) containing rules relating to the crews of foreign ships.

The ladies of Tokyo played a Lawn Tennis tournament of singles at the Belgian Legation on the 15th, 16th, and 17th instant, for a handsome prize given by Baron d'Aethlian. The game was 25 up, and the contest was on the American system, each lady playing against every one of the contestants in succession. The handicapping was in some cases very severe, but the results justified it, nearly all the games being well fought, and several leading to most exciting struggles. Miss

F. V. Dening came out victorious, and Mrs. Churchill was second. Miss Dening played magnificently: she did not suffer even one defeat.

Definite arrangements are now understood to have been made for the special treatment of foreigners in Japanese jails. It is not the intention, of course, to make things pleasanter for them than for the Japanese. What the Government aims at is to consult the foreigner's habits sufficiently to prevent his punishment from proving disproportionately severe. Foreign food and costume, as well as chairs and beds, will be provided; the cells will be built in foreign style, not enclosed with paper doors only, and the kind of labour allotted to him will be such as he can do without undue hardship. We have often expressed our conviction that the Government would adopt this line of procedure, but we presume that the erstwhile agitators will now assign the result to their own exertions.

The project of establishing two new Universities finds a vehement opponent in the *Fiji Shimpō*. Of course that journal does not object to the general expansion of educational opportunities. But it alleges, in the first place, that to increase the number of Universities is to begin at the wrong end; and, in the second, that this project is the outcome, not of any genuine appreciation of educational needs, but of political agitation. Both the Liberals and the Progressists, in order to curry favour with their constituents in the north and east, promised them a university, and each party has brought pressure to bear on the Educational Department, which, being organically weak and without a policy of its own, has yielded. Appearances certainly furnish some justification of the *Fiji Shimpō's* criticism, but the fact that the Miyagi Prefectural Assembly has put up a sum of 350,000 *yen* towards the cost of the Sendai University is a substantial proof of the *bona fides* of the affair.

Mr. Hoshi Toru has taken up the question of expanding the educational system, and, when Mr. Hoshi Toru speaks with the Liberal Party at his back, his voice is audible. Besides, in this case his influence has been thrown into the same scale with the inclinations of the Minister of Education. There will therefore be a "north-eastern university" (*To-koku daigaku*) in Sendai. Eight years are to be devoted to establishing the university, and the total outlay will be 2,600,000 *yen*, the appropriation for next year being the sum of 350,000 *yen* voted by the Miyagi Prefectural Assembly. There is also talk of establishing a school of agriculture and forestry in Iwate Prefecture.

It is alleged that the Korean Government, becoming sensible of the value of the Sōul-Chemulpo Railway as it approaches completion, has addressed three requests to the Japanese Authorities. The first is that a certain number of the shares should be sold to the Korean Imperial Household; the second, that the railway people should consent to run a special car for the use of the Korean Sovereign, the car being built at his Majesty's expense; and the third, that at the ceremony of opening the line, the Korean flag should be displayed as well as the Japanese. The third of these requests is agreeably naïve, and so is the suggestion they evoke from a

Japanese journal, namely, that it would be advisable to make a present of a number of shares and also of an imperial state car to the Emperor of Korea.

Mr. Otani Kahei is determined not to rest from his endeavours to bring about the remission of the American tax on tea. Addressing a meeting of the *Seicha Boyeki Kumiai* on the 18th instant, he pointed out that, whereas the price of 100 catties of tea in Japan is 25 *yen*, the import duty levied in America on that quantity—at 10 cents (gold) per lb.—amounts to 26.66 *yen*, or 1.66 *yen* more than the original cost. Such an impost could not fail to affect consumption by driving people to the cheaper beverage, coffee. The import of tea into the United States is 100 million lbs. annually, of which Japan supplies one-fourth. Mr. Otani's speech, and the evident importance of the subject, have induced the tea-men to resolve that a commission, headed by Mr. Otani, shall be sent to the States, to agitate for a reduction of this duty.

THE SITUATION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

OFFICIALS AT LOGGERHEADS.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

A gentleman who has just returned from Manila relates a very disappointing state of affairs in high official circles.

General Otis, the Governor-General, and the U.S. Peace Commissioners are at loggerheads.—Twas ever thus. Even in the Christianising of the heathen the different agencies are frequently found not to be in absolute accord. General Otis has reported that the conciliatory policy adopted towards the natives by the Peace Commissioners has entirely undone all the work of the past four months, and made the Filipinos more hopeful of fooling the United States.

And General Otis continues to blunder on in his campaign against the Filipinos. With the disastrous effects of the removal of the American troops from Pasig, Paternon, and Tagnig still fresh in his mind, the Governor-General has ordered another backward movement in the withdrawal of the troops from the district of San Isidro. It is stated that General Lawton is furious at being recalled. He had advanced as far as San Isidro, where he had established a strong position, and by this time he would have cleared the country of rebels as far as Dagupan had he been allowed to proceed. The friendly Filipinos are losing faith in the Americans, as when the districts evacuated by the U.S. troops are re-occupied by the rebels large numbers of the Filipinos who welcomed the Americans get their throats cut.

The Americans on abandoning San Isidro and other towns posted proclamations offering \$30 each for Mauser rifles brought to them. In reply the rebels surreptitiously posted proclamations inside the American line offering \$60 for every Krag Jorgensen rifle.

Aguinaldo sentenced Colonel Arguelles, the last peace envoy, to be executed, but subsequently commuted the sentence to twelve years' penal servitude.

The movement for which the Governor-General has mobilised the troops is the last of the season. The plan is to clear the Laguna again, and then sweep down and across to Cavite, wiping out all the rebels who have been left alone so long near Parangue. Operations will then cease till next dry season, November or so.

Our informant says that General Miles has left the United States for Manila to supersede General Otis as Governor-General of the Philippines.

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

WHEN news reached us that the Court of Cassation had ordered the retrial of DREYFUS by a new court-martial, there seemed to be good grounds for hope that this unhappy affair, which had caused so much perturbation in France, was at length on the eve of satisfactory settlement. But the latest telegraphic intelligence goes to show that the nation has not yet recovered its *sang froid*, and that there is still a strong prejudice against the wretched convict of Devil's Island. It is not immediately easy to understand the mood of the French people. That their first desire is to see justice done must be taken for granted. But the highest judicial tribunal in the land has decided that justice was not done by the court-martial which tried DREYFUS originally. Why, then, should there be any objection to a fresh trial, or any apprehension that its result will renew the public ferment? Two conclusions are forced upon us: the first is that the decisions of the Court of Cassation do not command the absolute confidence which should attach to such a tribunal; the second, that people can not persuade themselves to think as lightly of court-martial justice as the Dreyfusites would have them think. One can understand both of these sentiments. Since the DREYFUS affair came upon the *tapis*, there has been a disposition on the part of irresponsible critics to belittle courts-martial and to conclude that their manner of administering the law is disfigured by all the rough and summary directness supposed to be characteristic of military minds in general. It is surprising that such a view should be entertained by people who reverence the jury system; surprising that folks who are willing to see the rights and wrongs of an intricate question decided by a body of twelve untrained and probably half-educated men, chosen at random, should deny at least corresponding competence to a court composed of educated officers and gentlemen. Of course we understand that the chief objection is based not on the *personnel* of the tribunal, but on the fact that its procedure is not directed by experts qualified to prevent the admission of illegal evidence. We greatly doubt, however, whether the admission of illegal evidence constitutes a genuine blot upon the administration of courts-martial, or whether it gives rise to any abuses comparable with those resulting from the licence enjoyed by the Bar. At all events the French people have long regarded courts-martial with respect and esteem. A recent writer said of them:—"One must have attended sittings of a court-martial before which a simple soldier is brought for a proved and confessed crime in order to have an idea of the extreme care with which the proceedings are conducted. Everything that may strengthen the defence is heard with

benevolent attention, and, when sentence is passed, it is difficult not to be moved by the way in which it is done." The fact is that to the members of a court-martial the prisoner they have to try is much closer than an accused person is to the occupants of the Bench in an ordinary criminal court. He wears their own cloth and is a member of their own service. Of course that fact may be productive of prejudice in some cases, but, as a rule, it makes for leniency and exhaustively careful investigation. Can we wonder, then, that a large section of the nation clings to its faith in the court-martial, and that a still larger objects to see a slight put upon the Army, the cynosure of so many hopes? As for the Court of Cassation, there is no doubt that the accusations of M. QUESNEY DE BEAUREPAIRE gave a great shock to the confidence reposed in its infallibility by the general public, and that this bewilderment was aggravated when the Committee of Inquiry ordered by the Minister of Justice endorsed M. DE BEAUREPAIRE'S charges to the extent of recommending that the question of revision be entrusted to the whole Court of Cassation, all three chambers united. Thus the anti-Dreyfusites are certainly not without reason. To outsiders like ourselves the reluctance now shown to let things take their course peacefully may seem somewhat incomprehensible, but in truth history contains nothing that can compare with this DREYFUS case. It is all very well for Anglo-Saxons and Germans to speak critically of French passion and excitability, but have not the journals of London and Berlin filled long columns unremittingly for the past two years with minute details and intricate dissertations about the DREYFUS affair, which would have become insufferably tiresome after a week had not the extraordinarily vivid interest of the story riveted the attention of the whole civilized world? That France is still shaken by the throes of such a convulsion need not surprise us at all. But the fact that the President experiences so much difficulty in finding a Cabinet to face the situation is very disquieting, for it appears to indicate that no exit from this long complication is furnished by the normal machinery of justice, and that we may at any moment see violence employed to provide a solution.

THE NEW PHYSICAL LAW.

ONE of the difficulties involved in accepting the old theory of world formation is that we must suppose the process to have ceased. If, as philosophers assert, the first condition of planets now solidified, or partially solidified, was a white-hot, flaming body, why is it that no such bodies are seen any longer in the universe? Why should the creative forces have rested from their labours? It is surely much

more reasonable to suppose that these forces are continuously at work, but that their initial operations are hidden from our vision. For instance, if the original condition of our solar system, and of all other stellar systems, was "a formless swarm of icy masses" floating in space; a collection of cold, dark, icy nebulae invisible to the eye but possessing the elements of development, then there would be no difficulty in supposing that the creative forces are still steadily performing their functions uninterruptedly and everlastingly. But to accept such a hypothesis is to throw our old ideas overboard. We must assume that things had their beginning in an icy condition, not in an incandescent state. That is exactly what the author of the latest great discovery undertakes to demonstrate. Professor SEE, of the United States Naval Observatory, has enunciated a new law, namely, that the temperature of a gaseous star varies inversely as its radius. It is well known that a gas when compressed gives out heat. Hence if, owing to the operation of any known cause, a gaseous body were to grow smaller, it would become warmer in the process. The attraction of gravitation is such a cause. Under its influence a gaseous star compresses itself and produces heat. Experiments have shown that the present heat of the sun is about 8,000 degrees C. above the absolute cold of interstellar space. Assuming the truth of See's new law, it would follow that were the sun's radius twice what it is to-day, the temperature would be only 4,000 degrees. If it had eight times its present radius, its temperature would be only 1,000 degrees. Professor SEE suggests that its mass was originally immense enough to cover the entire space now occupied by the solar system. If so, its temperature would then have been 1 degree above the absolute zero; namely, 272 degrees below the zero of the centigrade scale. Such cold would liquify air then, and then freeze it solid. We should have instead of the present solar system, a dim, cold nebula, of which many similar may now occupy portions of space. What happened then is thus described by Professor SEE:—"Although vast and attenuated this nebula has set up a slow motion, which is the beginning of development. It revolves on its axis. It is also condensing gradually by the attraction of gravitation. As it grows smaller and a trifle more compact it revolves a little faster. In the course of a few million years, when its circumference has reached what is now about the orbit of Neptune, a part of the outer edge, unable to keep up with the movement of the mass, is detached, not unlike the mud from a revolving buggy-wheel. That is Neptune. Later Uranus is left behind, and then Saturn and Jupiter. And as the central mass gradually shrinks inward, the temperature, according to the new law, necessarily increases. Mars is

formed at 249 degrees below zero Centigrade, the earth at 233 degrees, and finally Mercury at 181 degrees—all far below zero.

"As each of these worlds takes up a separate existence, it too begins shrinking and generating heat. The nebula of our earth was probably about as large as the present orbit of our moon, and, after having begun independent rotation, it, in turn, cast off a world. That world is our moon. The earth nebula was comparatively small, and shrunk rapidly. From what we know of the length of its nebular radius, it is difficult to see how its temperature ever could have exceeded about 1,000 degrees Centigrade. In other words, I don't believe there ever was heat enough here to vaporize iron, although the temperature was sufficient to fuse lava such as now issues from our volcanoes. It used to be held by men of science that the interior of the earth was a fiery globe filled with molten liquid substances, and that the volcanoes were vents analogous to chimneys. It is probable, however, that the heat does not increase after a certain depth has been reached. Beyond that, it remains uniform throughout the entire interior of the globe. If the earth ever had been as hot as many of the planets are to-day, all of our atmosphere would have been driven off into space and this would now be an airless world. The earth still continues its shrinking: slowly now, but as certainly as ever. The earthquakes are the remnants of its shrinking throes.

"The great planets, Neptune, Uranus, Saturn, and Jupiter, after being detached from the mother nebula, also went through the regular shrinking process. And as they shrunk, their temperatures rose higher, until finally the solid matter melted, and they became gaseous, as they are to-day. The shrinking is still going on, and instead of growing colder, as astronomers have long taught, these planets are growing steadily hotter, and in the end they may shine of their own light, and not merely reflect the illumination they receive from the sun. Already there are faint signs of luminosity in Uranus, and perhaps also in Jupiter.

"The sun is still a gaseous body, and it therefore conforms to the new law. We know that it is shrinking from year to year, and it is, therefore, growing gradually hotter. At present the radiance is yellow. As the years go by and the heat increases, we may expect the light to grow gradually whiter and whiter, until it approaches the glare of an arc lamp, and after that it will gradually become blue, the next step marked in the spectrum. It will then have reached the condition of the blue stars of our heavens, Sirius and Vega, and it will have shrunk to a density nearly approaching that of an incompressible liquid.

"There is a vast chance for speculation as to what effect these changes in the colour of the sun's light will have on our earth. We know that we shall receive less heat, owing to the smaller radiating surface of the sun; but just what effect a glare which is blue instead of yellow will have on the earth, its foliage, and inhabitants, if plants and animals exist at that time, we can scarcely imagine."

"After the sun has become a blue star, like Sirius, blue being the mark of old age among stellar bodies, it will radiate an intensely blue light for perhaps a million years, and then suddenly begin falling in temperature. In the sudden cooling it may for a time appear red-

dish. Then it will become a liquid, and finally a dark solid. Sirius and other blue stars must reach this dark stage comparatively soon. Indeed, we have an example of a dying star, one in which the light is going out, in the companion of Sirius, which although half as large as Sirius, gives only a ten-thousandth part as much light.

"I presume that the heavens are full of these vast inert bodies of dead stars. They represent the other extremes from the icy cold nebula out of which stars spring into existence. Owing to the presence of these dead stars and the nebulae in space I think it impossible for us to form any idea of the universe.

"All of our planets are doomed to death and cold, the present condition of our moon. The end will come long before the sun has cooled off. The law of gravitation continues its slow work of destruction. The moon, which, according to Darwin's theory of the tides, has been gradually forced away from the earth, will, when there are no longer any tides upon the earth's surface, be slowly drawn back again, and one day it will fall upon the earth with fearful force, no doubt causing a conflagration more awful than we can imagine. In the same way the moons of Jupiter will fall. Then the planets one after another will be drawn into the sun, producing for the time being a terrible blast of heat, although if all of the planets in our system were to be dropped upon the sun in a single day, their masses are so insignificant compared with the immensity of the mass of the sun, that they would serve to keep up the heat only a few hundred thousand years.

"After the last of the planets has fallen, the sun, having reached the limit of compression, will cool down and become gradually dimmer and dimmer, until the residents of other stars, if there be such, will gradually lose sight of it, and it will become a dark wanderer in space. Then, perhaps, at the end of hundreds of millions of years, it too will fall into the central mass around which it revolves as we now revolve around it.

"But we can not say that this is really the end, for no man knows, and man's mind is not big enough even to imagine how many systems, one within the other, make up God's creation."

THE BOOKSHELF.

Supplement to the Digest on the condition of Foreigners under the new Treaties; Yokohama, General Foreign Chamber of Commerce.

AMONG the many useful works undertaken by the International Committee one was the commissioning of Dr. Lönholm to prepare a digest of such Japanese laws as are of practical interest to foreigners in connexion with the operation of the Revised Treaties. The result of the commission was a volume which, if it be not already in the hands of every foreign resident, ought to be procured with as little delay as possible. A supplement has now been published by the same author for the International Committee. It contains a clear and concise exposition of the laws and regulations promulgated since the original volume was compiled. There is no possibility within the limits of a newspaper article of giving anything like a comprehensive idea of the contents of this book, for although it consists of 41 pages only, every page abounds with important facts

and inferences. At the outset we find an exposition of a question which recently inspired some uneasiness, namely, the practice under Japanese commercial law with regard to pledges. It is not the custom with foreign banks to require the actual delivery of the goods pledged. A bill of lading is considered sufficient, and so is the possession—often nominal possession only—of the keys of the warehouse where the goods are stored. An impression obtained credence at first that these convenient methods would not be possible under Japanese law, and that the course of business might be correspondingly hampered. That apprehension will be dispelled by Dr. Lönholm's interpretation of the law. He points out that the endorsement and delivery of a bill of lading have the same effect as the delivery of the goods themselves—that, indeed, is explicitly stated in the Code—and, also that, since "delivery means any act by which the goods are actually brought under the exclusive power of the pledgee in a manner visible to third persons," a "delivery may be made by handing over to the pledgee the key of the godown where the goods are."

Our readers may remember a journalistic discussion which took place some months ago with reference to the significance of the word *métier* used in the French Revised Treaty. We maintained that *métier* could not properly be interpreted as including the profession of journalism, and for that expression of opinion we were roundly abused by a Kobe journal, our contemporary even going so far as to repeatedly accuse us of deliberately seeking to deceive the public because we quoted, in support of our view, Littré's definition of the ordinary meaning of the word, and did not choose, by preference, the extended meaning which, according to the great lexicographer, is sometimes assigned to it. The subject is sufficiently interesting to justify quotation of Dr. Lönholm's remarks, which bear out our contention from point to point:—

3.—"Professions.—The word 'professions' in English is properly applied to those occupations which require an education in some branch of science or at least what is called 'a liberal education.' In this sense 'professions' are not specially mentioned in the Treaties. The French word '*la profession*' has a quite different meaning, including any kind of occupation. '*Les professions*' whose exercise is granted to Frenchmen are enumerated in Art. 4 of the French Treaty, namely: '*Le commerce, l'industrie, et le métier*,' and the phrases '*ils pourront se livrer à leurs professions*' in Art. 1 and '*à l'effet d'y exercer leurs professions*' in Art. 4 plainly refer to the callings as enumerated in the latter article. Nor does the word *métier* comprehend the liberal professions. *Métier* is defined by the Dictionnaire de l'Académie Française, vol. 1. p. 202 to be '*la profession d'un art mécanique, p. e. le métier de cordonnier, de tailleur, de serrurier, de menuisier*,' and it is added '*métier se dit par extension de plusieurs professions non-mécaniques, p. e. le métier des armes, etc.*' This shows plainly that '*métier*' in its ordinary sense, especially if used in connection with '*industrie et commerce*,' means only mechanical occupations. No State will bind itself by treaty to allow foreign professional men to pursue their callings in its territory."

The parts of this volume relating to taxes will be scrutinized by foreigners with special attention. With regard to income tax, the rates have undergone revision since Dr. Lönholm's first book was published. They vary now from 1 to 5½ per cent., whereas the maximum under the former schedule was 3 per cent. A person enjoying an income of ten thousand *yen* annually will have to pay a tax of 300 *yen*. If his income be five thousand *yen*, the tax is 125 *yen*. The smallest income taxed is 300 *yen*, and the tax in that case is 1 per cent. Income for any one year is reckoned as the average of the preceding three years. He is required to furnish a return of it in April, and the tax is thereafter levied in two equal instalments, the first in September, the second in March. It appears, therefore, that since the foreign residents can not furnish any returns before April, 1900, their first payment of income tax will be in September of that year, or about 14 months after the Treaties go into operation. The Business Tax is of scarcely less importance to foreigners. In the case of sellers of merchandise, the tax is one half of one mil. of wholesale transactions, and 1½ of one per mil. of retail transactions, and there is also a tax of 4 per cent. of the rental value of the buildings used in the trade, as well as one *yen* per head on the employees. In other business the tax is usually on the capital, and also on the rental value of the premises. We do not attempt a detailed statement, but it will be well to point out that as the returns for the purposes of this tax have to be furnished in January, foreigners will not become liable for any payment before the year 1900.

Turning to the chapter on superficies, Dr. Lönholm expresses some important opinions. In the first place, he emphatically denies the assertion made by some critics that a superficies is not assignable, and he gives convincing reasons for that view. In the second place, he discusses the question whether the decision of a law court as to the duration of a superficies dates from the time of rendering the decision or from the time when the superficies began to run. Our readers are doubtless familiar with the fact that when the duration of a superficies has not been fixed by agreement, a court of law may, on the application of either party, assign a limit of not less than 20 years and not more than 50. Does that limit count from the time when the application was made, or does it count from the original date of the superficies? Obviously, if the latter view be taken, a superficies the duration of which was not fixed by the parties may be brought to an end at once by the ruling of a law court, for if the superficies has already run for, say, 40 years, and the court decides that it should exist for 40 years only, then it must terminate forthwith. That, nevertheless, is Dr. Lönholm's interpretation of the Code. He avers that no other rendering is possible, and that the framers of the Code take the same view. We are thus driven to the inference that, whenever the parties to a superficies fail to fix a period, the superficies ceases to have any binding force after 50 years, for on the application of either party it may be terminated there and then. In fact, if an indefinite superficies, after lasting for 70 years, is brought before a law court, the latter would have to rule that the superficies ceased to be valid 20 years previously. Dr. Lönholm

concludes his chapter on superficies with these words:—"I should strongly advise foreigners not to make agreements as to a right of superficies for a rent, but only for a lump sum, and to have the duration of it specified in the agreement. If carefully made, such an agreement may procure the superfluous practically nearly all the essential rights of an owner."

Dr. Lönholm states that the *mise en secret* has been abolished, but we fail to see how that proposition can be established in the face of the fact that the judge is still competent to segregate a prisoner's cell, to cut him off from all intercourse with others, and to forbid him to despatch or receive letters or articles from outside. If that is not our old friend the *mise en secret* in a new guise, our powers of identification must be very feeble.

It will be understood, of course, that what we have written above refers to only a small part of the interesting treatise now before us. Many other subjects of the highest importance are discussed. Indeed, if the International Committee had accomplished nothing beyond procuring the compilation and publication of these two volumes, it would have amply justified its existence. Dr. Lönholm has laid the community under a great obligation, for it is owing to the aid of his lucid explanations that the foreign residents are enabled to approach the new order of things with a full knowledge of conditions actually awaiting them.

IMPORTANT ORDINANCES FOR FOREIGNERS.

(TRANSLATED BY DR. L. LÖNHOLM.)

I.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE, No. 273 OF JUNE 15TH, 1899 RELATING TO BRANCH OFFICES OF FOREIGN COMMERCIAL COMPANIES, AND TO COMMERCIAL COMPANIES, AND ASSOCIATIONS ESTABLISHED BY FOREIGNERS.

Art. 1.—A foreign commercial company* which has set up a branch office in Japan before the taking effect of the Commercial Code must, within six months from its taking effect, register such fact according to the provisions of Art. 255 of the Commercial Code and appoint a representative in Japan and register his name and domicile.

The provisions of Art. 257 of the Commercial Code and of Art. 202 of the Law Concerning Non-Contentious Matters apply correspondingly to such foreign companies.

Art. 2.—A commercial company formed by foreigners in Japan before the taking effect of the Commercial Code must, within six months from its taking effect, make a company contract in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial Code and register the formation of the company.

Art. 3.—If a commercial company act in contravention of the provisions of Art. 2, the court may on the application of the public prosecutor or of its own motion order the dissolution of the company.

The order of dissolution must be published in the same manner as registered facts are published.

In the afore-mentioned case the provisions of Arts. 126, 1, 134, 1 and 2 and 135 of the Law Concerning Non-Contentious Matters apply correspondingly.

Art. 4.—As to commercial companies formed by foreigners in Japan before the taking effect of the Commercial Code, the legal relations which will arise before the registration is made according to the provisions of Art. 2, or before

* Kwaisha, 會社, including partnerships, see Dr. Lönholm's translation of the Commercial Code, page 12.

an order of dissolution has become finally binding, are governed by the law of the country to which the company belonged before.

Art. 5.—An association formed by foreigners in Japan before the taking effect of the Commercial Code, which has property of its own, must within six months from the taking effect of the Commercial Code change its organization into that of some kind of commercial company recognized by the Commercial Code. The provisions of the preceding two articles apply correspondingly to such an association.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

This Ordinance takes effect from the day when the Commercial Code takes effect.

II.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE, No. 273, OF JUNE 15TH, 1899, CONCERNING FOREIGN INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Art. 1.—If a foreign commercial company establishes an agency in Japan to carry on the business of insurance, it must appoint a representative in Japan. The provisions of Art. 62 of the Commercial Code apply correspondingly to such representative.

Art. 2.—The foreign company must notify the Government of the name and domicile of its representative in Japan.

Art. 3.—The provisions of Arts. 95 and 97-101 of the Law Concerning the Operation of the Commercial Code apply correspondingly to foreign insurance companies.

Art. 4.—If it appears to the Government that the continuance of the business of a foreign insurance company is endangered, or if the foreign company acts in contravention of an order of the Government, the Government may order that the prosecution of the business be suspended or the representative be removed.

Art. 5.—Whenever a foreign insurance company makes an inventory and a balance sheet, it must without delay submit it to the Government, together with a business report, an account of profits and losses, and its proposals as to the distribution of the profits.

Art. 6.—A foreign insurance company which has set up a branch office or an agency in Japan before the taking effect of the Commercial Code must, within six months from its taking effect, obtain the permission of the Government.

The provisions of Art. 95, 2 of the Law Concerning the Operation of the Commercial Code apply correspondingly to such foreign companies.

The provisions of Arts. 126, 1, 134, 1 and 2 and 135 of the Law Concerning Non-Contentious Matters apply correspondingly when a foreign insurance company is forbidden to carry on its business.

Art. 7.—The provisions of Arts. 1, 2, and 5 of this law and of Articles 98 to 101 of the Law Concerning the Operation of the Commercial Code apply correspondingly to foreign insurance companies which have established a branch office or an agency in Japan before the taking effect of the Commercial Code.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

This ordinance takes effect from the day when the Commercial Code takes effect.

CONTRASTS.

On May 1st, a question having been addressed to the British Government in the House of Lords, the Marquis of Salisbury replied as follows:—

I am a little in difficulty, because I am not quite sure whether I am acting in accordance with the wishes of the Russian Government in entering into the matter; that I have not been able to ascertain. But I imagine that as soon as the text arrives, which will be in a few days, I shall be able to lay it upon the table. As to the general drift of the agreement, the noble lord probably knows that it is a railway agreement concerning our fields of operation in China; and that, while England

† Kumiai 組合. This means only associations for business purposes only, not clubs, etc.

agrees neither to undertake nor to encourage any railway, by English persons or others, north of the Great Wall, Russia, on the other hand, has made exactly similar stipulations with respect to the basin of the Yangtze. There are certain provisions in the agreement with respect to the railway to be made to Newchwang, about which there has been so much controversy, and our interests in that respect, are I think, entirely protected. I may say that I am very anxious not to appear to attach to the particular stipulations of this agreement an exaggerated importance. But I attach very great importance to the agreement itself, as a sign of good feeling between the Governments of Great Britain and Russia.—(Hear, hear.) That is very much to be desired; and what is still more to be desired is that good feeling should grow up between the Russian and English peoples. But this particular agreement will be of value in preventing the possibility of collision between the two Governments in that distant part of the world; and therefore it is a gage for their future agreement for a long time, and will I trust, lead to agreement in other matters.—(Cheers.)

On May 9th, the St. Petersburg correspondent of *The Times* sent the following communication to that journal:—

The *Novoe Vremya* continues to minimize the importance of the Anglo-Russian agreement, while the *Novosti* is the only journal that really accepts it unconditionally as a welcome earnest of that friendly understanding on all points between the two countries which it professes most ardently to desire. It therefore denounces the German Press for its display of ill-feeling at the prospect of better relations between England and Russia, while the *Novoe Vremya* declares that these political circles in which so much anxiety has been exhibited at the reports of a rapprochement between these two nations may now rest assured that nothing of the kind has taken place. The agreement is nothing more than a "private" transaction of a "technical" character, and, beyond certain definite points in the matter of railways, everything remains as it was before. It rejoices at the news that Russia has left herself full freedom of action, and declares that she does not require any "general" agreement with England either in Asia or anywhere.

There is certainly a very marked contrast between the utterances of Lord Salisbury and the writings of the *Novoe Vremya*. Of course, as a general rule, one does not think of comparing the parliamentary speech of a responsible Prime Minister with the comments of a newspaper. But newspapers in Russia are not as newspapers elsewhere. The Russian press is under official control, and its utterances are usually regarded as having at least the tacit approval of the Government. Probably that conception is somewhat exaggerated, for unless the articles appearing in a journal pass under the eyes of an official censor before publication, they can not justly be regarded as bearing the cachet of the Government. *Post-facto* scrutiny proceeds on a canon of criticism very different from that governing examination before insertion. People at large, however, do not recognise that nice distinction. They will interpret the *Novoe Vremya's* utterances as an expression of the Russian Government's views, and will certainly not attach the same importance in the opposite direction to the friendly and sensible language of the *Novosti*.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

An American contemporary, summarizing the latest publication of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, obtains the following concise account of the railway programme of China:—

At present the only railroad system in China consists of the 350 miles of road which connects Tientsin, the port of Peking, with the capital, and extends southwesterly to Pao-tung, the capital of the province of that name, whence it is the intention to build lines into the coal and iron regions of the interior, which are within easy reach. This,

however, is only one important link in the projected network of Chinese railroads.

The other important concessions for Chinese railroads include a line under British and German auspices from Tientsin to Shanghai, 700 miles in length, which, passing through the German sphere of influence in middle China, will connect with roads from Germany's port at Kiaochow running eastwardly into the coal and iron regions of the province of Santung. A Belgian concession has been granted for a road 650 miles long from Peking to Hankow, the great interior port at the head of deep-water navigation on the Yangtze river. Another British concession is for a line extending southward from Shanghai to Ningpo and Hangchow, and finally to the British territory recently acquired on the mainland opposite Hongkong, where it will connect with a short British line, now under construction, leading to Canton, the southern commercial centre of China. British capital is also engaged in the construction of a short line westward from Shanghai to Soochow and Nanking. The direct American interest in Chinese railroad concessions centres in a concession granted last year to New York capitalists for the construction of 600 miles of road, connecting Canton with Hankow, for which active surveys are now being prosecuted. In the south of China the French propose several lines which will bring their possessions into connection with the provinces of Yunnan, and ultimately with Canton. Another road under British auspices is to lead from Canton and Hongkong to Chingto, the capital of the province of Szechuen, probably the most populous and productive portion of China, and opens up an important region upon the upper section of the West river of China, which has been recently thrown open to European commerce.

Altogether the Chinese lines provided for by these concessions involve the addition of some 3,000 miles of railroads to the world's existing mileage. It is noted in the publication from which these details are taken that the concessions, although committing the construction of the new lines to foreign skill and management, provide in most cases that the capital with which they are built shall be secured by mortgage, but that the lines themselves, after the liens are paid, are to become the property of the Chinese Government. With the extension of the European spheres of influence and the growing financial necessities of the Chinese Government, it may, however, be doubted if these provisions can be regarded as permanent. Whatever the result may be in this connection, the prospective railroad development of China constitutes an important element in the present outlook for the iron and steel industries of the rest of the world, and may well be taken into account in connection with the immediate future of that department of activity in the United States.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TAXATION OF FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In an editorial article published on the 16th inst., you say "it is probable that the foreign residents will not be held liable to pay any taxes until October 1st."

I do not know whether you mean to include all kinds of taxes in this statement, but it is certain that the payment of two per cent. on the interest receivable from Japanese securities was exacted, on the first of this month, from foreign bond and share holders. There seems to be no good reason, indeed, why aliens should be exempted from this or any other impost that is levied upon natives of the country, although the figure is a little steep, and the method of collection peculiar. I learn that the Government has notified all the banks that they must not credit depositors of coupons with the full amount of these tickets, but deduct the required two per cent. and hand it over to the financial authorities. Even over the city bonds of the Tokyo Fu, the central Government asserts and exercises this control, as well as over its own issues.

It would be a great convenience if foreigners could be informed, definitely and decisively, exactly what taxes they are subject to and how and when such taxes are to be gathered. There will undoubtedly be a great deal of criticism over the irregular and contradictory rates imposed by various legislative enactments. The intention to graduate assessments, so that the chief burden shall fall upon the wealthy, is defeated, so far as incomes derived from public

securities are concerned. A capitalist may have an immense revenue from bonds, yet his income rate will be only two per cent.; whereas it will be five per cent. if his property consist of real estate. On the other hand, a very small income, which would otherwise escape lightly, must, if drawn from bonds, surrender the same percentage. The advantage is obviously on the side of the rich and against those in moderate or humble circumstances.

Irregularities of this sort are, however, less likely to affect aliens than Japanese subjects. In any case, whatever the law may be, we are all bound by it, and since every one must admit, it is best to do so as gracefully as possible. I beg to repeat that it would be a great benefit to foreigners if some newspaper,—*The Mail*, by preference,—would publish an authoritative statement as to what we have to expect. The taxes on bond incomes have already begun, but nobody appears to know precisely what lies in the future. It cannot be supposed that the Government desires to withhold information on this subject, and the sooner and more fully it is given, the better it will be for all parties.

Respectfully yours,

H.

[The taxes on bonds are not connected with the Treaties, nor does the foreigner's liability to them depend on his passing under Japanese jurisdiction, as our correspondent of course knows. It will be always possible to avoid the tax on bonds by arranging to have the interest paid in a foreign country instead of in Japan.—Ed. J.M.]

FOREIGN SPEAKERS OF JAPANESE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Kindly allow a word in regard to the recent editorial in the *Mail* concerning the ability of foreigners or missionaries to acquire the Japanese language so as to make public addresses in Japanese acceptably or to edification.

Possibly it may pacify some of your disturbed correspondents.

The writer was speaking of that editorial to friends who use the Japanese language certainly with force and effectiveness. The opinion of the editor of the *Mail* was quoted. "Oh," said one of the gentlemen, "I was speaking to Mr. ——— a few days ago," naming the prominent editor of one of the largest Japanese daily newspapers in Tokyo, "about the possibility of securing the editor of the *Mail* to address (in Japanese) a certain Young Men's Club. Mr. ——— thought the editor of the *Mail* could hardly find time for it, but remarked, "He speaks Japanese better than we Japanese do."

Possibly the editor of the *Mail* in that article was giving the Japanese an example of Anglo-Saxon humility, or perhaps his ideals are exceptionally high.

Yours, &c.,

P.

[The editor of the *Japan Mail* has resided in Japan for 32 years and has devoted some study to the Japanese language, but he is quite incompetent to address a Japanese audience in the Japanese language, and would never think of making the attempt except as a matter of necessity. But of course in the article referred to the editor did have a high ideal in view. He was discussing the question of a foreigner's preaching with eloquence such as to win converts and arouse the enthusiasm of a Japanese audience.—Ed. J.M.]

MR. DIOSY AND RUDE LITTLE BOYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me to correct an error in the otherwise accurate report published in your issue of 13th instant, of my recent speech at Yokohama.

You report me as having said:—"When the little boys of Tokyo run after my *jinrikisha* and call out *Jin baba! Jin neko baba!* I take off my hat to them and salute their teachers."

I did not use the words *Jin neko baba*—an opprobrious epithet I have never heard—but only *Jin baba*, and the concluding words of my sentence were not as given by you, but as follows:—"I take off my hat to them and bow, and I salute them with *Go-tagai sama!*—the best answer one can give them."

Go-tagai sama was used by me in its sense of, "It is the honourable mutually"—a well-known polite expression, having nothing at all to do with "teachers." The occasions on which I have used it, with great effect, gave it the force of a courteous, but crushing, "You're another!"

I am glad you reported this passage of my speech, as it may serve to call the attention of thoughtful Japanese to the necessity for teaching children that the foreigner in their midst is not, necessarily, a fool and should be treated with the same politeness they are trained to show to elders of their own nation.

We are not free, in the West, from the howling street-urchin, but in the Land of Good Manners the nuisance should not be tolerated.

I am, sir, yours very truly,

ARTHUR DIOSY.

Nikko, 20th June, 1899.

M. DOOMCHEFF'S CONCERT.

Yokohama has been favoured with visits from many musicians of respectable abilities, and from several of very high talents. But rarely has a local audience had the opportunity of hearing so consummate a master as M. Constantine Doomcheff, the well-known Russian violinist, who appeared on Thursday in the Public Hall. Unfortunately, perhaps through the wretched state of weather, and also possibly from ignorance on the part of the community as to the capabilities of the artist—though the notices already appearing in the Press should have made it clear that M. Doomcheff was a violinist of exceptional power—the audience was regrettably small, not half the available accommodation being occupied. Professor Doomcheff must have been rather disappointed, for this is, we believe, not his first visit to Yokohama, and, from the natural *amour propre* of one whose soul is in his art, it would probably have pleased him to have had a big reception in a place where he performed some years ago as a mere lad, recognised as of great promise, but not yet arrived at the full maturity of his powers. Mr. Doomcheff is truly a great artist, and his career has been one of marked distinction. He is one of the infant prodigies who have not disappointed early expectations. From the age of eight, when he made his first appearance before Royalty, his career has been one of steady and consistent progress, and to-day, in the first years of manhood, he promises to develop into one of the great violinists of the world. The programme last night was admirably selected, and enabled the artist to show his great capabilities to the best advantage. It opened with a concerto by Beethoven, which was magnificently rendered. The effect on the audience was marked. At the opening they sat with frigid indifference and dull decorum prepared apparently for the ordinary "creditable" performance of the clever amateur and the mediocre professional. But the first few notes were sufficient to show that it was the hand of a master that was at work, and as the artist proceeded the auditors warmed into keen enthusiasm, the heartiest applause marking the conclusion of each movement. The concluding cadence was especially beautiful. Then followed a Berceuse of M. Doomcheff's own composing, played with muted strings. It was a beautifully dreamy melody, making less demands than the opening piece on the artist's powers of technique, but played with splendid expression. Sarasate's "Zigeunerweisen" was the concluding item of the first part of the programme, and was rendered in a manner which the composer himself could hardly have excelled. The allegro movement particularly charmed the audience, and an encore was so vociferously demanded that M. Doomcheff had to respond with a Mazurka by Wieniawski. The second half opened with Wieniawski's "Souvenir de Moscou," and then followed another piece of the artist's own composition, "Adagio Triste," the plaintive melody of which was charmingly expressed. The concluding item was Fantaisie de l'Opera "Moise" (Paganini),

executed on one string only. This was one of the most beautiful numbers of the evening, and the inevitable encore followed. M. Doomcheff was manifestly unwilling to comply, as was natural after two hours' continuous exertion, but the audience would not be denied, and the artist was kind enough to accede to its wishes. The accompaniments were played by Miss Melissoff. We regret that the audience was so small at this, undoubtedly the finest concert of the kind in Yokohama for years, for it is to some extent discreditable to the taste of the musical community, but we feel assured that if Mr. Doomcheff could be induced to repeat his performance this seeming want of appreciation would prove to be due merely to the unfortunate climatic conditions of last night.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

In consequence of the disturbed state of the country around Ningpo, the Taotai has informed the British Consul at that port that he has made arrangements to provide an escort for foreigners who may be travelling in that neighbourhood. The Ningpo Taotai is chiefly concerned about the safety of visitors to Talaushan and other summer resorts.

The German authorities at Kiaochow have come to an arrangement with the Foreign Chinese Customs to undertake the control of trade in the German territory; and a very wise decision this is, remarks the *N. C. Daily News*, as the experience of the Foreign Customs will be the gain of the German Authorities in facilitating the trade of their recent concession.

It is stated in the Shanghai vernacular papers that the Empress Dowager has issued commands for the formation of a body of Solon (a Manchur tribe, near the Amoor) cavalry numbering some 10,000 men, and that the command of the new cavalry division will be given to Jung Ho, a cousin of the Generalissimo Jung Lu. The men will be armed, it is stated, with Mauser cavalry carbines.

The anti-foreign outbreak near Fenchow, was conveyed to Shanghai in the following telegram to the *N. C. Daily News*:—

Fenchow, 16th June (12 45 p.m.)

It is reported that serious anti-foreign troubles have occurred at Kienning. The Church and Mission House have been burnt down, but the Missionaries escaped to Ninghia, on the way to Fenchow.

Later: 9 p.m.

News confirmed. Three native converts have been killed, and the Hospital is in danger. There is great anxiety about the Rev. H. S. Phillips and his wife.

The *North China Daily News* estimates that the damage done by the big fire in Fenchow road, Shanghai, on the night of June 11, will probably reach Tls. 200,000. The burden will fall on almost every European Insurance Company operating in Shanghai. The limited supply of water at the commencement had doubtless something to do with the fire spreading to the buildings immediately adjacent, but the brisk southerly breeze prevailing did much to retard the efforts of the firemen. Some of the buildings were fairly substantially erected, but in the great majority of cases were only of a most ramshackle order. In all 46 tenements, made up of dwellings, brothels, and shops, principally, were totally destroyed and six seriously damaged. The fire was caused, it is supposed, through the accidental upsetting of a kerosene oil lamp in a Chinese book-shop.

On Sunday, June 11, shortly before noon, a boat, containing blue-jackets belonging to H.M.S. *Woodlark* who were returning from church parade, was capsized in the Shanghai river under somewhat peculiar circumstances, namely, the carrying away of the small awning guy on the starboard side, thus causing the awning, which runs fore and aft the boat, to show its broadside to the wind, which at the time was a bit fresh, and so

causing a side pressure which the small craft, already laden, was unable to withstand. Boats were lowered, life-buoys thrown, and every effort made, but, says the *N. C. Daily News*, had it not been for the plucky conduct of Lieut.-Commander Barton one of the men must have lost the number of his mess, for when rescued by the gallant officer, who dived after him, he was completely exhausted and on the verge of drowning. The remainder of the crew were quickly got on board their vessel, and the up-turned boat was recovered by a party from the *Hermione*.

The Shanghai sportsmen who went to Wel-hi-wei at the invitation of the British Fleet had a rare good time. The ship on which they travelled to Great Britain's latest "lease-hold" in China had barely come to an anchorage when she was surrounded by boats from the various men-of-war in port, the *Centurion* (flagship), *Victorious*, *Bonaventure*, *Iphigenia*, *Aurora*, *Alacrity*, *Phoenix*, *Brisk*, and *Linnet*, and the visitors were taken off to the ships in accordance with the hospitable arrangements for accommodating them which had been previously arranged, the Captain of the Shanghai team, Mr. W. J. Tyack, being assigned quarters in the flagship, and the Admiral very kindly permitted signals each day to be made conveying Mr. Tyack's wishes to his companions. The destroyers *Fame* and *Whiting* were also in port, but could not, of course, offer much cabin accommodation to visitors. After breakfast on the first day the visiting team devoted their attention to practice on the local cricket ground, where the guard room had been turned into a pavilion. The visitors found this ground very different to their own fine expanse of turf, as it was nothing but hard gravel, which made fielding very erratic work, while the pitch was covered with coconut matting painted green. The boundaries of the cricket ground were limited, but the entire conditions were so strange that much more practice was needed than could be afforded in one day. From the ground the visitors could observe in the surrounding buildings the effects of the bombardment in 1895, and could look down on the remains of the *Chensuen* still lying in the northern part of the harbour, while many other relics of the fight were strewn on the beach. In the evening most of the visitors were entertained at dinner by the Admiral on board the *Centurion*. At cricket Shanghai found the Navy more than a match. Going in first, the visitors made 220; the Navy followed and knocked up 311. Shanghai in its second innings made only 116. Defeated at cricket, Shanghai—to quote its leading journal—in a weak moment chose to rest their reputation on football as being a game in which they were bound to excel, and they challenged their hosts accordingly to a game. Alas! the defeat in football was more pronounced than in cricket, for a match of 6 a side resulted in 8 goals for Wei-hi-wei against 1 goal for Shanghai. In the evening a grand dinner was given in honour of the visitors in the Wardroom of the *Centurion*, at which the Admiral and Captain Jellicoe were present, and the speeches on this occasion rose beyond the usual after-dinner platitudes. The dinner was followed by an impromptu dance on deck, when the members of the Shanghai team displayed their versatility by representing the gentler sex in the masquerade. Thursday, the 8th, was devoted to tennis matches, and here again Shanghai was outclassed, being hopelessly beaten in both doubles and singles. On Friday, the 9th, several of the visitors were conducted to the mainland to witness the drilling of the Chinese Regiment, and were much and agreeably surprised to witness the wonderful progress that has been made in a few months' time. The physique of the men is good, and they appear to be keen on their work. They are neatly dressed in blue, wearing turbans, tunic and trousers, with service boots, and they find quarters in a former bean-oil factory. A polo match, followed by a Gymkhana filled the bill on the 10th, and this concluded the Festival.

IMPORTANT CONTRACT CASE.

Judge Fujise and two associate Judges heard yesterday in the Yokohama Chito Saibansho the claim of H. Lucas & Co., Kobe, against the Tugara Railway Company for the payment of 37,900 yen with interest at 7 per cent. For the plaintiffs it was alleged that a contract was entered into between three directors of the company and Messrs. Lucas for the supply of a locomotive, rails, etc., for 180,000 yen. Mr. Shibahara, a member of the House of Peers, and one of the directors, admitted that a contract, but not a formal contract, was concluded and signed by three directors. As to the payment of bargain money to the Kobe firm to the amount of yen 28,400 and yen 9,500, witness stated that he was told by Mr. Uyeda, one of the directors, some time after the signing of the contract, that the sum should be paid by the Company in accordance with a promise in the Kobe firm, but witness refused the payment of such money, as the contract concluded before, being in the form of a provisional contract, was not duly signed in the name of the Company. It was absolutely impossible to make such a contract for the purchase of such costly articles, seeing that the Company's capital was not fully paid up by the shareholders. Other witnesses were called, and judgment was reserved to Saturday.

KOREAN NOTES.

The *Korean Independent* has reappeared, taking the place of the *Korean Weekly Reporter*. In its first editorial, headed "Resurrection," it says it "has not been in any sense dead, but merely, like Bre'r Rabbit, laying low." It hopes to be an educating power, and will turn the search light on events in the capital. "We shall show no quarter to wickedness or oppression in high or low places, but trust we shall be enabled to reveal without judgment, as we do not occupy the position of judge to any. All may depend that we shall endeavour to carry out our motto, and, while whittling down nothing, yet set down nothing in a spirit of hatred. We are sure that those who do well have nothing to fear, while those you do evil will want to cover it up. Now that we have revived again and have not 'three men and a boy' to keep things going we shall be glad of the help of our former contributors and correspondents and any new ones who would like to contribute in the success of this paper. Let us hear from you often, our old friends 'Columbus,' 'Molayo,' 'The Man with a White Hat,' 'Pepper,' 'Salt,' 'Old Residents,' 'Casuals,' etc., etc."

The people of Ko Po and Heung Tuk in the South Chulla Province recently rose in rebellion against the magistrates on account of the harsh treatment they receive at their hands. They call themselves "Young Hak Party." The authorities telegraphed to Seoul for soldiers to be sent to assist in putting down the outbreak and in compliance with this request the War Department issued orders for the Kang Who detachment to be sent down immediately. The soldiers were despatched, but shortly afterwards news was received that twenty of the ringleaders had been captured and that this check was likely to end the whole affair without the help of the military. The orders were therefore cancelled.

The Emperor a few days ago reviewed the whole of the troops of Seoul together with the students of the Military School. The regiments presented quite a gay appearance in their new uniforms purchased for the occasion. His Majesty expressed himself as being dissatisfied with the way in which the soldiers went through their drills, and especially with the fact that out of a muster of seventy officers only twenty were in any way qualified to drill the troops in their charge, and they only in a very indifferent manner. The Imperial Guard made a somewhat better show.

The Japanese at Chemulpo recently celebrated the opening of the new band. Parades

and arches, with various other attractions, marked the dedication of this valuable piece of property to Japanese trade in Korea. It is a splendid piece of work and improves alike the look and the value of the harbour.

Nam Myong San, the new Commissioner of Police, is, says the *Independent*, as notorious a character as the present President of the Privy Council, for the high-handed manner in which he deals with those under him. When he was Magistrate of Young-am South Chulla Province, the people endeavoured to get rid of him by shooting him, but were unsuccessful. It is an open secret that he paid the sum of twelve thousand dollars for the privilege of holding his present position. The Ministers have raised strong objections to his appointment, in consequence of which the Minister of the Home Department, who gave him the position, has resigned.

The reception of Prince Henry of Prussia in Seoul and Chemulpo seems to have been very cordial. He was accorded an interview with the Emperor, who afterwards returned the call. On Sunday, June 11th, a grand review of 3,000 troops took place, with His Majesty as Commander-in-chief and the Crown Prince as his first aide de camp.

The *Independent* throws no fresh light on the recent explosions in Seoul. From the small amount of damage done, except in the attack on the house of Prince Pak, it is probably that the agent used was gunpowder, and not dynamite. The only hurt the majority of the houses received, were that the walls and in some instances the doors were blown down. At Prince Pak's house two men were killed. Seventeen arrests were made.

JAPANESE IN HAWAII.

(WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

The Japanese are now the most numerous people dwelling in the Hawaiian Islands. According to the census of 1896 the number of pure Hawaiians was 31,019, but the Japanese now easily number 35,000. Of these, according to the Japanese Consul in Honolulu, 24,000 are employed upon the sugar plantations. Almost all of them are contract labourers. The contracts are made in Japan through various emigration companies. They run for three years, and the wage now given is fifteen dollars U.S. gold per month. The plantation furnishes houses, fuel, and medical attendance, and pays all taxes. Sunday labour is forbidden by law in Hawaii. For women, ten dollars per month is paid. Engineers, carpenters, and other tradesmen, and men who show special skill often receive much more. On one plantation I found some men receiving \$50 per month and one or two as high as \$65 per month. A species of profit-sharing has been tried on a few plantations with excellent results for both the Japanese labourers and the plantations. The planter prepares the ground, plants the cane, and gives it one watering. It is then turned over to a company, or squad, of labourers who care for it till the cane is ready to cut—a period of about eighteen months. During this time money is advanced month by month to meet necessary expenses. The cane is then cut, delivered at the mill, and bought in by the manager at so much per ton. This plan is peculiarly adapted to the independent spirit of the Japanese and very nearly doubles their profits.

Beyond question the Japanese labourers greatly improve their pecuniary condition by going to Hawaii. Even at the ordinary contract price of 15 dollars it is not difficult for them to save from \$5 to \$8. Such a net earning of ten to sixteen yen by a Japanese peasant is, as we all know, an unheard-of thing.

However, life on a sugar plantation is not an easy or agreeable thing to a Japanese. The hours are not long to them, but the labour demanded is continuous and often severe. It is untried labour to all, and of course the *luna*, or

boss, even where not unkind, seeks to get as much work out of them as is possible—with ignorance of the language this inevitably results in some hardship. I think it probable that the plantations I visited on the three islands of Mani, Oat u, and Hawaii, were all of the better class, perhaps the very best. So far as my observation went there was no intentional unkindness. The Japanese were spoken highly of. Some said outright that they are the best labourers on the Islands.

The children of all the labourers have free education in the public schools. These are supplemented by kindergartens for the younger children which are in operation or planned for on several of the plantations. These are supported by the "Free Kindergarten and Children's Aid Association," a Christian institution composed of the ladies of Hawaii, many of them being the wives or daughters of the planters. In Honolulu this society has kindergarten for the Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, and Hawaiian children. I doubt very much whether there is another community of equal size anywhere in the world where so much is being done for alien races. The Hawaiian Evangelical Association has evangelists on a number of the plantations and Dr. M. C. Harris, of the California Methodist Conference, is working in the same way. These evangelists are often a great boon to both planter and labourer by acting as interpreters and go-betweens. The planters usually furnish them a house free of rent, and in many cases pay a part, and in some the whole, of their salaries.

The most unsatisfactory thing in the treatment of the Japanese labourers on the Islands is the condition of their camps. The houses are too small. One misdeed in them the raised floors and the *tatami* which keep the Japanese house so clean. Too many persons are crowded together, a fact which seems to be far truer of some of the plantations which I did not see than of those I visited.

The arrangements for water supply are inconvenient and inadequate. This doubtless affects the health of the labourers, and especially that of their children. This is particularly true of the arrangements for bathing. As I took the liberty of saying through one of the Honolulu daily papers, "some better arrangement that would separate the sexes and prevent exposure of the person is loudly called for in the interests of decency and morality."

I have spoken of the net earnings of the labourers. A large amount of money is thus sent to Japan. Those under contract, I am told, send much more than free labourers. After the contract expires the lives are less strenuous, work becomes more irregular, and spending more easy. Very few labourers renew their contracts immediately upon expiration. The usual way is to return to Japan and renew there. About five hundred, the Consul tells me, have decided to remain permanently in Hawaii, all the others plan to go home sooner or later.

There is a good deal of distrust of the Japanese on the part of the planters. This comes from their proneness to combine in reckless attacks upon other labourers or upon their overseers. Not long ago a gang of them attacked and murdered an overseer who was of their own nationality. Thirty or forty of them confessed the deed, making it difficult to secure conviction. More recently they murdered four Chinamen in a very brutal way. Such conduct has produced distrust and fear, and in a recent conference of planters it was agreed that hereafter the Japanese labourers on any plantation should not exceed those of other nationalities. The Japanese show special aptitude for work in the sugar mills, and in some mills with the exception of a very few "white men" the work is all in their hands. While there is distrust of the Japanese in the mass some individuals are thoroughly trusted and have great responsibilities put upon them. I have in mind one man—a Christian—who has charge of a camp of one hundred and fifty men.

M. L. G.

CHINESE "RIGHTS" IN AFRICA.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Whilst the nations of Europe are employing themselves in carving out spheres of influence in Africa and China, it must not be forgotten the Chinese themselves once had extensive trading interests on the Somali and Zanzibar coasts, and might on this ground put in a claim for recognition in the Indian Ocean not inferior to that advanced by certain Europeans in the China seas.

The trade between Southern India and the maritime ports of China was in full swing long before the appearance of the Arabs in the Far East, but it was not until after Mahomet's time that the Koran and the astrolabe went hand in hand upon voyages of missionary and commercial enterprise east of Ceylon; nor was it until the Chinese traders had met the Arabs in Cochlin and Malabar that they ventured in the contrary direction westwards of Ceylon. Neither the Arabs nor the Chinese seem to have had very definite ideas whether the African coasts belonged to a continent or to a series of islands; but there is sufficient unity in their descriptions to shew that they often refer to the same countries, or provinces. It is evident that the Chinese at least regarded the southern coast of Arabia and the eastern coast of Africa as being in one almost continuous line, starting from Muscat and going on as far south as Zanzibar: it was not until the 15th century that they discovered, through conversations with Arab traders at Cochlin, that there was a sea route up the Red Sea to Mecca, or its port. They considered the whole of the trading ports lying along the above described line as being in the Southern Ocean, by which they meant the western half of the same vast sea as the one which contained Borneo, the Moluccas, Java, Sumatra, and Ceylon.

The first distinct mention of relations with Africa occurs in the year 1,017 of our era, when an envoy arrived from a very distant country in the southern seas called Dzangdan. He explained that he had taken 160 days to sail (by way of Calicut and Sumatra) to Canton; and that his master's title or name was Amir-Amiran, the tenth in succession of a dynasty which had up to then ruled for nearly 500 years. The ruler's capital was seven English miles from the sea. Twelve years later, another envoy named Dzangani arrived from the same country. Probably it was from these two men that the following further particulars were gleaned:—"The language spoken is the same as that of Arabia, and the country is warm even in spring and winter. Amongst the animals are sheep, goats, sand-kine [*hippopotamus*], water-buffaloes, camels, horses, rhinoceros, and elephants, which last they use for riding purposes. They grow both rice and wheat, but fish is also eaten. The better classes wear turbans, and the clothing consists of patterned cotton cloth. The Government strikes the coinage, of which it has a monopoly, gold, silver, and copper being all used in certain proportion."

Nearly a century before this, two envoys from Arabia, one of whom bore the name of Mahomet, had brought to China amongst other presents some black slaves described by a name (*Kunlun*), the precise meaning of which in this application has not yet been ascertained, and in the same year (1017) in which Dzangdan first sent tribute, the Arab ruler of Sahaza in Sumatra also sent to China a present of slaves similarly christened. As this ruler is said to have been a Hadji, there is thus specific Chinese evidence of his Arab origin, apart from the fact that Arab dynasties are well-known to have then ruled in Sumatra. Even the Ming history speaks of "small black boys", being sent from Borneo in the 15th century as tribute. It is easily probable by a tortuous but sure process that these slaves must have been from the Zanzibar coast. In the first place, the Russian sinologist, Dr. Bretschneider, about thirty years ago discovered in a Chinese book nearly three centuries old an account of a country in the south-west seas where black slaves,—styled *Kunlun* as above,

with the addition of the word Dzang-gi,—were bartered away to traders in exchange for foreign produce. In this country were found birds of enormous dimensions. Ten years later, Mr. Consul Phillips of China found a similar extract in a work published in 1739, together with a wood-cut of a huge bird, and of an unmistakable negro wearing nothing but a clout, in charge of a light-coloured man carrying on his head an embroidered conical cap such as the Arabs of Ceylon wear to this day. Moreover, this work refers to the fact that, so early as the year 813, a Javanese state had sent four of such slaves to China. On looking up the Chinese histories, I find that in this earliest instance the slaves are described as Sanggi, without the incomprehensible addition. Finally, a small popular Chinese picture-book in my own possession gives a woodcut of a clouted native of Dzang-gi country, together with the following legend: "It is an island in the south-west sea, where there are enormous birds whose wings obscure the sun. The natives are able to eat camel flesh: it takes a month to get there with the north-east monsoon."

Turning now to the Rev. Samuel Lee's translation of Ibn Batuta's travels in 1339, I observe that the Arab traveller, after noticing that the inhabitants of the Somali coast lived chiefly on fish and camels' flesh, sailed from Magadoxa "for the country of the Zanû," spent one night at Mombasa, and then went on to Kulwâ, by which he evidently means the Quiloa of the Portuguese as marked on modern maps.

Mr. Phillips has clearly shown that Zangnibar or Zanzibar is merely an Arab corruption of the Persian words *sangi* "black," and *bar* "a country,"—in other words "the country of the Zanûj"; and he goes on to identify the Chinese word Dzang-gi with the same Persian word for "negro." As Ibn Batuta gives us the first syllable *kul*, and the Portuguese nasal *la* is equivalent to *lan*, we practically get the mysterious Chinese word *kun-lun*, the original meaning of which was a mythical Himalayan mountain or state, but which the later Chinese (as in their fashion) also use for other places such as Condor Island, near Saigon, to this day; and, as we now see, did probably once use for Quiloa. I may say that I visited the French penitentiary of Pulo Condor in 1888, and found traces of an old British fort there: both Annamese and Chinese still call it Kunlun.

The above testimony is reasonably conclusive; but the later Chinese histories contain much more positive evidence of the fact that their junks repeatedly visited the Somali and Zanzibar coasts, and that they were before Marco Polo in their knowledge of that locality.

For instance Jubb, a town at the mouth of the river of that name (sometimes written Juba), which now forms part of the boundary between the Italian and the British possessions, was actually visited by a Chinese envoy nearly 500 years ago. The same man on two occasions (1416 and 1430) went from Quilon on the Malabar coast to Baravah and Magadoxa a little north-east of Jubb, and he specially mentions that these three territories are coterminal. On a third voyage to one or more of these three places, he seems to have set out from a point near modern Galle in Ceylon, and on all three journeys his junk performed the transit in either twenty or twenty-one days with the monsoon. Melinda, which is on the other side of the River Jubb, in the direction of Zanzibar, sent tribute to China along with its three neighbours in 1416: in fact, Melinda seems to have set the ball a-rolling by first voluntarily sending presents of a giraffe and a zebra in 1415. The fact that amongst other names the zebra is described both in 1017 and 1416 by almost the same foreign word (*jungluh fuhluh*) suggests an attempt to imitate some Arab or Somali word having the same signification. There can be no doubt whatever of the identity of these places, for, even in Chinese dress, Chubu, Pulawa, Mukutshu, and Malinti are perfectly recognisable. Moreover, according to the Chinese chart used by the Dutch envoy, a copy of which Mr. Phillips gave me ten years ago, the places are actually marked in the following order. Melinda appears to be the extreme

limit of Chinese navigation, and the port of Manpassa (Mombasa) is marked; then come Baravah and Magadoxa, and in the corner Hafuni (Cape Hafoun), with Atau (Aden) across the strait, and Sukutala (Socotra) to the west.

The Chinese lay stress upon the barren character of the whole coast; the absence of vegetation; the fact that even horses, camels, cattle, and sheep are fed on dried fish; the wealth in frankincense, ambergris, amber (*i.e.* the Arab perfume); the presence of ostriches, lions, &c., &c. Finally, the account of these countries comes immediately after that of Tanfar (Zafar) in Arabia; and it was precisely from Quiloa to Zafar that Ibn Batuta set sail on his way to India and China.

Marco Polo is usually said to have been the first to mention Madagascar; but, as Colonel Yule points out (edition of 1870), there is every reason to suppose that he confused this place with Magadoxa. Like the Chinese, he speaks of Saracens, elephants, ambergris, giraffes, wild asses (zebras), and the eating of camel-flesh. Ibn Batuta also describes, just as the Chinese described, the way in which lobân (olibanum) is obtained from the frankincense tree. Marco Polo's "four sheiks, who rule the entire country" would seem to be the rulers of the four states which, as we have seen, were known to the Chinese. He mentions that ships come from Malabar in twenty days; that Zanzibar lies beyond Madagascar; and that "mariners cannot reach the other islands lying South of Madagascar and Zanzibar owing to the violence of the current."

There is nothing in the Chinese Annals to show that Kublai or any monarch of the Mongol dynasty ever sent messengers to the African Coast, as stated by Marco Polo, "to obtain information about the country, and also to release one of his subjects who had been made prisoner." Numerous missions were despatched to Malabar and Quilon, besides one or two to Ceylon; and full particulars are given of the envoys' names, the articles of tribute brought, and so on. To all these places Kublai sent messengers to hunt for strange objects; and as a matter of fact Malabar sent a zebra in 1287 and a curious leopard in 1291, both of which were probably brought to Malabar from Africa; but there is absolutely no mention between 1206 and 1368, *i.e.* between the rise of Genghis and the death of Kublai, of any place on the Arabian and African coasts.

The direct relations between China and Africa may therefore be thus summed up, so far as they are officially recorded. Between 1071 and 1083 there were missions from Zangnibar Arab rulers to the Chinese emperors who preceded the Mongols. Between 1415 and 1430 there were missions from the four Arab sheiks of the Zangnibar coast to the Chinese emperors who succeeded the Mongols; and official Chinese envoys reached Hormuz, Aden, and as far south as Melinda. One of these envoys sent an officer up the Red Sea, in an Arab ship, from the Malabar coast to Mecca; and this is all that can be said.

I remember to have seen somewhere in Gibbon a statement, made on the authority of Cosmas, that the Zingi conducted a trade along the coasts of Africa; and I also remember to have seen it stated somewhere that Sir John Kirk found numerous traces of old Chinese porcelain at Zanzibar. Marco Polo did not himself visit the places he speaks of as Madagascar; but his relation is perfectly correct if applied to Magadoxa and its three neighbouring states, which were known to the Chinese 200 years before he heard of them, and visited by the Chinese officially 150 years after his visit to Arabia. Even the yarn about the roc is the same. The only unexplained point is half of the word Dzangdan. Possibly it is a form of *star*, making the whole Zangnidan instead of Zangnibar; for the syllable *tan* is much used by the Chinese in that sense. But the particular character here used means "Sandah," and may refer to the sandal trees Marco tells us were there; and there is a good precedent, for the Chinese name for the Sandwich Islands is Sandal Islands. E. H. PARKER.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Siberian railway has been opened as far as Irkutsk.

The new Japanese cruiser *Tokits* arrived at Malta on the 1st inst. en route to Japan.

The Coroner in Singapore, Dr. Mugilston, has justified the shooting of the Malay *amoker* by Captain Koenig, on board the steamer *Sri Pontianak*, near Singapore.

Corporal Almond, of the Welch Fusiliers, has been publicly decorated in Hongkong with the Royal Humane Society's Bronze Medal, for a gallant attempt at saving the life of an Italian soldier, while the regiment were in Crete a year ago.

The Toyo Kisen Kaisha steamer *America Maru* (Captain Cope), from Hongkong via ports, arrived at the quarantine station yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. A case of sickness was discovered on board, and the steamer sailed for Nagahama (Government Quarantine Station) at 5 o'clock this morning.

Attempts are being made to save the cargo of the sailing ship *Selkirk*, which was wrecked on the west coast of Mindoro, in the Philippines. The Campana Maritima steamer *Castellano* has already succeeded in saving 1,361 bales of hemp out of the cargo of 10,000 bales. The cabins, &c., were looted by natives.

A fire broke out about 12.15 on Wednesday morning in a godown at the rear of Messrs. Brett and Co.'s premises, No. 60. The Fire Brigade was soon on the scene, and prevented the fire spreading to the main building. The godown, which contained drugs, was destroyed, and a considerable amount of damage was done.

The new Chinese cruiser *Haitien* left Portsmouth for China on the 23rd May. She is an Elswick-built vessel, and is the fastest cruiser in the world, having made no less than 24.1 knots an hour under forced draught on her trial trip. She is of about 4,500 tons displacement, and carries two 8-inch and ten 4.7-inch quick-firing guns. A sister ship, the *Haichi*, has also been completed.

A Godown keeper formerly in the employ of Messrs. Boyes & Co., says the *Higo Evening News*, has been sentenced in the Kobe District Court to six months' imprisonment, and subsequently to six months' police surveillance, for stealing 250 cartons of dyes from the firm in March last. He had sold the dyes to three different purchasers for a total of yen 192 50.

It is reported that a duel with sabres was fought, recently, at the military school at Potsdam, between the son of the Shah of Persia and a German officer. In the fifth round, the Crown Prince was badly wounded on the head, and according to latest advices was not then out of danger.

The homeward French transport *Colombo* which left Singapore on the 23rd May for Marseilles, broke her machinery when about 800 miles off Penang, and the Austrian steamer *Silesia*, from Trieste to Singapore, falling in with her, took her in tow to Penang. The *Colombo* when she left Singapore had 644 civil and military passengers from Indo China going home.—*Free Press*.

The North-German Lloyd liner *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse* has again beaten her previous Atlantic record (averaging 22.29 knots) by covering the distance from Cherbourg (France) to Sandy Hook (New York), of 3,148 nautical miles, in five days 20 hours and 48 minutes. The average speed was 22.33 knots per hour. The daily runs constituted 416, 547, 549, 556, and 524 miles respectively.

The lady managers of the Benevolent Association acting in connection with the benefit performance in the Public Gardens, Bluff, next Monday evening are as follows:—Mrs. Irwine, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. W. B. Walter, Mrs.

Thomas Thomas, Mrs. Grauer, Mrs. J. Walter, Madame de Micheaux, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. James, Mrs. Bonar, and Mrs. McMillan, of Tokyo. The entertainment should be a great success.

Mr. Diozy has consented to give a free lecture to members of the Japan Society, and others who may be interested, on Tuesday 27th inst., at 4 p.m., in the Hall at No. 54 Tankiji, Tokyo. The subject of the lecture will be the Past, Present, and Future Work of the Japan Society of London. Sir Ernest Satow has kindly consented to take the chair. All interested are cordially invited to be present.

The *Sumatra Post* finds it "encouraging" that three Chinese who have been treated in the Pasteur Institute at Batavia and returned to Medan after the "cure," have all become mad, and one is already dead. So many mad dogs are at large in Medan that the garrison was told off by the Resident with sharpshooters to kill dogs on the public roads beyond the town.

In Hongkong the plague is still very prevalent. Two foreigners have been struck down by it, one being Sanitary Inspector Reidie. The disease unfortunately seems to have got a little hold at Penang, also. On the 5th June there were two fresh cases and three deaths, and on the 6th one fresh case and one death. Gibraltar quarantines all ships coming from Egypt.

The Sorin Club (Osaka) held some bicycle races on Sunday on a track near Ajikawa Station. Cyclists from Tokyo, Kyoto, Yokohama, and Kobe were among the competitors. The vernacular papers especially mention the "fancy riding" of Mr. Vaughan, a well-known cyclist of Yokohama. The railway fare on the Nishinari line had been reduced for the occasion, says a Kobe contemporary, and as many as 14,000 tickets were issued during the day for Ajikawa station.

Staff-Lt. Col. C. Aguilar was sent from Zamboanga by the Spanish authorities, to go to Baler, east coast of Luzon, in the steamer *Saturnus*, to inquire about the Spaniards there. He reached Manila on June 2, and reported that he had no difficulty in effecting communication. Lt. Martinez is still holding out bravely, with 33 men, the other 21 out of his original force of 54 being dead or missing. The rebels are utterly unable to get at them, but offer to let them go free if they give up their weapons. This they refuse to do, and say they will hold out till Doomsday, even if all the armies of Aguinaldo try to beat them.

An engineer named Germain in the French Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, has brought out an invention which he claims will revolutionise the telephone. By an ingenious adaptation of the telephone wire the microphone is made to develop and intensify the vibration received so that it is unnecessary to place the receiver to the ear or stand with the mouth close to the transmitter, and conversation is easily carried on between two persons, both of whom may be several yards distant from the instrument. The invention has been several times officially tested and pronounced a complete success.

On the suggestion of the American Asiatic Association of New York, a meeting will be held at the United States Consulate, Yokohama, on the 26th to consider the question of forming a branch of that Association in Yokohama. The objects of the Association are as follows:—To foster and safeguard the commercial and other interests of citizens of the United States of America in Japan. To promote acquaintance and association among Americans in Japan, and by union and permanent organization to give more effective aid in behalf of measures intended to advance such interests. To gather and distribute information of importance to its members, to act in concert with and aid in the purposes of the American Association of New York and of China and such kindred associations as may hereafter be formed.

in the Orient. The following officers have already been elected provisionally: Messrs. T. L. Brower, J. W. Copmann, J. Lindsley, J. R. Morse, E. R. Smith, and L. H. Abel, honorary secretary *pro tem*.

Amos Hadaway, the second engineer of the *Zafro*, was killed on June 14th by falling from a verandah at Mrs. Lewis's boarding house in No. 3, Wyndham Street, Hongkong. He had been about the city during the day, and returned to the boarding-house about eight o'clock at night rather the worse for drink. The men seems to have taken off his hat and coat and boots on getting into his room and placed them on a chair and then gone on to the verandah, where he apparently went to sleep. At about a quarter past one o'clock in the morning Mrs. Lewis, hearing a thud, went to see what was the matter, and found deceased had fallen from the verandah, a distance of about 50 feet, on to the street. The skull was smashed in and he apparently was killed instantaneously.

A fire broke out on board the British steamer *Amara*—then in Hongkong harbour—on Saturday, June 10. It was caused through the carelessness of a Chinaman. This man had gone into the storeroom to get some kerosene oil, taking a lighted lamp with him. Whilst he was pouring the oil from one vessel into another, the oil ignited, and, on dropping the vessel he held, the oil saturated his clothes and he became quickly enveloped in flames. Rushing out of the room crying for assistance, he was met by Mr. Wright, the second engineer, who threw a mat around him and extinguished the flames. It was not until a few minutes afterwards that Mr. Wright observed the storeroom was aflame. Every effort was made by those on board to extinguish the fire, but the flames spread in an alarming manner. In response to fire signals, parties of men were sent from the *Powerful* and *Undaunted*, and the Government steam fire engine also arrived. The fire spread to the engine room and then to the No. 3 hold. A large amount of water was pumped into the ship, giving her a heavy list, and the fire was drowned out. The cargo is insured.—*China Mail*.

SATURDAY'S SPORTS.

ROWING RACES.

A short programme of rowing and sculling races took place on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Mottu acted as starter, and Mr. Levedag as judge. Details:—

DOUBLE SCULLS.—(First Heat.)

"PEARL"—1.	"TERM"—2.
H. A. Poole	W. M. Squire
E. Barfoot	E. H. Irwine

Won by two-thirds of a length.

DOUBLE SCULLS.—(Final.)

"PEARL"—1.	"TERM"—2.
H. A. Poole	S. H. Kuhn
E. Barfoot	M. F. Stephens

Pearl won by about five feet after a splendid race.

SCRATCH FOURS.—(From P. M. Wharf.)

"FLAMINGO"—1	"DARTER"—2
D. Weed (stroke)	H. G. Irwine (stroke)
J. J. M. Carst	H. A. Poole
E. H. Irwine	C. Thwaites
J. Abbey	T. Herlihy
W. M. Carst, (cox)	W. Goddard (cox)

"SWAN"—0

S. H. Kuhn (stroke)	A. G. Price
Ch. Van Dorp	H. Gorman (cox)
E. Barfoot	

Good race; half a length between first and second; two-thirds of a length separated second and third.

SINGLE SCULLS.—(1 mile).

H. H. Kuhn 30 secs ... 1	H. Y. Irwine scratch 2
E. H. Irwine 35 secs ... 3	

Kuhn won by a length and a half from H. Y. Irwine.

CRICKET.

MR. DUFF'S TEAM V. MR. CRAWFORD'S TEAM.

This match was played on Saturday afternoon on the Recreation Ground, the former XI. being badly beaten. Mr. Duff's team went first to the wickets, and all were dismissed for 97, the only stand being by Kingdon, whose 43 not out was a good performance, including five hits for 4. Mr. Crawford's team gave the other side a lively bit of leather-hunting, F. E. White (33) and K. F. Crawford (35) being the principal scores. Crawford hit two 4's and five 3's, and F. E. White five 4's. In this innings the position at the fall of each wicket was not recorded. Score:—

MR. DUFF'S TEAM.	
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. White	6
Mr. E. B. Clarke, b. White	1
Mr. T. S. Forrest, c. White, b. P. B. Clarke, ..	12
Mr. A. Kingdon, not out	43
Mr. E. G. Rudgeley, c. Lias, b. P. B. Clarke ..	5
Mr. G. C. Allcock, b. Lias	0
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. E. W. Kilby, b. H. S. Goddard ..	12
Mr. J. S. Warren, b. White	2
Mr. H. A. Stewart, c. Kemp, b. White	0
Mr. H. Barnard, b. Kemp	3
Mr. G. Philip, b. Kemp	0
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Crawford, b. Lias ..	2
Mr. C. E. Libeaud, l.b.w., b. Kemp	7
Extras	4
	79

NUMBER OF RUNS AT FALL OF EACH WICKET.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
8	10	36	36	39	65	68	77	81	86	97		

MR. CRAWFORD'S TEAM.

Mr. P. B. Clarke, c. Libeaud, b. Kingdon ..	18
Mr. E. W. Kilby, c. Barnard, b. Bugbird ..	2
Mr. F. E. White, c. Forrest, b. Stewart	33
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Warren, b. Philip	35
Mr. Kemp, b. Stewart	0
Mr. Parr, c. E. B. Clarke, b. Philip	15
Mr. H. W. Kilby, b. Warren	6
Mr. H. S. Goddard, c. Libeaud, b. Philip	17
Mr. Melbush, b. Philip	1
Mr. F. J. Lias, not out	15
Mr. H. S. Smith, not out	11
Mr. Austin, did not bat	0
Mr. W. J. White, did not bat	0
Extras	6
	159

YACHT CLUB.

The results of the races on Saturday were as follows:—

39 Raters—Course No. 4, 11 miles—Start from an imaginary line between two flagboats opposite the Band, through the Harbour Entrance, around a mark boat off Tatum (S.), around the Honmoku Lightship (S.), around the Honmoku Spit Buoy (S.), around the Honmoku Lightship (P.), and return through the Harbour Entrance finishing across the starting line. Start at 2 p.m. Time limit 7 30 p.m. First Prize, "Spray" Cup, under Handicap. Second Prize, by the Club under Club Time allowance.

Rating.	Start.	Finish.	Club	Club
			Time.	Time.
			h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Mary	39	2 06	gave up	—
Haidee	39	2 35	5 00 32	— 5 00 32
Maid Marion ..	36½	2 04 3	4 55 45	3 22 4 42 23
Kingfisher	36	2 04 7	5 11 22	4 04 5 07 18
Spray	34	2 1 00	5 13 38	4 09 5 06 29
Wanderer	32½	2 1 15	5 35 55	9 38 5 26 17

Allowance Arbitrary. Corrected Arbitrary.

	Club	Club
	Time.	Time.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Mary	50	4 55 32
Haidee	00	4 39 25
Maid Marion ..	150	4 58 22
Kingfisher	150	4 58 38
Spray	210	5 14 55

Maid Marion 1st prize and 2 record points; Haidee 2nd prize and 1 record point.

21 Raters:—Course No. 8, 6½ Miles.—Start from an imaginary line between two flagboats opposite the French Hatoba, through the Harbour Entrance, around a flagboat off Mandarin Bluff (S.), around a flagboat off the middle of the Southern Bankwater (S.), around the Harbour Entrance and finishing across the starting line. Start at 2 15 p.m. Time limit, 5 30 p.m. First Prize by the Club on Club Time.

Rating.	Start.	Finish.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Nandeesa	20	2 32 00
Yugao	20	2 26 00
Vixen	19½	—

Yugao 1st prize and two record points. Nandeesa lotted the mark boat.

12 Rater special Class—Course: No. 9 on No. 10. Start at 3 p.m. No time limit. No time allowance. First Prize presented by Mr. R. Byles. Second by the Club.

	Start.	Finish.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Waratah	3 00	4 06 47
Tilania	3 00	3 57 08
Susumi	3 00	4 02 01
Dora	3 00	4 08 20

Tilania 1st prize and 2 record points; Susumi 2nd prize and 1 record point.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE TRANSVAAL CRISIS.

Shanghai, June 16, 3 p.m.

The Raad has approved President Kruger's franchise proposals, on condition that they are endorsed by the Burgers to whom they will be referred. President Kruger, in thanking the Raad, said that it was impossible to know what was going to happen. Great Britain had conceded nothing. He did not want war, but was unable to give anything more.

Mr. Chamberlain's reply to the Petition of the Uitlanders has been published. It constitutes an exhaustive indictment of the political, financial, and judicial administration of the Transvaal. It is based on Milner's despatches, which finally disprove the idea that there is any unreality in the grievances of the Uitlanders. The English newspapers generally applaud the reply as a masterly exposition of the situation. The *Daily Chronicle* alone condemns it, declaring that the publication of the despatches is mischievous and untimely.

Shanghai, June 19, 2.30 p.m.

The *Financial Times* says that the German Consul at Pretoria has been instructed from Berlin to inform President Kruger that Germany considers Great Britain's demands fair and reasonable, and that she (Germany) desires President Kruger to accede as far as possible.

The Right Honourable Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, speaking at Ilford, in Essex, said that nothing had occurred to justify military preparations against the Transvaal.

Shanghai, June 20.

The burghers have held a large meeting at Puarde Kraal, and have adopted a resolution declaring it impossible to concede anything beyond the proposals formulated by President Kruger to the Bloemfontein Government (the Orange Free State).

Shanghai, June 21.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for War, held a lengthy conference with the principal officials of the War Office on Monday, the 19th instant. The conference is believed to have had reference to affairs in the Transvaal.

A large exodus of women and children has taken place from Johannesburg and Pretoria. The natives are quitting the mines.

Various preparations are in progress in the Cape Colony to facilitate the speedy movement of troops against the Transvaal.

The *Daily Telegraph* says that, in the event of hostilities in the Transvaal, the troops will be commanded by General the Rt. Hon. Sir Redvers Henry Buller, V.C., G.C.B.

FRENCH POLITICAL UNREST.

Shanghai, June 16, 3 p.m.

M. Poincaré is organizing the new French Cabinet.

Shanghai, June 17, 8.20 p.m.

M. Poincaré has been foiled in his attempts to form a Cabinet owing to the exacting attitude assumed by the Radicals. President Loubet is now consulting with the Presidents of the Chamber of Deputies and of the Senate.

Shanghai, June 19, 2.50 p.m.

M. Waldeck-Rousseau is endeavouring to form a Cabinet. He has offered the Portfolio of War to M. Casimir-Perier.

Shanghai, June 20.

M. Waldeck-Rousseau has failed to form a Cabinet.

The President of the Republic has summoned M. Bourgeois from the Hague to confer about forming a new Cabinet.

Admiral Decuville, Chief of the French Naval Staff, and delegate at the Peace conference, has been superseded for publishing a letter adversely criticising the condition of the national defences.

Shanghai, June 22.

The Dreyfus affair is the real cause of the difficulties experienced in forming a French Cabinet. Politicians shrink from the probable consequences of the court-martial before which Dreyfus is to be again arraigned. The military element of the nation is still violently anti-Dreyfus.

THE VENEZUELA QUESTION.

Shanghai, June 17, 3.30 p.m.

The tribunal for discussing the Venezuela question has assembled in Paris.

THE INDIAN SUGAR DUTIES.

IMPORTANT DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT.

A debate has taken place in the House of Commons on the motion of Sir H. Fowler for disallowing the Indian countervailing duties on sugar. Lord George Hamilton, in the course of a speech opposing the motion, said that he entertained a strong impression that the Currency Commission would be able to submit a report containing propositions for establishing a stable rate of exchange. The motion was rejected by 293 votes to 153.

TROUBLE IN THE BALKANS.

Serious conflicts have taken place on the Serbian frontier between the Serbian troops and Albanians who were engaged in raiding. An exchange of notes is taking place between the Porte and Serbia.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

A DEADLOCK.

The Peace Conference has come to a deadlock on the question of Great Britain's scheme for a system of organized arbitration, owing to Germany's opposition.

THE NIGER COMPANY.

PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER TERRITORY TO THE CROWN.

Shanghai, June 20.

Mr. Balfour has announced that the Government intends to introduce a Bill for taking over the Niger Company's territory.

THE SAMOAN QUESTION.

IMPORTANT DECLARATION IN THE REICHSTAG.

Herr Von Bülow, speaking in the Reichstag, declared that Germany is opposed to any encroachment on the privileges secured by the Samoa Treaty, and that she will demand an indemnity for loss of property

and for illegal arrest suffered by her subjects.

AUSTRALIANS' CRICKET TOUR.

Shanghai, June 17.

In the second test match between England and Australia, the first innings of the English team closed for 293 and the Australians made 427. In the second innings England has lost 4 wickets for 94 runs.

Shanghai, June 19, 2.50 p.m.

The Australians have won the second test match at Lords by ten wickets.

Shanghai, June 22.

The Australians have won the match against Oxford University, Past and Present, by ten wickets.

Following is the record of the Australian cricket team to date:—

May 8.—South of England at Crystal Palace; drawn.

May 11.—Essex at Leyton; won by Essex by 126 runs.

May 15.—Surrey at Kennington Oval; won by Australians by an innings and 71 runs.

May 22.—Yorkshire at Sheffield. (Abandoned rainy to rain.)

May 25.—Lancashire at Manchester; won by Australians by an innings and 84 runs.

May 29.—Oxford University at Oxford; drawn.

June 1.—First Test Match at Nottingham; drawn.

June 5.—M.C.C. and Ground at Lord's; won by Australians by 8 wickets.

June 8.—Cambridge; won by Australians by 10 wickets.

June 12.—Yorkshire at Bradford; drawn.

June 15.—Second Test Match at Lords; won by Australians by 10 wickets.

June 19.—Oxford University Past and Present at Portmouth; won by the Australians by 10 wickets.

Record to date: 7 wins, 1 loss, 4 draws, 1 abandoned.

GERMANY IN THE PACIFIC.

The Reichstag has adopted the bill embodying a loan for the purchase of the Carolines. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Herr von Bülow, speaking with reference to the bill, predicted a splendid future, both political and commercial, for the islands, and expressed the hope that their possession by Germany would lead to increased intimacy with her new neighbours, the United States and Japan. The Minister added that Germany had never entertained any thought of closing the path to the active and talented Japanese.

GREAT BRITAIN'S MILITARY PROGRAMME.

Mr. G. Wyndham, under Secretary of State for War, has introduced a bill in the House of Commons authorizing the Government to raise a sum of four millions sterling for the purpose of arming the defences abroad with heavy guns, and building barracks both at home and abroad. The bill is merely a continuation of the policy inaugurated by the Government in 1897.

THE REPORTED MASSACRE AT FOOCHOW.

MR. PHILLIPS AND PARTY SAFE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, June 20, 7.30 a.m.

The massacre of missionaries near Foochow is untrue. The *Shanghai Mercury* has received trustworthy reports that Mr. Phillips and his party are safe at Kiening-foo.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

Saigon, June 16.

M. Poincaré has accepted the task of forming a Cabinet and hopes to succeed.

Saigon, June 17.

M. Poincaré continues his efforts to organize a new Cabinet.

Saigon, June 18.

In consequence of the opposition of the Radicals M. Poincaré has abandoned the attempt to form a Cabinet.

The Tribunal of Correctional Police has condemned six of the persons engaged in the demonstration on the race-course at Auteuil to punishments ranging from fifteen days to three months' imprisonment.

Saigon, June 19.

The President of the French Republic has offered to M. Waldeck-Rousseau the commission to form a new Cabinet. M. Waldeck-Rousseau has made his definite acceptance conditional upon obtaining the cooperation of certain persons, among them M. Casimir-Perier, whom he desires to have as Minister of War.

Saigon, June 20.

M. Casimir-Perier refuses to accept any portfolio.

M. Waldeck-Rousseau, at noon on the 19th instant, declared to the President of the Republic that he hoped to have a Cabinet organized before the evening of that day.

M. Waldeck-Rousseau has failed in his attempt to form a Cabinet, owing to the refusal of M. Krantz and other moderates to accept portfolios.

(M. Krantz was Minister of War in the Dupuy Cabinet.—ED. J.M.)

Saigon, June 22.

The President of the French Republic has summoned M. Bourgeois and invited him to organize a Cabinet. M. Bourgeois was formerly President of Council in a Radical Ministry, and is now French Representative at the Hague, where he received the President's summons. He has refused the task of organizing a Cabinet, but offers his services to the President for the purpose of negotiating with his Radical friends in order to facilitate the forming of a Cabinet.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

Manila, June 12.

General Lawton has scoured the country southward from the Pasig and Laguna de Bay to beyond Paranaque. The general line of troops then advanced to Paranaque. There were few casualties on the American side, but many cases of amputations. The enemy quickly vanished as the troops advanced, making little or no stand.

The Law Courts commenced working to-day, and are giving general satisfaction to the Europeans and natives.

SERIOUS FIRE AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, June 12.

Sixty shops in Foochow Road, Shanghai, were destroyed by fire last night. The damage is estimated at over a lakh of dollars. The Hongkong Fire Insurance Company is interested to the extent of \$8,000.

ADMIRAL DEWEY AT SINGAPORE.

Singapore, June 12.

The U.S. flagship *Olympia*, with Admiral Dewey on board, arrived here yesterday. Admiral Dewey has decided to remain at Singapore till Friday.

PLAGUE AT PENANG.

There is a slight increase in the number of cases of plague reported at Penang.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

MOVEMENTS OF THE ITALIAN SQUADRON.

Peking, June 17.

The Italian squadron is manœuvring in the

Yellow Sea, and the Chinese authorities express anxiety as to its intentions. The representatives of the Powers do not, however, believe Italy will take decisive action against China.

MORE OUTRAGES.

In Keng-ning district rioters have appeared and have attacked the Christian Church and some foreigner's houses, the latter being burnt. Three native Christians have been killed. The missionaries escaped to Foochow.

THE CHINESE OUTRAGES.

Shanghai, June 21.

The British and American residents of Kiening district have been advised by their Consuls to leave for Foochow in order to escape possible further attack.

THE ITALIAN MINISTER.

The Italian Minister, who arrived here some days ago, left yesterday by the cruiser *Etna* for Peking.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 425.

(Two mover.)—By Walter Pulitzer. Composed for the *Literary Digest*.

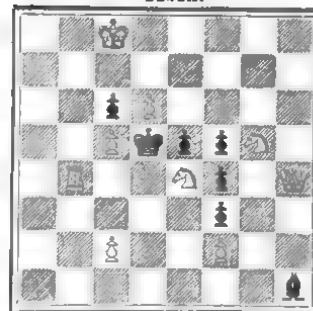
Key move:—K to K sq.

Correct solutions received from East Anglia and W.D.C.

PROBLEM No. 428.

By LADISLAV VETESNIK.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 519.

Professor A. Anderssen, the famous German chess-player, enriched the world with numerous brilliant games of which the following is worth republication. It was played during the London International Tournament of 1851:—

ROY LOPEZ.

White—C. Mayet.

Black—A. Anderssen.

WHITE. BLACK.

1 P K4 P K4

8 P x B P x P

2 Kt KB3 Kt QB3

9 Kt x P P Kt6

3 B K5 B B4

10 P Q4 Kt x P

4 P B3 Kt B3

11 Q K4(n) B x P(b)

5 B x Kt Q x B

12 Q x Kt(c) B x Pch

6 Castles B Kt5

13 R x B Q Q8ch(d)

7 P KR3 P KR4!

And Black mates in three more moves.

NOTES.

(a) Black threatened mate in three with 11—R to R8 ch, &c. If 11—Kt to B3, then 11—P takes B ch, 12—R takes P, 12—R to R8 ch, 13—K takes R, 12—Kt takes R ch, winning the White Q next move. White's best defence was 11—P takes P, 11—Kt takes P, 12—R to K sq, 12—R to R ch, 13—K to B2, 13—Q to R5, 14—R takes R, 14—Kt takes R ch, 15—R to Kt sq, 15—B to Q3, 16—B to K3, &c.

(b) The greatest representative of dash and brilliancy is not satisfied with the gain of the hostile Q, which he can win by 11—P takes B ch, 12—R takes P must, 12—B to R8 ch, 13—K takes R, 13—Kt takes R ch, winning the Q next move, but flies at higher game.

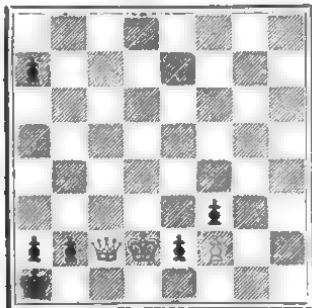
(c) Nothing can save the game for White. If 12—B to K3, 12—P takes P ch, 13—B takes P (if 13—R takes P, 13—B takes B), 13—B takes B ch, 14—R takes B, 14—R to B8 ch, &c. 12—Kt Q3 would only prolong the agony, as 12—R to R5, 13—B to Kt5, 13—R takes Q, 14—B takes Q, 14—B takes P ch, 15—Kt takes B, 15—P takes Kt ch, 16—R takes P, 16—Kt takes R, &c.

(1) As follows: 14—Q to K must, 14—Q takes Q ch, 15—R to B ch must, 15—R to R8 ch, 16—K takes R must, 16—Q takes R mate.

END GAME.

By G. Reichhelm.

The following most beautiful and masterly end game by the gifted composer, Mr. G. Reichhelm, was sent in by him to the solving tourney of the Pennsylvania State Association Chess tourney.



WHITE.
White to play and win.
SOLUTION.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 Q B3	K K8	15 Q K7	P R6
2 Q Q3ch	K R8	16 Q B6	K K8
3 Q Q4	K K8	17 Q K6ch	K R8
4 Q K4ch	K R8	18 Q K7	P Queen
5 Q K5	K K8	19 Q K7	K K8 [ch]
6 Q B5ch	K R8	20 Q K6ch	K R8(c)
7 Q B6	K K8	21 Q B6	K K8
8 Q K6ch	K R8	22 Q B5ch	K R8(d)
9 Q K7	P R4st	23 Q K5	K K8
10 Q B6(h)	K K8(a)	24 Q K4ch	K B8
11 Q K6ch	K R8	25 Q Q4ch	K K8
12 Q K7	P R5	26 Q Q3	K R8
13 Q B6	K K8	27 Q Q4	K K8
14 Q K6ch	K R8	28 Queen mates	

NOTES.

- (a) If g.....P to R3. White wins in a shorter way through 10—K to B2. P to Q8 becomes a Knight ch. K to K1, K1 to Q5.....12—Q to B3, &c.
(b) Q to R8 only draws as P Queens, K takes Q, K to K1, Q to K7, R to B8, &c.
(c) If 20.....K to B8, Q to B6 ch, &c.
(d) If 22.....K to B8, Q to B ch, &c.—"Sunday States."

GAME NO. 520.

A lively example of Australian play.
KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED

White—Dawson.	Black—Young.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4
2 P K4	P Q4
3 K P4	P K5
4 K Q3	K K5
5 P Q3	B QK5
6 P P4	K K5
7 Q Q4	B K5ch
8 P B4	Cas les
9 B Q3	Q R5
10 P K3	K K5ch
11 K B3	Q R3
12 R K K5	K K5ch
13 K B2	K B3
14 B K5	B B3
15 R K5	P K K5
16 B K5	Q K5
17 R B4	Q Q4ch
18 K K5	P K5
19 R K K5	K R5
20 P B4	ch K Q2
21 K K5ch	P K B3
22 K B5	Resigns

CHESS IN LONDON.

A REMARKABLE VARIATION OF THE RUY LOPEZ.

White—H. H. Cole.	Black—W. W. Ward.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K4	1—P to K4
2—Kt to K B3	2—Kt to Q B3
3—B to Kt5	3—Kt to R B3
4—Castles	4—Kt takes P
5—R to K5	5—Kt to Q3
6—Kt takes P	6—Kt takes Kt
7—R takes Kt ch	7—B to K2
8—B to Q3	8—Castles
9—Kt to B3	9—Kt to K5
10—P to Q Kt3	10—P to Q B3
11—B to Kt2	11—P to Q4
12—Q to R5	12—P to K Kt3
13—Kt takes P!	

This appears to win the game in all variations. If of course threatens the pretty sacrifice Q takes P ch, followed by R to R5 ch, &c.

- 14—B takes P ch
15—R takes P ch
16—Kt to B4 mate

NOTES.

In an interesting chapter of reminiscences appearing in a recent number of *M.A.P.*, Sir Wyke Baylis, President of the Royal Society of British Artists, says:—"Chess was always a delight to me, and I greatly wonder that so few players are found amongst artists. Ruskin, indeed, is a great lover of the game, as have been many of the most distinguished men of letters. Turning, as it does on such high faculties as imagination, analysis, synthesis, the chess board should be in every studio. In this also, as in every thing else, my father and I were chums, and while still a child beat everyone I knew but himself. Staunton, who was a friend, could give me only the smallest odds; he could not give me the odds of playing without smoking his pipe. I could easily play half a dozen games simultaneously without seeing the board. Now, in the merchant, who has no cares when he leaves his office; for the parson, who has nothing to think about but his next sermon, and doesn't think much about that; for the lawyer or doctor, who learned all they want to know in the days of their youth; for the Parliament man, who has only to stand in the lobby and feel which way the wind whistles through his brains, it is all very well to take life easily, to sing or dance, or go to the theatre, or play tennis, or take a boat up the river. But for the artist who never can lay the ghosts which haunt his brain—who day and night, and night and day, is seeing what no one else can see—visions that he is striving to crystallize into beautiful and permanent shape, who wears his life out in honest work that makes the brain sweat—for the artist I say, some quiet, simple, easy, unobtrusive, refreshing recreation is needed, and I find this in Chess."

PRIZE POETRY.

Some time ago the *London Weekly Dispatch* offered a prize for the best 16 lines of original verse illustrating the Italian proverb, "It is no time to play chess when the house is on fire." The winning answer (author, Mr. T. H. Bunge, Chelsea) was as follows:—

THE PARLIAMENTARY GAMBIT.

Two prominent players, both skilled, more or less,
Are engaged in the game of political chess.
Each eyes his opponent and marshals his men,
And victory certain appears to his ken.
With eager excitement their partisans sound
Follow every move, and with plaudits abound,
Whilst at each cry of "Check" such a tumult
they make
That one really would fancy their souls were at stake.
And so, like two desperate gamblers at bay,
They sacrifice all their passion for play,
"Tis vain to expostulate—reason is blind,
The affairs of the nation may drift far behind;
Stagnation, ay, ruin, may come if they will,
Yet the fierce strife of parties is carried on still;
But "a plague of your houses!" the Reds cry
in ire,
"Tis no time to play chess when the house is on fire."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Caledonia	Tu. June 27
America	P. M. Co.	China	W. June 27
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. July 1
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	M. July 3
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. July 3
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hobensollen	W. July 3
America	P. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. July 6
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of India	Th. July 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. July 10
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. July 10
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. July 17

- 1 Left Shanghai on the 2nd inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 4th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 17th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	—
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. June 28
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. June 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. June 29
Hongkong	P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	M. July 3
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. July 4
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Caledonia	W. July 5
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hobensollen	F. July 7
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of India	F. July 7
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. July 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. July 10
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. July 17

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 16th June.—Shanghai via ports, 20 h June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 16th June.—Yokkaichi, 15th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sarnia, German steamer, 2,052, Ehlers, 17th June.—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 11th June, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 18th June.—Oahu via ports, 13th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 18th June.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 17th June, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwahara, 18th June.—Yokkaichi, 17th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,797, Trennt, 19 h June.—London via ports, Kobe, 18 h June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Yoshizawa, 19th June.—Bomlay via ports, 18th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, C. Osen, 19th June.—Kobe, 18th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, H. Fraser, 20th June.—Oahu via ports, 15th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwahara, 20th June.—Yokkaichi, 19 h June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, J. De La Lande, 21st June.—Kobe, 19th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 21st June.—Yokkaichi, 20th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Silesia, Austrian steamer, 3,165, Maier, 21st June.—Trieste via ports, Hongkong, 16th June, General.—Brown & Co.
Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, Wm. Mainbridge, 21st June.—Nagasaki, 19th June, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, R. B. Thompson, 22nd June.—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 21st June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 22nd June.—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Humber, British steamer, 1,640, Captain H. J. Davison, 22nd June.—Kobe, 20th June.
Otani Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibbells, 22nd June.—Oahu via ports, 17th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yachigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Sayeda, 22nd June.—Yokkaichi, 19 h General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 22nd June.—Kobe, 21st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Aster, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Trach, 23 d June.—San Francisco, 1st June, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,103, R. Archibald, 16 h June.—Vancouver via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 16th June.—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 16th June.—Oahu via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 17th June.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 17th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mogul, British steamer, 2,354, D. S. Bailey, 17th June.—Kobe, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Arakawa, 17th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hatata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,692, F. L. Sommer, 17th June.—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Deits Rikmers, German steamer, 2,361, Buttle, 17th June.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Cardiganshire, British steamer, 2,438, Hadley, 18th June.—Uraga, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. Higo, 18th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgian King, British steamer, 2,170, T. L. Weiss, 18th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, T. Kuwahara, 19th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saschuen, British steamer, 1,158, Hall, 19th June,—Muroran, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 20th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Japan, British steamer, 2,795, G. K. Wright, 21st June,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Ansel, 21st June,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 21st June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Arakawa, 21st June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 21st June,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ono, 21st June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,653, C. Olsen, 21st June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, H. Fraser, 22nd June,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 23rd June,—Nagahama Quarantine Station, Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Mr. J. Miyahara, L.J.N., Mr. H. Matsunaga, Mr. H. N. Robinson, Mr. F. Rackow-kp, Capt. W. Kaktin, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Capt. and Mrs. J. Wilson, Mr. N. Watanabe, Mr. A. W. Read, and Mr. Stabel, in cabin; Miss Wong, Mrs. Cheng and 2 children, Miss T. Fujita, Miss I. Yamada, Mr. W. Macdonald, and Mr. W. H. Suttow, in second class.

Per German steamer *Sarnia*, from Hamburg via ports.—Mr. Hugh G. Brown, and Mr. S. M. Ackley, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports.—Mr. Fung Wan Kai, Mrs. Eli Keen, Mr. H. A. Nicholson, Mr. Martino, Mrs. Hosowa, Mr. R. W. Hill, Capt. A. Kuglensterna, Mr. M. S. Friede, Mr. A. Ford, Mr. W. Perry, Captain Thompson, Mr. S. Dooncheff, Mrs. Dooncheff, Mr. M. Dooncheff, Mr. L. Peck, Mr. C. Gray, Mr. F. C. Morse, Mr. R. Stucken, Mr. Stemple, and Mrs. Ah Ling, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.—Miss B. J. Allen, Miss Alsop, Mr. A. Baske, Mrs. E. C. Berdan, Mr. E. C. Bodman, Mrs. C. E. Bodman, Mr. L. W. Bodman, Mrs. L. W. Bodman, Miss Bowrick, Mr. Bowden, Mrs. Bowden, Lieut. von Bulow, Major Byron, Mrs. R. Cameron, Mr. W. W. O. Cantley, Miss M. A. Claggett, Mrs. A. C. Clark, Miss M. F. Cockroft, Miss E. V. Cockroft, Mr. W. B. Colville, Lieut. G. F. H. Dickson, Miss Dobie, Mr. J. C. Dysel, Mrs. J. C. Dysel, Mr. H. F. Dysel, Mrs. Eyre, Rev. Wm. Gauld, Mrs. Gauld and 4 children, Mr. H. Gildemeister, Mr. A. E. Glover, Mr. H. Godey, Mrs. H. Godey, Mr. Wm. Gordon, Mr. Arthur H. Greaves, Mrs. Arthur H. Greaves, and maid, Rev. S. W. Hamblen, Mrs. S. W. Hamblen and 2 children, Miss Hebdon, Mr. R. S. Hines, Mrs. F. S. Hines, Miss Hines, Lieut. C. G. Hunter, R.E., Mr. K. Ishii, Mr. K. Iwahara, Mrs. K. Iwahara, Mr. K. Iwashita, Mr. E. K. Johnson, Miss A. Jones, Mr. W. A. Waite Jones, Mr. G. Lee Kang, Mr. T. Katayama, Mr. A. Kennedy, Lieut. Kuhlitz, Mr. C. F. Laing, Mr. C. MacCallum, Mr. J. P. Mackintosh, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Martin, Miss Martin, Mr. G. A. Mathews, Mrs. G. A. Mathews and child, Mrs. May, 3 children and governess, Mr. J. P. Mollison, Mrs. J. P. Mollison, 2 children and maid, Mrs. H. D. Moore, Mr. H. W. Mumum, Mrs. H. W. Mumum and child, Lieut. H. Newbould, Miss Officer, Dr. A. P. Peck, Mr. J. H. W. Price, Miss Raleigh, Lord Rathdonnell, Lady Rathdonnell, Mr. R. R. Mick, Mr. C. W. Richardson, Mr. J. F. Roberts, Miss Roberts, Mr. W. S. Roberts, Mr. Char.

Rogers, Miss Ross, Miss Schettler, Miss E. R. Scidmore, Mr. F. Schmidt, Marquis de San Vito, Dr. F. W. Seymour, Mrs. F. W. Seymour and 2 children, Mr. A. Sheriff, Mr. F. T. Simpson, Mr. G. Soley, Mrs. M. M. Stevens, Lieut. A. Stibbing, Mr. Tuely, Mrs. Tuely, Miss Tuely, Mr. W. A. F. Wadham, Mr. W. Wallace, Mrs. W. Wallace, Mr. Fountain Walker, Mrs. Fountain Walker, Mr. Donald Watson, Mrs. Wheeler and child, Major E. O. Wight, Mrs. E. O. Wight, Mr. J. E. B. Wilson, Col. F. Wood, Mr. Henry Young, Mrs. Henry Young, and Mr. E. V. Sturdy, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu.—Col. R. W. Amer, U.S.V., Mr. J. N. Boyd, Miss Burpee, Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Callahan and two children, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Cass, Miss Cass, Miss Marguerite Cass, Mr. Robert Cochran, Mr. Clement Cheese, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. C. Cobb and child, Mrs. J. C. Craxton, Mr. G. R. Davis, Master Walter Davis, Master Laurence Davis, Master Edward Davis, Master Frank Davis, Mr. F. S. Deacon, Mr. E. W. Digby, Mr. H. T. Denman, Mr. D. Q. Ewing, Lieut. Richard Eltz, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Fish, Mr. O. M. Gehlsen, Mr. A. Giesel, Mr. W. A. Haddon, Mr. H. Haesloop, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Hunter, Miss Mary Hampton, Mr. I. M. Huston, Mrs. E. H. Hobart, Master Robert Hubert, Master Marcus Hubert, Miss Bessie Hobart, Miss Louis Hobart, Mrs. K. T. Holbrook, Mr. A. E. Hurry, Mr. C. Vivian Ladds, Mr. Geo. Leighton, Mr. W. C. Longdon, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Lowrey, Mrs. Margaret McPherson, Mr. and Mrs. A. McLeod, Rev. and Mrs. R. Mester and infant, Miss Mester, Mr. Raymond McCune, Mrs. A. C. Nichols, Mrs. E. T. O'Brien, child and amah, Lieut. H. E. Palmer, Mrs. H. K. Parmenter, Mr. F. C. Quinn, Mr. A. M. Rutherford, Mrs. J. M. Showell, Miss Florence Singer, Mr. C. H. Sheltow, Mrs. H. Tourje and child, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Utley, Mr. Arthur Vernon, Miss M. L. Warner, Miss Effie C. Young, and Lieut. Ralph Zurn, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakata Maru*, for London via ports.—Mrs. Hashimoto, Mr. and Mrs. Reike, Mr. R. Fukahara, Dr. R. Hirai, Dr. Y. Okamoto, Lieut. D. Minamizato, Chief Paymaster Y. Shibata, Chief Surgeon S. Kazura, Lieut. Com. K. Oda, Capt. H. Ogura, Insp. of Machi, K. Nagamine, Com. K. Imai, Com. K. Tsukiyama, Com. M. Hashimoto, Insp. of Paymaster O. Ando, Chief Surgeon I. Yamaguchi, Chief Eng. I. Onuki, Sub Lieut. K. Osumi, Mr. J. H. Bartlett, Mr. E. Priestly, Mr. E. C. Hudson, Mr. W. Velling, and Master Kende-dine, in cabin; Dr. M. Goto, Mr. S. Ozaki, M. A. Svendsen, Gun Room Officers N. Takada, S. Takazawa, U. Takahara, T. Kobayashi, K. Ishikawa, K. Yamada, K. Arai, and K. M. Zaka, Mr. A. Wallace, Mr. W. Wendelholm, and Mr. S. C. Andrews, in second class; 45 crew I. J. Navy, 30 Japanese, European, and Chinese, in steerage.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Marseilles via ports.—Mr. C. O. Beck, Major Morris, Mr. H. F. Foster, Mr. O. Pullak, Mr. W. F. Page, Mr. W. F. Weyann, Mr. A. Berand, Mr. S. Gros, Mr. Beretta, Dr. G. Francke, Mr. A. Ruegg, Mr. J. Takano, Mr. T. Yoshi, Miss Paire Brand and servant, Dr. Ludwig Riss, Mrs. Patsy Dawson, Mrs. Hana Kondo, Miss A. Satow, and Mr. S. Goetschel, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for Hongkong via ports.—Dr. and Mrs. O. Nachod, Miss E. Fattini, Miss Daughaday, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Helmer, Mr. E. D. Sinks, Mr. W. M. Wheeler, U.S.N., Mrs. E. A. Sargent and daughter, Mr. L. E. Bohn, Mr. B. Guggenheim, H.E. Baron R. Rosen, Mr. J. C. Menzies, Mr. F. S. Morse, and Mr. John Stedman, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Japan*, for London via ports.—Mrs. R. J. Kirby, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai via ports.—Dr. K. Iijima, Mr. N. Kishimoto, two Chinese, Mr. S. Yoshitsuye, Mr. and Mrs. C. Masuda, Mr. Y. Kiba, and Mr. R. Kabashima, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following were silk shippers per C. P. steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, June 16:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	69
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	44
Kito Shokai	39
Doshinsha	4
Total	15

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Marseilles via ports.—Raw Silk for Europe, 194 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 25 bales.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	OTHER	TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST.	AND EAST.	COAST.	CITIES.	ACROSS.	
Hongkong	1	10	—	—	—	11
Shanghai	1,075	1,813	3,872	—	—	6,760
Kobe	3,331	548	524	—	—	4,403
Yokohama	3,472	1,486	1,821	—	—	6,779
Total	7,888	3,837	6,219	—	—	17,944

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong and Canton	30	—	—	30
Shanghai	87	—	—	87
Yokohama	168	—	—	168
Total	305	—	—	305

Per British steamer *Lennox*, for Portland, Oregon:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	OTHER	TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST.	AND EAST.	COAST.	CITIES.	ACROSS.	
Hongkong	—	—	—	382	—	382
Kobe	—	370	—	—	—	300
Shanghai	250	1,493	—	218	—	1,961
Total	250	1,793	—	600	—	2,643

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.38, 9.10, 9.35, 10.05, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.30, 5.35, 6.15, 7.16, 8.9, 9.13, 10.40, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—4.50, 5.45, 6.50, 7.25, 7.55, 8.30, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25, a.m.; 12.10, 1.40, 2.25, 3.25, 4.40, 5.25, 6.30, 7.35, 8.20, 9.15, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

UYENO AND KARUIZAWA.

Leave.	UYENO	Arrive.	KARUIZAWA
UYENO	6.00 am	KARUIZAWA	12.05 pm
UYENO	8.30 am	KARUIZAWA	3.05 pm
UYENO	12.00 am	KARUIZAWA	6.05 pm
UYENO	1.40 pm	KARUIZAWA	9.05 pm
KARUIZAWA	6.20 am	UYENO	1.00 pm
KARUIZAWA	9.20 am	UYENO	3.45 pm
KARUIZAWA	12.20 pm	UYENO	7.00 pm
KARUIZAWA	3.20 pm	UYENO	9.35 pm

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Leave.	YOKOHAMA	Arrive.	KOBE
YOKOHAMA	6.50 am	KOBE	10.47 am
YOKOHAMA	1.14 pm	KOBE	9.00 am
YOKOHAMA	6.30 pm	KOBE	11.19 am
YOKOHAMA	10.32 pm	KOBE	6.05 pm
KOBE	6.00 am	YOKOHAMA	10.05 am
KOBE	12.05 pm	YOKOHAMA	8.05 am
KOBE	6.00 pm	YOKOHAMA	10.50 am
KOBE	10.00 pm	YOKOHAMA	6.13 pm

UYENO AND NIKKO.

Leave.	UYENO	Arrive.	NIKKO
UYENO	5.00 am	NIKKO	10.30 am
UYENO	7.00 am	NIKKO	12.30 pm
UYENO	9.00 am	NIKKO	2.30 pm
UYENO	11.00 am	NIKKO	4.30 pm
UYENO	1.00 pm	NIKKO	6.30 pm
UYENO	2.50 pm	NIKKO	8.05 pm
NIKKO	9.00 am	UYENO	2.10 pm
NIKKO	11.05 am	UYENO	4.10 pm
NIKKO	3.00 pm	UYENO	8.00 pm
NIKKO	3.00 am	UYENO	10.00 pm

YOKOHAMA AND KODZU.

Leave.	YOKOHAMA	Arrive.	KODZU
YOKOHAMA	5.50 am	KODZU	7.33 am
YOKOHAMA	6.50 am	KODZU	8.12 am
YOKOHAMA	8.07 am	KODZU	9.51 am
YOKOHAMA	9.30 am	KODZU	11.10 am
YOKOHAMA	11.10 am	KODZU	12.49 pm
YOKOHAMA	1.14 pm	KODZU	3.00 pm
YOKOHAMA	2.40 pm	KODZU	4.23 pm
YOKOHAMA	4.27 pm	KODZU	6.06 pm
YOKOHAMA	6.30 pm	KODZU	8.01 pm
YOKOHAMA	8.38 pm	KODZU	10.18 pm
YOKOHAMA	10.32 pm	KODZU	12.18 pm
KODZU	6.20 am	YOKOHAMA	8.05 am
KODZU	7.41 am	YOKOHAMA	9.28 am
KODZU	9.18 am	YOKOHAMA	10.58 am
KODZU	11.11 am	YOKOHAMA	12.51 pm
KODZU	12.53 pm	YOKOHAMA	3.31 pm
KODZU	3.10 pm	YOKOHAMA	4.52 pm
KODZU	4.26 pm	YOKOHAMA	6.13 pm
KODZU	5.32 pm	YOKOHAMA	7.11 pm
KODZU	6.52 pm	YOKOHAMA	9.09 pm
KODZU	8.37 pm	YOKOHAMA	9.55 pm
KODZU	8.55 pm	YOKOHAMA	11.00 pm

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Raw cotton is a shade weaker, as might be expected in view of holders having to clear for the new crop. In yarns a fair business has been doing at upward rates, and the market has a healthy aspect. Shistings are dull, but the prospects of movement are good. Very little is doing in fancy cottons; fancy woolsens are firmer, in sympathy with an advance of prices at home.

COTTON FINE GOODS.

	PER PICOL.
Grey Shistings—8 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 inches	\$2.50 to 3.00
Grey Shistings—9 1/2 yds, 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 32 inches	1.00 to 2.00
Indigo Shistings—24 yds, 14 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italian and Sateen Black, 32 inches	PER YARD, 0.10 to 0.15
	PER YARD, 0.15 to 0.30
WOOLLENS.	
Flannel—Italian Cloth, 30 yards	\$0.40 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.15 to 0.25
Cloth—Pilots, 36 inches	0.50 to 0.75
Cloth—Presidents, 34 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloth—Union, 34 inches	0.55 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarllet and Green, 3 to 5 lb per lb	0.65 to 0.75
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria 1 awes, 12 yards, 41 1/2 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Red—2 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 2.80
Turkey Red—3 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.45 to 3.47 1/2

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICOL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$37.00 to 48.50
Nos. 18/24, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 18/24, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 21, Doubles	40.00 to 41.00
Nos. 27, Doubles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 30, Plain	54.00 to 55.00
Nos. 30, Plain	50.00 to 51.00
Nos. 3/80, Plain	102.00 to 113.00
Nos. 3/60, Gassed	78.50 to 82.00
Nos. 3/80, Gassed	91.50 to 97.00
Nos. 3/100, Gassed	180.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICOL.
American Middling	\$19.00
Indian Branch	18.00
Chinese	20.00 to 20.75

METALS.

A very small business has been put through, but the outlook is satisfactory, as buyers are beginning to recognise the inevitable, and realise that they will have to pay the equivalent of home prices.

	PER PICOL.
Round and square 1 inch and upward	4.90 to 5.30
Iron Plates, assorted	5.10 to 5.80
Sheet iron	5.80 to 6.20
Galvanized iron sheets	11.70 to 12.00
Wire Nails, assorted	7.00 to 7.25
1 in Plates, per box	6.80 to 7.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	8.35 to 8.40
House Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	6.75 to 6.90

KEROSENE.

	PER PICOL.
American	\$1.28 to 2.30
Russian	2.15 to 2.17
Langkat	2.10

SUGAR.

The market is steady at practically last week's rates.

	PER PICOL.
Brown Takao	\$5.00 to 5.90
Brown Manila	5.10 to 6.50
Brown Cane	4.35 to 4.60
Brown Cane	4.50 to 4.80
White Java and Penang	8.80 to 8.40
White refined	7.70 to 9.35

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There is practically no old stock left to work open. Some few contracts are rumored to have been made for new silk, of which the details will be known next week.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER PICOL.
Filatures—Extra, Fine	
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	
Common—Coarse	
Re-cels—Extra	Nominal
Re-cels—No. 1	
Re-cels—No. 2	
Re-cels—No. 3	
Kakadas—Extra	
Kakadas—No. 1	
Kakadas—No. 2	
Kakadas—No. 3	

WASH SILK.

The market is inactive.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	
Noshi—Bunhu, Best	
Noshi—Bunhu, Good	
Noshi—Bunhu, Medium	
Noshi—Jushu, Good	
Noshi—Jushu, Fair	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	\$50 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bunhu, Fair	20 to 30

TEA

There is a large stock—8,300 piculs against 4,200 last year—of rather low quality, but business is not active, as buyers are disinclined to give the prices holders demand. Quotations are not materially altered from last week. Settlements so far have been 125,000 piculs against 114,000 piculs last year. The samples of the new crop to hand are of fair cup quality, but the leaf is rather light and chaffy.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	31 & upwards
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Pine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 22

Silver from London came 1/2 higher, but no alteration from China, and rates all keep steady locally.

Standard—Bank T.T.	3/0 1/2
— Hills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— 6 months' sight	3 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263 to 264
On Amster—Bank bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2 to 52
On Germany—Bank sight	310
— Private 4 months' sight	314 to 315
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 1/2 to 3 3/4
— Private 10 days' sight	4 1/2 to 4 3/4
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	75 1/2 to 76
On India—Bank sight	153 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

(Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.)

Yokohama, June 22.

Japan Breweries have been placed to-day at yen 175 and Club Hotels at yen 80. Grand Hotels are offering at yen 227.50. Offers are wanted for Langfeldts, Laundries steady at yen 77.50. Brewery Debentures offering at yen 108.

Punjom Mines have been placed to-day at \$15 and \$16 for delivery 31st August.

Yokohama Kinzoku & Iron Works, I.O.	\$50
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50	295 So.
Grand Hotel, I.O.	\$100
Club Hotel, I.O.	\$100
Oriental Hotel, I.O.	\$100
Oriental Hotel, I.O. (Pdr.)	\$100
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd. yen 100	60 So.
North and Roe, I.O.	\$100
Scott & Co., I.O.	\$100
Langfeldt & Co., I.O.	\$100
Hugo Gas Co., I.O.	\$100
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd. yen 50	77 1/2 So.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb.	\$100
Kobe Club 8 1/2 Deb.	\$50
Yokohama United Club 7 1/2 Deb.	\$100
Scott & Co., I.O. 7 1/2 Deb.	\$100
Oriental Hotel, I.O. 7 1/2 Deb.	\$100
Nagasaki Hotel, I.O. 7 1/2 Deb.	\$100
Reserve Fund—1 yen 3,000 equalisation of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property 2 yen 17,770.80; 1 yen 16,298.41; 4 yen 77,881.16 and yen 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.	
N.B.—S. Sellers, B. Buyers, So.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Enquiries.	

July, June 22.

Redemption Loan Bonds	100 So.
War Loan Bonds	100 So.
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	98 So.

Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	200 So.
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	100 So.
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	75 So.
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	100 So.
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	25 So.
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	75 So.
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 40	50 So.
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 10 50	25 So.
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45	100 So.
Kobe Railway, new—paid up yen 25	75 So.
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	50 So.
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	45 So.
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Hokkaido Colliery R'y., 2nd issue—paid up yen 25	50 So.
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Nanto Railway—paid up yen 37 50	50 So.
Hokuriku Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 45	50 So.
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 15	25 So.
Formosa Railway—application yen 2 50	2 So.
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 30	240 So.
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 15	15 So.
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	77 So.
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 10	55 So.
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	31 So.
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	50 So.
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	30 So.
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	100 So.
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	100 So.
Tokyo Mercantile Exchange—paid up yen 50	77 So.
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 50	35 So.
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 35	50 So.
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	75 So.
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 50	40 So.
Japan Beer—aid up yen 40	50 So.
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 20	31 So.
Kanagawa Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	47 So.
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	37 So.
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	50 So.
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	51 So.
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 25	12 So.
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 10 50	12 So.
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 50	27 So.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth.—

For LONDON, via ports, 25th June, at Daylight, the "TANFALUS"—Butterfield and Swire.	
For BOMBAY, via Kobe, Moji, Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, 27th June, the "HIROSHIMA MARU"—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	
For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, 28th June, at Daylight, the "ROHILLA"—P. & O. S.N. Co.	
For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, Shimonoseki and Nagasaki, 28th June, at Noon, the "SAIKO MARU"—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	
For HONGKONG, via Kobe, (Inland Sea), Nagasaki, and Shanghai, about 29th June, the "CHINA"—P. M. S.S. Co.	
For VANCOUVER, and Victoria, 29th June, the "ATHENIAN"—C. P. R. Co.	
For MARSEILLES, London, & Antwerp, via Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, Penang, Colombo, and Port Said, 1st July, at Noon, the "INABA MARU"—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	
For HONGKONG, via Kobe, Inland Sea, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, 3rd July, the "EMPEROR OF JAPAN"—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.	
For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, 4th July, the "CITY OF PEKING"—P. M. S.S. Co.	
For NEW YORK via Suez Canal, about 4th July, the "YANGTZE"—Samuel Samuel & Co.	
For MARSEILLES, via ports and Shanghai, 5th July, at 9 a.m., the "CALEDONIAN"—M. M. Co.	
For SAN DIEGO via Honolulu and San Francisco, 5th June, the "THYRA"—Butterfield & Swire.	
For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, 7th July, at 10 a.m., the "HOBENOLLER"—Norddeutscher Lloyd.	
For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., 7th July, the "EMPEROR OF INDIA"—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.	

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17.

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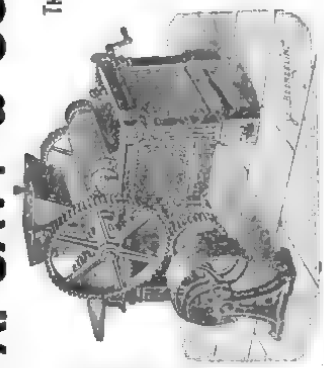
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No. 24.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 17TH, 1899.

月三年五十二治明
西曆一千九百零九年六月十七日

[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	385
Affairs in France.....	386
The New Loan.....	388
Educational.....	389
Mr. Dioso on Japanese Credit.....	387
"American Imperialism".....	387
The Keifu Tetsudo.....	388
Chinese and Mixed Residence.....	388
Parallel 8.....	388
Reuter's Telegraphic Service.....	389
Brigadier-General Funston.....	389
The Korean Dynamitar.....	389
Telegraph Concessions in Korea.....	389
Missionaries and Proselyting.....	389
The late Archdeacon Warren.....	389
Wireless Telegraphy.....	389
England and the Transvaal.....	389
Notes on Current Events.....	389
Death of Capt. Coffin, U.S.N.....	389
Leading Articles:—	
The New Treaties.....	390
Cost of Japan's War with China.....	390
The Status of Christian Religion in Japan.....	393
Mr. Arthur Dioso at Yokohama.....	394
The International Committee.....	395
New Docks at Uraga.....	395
Miss Janet Waldorf.....	395
Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Association.....	397
Miss Fenton's Concert.....	397
Is Dr. Kato's Teaching Demoralizing?.....	398
Correspondence:—	
Evangelization and Education.....	399
Missionaries in the Carolines.....	399
The Marquis and the Cardinal.....	400
The Bookshelf.....	
Baseball.....	400
Chinese Affairs.....	400
Notes on American Topics.....	401
News of the Week.....	402
Sugar Industry in Hawaii.....	402
Death of Mr. Le For Trench.....	403
Telegrams.....	403
Chess.....	403
Latest Shipping.....	404
Latest Commercial.....	404

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIENCE QUI DOIT: ADVIENNE QUI POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH, 1899.

DEATHS.

At No. 20, Bluff, on the morning of the 10th inst., **SELENA CHARLOTTE**, widow of the late Edward Morris of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, aged 57 years.

At Yokohama, on Thursday morning, June 15, **GEORGE W. COFFIN**, Captain, United States Navy.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

LIEUT. COLONEL PICQUART has been set at liberty provisionally.

THE Sfax, having Dreyfus on board, has sailed from Cayenne.

THE floods near Kobe last week caused a lot of damage to river works and crops.

RUMOUR has it that several Japanese are implicated in the dynamite outrages at Seoul.

THE Central Staff of the Tea Guild on the 15th received a telegram from New York to the

effect that the tea market has a downward tendency in view of an increasing import.

A house owned by Mr. Thwaites on Rokkoso, Kobe, was burned down on Wednesday.

HOLLAND and Germany are advising President Kruger to yield to the protests of Great Britain.

A CONFERENCE of Superintendents of Custom Houses is sitting at the Financial Department.

MR. SOWE, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, will proceed to Paris next year, for the Exhibition.

DURING the week Miss Janet Waldorf has appeared at the Public Hall in several Shakespearean roles.

THE Tokyo Electric Light Company held a general meeting on the 12th and decided to declare a dividend of 7 per cent.

MR. ARTHUR DIOSO made a racy speech in Yokohama on Sunday evening before the Japanese Business Men's Association.

A MAT factory has been established in Hongkong with up-to-date machinery. The idea is to compete with the Japanese product.

THE Tribunal of Correctional Police at Paris has sentenced the Baron de Christiani to four years' imprisonment, for assaulting the President.

VISCOUNT WATANABE, ex-Minister of Finance, has joined the Liberal Party on the recommendation of Baron Suematsu and Mr. Hoashi.

A FIRE broke out on the 10th at 6.45 p.m., at the Yukosha Paper Mill, Kakigara-cho, Tokyo, and destroyed a godown and an engine shed.

THE opening of the new dock at Uraga, on Sunday last, was attended by some 600 people who proceeded from Yokohama on the *Kobe Maru*.

THE baseball match on Saturday between teams captained respectively by Merriman and Blake resulted in a fine game, the former side winning by one run.

WITH the exception of France and Austria-Hungary, the whole of the new Treaties come into force in Japan on July 17th—the other two on August 4.

It is said that the Toyo Kisen Kaisha intends reducing its freight charges by *yen* 2 per ton, and opening competition with the other steamship companies.

MARQUIS YAMAGATA, the Premier, is better and on the 13th inst., attended the Cabinet Council. He will remove to his official residence within a few days.

THE construction of the long projected elevated railway connecting Shinsensacho at Shiba and Eirekucho at Kojimachi, will, it is said, be commenced within the current fiscal year.

On the 14th a telegram from London was received in Tokyo to the effect that the Russian Government has issued loan bonds amounting to £2,975,000 at 99 bearing 4 per cent. interest.

MESSRS. HAMADA RENJIRO, Yabu Masahichi, Fujimoto Sohichi, and Yasui Sei will probably be the commissioners despatched to the Paris International Exhibition as representatives of Osaka exhibitors.

On Saturday a fisherman living at Honmoku found two wrecked junks and the corpses of a man about 24 or 25 years old and two boys 15

or 16 years old. The matter was reported to the police, and on further search another body was discovered.

THE rumour of the amalgamation of the Kanagafuchi and Shanghai Cotton Spinning Companies has received some confirmation. The Companies hold their general meetings on the 3rd and 4th proximo.

THE International Committee of Yokohama were entertained at dinner at the Imperial Hotel on Monday by the Japanese Committee which has been engaged in the introductory work for the new state of things.

FAMINE and disease are causing fearful ravages in the Eastern provinces of Russia, while the recent cold weather is ruining crops in the north and centre, and drought is doing the same thing in the south.

SANCTION for the establishment of the Forinosan Bank was granted on the 13th inst. by the Minister of Finance, and the Directors are almost all appointed. The bank notes are being printed and business will begin on the 1st Sept.

On the 13th at 5.30 a.m., a woman was run over on the railway near Tamagawa iron bridge, Kameto village, Tokyo. The victim appeared to be about 20 years of age, and was well dressed. It is believed to be a case of suicide.

A **KOREAN** despatch dated the 12th inst. announces that Mr. Yuen U Chong, Chief of Police, has been discharged because he failed to arrest the persons concerned in the dynamite outrages. Mr. Nam Myon Son, a military official, has been appointed to the post.

On the night of the 8th instant a medicine dealer named Hanai Takajiro (32), living at Ibaraki Prefecture, murdered his adopted mother named Ayu (44), her nephew Katsujiro (10) and her niece Kune (19), and inflicted serious wounds on her other niece Hatsu (14). The man was arrested.

A **MAIL** carrier in the employ of the Tokyo Post and Telegraph Office has been arrested on a serious charge. He threw several hundred letters and post cards into the water from Edo bridge, thinking it was too much trouble to deliver them. He has also been guilty of theft.

AN OUBANG OUTANG, two years old, from Borneo, and a snake from Sumatra have been added to the live-stock at the Zoological Garden at Ueno Park. The latter is said to be the largest snake ever brought to Japan. It measures about 17 feet in length and 2½ feet diameter across the middle of the body.

A **POLICEMAN** named Sugeno Torajiro (24), at the Isezaki Station, Yokohama, has been committed for trial. He was known as an active and intelligent constable, and enjoyed the confidence of the Chief of the station. He seems, however, to have accepted a bribe of 5 *yen* and some cakes from a gambler whom he was to have arrested.

In a debate on China, in the House of Commons, Mr. St. John Bradrick, Under Secretary to the Foreign Office, stated that the British Government had proposed that in order to hold China to her undertaking not to alienate the provinces bordering on the Yangtze, England will see that a force be stationed upon the Yangtze valley, sufficiently strong to protect the merchants.

AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

Wednesday, June 14.

Another Ministerial crisis has occurred in France, and the cause appears to be very trivial—some alleged roughness on the part of the police. The telegrams received in Tokyo with reference to the Socialist demonstration at Longchamps conveyed no idea of any serious trouble between the police and the people. On the contrary, they spoke of an absence of incidents and described the few *fracas* that occurred as quite insignificant. But the Socialists themselves took a different view of the matter, and apparently the Chamber of Deputies endorsed their opinion. It has probably seemed surprising to some people that a socialist demonstration should have been organized in favour of the President. Recent events have shown, however, that both Radicals and Socialists are disposed to approve rather than to oppose the revision of the Dreyfus case, and it thus becomes easy to understand the motive of the Longchamps demonstration as a reply to the insults of which the President had been the victim a few days previously at Auteuil. Since the Dreyfus case passed within the purview of the highest judicial tribunal in France, there have many indications that, in spite of all the excitement and controversy provoked by the affair in some circles, the great mass of the French people are comparatively indifferent to it, and have been content to leave it in sole possession of the political agitators. That disposition is confirmed by the action of the Socialists. Their Longchamps demonstration shows that they have sufficient perspicacity to distinguish between the Army, as a body, and the few officers who, whether by improbity or mismanagement, have shown themselves unworthy of their cloth. When they cheered the President in one breath and the Army in the next, the Socialists entered a strong protest against the folly of supposing that a service is altogether rotten because it includes two or three individuals of the Esterhazy, Henry, and du Paty de Clam genus. The Socialists are not, as a rule, distinguished for tact, but they have certainly scored on the present occasion. Still it is difficult to understand why a Cabinet should fall because the police have been over-zealous in restraining a mob. We may possibly find, when fuller details arrive, that the Cabinet received from the retirement of M. de Freycinet a greater shock than was supposed at the time.

Thursday, June 15.

The sentence passed upon Baron de Christiani by the Tribunal of Correctional Police in France certainly does not err on the side of leniency. According to previous telegrams the Baron did not inflict any injury on President Loubet, but merely struck his hat with a cane. That an assault so trifling should be punished by four years' imprisonment seems out of proportion. Doubtless the idea is to sternly repress all demonstrations calculated to provoke political trouble, but experience does not show that harsh punishments have that effect. However, it is impossible to pronounce any definite opinion on such a subject without full knowledge of the details. When we learn the exact facts submitted to the Police Court in evidence, we may find that the circumstances of the assault were of a

nature very different from our present estimate of them.

Friday, June 16.

Reuter this morning confirms the telegram received yesterday by the Legation of France to the effect that Baron de Christiani has been sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment for his assault upon the President of the French Republic at Auteuil. A very similar case was that of Robert Pate, an ex-lieutenant of Hussars, who struck Her Majesty Queen Victoria on the face with a stick as she was leaving the Duke of Cambridge's residence in her carriage on June 27th, 1850. Pate was sentenced to 7 years' transportation, a precedent which goes to show that Christiani has been treated leniently. The passage of half a century, however, has greatly softened the public estimate of these crimes, especially when they take the form of a mere demonstration evidently without any intention of inflicting grave physical injury. The silly French nobleman would have sufficiently expiated his crime by a briefer incarceration, in our opinion.

THE NEW LOAN.

Saturday, June 10.

Reuter informs us this morning that only twelve per cent. of the Japanese loan has been subscribed and the remainder has been underwritten and is quoted at 1½ discount. This issue must be more or less unwelcome to the Japanese, as seeming to reflect on the credit enjoyed by their country in Europe, but it fully justifies Count Mutsu's acceptance of the Syndicate's terms. Had the bonds found subscribers at a price much higher than the figure accepted for them by the Minister of Finance, the latter's judgment might have been called in question. But it must now be admitted that he did as well for his country as there was any possibility of doing.

Monday, June 12.

Tokyo journals persist in referring the unsuccessful result of Japan's new loan to the opposition of the Rothschilds. It is admitted that the time was not very favourable, but no serious difficulty would have been experienced on that account had not the great capitalists employed their immense influence to impede the transaction. As to the motive of their opposition, the general impression is that, having originally sought to finance the transaction themselves, they were chagrined to find that it had been entrusted to a syndicate of banks. But the *Chuo Shimbun* advances another explanation which it professes to have learned from a secret source. It is that the Russian Government, rendered uneasy by Japan's rapid development, persuaded the Rothschilds to adopt this hostile course. The *Chuo* adds that such a rumour is not to be lightly credited, but that the fact of the Rothschild's opposition appear to be beyond doubt. We do not, for our own part, see that there would be anything strange in the adoption of such a policy by Russia, for it is not to her advantage that Japan should develop great military strength, and the most effectual way of averting that result is to contrive that the foreign money market shall be closed to the Japanese Government. Yet it is difficult to believe that Russia has interfered. The more likely hypothesis is that the Rothschilds, regarding them-

selves as the most legitimate channel for the transaction of such loans, have taken steps to demonstrate the hopelessness of the banks to operate independently. Many people will naturally be disposed to refer the result simply and solely to Japan's defective credit. But it has to be remembered that the syndicate of banks did not consider Japan's credit defective, and they are excellent judges. Had not some unlooked-for difficulty presented itself, the forecast of the banks would doubtless have been justified by events.

In connexion with this matter it should be noted that Japanese War Bonds also have depreciated of late. On the 26th of April they were quoted at £103 8s. 8d. and they now stand at £100 3s. 1½d. Only a small part of the difference is due to depreciation, however, the former quotation being *cum div.* while the latter is *ex div.* If due allowance be made on that account, the actual fall is only a petty fraction on each bond. Still there has been a fall. To what is it attributable? Naturally the very fact of Japan's coming into the market to obtain further accommodation must exercise a depressing influence on her previous securities. That alone amply suffices, in our opinion, to account for a depreciation so insignificant as one-third of one per cent. It is further evident that if the 5-per-cent. War Bonds are selling at £100 3s. 1½d., the new 4 per-cent. bonds should not fetch more than £80 2s. 6d., other things being equal, whereas sales have been made at £89, approximately. Other things are not equal, however, for the War Bonds become redeemable from 1902 at latest, whereas the new bonds run without redemption until 1909.

Tuesday, June 13.

Many and various are the rumours circulated with reference to the new loan. The latest is contained in the columns of the *Asahi*. It is to the effect that Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Company have telegraphed to their Yokohama Agent instructing him to submit to the Japanese Government a proposal for opening the market to the new bonds. We do not understand the nature of the proposal, nor did the person who communicated it to the Japanese Government, unless he has the misfortune to be unable to express his meaning in intelligible language. At any rate the story is evidently a mere fragment of the facts, if, indeed, there be any facts.

EDUCATIONAL.

Count Kabayama, the present Minister of Education, is said to be very strongly in favour of a more progressive policy in that branch of administration. It has often been pointed out that the number of high schools and of universities is quite inadequate, the result being that many youths are obliged to be content with an elementary education though their ambition is to acquire larger knowledge. Rumour alleges that Count Kabayama, although his career has been connected altogether with military and naval affairs, would be content to see a check put upon military expansion if the funds thus economised were devoted to educational purposes. Since it became known that the Minister entertained that view, numerous representatives of provincial districts have

waited on him, each urging that its own particular locality is in urgent need of a new school. The number and earnestness of these delegations are sufficient proofs of the timeliness of Count Kabayama's proposals. By the Miyagi Prefectural Assembly a still more decided step has been taken, in the form of a decision that Miyagi Prefecture was prepared to put up a sum of 200,000 yen for the establishment of an university in Sendai—the *Tohoku* (north-eastern) Daigaku. One of Count Kabayama's plans is said to be the abolition of the preparatory military schools. The saving thus effected would suffice to found four or five high schools. Of course there is plenty of room for retrenchment in military matters, but whether the Japanese are prepared to consent to any sacrifice of that kind seems problematical.

MR. DIOSY ON JAPANESE CREDIT.

We wholly disagree with Mr. A. Diosy's remarks on Japanese finance, as set forth in the speech delivered by him to the Business Men's Association of Yokohama. Mr. Diosy's view is that the new Japanese loan has not been readily subscribed by British capitalists because the reputation of the individual Japanese for commercial morality is not good. Further, he draws a picture of a crowd of Englishmen "coming tumbling over each other to offer their surplus capital to China—dying, rotten, paralysed China"—because "China is known to be honest" and because "merchants have long known that they can believe and trust a Chinaman in business." Elsewhere in the same speech Mr. Diosy speaks of "little traps prepared day after day by the Japanese to catch the foreigner," and of the foreigner "getting angry" because of the attempt to ensnare him in these traps "so clumsily made that only a born idiot would be caught by them." We fear that the intelligent Japanese will get angry when he peruses this lecture of Mr. Diosy's, so palpably contrary to facts with which all educated Japanese have long been familiar. The commercial morality of the individual Japanese has nothing, absolutely nothing, to do with the unwillingness of British capitalists to subscribe to a Japanese loan. The Japanese Government is the borrower, and no one can pretend that the history of the Japanese Government's financial transactions with other countries contains a single incident warranting the view taken by Mr. Diosy. If scrupulously honest dealing and punctual discharge of obligations constitute any title to credit, the credit of the Japanese Government should be of the highest class, and is of the highest class. Surely it might have occurred to Mr. Diosy that if a syndicate of London bankers, who know everything there is to be known about the commercial morality of the Japanese merchant, consented to underwrite a Japanese Government loan, the cold reception accorded to the loan by the comparatively ignorant British capitalist must be due to some cause other than the moral *laches* of the individual Japanese trader. But Mr. Diosy's strange explanation in that context pales before his wonderful picture of the reception accorded to the Chinese loan. Does he not know that the Chinese loan is accompanied by ample security, and that the security

is controlled by foreigners—by British subjects, we may almost say? Does he imagine for one instant that if China came into the market as Japan has done, and asked for a loan without offering any security, her proposition would elicit anything but derision? We should welcome any valid proof Mr. Diosy could offer of the disadvantages to which the average Japanese trader's improbity exposes him, but such a statement of the subject as he presented to the Business Men of Yokohama will only make them smile.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is at some pains to defend Mr. A. Diosy against charges of sycophancy supposed to have been laid at his door. We do not think that any defence is required, for Mr. Diosy's only accuser, so far as we know, has been the anonymous correspondent of a local newspaper which bears such a character that its applause alone could hurt the reputation of a respectable man. Mr. Diosy has delivered several speeches and addresses since he came to Japan. They have been reproduced, more or less in detail, by our vernacular contemporaries, but it has not seemed to us that any occasion existed for translating them into these columns. We take the opportunity of offering our testimony, however, that Mr. Diosy has had much to say which is not by any means of the sugar-plum variety. He has spoken with wholesome frankness, and has established a fair title to the approval of even that peculiar class of persons who appear to think that the test of honesty is to be condemnatory where the Japanese are concerned. But in truth it is inevitable that the reception given by the Japanese to Mr. Diosy should evoke some unfavourable comments. The altogether extraordinary character of the welcome accorded to him seems to many people to be out of proportion to any obvious reason, and it is asked, with some show of justice, whether the margin of potential hospitality has not been somewhat recklessly trencched upon in a case not warranting any such inroads. We can not deny that we ourselves sympathise, to some extent, with this criticism, but, at the same time, the critics seem to forget that Mr. Diosy is not welcomed in his public character only. During the many years of his remarkable interest in things Japanese he has found innumerable opportunities of befriending men of this nation when they visited London. Hence if the Japanese seize the occasion of his sojourn among them to return these kindnesses with interest, no one has any right to find fault with the fulness of their measure of gratitude. For the rest, Mr. Diosy, as the founder of the Japan Society of London, has placed this country under obligations which we are sincerely glad to see recognised.

"AMERICAN IMPERIALISM."

It was of course inevitable that a section of the American people should denounce the war with the Filipinos. Wherever there are Anglo-Saxons, there will be an Exeter Hall. One might have foretold that the outbreak of war would be followed quickly by an outbreak of brochures condemning the action of the Washington Government. Three of these booklets are now before us. They are called "American Imperialism," "The Cost of a National Crime," and "The

Hell of War and its Penalties." They state the case against President McKinley and his advisers forcibly enough, but not convincingly. It is an easy case to present. "We set out," say the writers in effect, "to fight Spain in order to free certain populations from the curse of her misrule. It never was part of our purpose to fight those populations themselves for the sake of bringing them under our sway. Yet that is what we are doing now, and it is a criminal act on our part." Now when the war began and when the probable course of the American Pacific Squadron was matter of conjecture, we expressed the opinion that Admiral Dewey would not go to Manila, and the reason we assigned for thinking so was, as we clearly stated, that the United States would find itself with the Philippines in its hands, and would be perplexed to know what to do with them. It never occurred to us or to any one else at that time that the idea of granting complete independence to the Filipinos could be seriously entertained. Everything known about them indicated their unfitness for such a trust. Yet now America's alleged crime is that she does not leave them a free hand to try the experiment. When it is pointed out to her critics that her responsibility was not limited to freeing these semi-civilized people from Spain's arbitrary government, but that it extended also to providing them with competent machinery for the preservation of law and order, the reply is that the liberated peoples should have been left to work out their own salvation in their own way—"left to fight it out" is the exact form of expression we have heard used in one instance. It is a peculiar contention. A humane man may properly interfere if he observes that the keeper of certain partially tamed animals is treating them with needless severity, but surely no principle of humanity prescribes that he shall thereafter abandon them to their own instincts rather than employ force to bring them under orderly control. The one thing above all others that the critics should endeavour to prove is that the Filipinos are qualified for self-government, yet that is precisely what they give themselves no concern to demonstrate. They talk a great deal about the horrors of war and the fruitless sacrifice of lives and treasure entailed by a contest against such a foe as the Filipinos and under such circumstances as those that exist in Manila. Considerations of that kind appeal strongly to sentiment, but it is somewhat late in the day to adduce them. They might have had some cogency as arguments against the anti-Spanish enterprise at the outset, but they are valueless to show that the enterprise, having once been undertaken, should not be carried to its legitimate conclusion. When we speak of "legitimate conclusion" we do not mean that the Philippines should necessarily be added to America's dominions. What we mean is that America is bound to give them a measure of good government and security against foreign aggression. If the Filipinos will not accept her dictation to the extent of achieving both these aims, they must be coerced into accepting it. Perhaps there was some want of tact or decision in America's manner of conveying to them her own resolve and her estimate of their duty. That is a question apart. But how she can now do otherwise than she is doing, we fail altogether to perceive.

THE KEIJU TETSUDO.

Tuesday, June 13.

The importunity of the widow in the Bible was not a circumstance to the persistence shown by vernacular newspapers in promoting the cause of the *Keifu* (Sōul-Fusan) Railway. The capital needed for the purpose is 2½ million *yen*, and according to Mr. Oye Taku, who recently visited Korea, one-fourth of that sum would suffice to commence operations. Hence it appears that Japanese capitalists can not be induced to put up a bagatelle of sixty or seventy thousand pounds on account of a work which everybody agrees in regarding as of the highest political importance. Is that surprising? Private individuals are very seldom willing to subscribe money for political purposes. The English are probably as emotional and as patriotic a race as can be found anywhere, yet statesmen never think of submitting their sentiment and patriotism to tests of a pecuniary nature. An ordinary individual puts money into enterprises out of which he thinks that money can be taken, and leaves the State to devote public funds to political purposes should such a course seem advisable. Railways in China illustrate this fact. Certain journalists recently wrote a great deal about railway concessions being secured by Powers other than England, and denounced the Queen's Ministers for neglecting to push the interests of their nationals. But it presently turned out that British subjects had obtained all the railway concessions sought by them, and that others were simply stepping into the vacant spaces. There would be difficulty, we think, in indicating an English journal which, however fervent its patriotic mood, has ever urged an association of private individuals to undertake the building of a railway or the establishment of a line of steamers for the sake of the country's foreign politics. Enterprises of that kind fall to the duty of the State, not of individuals. The Russian Government, not a Russian company, is building the Siberian Railway and its trans-Manchurian branch. Even had the clearest demonstration been furnished that such a line was quite essential to the interests of Russian imperialism, the work might have waited for centuries had it been abandoned to private initiative. We do not expect to see the Sōul-Fusan Railway undertaken by private capitalists unless its commercial prospects can be proved to warrant the investment.

Wednesday, June 14.

We took occasion to point out, a few days ago, that no practical value seemed to attach to one of the arguments advanced by the promoters of the Sōul-Wiju Railway, namely, that it would subsequently be connected with the Chinese system, and Japan would thus become the half-way house between the Occident and the Far East as well as Australasia. The reasons we stated for that opinion are now put into the mouth of Russia by one of our Tokyo contemporaries. She is made to say that Vladivostok and Talien are to be the sea-ports of her trans-Asian lines, and that she does not at all desire to divert the traffic into Korea. Two other views also are attributed to her. The first is that even if she possessed the Sōul-Wiju road, it would either be destroyed by Japan or inure to the latter's advantage in the event of a struggle between the two countries in the Korean peninsula; the second, that Russia has

become convinced of her inability to oppose Japan in Korea. Concerning the former of these contentions, it cuts both ways. The Sōul-Wiju railway would be used by whatever Power could obtain command of it, and that might be Russia as well as Japan. Concerning the second view attributed to Russia, it is obviously a mere conjecture. The fact is that the value of the Sōul-Wiju road for strategic purposes depends chiefly on the hypothesis that the Power possessing it contemplates the defence of the northern frontier of Korea. It could not be of much service to a Power invading Korea from the north, until that Power had completely driven back the defending force. But these contingencies are very remote. At present Korea lies at the mercy of any Power holding the command of the sea.

CHINESE AND MIXED RESIDENCE.

The Japanese are now face to face with the problem, how shall the Chinese be treated after July next when they visit this country? In former days China was a serious stumbling block to Treaty Revision. Not on the score of jurisdiction, however, but on that of tariff. Her treaty with Japan was quite independent of the latter's treaties with other Powers, and did not contain any most favoured-nation clause. Hence the complete opening of the country to the subjects and citizens of Occidental States did not necessitate its opening to Chinese subjects. Japan, at that time, had no intention whatever of allowing the Chinese to have free access to every part of her realm for residential or trading purposes. She preferred to limit them to the open ports, and, so preferring, she was content to leave them under the jurisdiction of their own Consuls. But it was essential that she should bring them under the same tariff as that applied to western countries, for had they alone been exempted from the payment of increased duties, they would have monopolized the whole trade, either as principals, agents, or temporary substitutes, and the new tariff would have become a dead letter. On the other hand, the Chinese Government was not likely to agree to an increased tariff without the same *quid pro quo* as that given to Western Governments, namely, the opening of the whole country. While Japan was pondering over that difficulty, the war of 1894-5 provided an effectual solution, for one of the results of Japan's victory was that she divested herself of all future treaty obligations towards China. Hence she is now entirely free to choose whether or no the Chinese shall be discriminated against from the 17th of July; whether they alone shall be denied unrestricted access to the interior for trade or residential purposes. Opinions are divided. Some publicists are strongly conservative. They wish to exclude the Chinese, and would confine them strictly to the present settlements. The *Fiji Shimpō* espouses that cause, but makes an exception in the case of Chinese of the middle and upper class. It does not tell, however, how the differentiation should be effected. Others contend that it would be unneighbourly and unworthy to discriminate against the Chinese; that they should be placed on the same footing as other foreigners, and that it will be possible at any moment to withdraw the privilege of free trade, travel and residence should experience dictate that plan. It is an embarrassing question for the Japanese.

PARALLELS.

The stole and surplice of a Buddhist priest of high rank are made of magnificent brocade. No material could be richer or more beautiful, as many an European or American collector can testify. But these robes are invariably constructed of small pieces sewn together like a patch-work quilt. Curious theories are propounded about such a destructive manner of tailoring. The favourite belief is that, desiring to prevent contingencies like the sale of sacerdotal garments for secular uses, the founders of Buddhism laid down a rule that all costly materials should be snipped into fragments before conversion into stoles or surplices. There is, however, another and a far more attractive hypothesis. It is that since the cupidity of fair participants in religious services would be excited were these grand brocades flaunted before their gaze in broad expanses, the snipping process was devised to guard against the sin of covetousness. We could accept that explanation with greater readiness if brocades such as the priests wear had any part in the garments of Japanese females. But they have not, and the theory consequently fails unless we assume that ladies covet pretty things without reference to their utility. Meanwhile, it is interesting to place in this context the latest doctrine advanced with regard to a custom which prevails in Christian communities; the custom that a woman must cover her head in a place of worship. Probably very few people have ever paused to think why such a usage should exist, and probably those reflecting about it found a sufficient explanation in the "tidying" that a woman has to do after removing her head-dress. There would have to be a looking glass and perhaps packets of hair-pins in the vestry if ladies came into church or chapel without their bonnets. But that is a crude, common-place fancy compared to the one to which vogue has now been given. A woman must cover her head inasmuch as she "has a power on it because of the angels." That is St. Paul's dictum. It requires interpretation. The first chapter of Genesis tells us that "when men began to multiply on the face of the earth and daughters were born unto them, the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair, and they took them wives of all which they choose." Angels, in short, fell in love with mortal women, begot giants, as the record proceeds to relate, and introduced all kinds of wickedness and evil among the dwellers upon earth. These angels had to be punished, at last, by imprisonment in "a deep, dark hole in a desert," and the human sinners were chastised by means of a deluge. It is to obviate a recurrence of such catastrophes that women have to cover their heads in places of worship. They have to "avoid the danger of tempting the angels." Dr. Paul Carus is believed to be the author of that theory. It may fairly be placed side by side with the doctrine of the patch-work stoles and surplices. Buddhist priest have to guard against exciting the cupidity of their female parishioners by wearing grand garments, and Christian women have to guard against attracting the love of angels by displaying their uncovered heads.

REUTER'S TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

From to-day we publish the telegrams of Reuter's Service without taking them from the columns of another newspaper. During several years, as most of our readers probably know, the *Japan Mail* was the only journal in Yokohama which procured these telegrams. That was before the introduction of the system of press rates. The expense was consequently heavy, and it was out of the question for one newspaper alone to bear the cost of the whole service. Hence at a time when foreign news possessed special interest, our local contemporaries formed a coalition to procure a fuller service, but declined to admit the *Japan Mail* unless it consented to pay about double as much as the average cost to each of themselves. Rather than submit to such unjust discrimination on the part of journals which for years had copied our telegrams without compensation, we arranged for an independent service of our own. After a year the Yokohama coalition fell to pieces, and, at the same time, press rates came into operation between Japan and Shanghai. We should then, as a matter of course, have procured the telegrams transmitted by Reuter *via* India, Ceylon, Singapore, Hongkong, and Shanghai. But the *Japan Times* began its career, and, in conjunction with the *Yiji Shimpō*, purchased the service. Naturally we should have joined that combination had not our time of publication been such that the *Japan Times* went into circulation at an earlier hour in the morning, and its telegrams were consequently at the disposal of all journals appearing later in the day. Now, however, the coalition of newspapers subscribing for the service has been enlarged, and we have obtained admission to its ranks, so that our telegrams will in future appear in a special service.

BRIGADIER GENERAL FUNSTON.

The latest addition to America's list of general officers is a man with a remarkable career. Frederic Funston was born in 1866. At 16 he competed for a West Point cadetship and was beaten by a competitor who is now a lieutenant likely to pass soon under Funston's command. At 18 he entered Kansas State University, but "owing to difficulties which he experienced with some of the text books" he did not graduate. At 21, he became city editor of the Fort Smith *Tribune*. Then he tried life as a conductor on the Santa Fe railway. Then he essayed the business of collecting botanical specimens. Then he made a wonderful journey on foot in the Arctic regions. Then he went to Central Africa, and tried coffee planting unsuccessfully. Then he entered the Cuban army as a private under Garcia, and came out as a Lieut.-Colonel and Chief of Artillery. At last he had found his vocation. Entering the United States' service, he distinguished himself again and again. His favourite feat seems to be crossing rivers under fire with a handful of men and attacking all and sundry that oppose. He has done that three times in the Philippines, and in deference to General MacArthur's strong recommendation the President has nominated him a brigadier-general.

THE KOREAN DYNAMITARDS.

Some excitement seems to have been caused in Tokyo by the news that several Japanese subjects have been arrested in Seoul on suspicion of being implicated in the recent dynamite outrages. Of course the suspicion may turn out to be baseless, but arrests would scarcely have been made without some tangible proof. One of our Tokyo contemporaries appears disposed to regard the affair as the result of the impatience felt by the reform party, which, seeing that all its peaceful efforts have failed, concluded that the wisest course was to resort to violence, and thought that it saw an opportunity in the disturbances now taking place in Chollado. Another conjecture is that the outrage was the work of the relatives of the political refugees now enjoying asylum in Japan and elsewhere. It appears that the Korean Government contemplates resuscitating the old-time law which extends the punishment of a political offender to his parents, wife and children. These unfortunate people, being thus confronted by a terrible fate, sought to delay the threatened legislation by killing or maiming its chief promoters. There is, of course, no clear reason for crediting that hypothesis. As for Pak Yong-ho, in whose house a bomb exploded while in course of preparation, he is now in Japan, and it is difficult to imagine that he can have been privy to such proceedings. There has been nothing whatever to suggest that the Korean refugees in this country are engaged in any plots. They are apparently leading quiet, orderly lives. But it will not surprise us to learn that Japanese adventurers have taken a part in these new troubles. Such complications will always be liable to occur so long as Korea remains outside the pale of progress.

TELEGRAPH CONCESSIONS IN KOREA.

It is alleged by the *Shogyo Shimpō* that Mr. J. R. Morse has obtained certain concessions for laying lines of telegraph in Korea. The statement is put forward in a very vague manner, but with an evident suggestion that Japanese enterprise should not leave Korea to be exploited entirely by foreigners. We agree with the *Shogyo*. But since the Japanese do not show themselves very active in utilizing the concessions they possess already, one can not be surprised that they do not seek others. As to Mr. Morse, this allusion to his connexion with lines of telegraph is probably explained by the following "official telegram" which we find in the columns of the *Japan Times* :—

M. Morse, the American concessionaire, paid 200,000 yen to the Korean Government as stipulated tribute on the profits realized from operating the rich gold mine at Ulsan in P'yong-an-do. He has secured the consent of the Korean Government to his proposals to pay into the Treasury an annual sum of 200,000 yen in place of one quarter of the profits arising from the mine, as formerly agreed in, and that in consideration thereof Korea shall increase the term of the original lease granted him from 15 years to 25 years, and that a branch line of the Sōn-Wiju telegraph system be constructed between Sōn and Ulsan at the expense of the Government. The putting up of wires will shortly be commenced.

A London telegram dated May 14 says that Admiral Dewey, upon his return to America, will act as President McKinley's adviser on naval and colonial affairs.

MISSIONARIES AND PREACHING.

It seems to us that no one reading Mr. Frank Muller's letter, which we publish elsewhere, could clearly recognise the original subject of discussion, or form any definite idea of the opinions expressed by us and now traversed by our correspondent. Mr. Muller makes us say, "Not one missionary can lecture about ethics or morals in such a way as to dignify the subject." We certainly did use those words, but when separated from their context they convey a meaning very different from the sense in which we employed them. The whole point under consideration was the possibility of any foreigner's acquiring such command of the Japanese language as would enable him to lecture or preach eloquently in that language on theological, ethical, or moral subjects. Mr. Muller of course intends the linguistic qualification to be understood, but, by omitting any explicit statement of it, he places us in the position of denying the general competence of missionaries to do the very thing to the doing of which they devote their lives and abilities. We were not guilty of any such shallow impertinence, and, further, we really must protest against being represented as saying that "no missionary can lecture acceptably on these matters." It is one thing to lecture "acceptably"; another, and a very different thing, to lecture eloquently, and with such a choice of phraseology and command of idiom as dignify the subject. We wish to direct our correspondent's attention to the fact that our article was entirely a consideration of the evangelizing competence of missionaries using the Japanese language in Japan as compared with the competence of the same men using an Occidental language in an Occidental country. Nothing could have been plainer than our *exposé* of the subject. "It has always seemed to us," we wrote, "that this question narrows itself to an easily stated issue: are foreign missionaries competent to carry on evangelization in Japanese with any prospect of success proportionate to that which men of equal endowments might expect to achieve in an Occidental country?" We answered in the negative, and our answer was based solely on the linguistic difficulty. Our conviction is that, as a rule to which there has not yet been any exception, no foreigner commencing the study of Japanese after he has emerged from his teens, can master it so thoroughly as to use it with full effect for purposes of preaching. But that does not involve the much larger assertion that "no missionary can lecture acceptably on ethics or morals." He may lecture very acceptably yet without reaching the standard of success which can be attained only by the gift of really eloquent speech. The point we make is this—and we may be excused for setting it forth with greater clearness—that since the highest measure of success in the field of preaching and lecturing does not appear to be within reach of foreign missionaries in Japan, the average missionary would do well to devote a part of his energies to a field where he undoubtedly does achieve much success, the field of education, education being, in our opinion, one of the most effective means of propagating Christian morality, and the prime object of the missionary being to make good men whatever form of creed they profess. The original problem was whe-

ther missionaries are justified in devoting any part of their labour to education, and we offered to its solution our contribution of experience and inquiry. Assuredly we never intended to suggest that foreign missionaries should desist from preaching and lecturing and devote themselves wholly to education, and we are much surprised that such an interpretation should have been put upon our words. We repeat our repudiation of any intention to assert that the foreign missionary in Japan can not lecture in the Japanese language, and can not preach in the Japanese language, so as to be acceptable to his hearers. He can do both, but not so well, we think, as to justify him in relying solely on either.

THE LATE ARCHDEACON WARREN.

The news of Archdeacon Warren's death must have profoundly grieved many people. It was a shockingly sudden affair. The venerable gentleman slipped and fell on his head while inspecting the underground storey of a house at Fuku-yama. The accident did not suggest serious consequences, as the Archdeacon was able to walk home. But on reaching his residence he complained of pain in his head, and, lying down, lapsed into a state of unconsciousness from which he never rallied. Medical assistance, both foreign and Japanese, was speedily procured, but proved unavailing. Archdeacon Warren was one of the oldest members of the missionary body in Japan, and his decease will be a heavy loss to the cause he served so faithfully. Possessed of great energy and of remarkable linguistic ability and powers of organization, he devoted himself, for more than a quarter of a century, with unflagging earnestness and zeal, to missionary work in connection with the Church Missionary Society. No one who was brought into contact with the Archdeacon could fail to recognize in him in many ways a remarkable man. His conversational and other social powers made him ever a kindly and charming companion. But it was the work of the Church that called out his ripest and fullest powers. Quick in decision, clear in judgment, ready in debate, and possessing an almost unrivalled knowledge of the colloquial, he exercised a unique influence in the counsels of the Japanese Church. He leaves a large circle of friends and relatives to mourn their sudden loss, to whom we desire to offer our sincere condolences.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Wireless telegraphy is no longer a theoretical phantasy. It has been employed with complete success to bridge the English Channel. A vertical steel mast on either side of the water is the main feature of the apparatus. The condition of the atmosphere or the state of the intervening sea does not in any way effect the transmission of the messages. But there is one difficulty—the broadcasting of the telegrams. That has two results in practice: first, the signals could be read by any one employing apparatus to tap them; secondly, interference of systems would result. The latter objection is illustrated by the fact that when signals are being sent from the South Foreland to France, they affect the re-

ceiver on board the Goodwin lightship. Thus if the messages transmitted between two points are continuous, all intervening and neighbouring places are paralysed, and, of course, that trouble increases in proportion to the power of the system. It is calculated that a system powerful enough to send signals from England to America would interfere with the working of all similar systems in Europe. There seems, also, to be a mechanical limit to the usefulness of the invention. There must be direct atmospheric connexion between the two signalling stations. Thus, where seas intervene, the terminal steel masts must be high enough to correct the curvature of the earth's surface. It results that in order to telegraph from London to New York, the masts would have to be over a thousand miles high. Evidently, therefore, Marconi is still on the threshold only of his discovery.

ENGLAND AND THE TRANSVAAL.

Recent intelligence by mail had more or less prepared us for the telegraphic news which we publish this morning on the authority of *The Times*, namely, that Germany and Holland are bringing pressure to bear on President Kruger to induce him to yield to England's demands. The German Emperor's celebrated telegram is not easy to reconcile with the attitude now attributed to him. But the world long ago recognized that His Majesty's message of congratulation to the stout old Boer was not really prompted by the sinister motive attributed to its writer in the first moment of public excitement, and, besides, the relations between Germany and England are different now from what they were then. If Great Britain to-day considered it necessary to bring the Boers finally to a submissive mood, she could undertake the task without fear of being harrassed in the rear by either Germany, or France, or Russia. The Boers would doubtless make a brave fight, but they could not hope to hold their ground long, and Kruger must know very well that by a large number of Englishmen the prospect of wiping out the disgrace of Majuba Hill would be gladly welcomed. Holland's action in the matter is also gratifying; the more so in view of the fact that, on the eve of the meeting of President Kruger and Sir Alfred Milner, an attempt was made both in Vienna and in Amsterdam to prejudice the Dutch against England by declaring that, were the strength of the Boers broken, Great Britain would next proceed to appropriate the Netherlands colonies. Kruger will probably yield, unless he relies blindly on assistance from the Orange Free State and on his ample stock of breech-loaders. But that the Boers will have to be fought sooner or later can not be doubted, and the sooner the better in our opinion.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Nishi-nari Railway Company of Osaka has increased its capital from 350,000 yen to 3½ millions, and has decided to extend its line to Sakura-jima and to add 200 cars to its rolling stock. Apparently the Company is determined to forestall all competition.

It appears that Italy has decided to admit Japanese *habutaye* duty free. The fabric is not manufactured by her own

people, and she naturally thinks that instead of buying *habutaye* dyed in France, her better plan is to encourage its direct import by abolishing all duty. Such is the intelligence sent by the Japanese Consul at Lyons.

We learn from the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that the degree of Doctor of Letters (*Bungaku Hakushi*) has been conferred by the Imperial Japanese University on Dr. Carl Florenz, Professor of German Language and Literature and Comparative Philosophy in the Imperial University. This is the first instance, we believe, of a Japanese University degree being conferred on a foreigner.

The War Office, we learn, has now concluded the history of the China-Japan War, after a long interval of preparation. The narrative of military and naval events was finished some time ago, but the political story, including the interference of the Three Powers, involved additional labour. We trust that this work will be translated into English. There does not exist any really good account of the war in any foreign language.

Some months ago, the Emperor of China sent to the Emperor of Japan the Grand Cordon of the Dragon and Jewel. The dragon was in massive gold, set with 80 diamonds and with several magnificent pearls. The same decoration was sent to the Empress of Japan, there being no special Order for women in China. The Sovereign of this country has now sent to the Chinese Emperor the Grand Cordon of the Chrysanthemum, and to the Empress Dowager the Grand Cordon of the Crown (*Hökwan*).

It will be remembered that the Diet, last session, passed two laws presented by the Department of Communications, a Law of Shipping (*Sempaku-ho*) and a Law of Ship's Crews (*Senin-ho*). These laws contained clauses to the effect that the detailed regulations for their enforcement should be subsequently compiled by the Minister of Communications. That provision has now been complied with, and the regulations appeared in the *Official Gazette* of the 12th instant.

The Constitutionalists (Liberals) held a grand meeting in Kyoto on the 8th instant, by way of counter-demonstration to the meeting recently organized by the Progressists in the same city. Newspaper reports estimate the number of those attending as 3,500. There is nothing special to record about the affair. The principal resolution passed was that, Japan being now in a transition stage from the old to the new, the Party's policy must be positive. That, of course, amounts to denouncing the retrenchment policy of the Progressists.

The journalistic campaign against the peers continues. A very drastic course is recommended by the *Jimmin*, namely, that in every case a title should be reduced by one degree in the second generation and should lapse altogether in the third. Thus the son of a Marquis would be a Count, and the latter's son would be plain "Mr." That is a pretty radical suggestion. There is no idea, however, of suppressing titles altogether. Conspicuous public merit should still be rewarded with patents of nobility, but the patent would be held for two generations only.

Tokyo newspapers speak very enthusi-

astically about the action taken by British Columbia in refraining from imposing any veto on Japanese immigrants. The *Asahi* regards the act as an evidence of the spirit of justice by which the British nation is animated, and expresses an earnest wish that Japan's friends, the Americans, would be equally liberal. The *Yomiuri* goes farther. It sees in the incident a proof that its own long cherished hope of an Anglo-American-Japanese commercial alliance has entered the region of practical politics.

Several vernacular newspapers have alluded of late to the dimensions of next year's Budget, and all concur in alleging that it will show an increase of some 12 million *yen* as compared with the figures for the current year. The Departments of Home Affairs and of Education are said to be chiefly responsible for the increase, and it is added that, if their demands are complied with, the transfer of the prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury will have to be postponed. These assertions seem to us rather premature. Nothing can yet be predicted with any certainty about the form which the Budget will assume before it finally leaves the hands of the Minister of State for Finance.

Hitherto all writers commenting on the fact that Japan does not enjoy in foreign countries financial credit proportionate to her competence, have attributed her misfortune to the suicidal policy of political parties, which by wrangling about paltry increases of taxation and declaring the burden of the people to be intolerably heavy, have succeeded in creating an entirely false impression abroad. The *Nippon*, which is nothing if not original, insists that the fault does not lie with the people or with politicians, but must be laid at the door of the Government, which resorts freely to bribery and corruption, and thus brings the country into disrepute. That is an idea worthy of the *Nippon*.

An extraordinary story is published in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The principal figure in it is a Mr. Watanabe Takejima, who has been serving as a Japanese police constable in Chemulpo for many years. He is said to be quite familiar with the Korean language, and to have married a Korean wife. Two or three months ago, so the tale goes, the Emperor of Korea sent for him and asked him to assassinate a certain An, now residing in Japan, promising to give him a reward of 2,000 *yen* if he succeeded, and threatening to kill his wife if he declined. Watanabe is said to have scouted the proposition in a manner becoming a virtuous man. If he desires to maintain that character, he had better deny the *canard* at once.

There has been much vague talk lately about schemes of educational expansion entertained by the Authorities. The rumour is now assuming more definite outlines. It takes the form of "Count Kabayama's eight-year programme." The Minister of Education, we are told, has drafted a plan the principal features of which are that by the year 1907 the organization of the Tokyo and Kyoto Universities shall be completed, and two new universities shall be established, one in Kiushiu and one in the north-east. The exact locations of these new universities are not yet fixed, but it is believed that

they will be in Sendai and Kumamoto. Each of the four universities will be fed by three high schools, which means that the total number of high schools will be doubled: instead of being only six, as at present, it will be twelve.

The *Official Gazette* of the 12th instant contains a convention signed by their excellencies Viscount Aoki and Sir Ernest Satow, as representatives respectively of Japan and Great Britain, and dated May 3rd. It relates to cases which may happen to be *sub judice* in Her Majesty's Consular Courts in Japan at the time when, in consequence of the Revised Treaties going into operation, the jurisdiction of such Courts ceases. The Convention provides that all cases which have not been finally disposed of on the date of the Anglo-Japanese Revised Treaty's becoming operative, shall remain under British Consular Jurisdiction until they have been carried to a conclusion. This agreement is an obvious and necessary precaution.

The difficulty raised by the German Representative at the Peace Conference seems perfectly reasonable. The civilization of the world has not advanced sufficiently to permit the use of such machines as permanent tribunals of arbitration, and Germany's peculiar circumstances require her to be doubly cautious in pledging herself to any such arrangement. It is not difficult to imagine two countries which have so much in common as England and America agreeing to submit all their disputes hereafter to an arbitration tribunal. Yet if not even England and America could agree in that sense, is it not a little extravagant to propose anything of the kind for the agreement of all nations?

In the *Shogyo Shimpō* we find it stated that according to a telegram received in Tokyo, the Russian Railway Loan amounts to £2,975,000; the rate of interest is 4 per cent., and the issue price is £99. The prospectus was published on the 9th instant. That is considerably better than the price obtained by Japan—if Russian gets what she seeks—but it seems to us that the Japanese transaction was distinctly favourable when the facts are taken into account that no Oriental State had ever before entered the European market as a borrower on a large scale without security, and that Japan reserved to herself the right of redeeming the bonds in quantities determined solely by her own convenience during fifty years subsequent to 1908. She will be able, in short, to convert the debt should the market be adapted for such a transaction.

According to vernacular journals, the struggle between Number 89 of this Settlement and the Guild of Japanese Druggists is becoming sharper every day. A conference was recently held, but no plan of agreement could be devised, and the result was such as attends all failures of that kind, namely, increased bitterness on both sides. The Guild is said to have extended its field of operations to Nagoya and Osaka, and to have come to a determination to give short shrift to all weak-kneed elements. As for the Japanese supporters of the foreign firm, they are credited with the intention of buying up the moderates belonging to the Guild, employing for that purpose certain monies which they expect to receive from the

American Iodine Syndicate. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* predicts that the "blood-showering phase of the struggle" is not far distant, a form of speech which is, of course, to be taken figuratively.

A great deal of unnecessary interest has been excited about the loss of five thousand *yen* from the treasury of the Bank of Japan. The money had not emerged officially from the Issue Department when some nimble-fingered individual appropriated it to his own uses. There were five parcels, each consisting of a hundred 10-*yen* notes. The theft was suspected as long ago as April 28th, but could not be definitely asserted until May 4th, after a special examination had been made. Of course it was not immediately noised abroad, since that would have impaired the prospect of detection. Meanwhile, forty of the notes have come back to the Bank in the ordinary routine of business, and as they were in one case accompanied by the original wrapper, it became possible to determine that the theft had preceded the appointment of the present head of the Issue Department. The *Fiji Shimpō* actually devotes a leading article to it. But we do not see that there is any special cause for surprise or interest.

Apparently the Tokyo Tram Company and the Shinagawa Company are to be amalgamated. Such was the decision come to at a general meeting of the former Company held on the 10th inst. The financial arrangement is that the Tokyo Company pays a sum of ten thousand *yen* to the Shinagawa Company and also hands to the latter a thousand shares. To obtain these shares as well as funds for the above payment and also for the improvement and working capital of the new line, the Tokyo Company adds 4,000 shares to its stock, of which shares it gives 1,000 to the Shinagawa shareholders and sells three thousand to its own shareholders for 200,000 *yen*. We regret to have to record this arrangement, for the Tokyo tramways, as they are at present managed, must be called a public nuisance. Their directors seem to have no sense of responsibility to the citizens, and the officials of the Municipality appear to think that, when once a company has been allowed to lay trams, it has a right to convert the streets into quagmires if it be so minded.

DEATH OF CAPT. COFFIN, U.S.N.

A Naval veteran of the United States passed away, in the person of Capt. G. W. Coffin, on Thursday at his residence, No. 45-A Bluff. The deceased was last in command, in these waters, of the U.S.S. *Charleston*, but just at the out-break of the war with Spain was invalided home, owing to heart trouble. On reaching the States he was appointed to a post on the Pacific Coast, but the rapid progress of the disease compelled him to resign, and Capt. Coffin returned to Yokohama only to die. He had a distinguished career in the Navy, and there is no doubt he was heart-broken when he left it, and fretting gradually brought about his death. Mrs. Anderson, wife of the Surgeon-in-charge of the U.S. Naval Hospital, Yokohama, was a daughter of the deceased.

On Tuesday evening an entertainment was given by Messrs. Bowden Brothers, in honour of the visit to this country of Mr. Herbert Bowden, to a number of Japanese who have business connections with them, at the Sanomoro, Otamachi, Yokohama.

THE NEW TREATIES.

SEVERAL questions have been raised lately about the Revised Treaties. The first relates to the date of their operation. That date was originally intended to be July 17th, and was so entered in the British and other treaties. But owing to a misunderstanding, the negotiators of the French Treaty fixed on August 4th. An obviously embarrassing situation is thus created. It is scarcely possible to discriminate between French citizens and the subjects and citizens of other States in such a matter as the opening of the country. The police can not require a Frenchman to carry a passport while other nationals are allowed to dispense with any such instrument. Yet that differentiation would have to be made if the settlement system were abolished in the case of Occidentals generally on July 17th, but retained in the case of French citizens until August 4th. The easiest way out of the difficulty would be to postpone the operation of all the Revised Treaties until August 4th, and doubtless the Japanese Government would have adopted that course had option been possible. But in point of fact, there is no room for choice, inasmuch as the date for putting some of the new treaties into force is absolutely fixed. In the case of the United States' Treaty, for example, the XIXth Articles says:—"This Treaty shall go into operation on the 17th of July, 1899, and shall remain in force for the period of 12 years from that date." Under these circumstances the Government has decided that all the treaties shall go into force from July 17th with the exception of the French and the Austro-Hungarian, which will become operative from August 4th. An Imperial Ordinance in that sense was promulgated on the 15th instant in the *Official Gazette*. The arrangement is decidedly awkward, for the reasons stated above, but there is no alternative. The Austro-Hungarian Government's position is special. In a diplomatic note addressed by M. GOLUCHOWSKI to Mr. TAKAHIRA, the Japanese Representative in Vienna, the former expressly stipulated that, even after the 17th of July, should any Power retain the privilege of Consular Jurisdiction, the same privilege should be secured to Austria-Hungary. Mr. TAKAHIRA assented, on behalf of Japan, and apparently Austria-Hungary has been unwilling to modify the stipulation. It is evident that if Austro-Hungarian subjects or French citizens choose to travel or trade in the interior without passports after July 17th, there will be no feasible means to prevent their doing so, whereas if they commit any offence in the interior, it will be necessary to conduct them to the nearest open port for trial by their own Consular Authorities. There is very little probability of such incidents occurring in the short interval of 18 days be-

tween July 17th and August 4th, but it is unfortunate that this complication should mar the inauguration of the new system. We may add that, so far as the question of taxation is concerned, either date would have served equally well, for it is probable that the foreign residents will not be held liable to pay any taxes during the first half of the present fiscal year, namely, until October 1st.

Another question has to do with the registration of business carried on by foreigners. It has been suggested that as the law requires that the registration of a business shall precede its practical inauguration by a certain interval, and as registration can not be effected by foreigners until they have actually passed under Japanese jurisdiction, the merchants in the Settlements may find themselves obliged to put up their shutters during the time required for obtaining a duly recognised status according to Japanese law. There should not be any necessity for saying that no solid grounds for uneasiness exist on that score. The Japanese Government is understood to be fully alive to the situation, and to have arranged that due notice, accompanied by clear and sufficient instructions, shall be conveyed to the foreign communities by the local authorities so as to obviate all chance of inconvenience.

Passing from these general questions to special points, we observe that doubts are again expressed about foreigners practising as barristers or physicians. It is asserted, as to the former, that the services of a foreign legal adviser will not be available to foreign business men in their commercial disagreements. A somewhat false impression may be conveyed by that assertion. It is true that foreign barristers will not have a recognised status in Japanese law courts. They will not be entitled to appear there and plead. That restriction is not peculiar to Japan, of course: it exists also in Western countries. But the services of foreign legal advisers will be just as available as ever for purposes of chamber practice, and, although they can not themselves discharge the duties of counsel in court, they can be present in court to watch the interests of a client and to advise his counsel. Such an association as that already existing between an eminent English barrister of this Settlement and a well-known Japanese colleague will meet all the requirements of any case. As to physicians, it is altogether a mistake to allege that foreigners will not be allowed to practice. Arrangements have already been made for the recognition of foreign diplomas. Medical men who are actually exercising their profession at the time when the Treaties go into operation will experience no difficulty whatever, and those that come here subsequently, armed with proper cre-

dentials of competence, can at once obtain Japanese licenses.

COST OF JAPAN'S WAR WITH CHINA.

THE final accounts of the expenditure incurred by Japan on account of her war with China have now been published by the Treasury. They cover the period from June 1st, 1894, to March 31st, 1896, an interval of 22 months, though the actual fighting with China came to an end in April, 1895. Five military expeditions were conducted between June, 1894, and April, 1895; namely, first the expedition which drove the Chinese from Korea, and, marching through that country, crossed the Yalu and moved northward in the direction of Mukden; secondly, the expedition that struck westward from the Yalu and, reaching the Liao River, ultimately attacked Newchwang; thirdly, the expedition that crossed to the Liaotung peninsula and captured Talien and Port Arthur; fourthly, the expedition that marched up the Liaotung peninsula, and finally formed a junction with the Manchurian army (second expedition) at Newchwang; and fifthly, the expedition which sailed from Port Arthur to Shantung and captured Wei-hai-wei. While these various military operations were in progress, the ships of the Navy were constantly at sea, convoying transports, watching the enemies' fleet, fighting at the Yalu and at Wei-hai-wei, and blockading ports. After the conclusion of peace with China the subjugation of Formosa had to be undertaken, and for that reason, as well as for convenience of account, the financial statement is made to extend to the end of the 28th fiscal year, or March 31st, 1896. When the war commenced, the Government had recourse, first to the Second Reserve Fund; then to the accumulations of surplus revenue; then to domestic loans, and ultimately to the Chinese Indemnity. The total expenditures incurred in connexion with the military operations were 164,520,371 *yen*, and those in connexion with naval operations, 35,935,137 *yen*, making an aggregate of 200,475,508 *yen*.

With regard to revenue, the sources were these:—

	Yen.
Take from accumulations of surplus revenue	23,439,086
Voluntary Contributions ..	2,949,546
Domestic Loans	116,804,926
Interest Income	1,510,305
Revenue from occupied territory.....	624,445
Revenue from Formosa and the Pescadores	935,679
Taken from the Indemnity	78,957,165
Total	225,230,127

It thus appears that the revenue raised exceeded the actual expenditure by 24,754,619 *yen*, which sum was returned to the Treasury and drafted into the ordinary Budgets.

The various items of Military expenditure were these:—

	Yen.
Salaries and Allowances.....	15,393,744
Provisions	24,875,825
Clothing	20,836,651
Arms and Ammunition	11,213,766
Horses	7,782,896
Outlays on account of sick and wounded	1,445,021
Camp Equipage	866,166
Various purchases	3,963,587
Posts and Telegraphs.....	553,304
Transport	33,953,108
Travelling Expenses	3,194,086
Wages of hired men	18,384,435
Fortifications	5,632,382
Sundry Expenditures	2,058,508
Secret service	369,283
Chartering steamers	3,697,866
Cost of civil administration in occupied districts	200,244
Submarine cable from Osumi to Formosa.....	1,247,769
Light-houses and buoys in Formosa...	128,983
Religious service for the dead	10,000
Expenses of Formosan Government.	2,420,045
Rewards	6,226,490
Medals	61,377
Military water-works at Hiroshima...	10,820
Formosan railways and harbours (surveys)	7,925
Total	164,520,371

The Naval outlays were:—

	Yen.
Salaries and Allowances	1,694,865
Provisions	1,179,302
Clothing	461,237
Necessary articles for war-vessels ..	4,176,712
Arms, ammunition, and torpedoes ...	10,079,751
Expenditures of ships	12,825,830
Hospital Expenses	46,153
Expenses on account of prisoners ...	138
Office Expenses	228,243
Travelling Expenses	256,049
Miscellaneous Salaries	310,881
Transport	1,282,913
Repairs	806,134
Sundries	21,275
Secret Service	106,880
Special Supplies	233,995
Armament construction	1,260,749
Surveys of coasts (for light-houses) ...	12,009
Rewards	955,704
Medals	16,104
Compilation of Records.....	213
Total	35,955,137

It is worthy of special note that the total outlay in both services on account of arms and ammunition was only 21½ million yen, or a little over 2 millions pounds sterling. Thus the actual business of fighting involved only 10 per cent. of the total outlay on account of the war. This figure shows, at all events, that the Japanese forces did not waste ammunition. On rewards, too, the expenditure was very small—only 7,182,194 yen, or about seven hundred thousand pounds sterling.

Naturally the Japanese Government endeavoured to avoid hard-money payments as much as possible, and to use only paper and copper. How far it succeeded the following table shows:—

	Yen.
Payments in paper and copper coins	183,981,744
Payments in 1 yen silver pieces	11,051,481
Payments in silver subsidiary coins...	2,611,028
Payments in silver ingots	300,000
Payments in Mexican dollars	850,000
Payments in sycee	1,099,293
Payments in military cheques	104

On the whole, the specie reserves of the Treasury were reduced by only 3,600,000 yen, approximately. In Korea payments were greatly facilitated by the fact that Japanese bank notes and coins were freely current there before the war. But as the troops penetrated into the remote districts of the peninsula, some difficulty was experienced, and an arrangement was

made with the Soul Government for the issue of notes redeemable in the copper cash of the country. It does not appear, however, that the plan was actually put into practice. With regard to the Liaotung Peninsula, the authorities made provision of Mexican dollars and sycee, as well as of ingots such as are employed by the people of that region; but it was found that, as the troops advanced, Japanese notes and coins were received by the people without hesitation, and that the Japanese one *rin* pieces circulated at par with Chinese cash. In Formosa and the Pescadores the people at first showed great dislike of paper money, and, if they received silver coins, melted them down at once. The Japanese authorities were soon able to correct that tendency. As for the military cheques mentioned in the table, they were intended for temporary use, with the idea of avoiding any inflation of the volume of convertible notes. Their denominations were in taels and mace, but no occasion for their employment on any considerable scale presented itself.

The story of the domestic loans floated for the purposes of the war presents some interesting features. The first loan, issued in August, 1894, was fixed at 30 million yen, a sum such as never before had been demanded from the people. Considerable anxiety was felt about the result, but the Government decided not to give a higher rate of interest than 5 per cent., or to take less for the bonds than their face value. The result exceeded the most sanguine expectations. The subscribers numbered 119,015 and their subscriptions aggregated 77 million yen, or more than double the amount required. The highest offer was 142.44 yen for a 100-yen bond, and the average price obtained was 100.561 yen. The second loan of 50 million yen followed the first by an interval of only three months, and the Minister of Finance deemed it advisable to offer the bonds at 95 yen, while keeping the rate of interest at 5 per cent. This call evoked a response from 173,051 subscribers, representing a total of over 90 million yen. The highest price offered was 120 yen, and the average for the 50 millions was 95.632 yen. Not until March, 1896, was the third instalment of 35 million yen issued. Twenty-five millions of it were taken up at par by the Finance Department, the funds used for the purpose being the deposits of the official savings banks; and the remaining 10 millions, being placed on the open market at par, were subscribed for at an average of 100.122 yen, the highest price offered being 103 yen. In addition to the above, bonds to the aggregate face value of 4,047,500 yen were issued as rewards.

So far as direct outlays were concerned, Japan obtained from her vanquished adversary 100 million yen more than she had spent. But, of course, her indirect losses aggregated a much larger sum than her actual expenditures.

THE STATUS OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION IN JAPAN.

CHRISTIANITY has hitherto received no official recognition of any kind in Japan, nor has it been subjected to any official supervision. It has been left severely alone. Such is not the case with Buddhism. Although not in any sense the State religion in Japan, Buddhism has a certain connexion with officialdom. It comes under the operation of a system called *Kancho Seido*. The same is true of *Shinto*. *Kancho* means the chief prelate of a sect, and *Kancho Seido* may perhaps be translated "episcopal system." The powers of a *Kancho* are considerable. He is competent to appoint and remove the incumbents of all temples or shrines belonging to the sect over which he presides, and to promote or reduce the ministers. Every *Kancho* ranks as a *Chokunin*, and is entitled to address the Minister of Home Affairs direct. He also supervises affairs relating to the religious property of the Sect, and in doing so is required to follow certain regulations which were promulgated in 1884. He is elected by the sect in accordance with its own methods, but his appointment has to receive the recognition of the Minister of State for Home Affairs. It is not essential, of course, that every sect should have a *Kancho* of its own. Several sects may combine to place themselves under the same *Kancho*. But it is necessary that no sect should be entirely beyond the pale of such a prelate's authority. We must explain, however, that in using the term "necessary" we do not mean to imply that the law invests the Minister of Home Affairs with authority to compel a sect to nominate a *Kancho*. The law, indeed—which exists in the form of a notification of the *Dajō-kwan* (former name for the Cabinet)—merely lays down certain principles which, not being accompanied by punitive provisions, have no force greater than that of exhortations. For example, sects are told that they ought not to split up lightly into factions, or to engage in disputes with each other; but the only penalty that the Home Department can impose for violations of these rules seems to be the withdrawal of its official recognition from the *Kancho*. In the same way—not mandatory but advisory—the *Kancho* is required to report certain things for the approval of the Minister of Home Affairs. Thus, in the case of a *Shinto* division, reports are asked for with regard to rules of religion, status, and appellations of Ministers, and their promotion or reduction; while in the case of a Buddhist sect, the reports are to deal with the organization of the sect, the temple rules, matters relating to the status, nomenclature, and appointment of prelates, and priests, as well as the system of preserving old documents, temple treasures, and sacred utensils. These reports are

addressed to the Bureau of Temples and Shrines (*Shaji-kyoku*) in the Home Department, and it appears that the Bureau is prepared to render its assistance in settling any disputes, or adjudicating any questions, that may be submitted to it. Evidently the system is intended to establish between the Administration and Religion a relation just sufficient to open a practical route for the exercise of the former's order-preserving and morality-guarding duty. Now the question is, shall Christianity be brought under the same system from the 17th of July? Evidently if it be necessary to apply such a system to Buddhism and *Shintō* in the interests of public peace, order, and morality, there is no reason why Christianity should be exempt. On the other hand, if Christianity be brought within the purview of the *Dajō-kwan* notification of 1884, it is definitely placed on the same footing as Buddhism and *Shintō vis-à-vis* the State. There are still many Japanese to whom such a proceeding would be very unwelcome. Nor can we wonder at it. The reception that public opinion in England would give to any such proposition—*mutatis mutandis*—is not difficult to deceive. Moreover, the question happens to be complicated, just at present, by the attitude of the new political party (*Kōken-tō*) towards religion. They are undoubtedly making the State recognition of Buddhism a principal plank in their platform, and they have enlisted the strong coöperation of the Hongwan-ji priests, who are distinctly a power in the nation. We do not detect the least shadow of probability that the Government will yield to such a demand, but to extend the *Kancho* system to Christianity would be a direct slap in the face to the new Party. Still the Government does not appear to have any feasible alternative. It is absurd to ignore Christianity any longer. It has won for itself a place which can not be overlooked. Of course it is possible to abolish all official contact with religion, and to leave the professors of every creed to manage their own affairs without administrative supervision of any kind. But that plan has obvious disadvantages. The Government is said to have decided that the *Kancho Seido* should be extended to Christianity after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction—a wise decision, we venture to think.

MR. ARTHUR DIOSY AT YOKOHAMA.

AN ADDRESS TO BUSINESS MEN.

On Sunday evening the Business Men's Association of Yokohama—which comprises such representatives as Messrs. Ippei Wakao, H. Bekky, Otani Kabei, Hayashi Tamio, K. Kimura, N. Tanabe, etc.—entertained Mr. Arthur Diosy at the Chitose-ro, Sumiyoshicho. Among others present were Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, H.B.M. Consul at Yokohama; Mr. Asada, Governor of Kanagawa Ken; and Mr. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama. The company numbered about 80. In a brief speech, Mr. Otani Kabei,

President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, welcomed Mr. Diosy in Japan, making graceful allusion to the guest's interest in things and people Japanese in the years gone by, and expressing the pleasure it gave Mr. Diosy's many Japanese friends to welcome their friend and entertainer in their own land. All present would welcome a few words from the lips of a man for whom they entertained such high esteem.

Mr. Diosy rose immediately to reply. He asked pardon for speaking in English instead of the Japanese tongue, and briefly explained his reason for doing so. Of late he had become very diffident about speaking in public in Japan owing to the distorted reports that were afterwards circulated by the vernacular press. Words were put into his mouth that he had never uttered; in many cases the reported words were the exact opposite of what had come out of his mouth and, to make matters worse, these reports were sometimes translated for the foreign press by very indifferent students of English, and the foreign editor, in order to add interest to the remarks, embellished them with improvements that owed everything to the imagination. Mr. Diosy then gave an illustration of the perversion of a recent speech. He spoke at a meeting of the Seiji Gakko in Tokyo, and took occasion to remark that the qualities that go to make a statesman were not necessarily of a brilliant order. Indeed, the qualities that would enable a Japanese to manage the Tokyo Tramway Company successfully were just such qualities as would cause a Government Department to be managed successfully. Those were the simple words he used. But much to his astonishment he found that when the speech had been translated into a foreign newspaper published in Yokohama, he was said to have advised that the tram car drivers and conductors were the proper persons to be placed in charge of the Government Departments of Japan! Could anything be more incorrect or absurd? He was therefore glad to see present that evening some of his fellow countrymen, because they could afterwards bear witness to what he really said. And now, continued Mr. Diosy, I will pass on to the subject proper of my speech, and will, with all deference, offer you a few remarks upon a matter that has great interest for all here: the subject that has been under discussion so much of late by all having any interest in, or residing in Japan—I mean the subject of the new state of things which will begin next month. At least, the new order of things is expected to take place next month, though no one really seems to know when it really does begin; some saying next month, some a week or so later: at any rate, my subject is solely the state of things in Japan after the new treaties between Japan and the rest of the world come into operation. Now, to begin with, I hope you will pardon me when I say that I think that all of you, all who have discussed the matter in print or in debate, or in conversation, have given almost too much prominence to the subject. I mean to say, that the visitor coming to your land from afar is given the impression, after being here a few days, that both the Japanese and the foreigner seem to expect that on the 17th of July, or the 4th of August—whichever may be the correct date—there will be a tremendous earthquake, a great disturbance, that will turn things topsy-turvy; that, in fact, there will be an extraordinary convulsion of nature to mark the beginning of a new order of things. You will pardon my saying, after my short life in Japan, but my longer acquaintance with Japanese life, that nothing of the sort will happen. In fact, unless you are stopped in the street by a friend who has, perhaps, just read a leading article based on the event that officially comes off on that particular day, you will not, many of you, be aware that the new treaties have come into operation. I believe that the new order of things will be inaugurated with smoothness and that there will be little unpleasantness, if any; assuredly no millennium will have been begun. I think, and so do many others, that you need expect no trouble, no serious unpleasantness to be the outcome of the new state of things that begins this summer.

Now I think, if you will reflect a little, that the fears of ourselves, as foreigners, and the fears of yourselves, as Japanese, regarding these matters, are very much exaggerated; and that those fears are not exactly a credit to you or a credit to the Occidentals. It is now well on to 40 years since the foreigners came to this port—Nippon no Genkan—the entrance door to Japan. You have been in daily intercourse with foreigners from all parts of the world, and surely by now you ought to know something about them. You ought not to consider them as strange creatures, intercourse with whom must be surrounded by all sorts of precautions and safeguards. And with regard to the Occidentals, the fears that they have expressed respecting you have produced in Europe an impression that they are entirely lacking in courage and ability, an impression, in fact, that is very far from being in accordance with the facts. Europe has said, what a pitiful sight to this, a few companies of our fellow-country men are going about in fear of the terrors of passing under Japanese law; they are affrighted at the condition of the prisons, as if they expected to spend the rest of their lives there. I think you will agree with me, then, that the fears of the Occidentals are not more dignified than the fears expressed by yourselves are reasonable at the prospect of closer connection with the foreigner. I put it to you, is the foreigner so terrible a creature as your public opinion makes him out to be? Day after day I rise from reading leading articles in your newspapers dealing with the closer relations soon to be set up between Japan and the Occident, with the idea that, so far as the writers are concerned, not more than five foreigners could ever have visited Japan during the course of the last century or so. No account seems to have been taken of the hundreds of globe-trotters who have annually passed through the Empire of Dai Nippon; one would never think, to read your papers, that thousands of Europeans and Americans have been living in your midst since the treaty ports were first opened, helping to develop the resources of your country or engaged in teaching you how to best apply the discoveries and the appliances of Western learning. And what I have just stated is not confined to leading articles and essays, it is reflected in the conversation and behaviour of your people. It is now well over 30 years that the foreigners first came to Japan. Yet to-day in Tokyo, if a European or American, more especially an Occidental lady, goes through the streets and enters a shop, within a few seconds that shop is surrounded by so large a crowd of curious observers that the Occidental when he or she comes to quit the premises to gain the street, cannot obtain egress without the use of gentle force to push the people aside. Try to use a little of the most valuable commodity in the world—common-sense—and this advice I give you in all sincerity—when dealing with foreigners, and remember that they are fellow mortals like yourselves. A little common sense will teach you all that there is absolutely no reason on your part to treat us with suspicion, to regard us as some terrible kind of creature, intercourse with which must be regulated by all sorts of protective measures. If you want to further the best interests of Yokohama, if you want to further the interests of the country you all love so well—Dai Nippon—you will bear in mind the advice I now offer you: that it is absolutely necessary to treat the foreigner residing in your country just as you would the Japanese. Oh, I hear you exclaim, that is precisely what we have been agitating for, striving for, bawling for, these last 30 years. For 30 years we have striven to bring the foreigners under Japanese law. That is all very well, I reply. But what I mean is more than that; you must treat them as Japanese in other respects: you must behave towards the foreigner as you would towards another Japanese. I do not say that you are aware that you are not behaving towards him as well as you would towards a Japanese. You don't behave well towards each other in business, sometimes, and the foreigner also in this respect must take his chance. But this I want you to understand and believe, the foreigner

merchant comes to Japan to trade honestly and to obey your country's laws, and if you treat him as you would one another he can have no just cause for complaint. In order to treat the foreigner fairly you must deal with him in amity and all honesty. You must learn to know and understand him properly; you must try and discern the good from the bad and judge accordingly. But this is what the Japanese public seems quite unable to do. I have often been astonished in London to hear a Japanese friend exclaim, after passing through Western lands, "how nice Occidentals are, what good qualities they have, and how different the Western man is in his own lands to the Western man to be seen in my own country." Gentlemen, therein you as Japanese are in error. And that error arises in this way, that you do not judge of Westerners in Japan by the proper specimens. You select the worst samples in the lot, if I may use the simile, and then you judge us by those. I beg of you, when you try to form an idea for yourselves of what the character of the Western man is like—I beg of you to think of some European, or American, or Australian, whom you may know in this city of Yokohama, who leads an honest, pure, and upright life: earns his living as a trader, or perhaps as a professional man, or perchance is connected with some body of high-thinking men who come to this land to endeavour to convert you to the particular faith to which he has devoted his life and whose ideals he follows to the best of his powers and ability—at all events, think of that Western man of good life, upright in his behaviour, just in his dealings, courteous in his bearing towards you at all times of social or business intercourse—then you will be able to form an idea of the Westerner's character that will be more in accord with truth. Take my advice and think of the Western men of your acquaintance who are courteous, amiable, and just; that is the only true way for you to judge us. I will not say that we Westerners are perfect, far be it from me any such boast. Human nature is human nature whether we seek it in Western or Eastern lands, but by following the line I have indicated, you will be getting nearer the character of the true Occidental than you have done up to the present. Of course there are bad amongst us I am sorry to say there are some men whose conduct and behaviour make us blush, the drunken, foul-mouthed, swaggering ruffian who cumber the Buuds and wards of the Treaty Ports. But believe me such men would not be tolerated in any decent American or European society: therefore, I say, it is unjust for you, as Japanese, to regard them as a type and judge us all by such a sample. Time after time since I have been in Japan I have heard it said, "But you foreigners are so *yakamashi*." True, there are some of us that are *yakamashi*, but they do not comprise all the community. The other day I was at the Post Office in Yokohama, posting some registered letters. At the same time there came up a man, a well-dressed individual, who, judging from his accent, was a Britisher—a Scotman, in fact—who wished to send to Holland certain postal parcels. He filled out the form and handed it in to the clerk, and was then informed, very courteously and politely, that he must fill in a duplicate, the parcels being for Holland. Thereupon this creature—I am sorry I cannot call him a man—opened his mouth and let out a torrent of filthy swear-words, using expressions that would have disgraced a barge on our rivers at home, or a stevedore, or dock-labourer of the lowest class. I turned to the man and said quietly, "Do you know, sir, that in London you would have been asked to fill in a duplicate form?" "No, I wouldn't," was the reply. "Oh, yes you would, for I know, having sent many postal parcels to Holland; while for some Continental places three forms would have been necessary. Besides, you ought to know that the language you have been using would not have been tolerated in a British Post Office. Had you used it at home a policeman would promptly have placed his hand on your collar and another

at the seat of your trousers and run you out." Indeed, I felt sorely tempted to play the part of the policeman myself. Now, that is the sort of person that gives foreigners a bad name in Japan. For goodness sake don't judge us by such creatures. We would soon be associated with them; we don't own them. Look, I beg you, to the better men amongst us; look at the honest, good, upright, charitable, polite—the real sample of the real foreigner I have spoken of. And in conclusion, if you would have the foreigner treat you as an equal—I don't mean in matters of law, because under the new treaties, as is only right, proper, and natural, you will all, Japanese and foreigners, be equal before the law—if you would have him drop that air of superiority towards you—which must have been very distressing to such a proud, patriotic, and high-spirited nation as the Japanese—if you want the haughty manner of the Westerner to cease, then you must make him respect you. Many foreigners love your nation; many foreigners love your country, not only those in lands afar, but the great majority of those living in your midst love it. Yes, many of those men who write such bitter letters about you and your country to the newspapers in their home lands, would be loth to leave Japan. While on my voyage to Japan, I made the acquaintance of a well known foreign merchant of Kobe. He told many terrible stories of Japan and against the Japanese. I was rather astonished at some of them and at last began to wonder whether I dare venture to land in this terrible country. At last I said to him, "Well, if all those stories are true, you must be making a good deal of money to make it worth your while to stay among such a terrible people." "What," was his reply, "make money, why I am nearly ruined: business in Kobe is going to pieces." Now, gentlemen, such talk cannot always be taken seriously. The persons who indulge in it are doubtless most excellent people, but they have developed a habit of grumbling. Perhaps it is the hot weather; perhaps the mosquito bite and annoy past all endurance; perhaps the house is draughty, or *habutaye* is not selling at a suitable price—yet, despite this grumbling, these foreigners do love Japan. But, though you have earned their love, you have not gained their respect. And why? you ask. And how can you gain the foreigner's respect? All you have got to do is to be honest, open, straightforward in your dealings with him. I said this in the Kansai the other day, and I repeat it—it is excellent, sound advice. You say, Oh, but it is very difficult to follow. It is not difficult at all. Remember, all I have said is—try and deal justly and in an open way with the foreigner; try to remember that the *ijinsan* is not a *baka*: he is not a fool. When the little boys of Tokyo run after my *jinrikisha* and call out "*Ijin baka*"; "*Ijin neto baka*," I take off my hat to them and salute their teachers. For those little boys are merely giving expression to an idea that I find widely prevalent in Japan—that the foreign man is a fool. With all due deference to you, gentlemen, I say he is not a fool. Very far from it. Hot-tempered under provocation he may be, but a fool, no. Really, gentlemen, who were the people who invented the telegraph that enables you to send your messages to the uttermost parts of the earth in the course of an hour or so—the *ijinsan*; who invented the telephone into which you are calling *moshi, moshi*, all day long—the *ijinsan*; who laid down your first railway system, allowing of easier communication for yourselves and the expansion of your trade—the *ijinsan*; who built the first of those huge steamships that allow you to send your productions to lands afar—the *ijinsan*; who developed those appliances, thought out those systems of finance and commercial methods which you are so manfully attempting to adopt in order to fully develop the resources of your country—the *ijinsan*? And yet, though you know this fully well, you really treat us as if we were fools. Day after day, you prepare little traps to catch us, sometimes traps in business, sometimes traps in diplomacy, and yet

they are so clumsily made that only a born idiot would be caught by them: and as you know the *ijinsan* is not caught by them. These things have earned for you a bad reputation. I know that sometimes these traps have been prepared in a most frivolous spirit, but that does not make the case any the better. You think that if they fail they can be of no importance. That is the Japanese feeling in the matter. But, believe me, the foreigner thinks very differently. If a trap of this sort fails, the Japanese laughs and says—*shikata-ga-nai* (what does it matter; it is of no importance). Not so the foreigner, he has quite other feelings. He gets angry. He says, these people have been trying to make a fool of me. He therefore gives a bad report concerning the Japanese, for he cannot respect them. Gentlemen, we foreigners cannot respect you, unless you give up these practices and deal with us fair and above board. And what is the conclusion I am driving at? Look at the Chinaman. The Chinaman in his silks and queue is not unknown in the coming-houses of London. He comes to us and is received with pleasure. London is ready to welcome him as a customer. China wants a loan—dying, rotten, paralyzed China; she wants a loan, and we have to set 5 or 6 policemen outside the Bank to keep order among the crowd of people who come tumbling over each other to offer their surplus capital to your neighbour. Now Japan wanted a loan: and what happened? You all know, your newspapers have told you the result, and you all know what you are thinking about it. Every mother's son of you, after he got home the other night, must have pondered over the news from London as he sat over the tobacco-box. He said *Nase, nase*; and pondered the matter, I hope. And before long you will be able to answer your own question—*nase*? Gentlemen, China knows that honesty is the best policy: it is the most valuable commodity you can have in dealing man with man. China is known to be honest; merchants have long known that they can believe and trust a Chinaman in business. Believe me, the Chinaman has not learnt to love honesty because it is a virtue; he has learnt to pursue honesty because it pays. In my country, I say, a Chinaman is trusted; in my country China is trusted. I am sorry to say that the financiers of my country do not believe in you. There are a great many lovers of Japan in England; a great many lovers of her land, her art, her history; the 945 members of the Japan Society love her—but the great majority of the financiers of England and of Europe do not trust her. They do not respect your character. Gentlemen, I think the failure of this loan is a wind that will blow you good—that it will turn out a godsend to you. You will, when thinking out the causes of the failure, eventually get upon the right track. And once on that track you will make those one or two necessary reforms that will lead you to the great change which will earn you the respect and confidence of the world. When you have learnt to discover the good character of the men who love you, learnt to know that you have no better friends than the foreigners who are living and striving to earn honest livelihoods and lead upright lives among you—then you will not be far from the time which shall herald in such a prosperity that Yokohama has never seen before. I pray that that time may come soon, and in that spirit cry—Yokohama *Bansai*.

The speaker resumed his seat amid loud plaudits. During dinner various dances, jugglery exhibitions, etc., took place, and afterwards Mr. H. A. C. Bonar proposed the Emperor's health; Governor Asada toasted Her Britannic Majesty the Queen-Emperor; Mr. Otani proposed the health of the guest of the evening; and Mr. Umeda the health of Mr. Bonar. All were cordially received, the company not breaking up till a late hour.

Tokyo has a dramatic treat in store, Miss Janet Waldorf having arranged to play on Monday and Tuesday evenings at the Metropolis Hotel. The company will have the patronage of the U. S. Minister.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

ENTERTAINED BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS.

On Monday evening a banquet was given at the Imperial Hotel by the Committee of Japanese merchants who have been engaged in investigating the preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties. Mr. Shibusawa, of Tokyo, presided, and Mr. Otani occupied the vice chair. The table was arranged as follows:—

Messrs.	Messrs.
Umeda (Mayor of Yokohama)	Iiagawa
C. Bianchi	Nakasawa
J. P. Morrison	Okura
E. Knapp	Nakano
James Dodds	Mitsuhashi (Foreign Office)
Capt. Bougonin	Asada (Governor of Kanagawa)
W. F. Mitchell	Viscount Aoki
H. Abegg	Count Kabayama
Otani Kahei	Shibusawa
R. D. Robinson	Count Matsukata
H. J. Holm	Baron Senke (Governor of Tokyo)
James Walter	Mitsugami (Customs)
J. Budd	Watanabe
Wint Kilby	Kinawa
G. W. Middleton	Azai
A. Woolley	Tanaka
Masuda	Okada

The room was decorated after the manner of a Japanese garden, with lanterns showing among the trees; the whole effect being extremely pretty. The various speeches were translated by Mr. Okada Takakuma, M.A., Secretary of the Yokohama Japanese Chamber of Commerce.

MR. SHIBUSAWA EICHI proposed the health of the foreign guests and of the Ministers in the following speech:—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN.—On behalf of the members of the Tokyo and Yokohama Chambers of Commerce and others, I beg to express my sincere thanks for the honour conferred upon us by your presence this evening. I know your committee was formed with the object of studying the Revised Treaties, which is no doubt a very important subject to be taken up. As our trade relations are growing more and more, so the intercourse with you must become closer and firmer. Let us meet together very often to exchange our views and to promote our interests, and there will be no misunderstanding among us. Japan has made rather sudden changes in the last forty years. Not long ago, some went so far as to advocate an exclusive policy, and I am ashamed to confess that I had myself such a narrow idea at that time. It seems to me just like a dream to sit down myself with you here this evening. Your excellencies and gentlemen, your patience and perseverance have lasted long, and at last we have arrived at the day of realization. I am assured of your friendly co-operation which will lead to the satisfactory operation of the New Treaties. I propose now to drink to the prosperity of the International Committee and of Ministers of State.

MR. R. D. ROBINSON, in the course of his reply on behalf of the International Committee, expressed thanks for the cordial manner in which the toast had been received, and proceeded:—

I hear often of the lack of sociability between the Japanese and Foreign Residents. I think one of the chief causes of this lack of sociability is the difficulty that foreigners have to acquire a proper knowledge of the Japanese language. In the first place, there is no doubt about it—it is a difficult language to acquire. In my country the first thing to learn is one's letters—our A. B. C. There are only 26 of them, and that is not a very serious job. But here the very fewest one has to master is 2,500 to 3,000, and that seems to me appalling, even though I had all my time to devote to a study of the language. Now we foreign residents are mostly merchants—come out here to acquire a fortune or a living by commerce, and we find that the competition now-a-days requires very close attention to one's work, and that there is very little time to devote to study. Then after work one needs relaxation, amusement, exercise, and there is where Japan seduces us from the path of duty. The country is so beautiful, and the climate so good that riding and walking, swimming, rowing, or sailing are all very delightful relaxations easy to be had, and we fall before the

temptation and neglect the serious work of learning the language. Well, all this is only an excuse, and to excuse is tantamount to accuse, so I think we have to acknowledge that there is fault on our side in this direction, and I should like to promise that we will all amend our ways. If I can't do that, I can at any rate give a recommendation—and a very strong recommendation—to all young men, coming out to Japan with the object of making a career, to sacrifice themselves during the first years of their stay here—in devote an hour or so every day to the study of the language, without which even their commercial career must suffer, and without which it is impossible to cultivate the social relations that ought to exist with the hospitable people of this country. I have much pleasure in submitting the healths of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

MR. OTANI KAHEI, in reply, said:—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN.—In business, as in morals, we must do unto others as we would have them do unto us. The commercial policy of reciprocity, the policy of give and take, is the only policy possible for a nation which desires to trade with other nations on a large scale. We can not and do not approve of building a commercial Chinese wall in our country. We welcome you as friends and fellowmen whose welfare is so closely interwoven with our own prosperity. Therefore we welcome you, not in a spirit of narrow selfishness but of generous reciprocity. You have the same interests and the same aspirations as ourselves. Let us work together in this spirit, and our mutual confidence will become the link of union among our nations; and the enlarged commercial relations will knit more firmly the friendship that has always existed between your countries and our own. We tender this evening a cordial and heart-felt welcome to you.

VISCOUNT AOI also spoke.

NEW DOCKS AT URAGA.

Uraga, historically famous from its association with Commodore Perry, promises to acquire further celebrity on more substantial grounds. Hitherto the little port has been frequented only by big junks and Japanese schooners, and has never been a place of any prominence or importance, but there are signs that a larger future is before it. Two Dock Companies have established themselves in the neighbourhood, and one of them—the Ishikawajima Dock Company—has brought its enterprise to completion. The opening day was fixed for Sunday, and fully six hundred persons from Tokyo and Yokohama, including members of naval and official circles, business men, and prominent European residents of the Treaty Ports, visited the dock, being conveyed from Yokohama by the N.Y.K.'s steamer *Kobe Maru* (Captain R. Swain).

The steamer left the Hatoba at 10.30, and under the skilful pilotage of the Captain was soon steaming down the Bay, showing the qualities of speed and steadiness which have made it and its sister ships such great favourites with the travelling public. Ample as is the accommodation provided by the spacious promenade deck, which runs almost from end to end of the steamer, it was fully taxed by the great number of passengers, and the saloon, smoke room, cabins, and corridors were all packed with visitors in every conceivable style of Japanese and foreign dress, from the frock coat and tall hat as colourless and respectable as the City could show to the *kimono* and *sori* pure and simple, with all possible and impossible variations between the two extremes. For about an hour and a half the company were thrown on their own resources, which generally meant tea-drinking, conversation, smoking, and a lazy survey of the pleasing panorama—a symphony in blue and green—of earth, air, and sea. Just before noon the steamer slowed down, and commenced her soundings preparatory to anchoring at Uraga. Numerous launches had been provided, and the disembarkation was quickly accomplished.

Arrived on shore, the visitors soon found that Uraga was, for so quiet a place, quite in a state of bustle. Daylight fireworks were going off with a most imposing amount of noise; flags were flying from every available spot; and a triumphal arch had been erected. The steamer *Fulami Maru*, one

of the N. Y. K.'s Australian mail boats, and a beautifully fitted specimen of the floating mansion, was in dry dock, and was a wonderful source of interest to some of the more bucolic visitors who had come from the surrounding villages. Two 700 ton steam barges, which are being built to the order of the Osaka Harbour Works Commissioners, were also subjects of considerable attention. The hulls are fairly far advanced, and are already beginning to look ship-shape. The workshops, fitted in approved modern style, were also open to inspection, and some of the residences destined for the use of officials were utilised as waiting and reception rooms. The length of the dock is 451 feet, its breadth 50 feet, and its depth 33 feet. It will take vessels up to 3,500 tons, but is not of sufficient dimensions for the large European and American mail steamers entering Yokohama. The work of excavating the dock was commenced in 1896, and finished in November 1898.

A platform had been erected under an awning, and from this speeches were delivered in Japanese by Mr. Shibusawa, Chairman of the Company; the Vice-Minister of the Navy, representing the Minister; the President of the Marine Bureau, Mr. Yamagata, representing the Minister of Communications; Mr. Kinchi, President of the Industrial and Commercial Bureau, representing the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. T. Senke, representing the Governor of Tokyo; Governor Asada, of Kanagawa Kencho; and Mr. Gihei Usui, member of the House of Peers, representing the people of Uraga. At the close of the speeches Mr. Iwaya called for a "*Banrai*" for the new enterprise, which was lustily given.

A tiffin in foreign style followed, and the rest of the afternoon was spent in visiting the *Fulami Maru*, watching various dances and theatrical exhibitions, and social intercourse. The return journey was commenced at four, and after a very pleasant trip back the *Kobe Maru* drew alongside the Pier just before six o'clock.

The Uraga Dock Company's dock at Uraga is in a very advanced stage of construction, and will probably be completed by the end of October. It is a very big undertaking, as will be seen from the following statement of its dimensions:—Extreme length (from the entrance to head) 500 ft.; length on keel blocks 454 ft.; breadth at entrance, top 70 ft., bottom 60 feet; depth over all at ordinary spring tide 24 feet; depth over all at highest spring tide 27 feet; rise of tide 6.8 feet; height of blocks 4.5 feet; time of filling 1 hour; time of pumping dry 2½ hours. The dock lies south east and north west.

MISS JANET WALDORF.

A very slim house gathered at the Public Hall on Tuesday evening, when Miss Janet Waldorf opened her short season in Yokohama. We are sorry to see the community so unappreciative of really genuine talent, for Miss Waldorf's powers as a delineator of Shakespeare's heroines are, beyond all question, of a very high order. We preferred her *Rosalind* to either *Juliet* or *Beatrice*. As *Juliet* she seemed too mature and demonstrative—but 'tis purely a matter of individual taste. For what actress has ever represented upon the stage the ideal *Juliet* that every true lover of the great dramatist has evolved exclusively for himself? Not even Miss Ellen Terry herself can hope to dethrone from the jealously guarded shrine the *Juliet* of our dreams and highest fancies—'tis a task no mortal may achieve. So we will be thankful to Miss Janet Waldorf for her rendering and bestow the homage that is her due. Miss Waldorf's *Rosalind* was very charming; and we hope to see her play again in doublet and hose the part of that high-spirited, wapward, saucy, but altogether most adorable daughter of the banished Duke, who has had the world at her feet since first Will Shakespeare gave her life and being in the Forest of Arden.

TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Association held June 8th at the house of the Secretary of the Legation of the United States, the following report of the Honorary Treasurer was presented and accepted. A general meeting of the Society has been called for the 21st inst., at 3 p.m. at the United States Legation.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—As Honorary Treasurer of this Association I respectfully submit through you to the Association the following report.

During my absence from Tokyo in 1897, Mr. Josiah Conder, acting for me, presented a financial statement to the Association which was audited and passed. Since that time, no general meeting of the Society has been held. The year 1897, and part of 1898, were a period of non-activity of the Association, on account of the decease of Her Majesty the Empress-Dowager of Japan. On February 5th, 1898, the Society resumed its work with a dramatic representation. Since that date entertainments have been given at the following times,—May 17th and December 7th, 1898, and on January 10th, February 14th, and May 5th, 1899.

At the last general meeting, held in March, 1897, the Society had as a balance to its credit yen 219.36. During the course of the then current financial year the Association received yen 72 from the subscriptions of twelve of its members. The receipts from the entertainment given before the close of that year, Feb. 5, 1898, were yen 228.00. Of this entertainment all members of the Society, whether they had or had not paid their subscriptions, were equal sharers in the privileges that members enjoy, in the purchase of tickets of admission. For the year 1897-98 the Association's expenditures were confined to the wages of the care-taker of the Society's properties, the rent of the electric light fixtures used in the *Sho-ri kai*, and a few small delayed obligations.

During the Association year of 1898-99 now closed, in which, considering the circumstances the performance of February 5th, 1898 may be included, the Association has received yen 3,675 61. Of this amount yen 486 has been derived from the membership subscriptions of eighty-one persons; the remaining amount, excepting a small interest payment on funds in bank, coming from the sale of tickets for the six entertainments. The expenditures made during the year were in total, yen 3,303 60, leaving a balance now to the Association's credit of yen 372.01, which with a further small interest payment of yen 9.68 on account of our bank deposits, leaves at the Society's command at present the sum of yen 381.69. A statement in detail is given below.

Prior to the last financial statement to the Association, the sum of yen 455 had been given to various local charities, as hereinafter named. This amount was limited mainly on account of the exceptional expenses necessary at the start to fit and furnish the *Sho-ri kai* so that it would be suitable for the Society's purposes. During the year just passed the sum of yen 1,059.65 has been distributed among several benevolent agencies established among the Japanese. In the course of the past year considerable expenditure for permanent properties, furniture, &c., in which expenditure purchase of the electric light fixtures for yen 130, that has hitherto cost a yearly rental of yen 66, and the preparation of a commodious "green-room," and orchestra gallery are included. The Society, consequently, at the present time is possessor of stage properties, furniture, and many other conveniences that in the past were either borrowed from generous friends or rented at a heavy expense for each of our entertainments. Roughly speaking, during the past year the Society's expenditures have been equally divided into donations to charities, purchase of permanent properties, and cost of the dramatic and musical presentations.

I append here a summary of the Association's gifts to local charities to date:—

1896.	Yen.
April. To St. Andrew's Orphanage	5 00
Dec. 17th. To Gifu Ken per Governor	150.00
Dec. 17th. To Shiga Ken per Governor	300.00
1898.	455 00
Feb. 28th. To St. Andrew's Orphanage	4 65
May 20th. To St. Andrew's Orphanage	100 00
May 20th. To St. Hilda's Mission	50 00
May 20th. To Golemba Leper Hospital	350 00
May 20th. To Tankiji Convent Orphanage	350 00
1899.	
Feb. 6th. To St. Hilda's Mission	55 00
Mar. 4th. To Pere Rey's School for Poor Boys, Koishikawa	50 00
Mar. 4th. To Abbé Evard's Leper Hospital	50 00
Mar. 4th. To Dr. Whitney's Akasaka Byoin	50 00
	1 514 65

NOTE.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee held on June 8th further gifts were voted as follows:—

	Yen.
Mr. Ishii's Oji Orphanage	50 00
Miss Smith's Hospital at Nagano	25 00
	75 00
Making the sum total set apart for local charities yen 1,589.65.	

CLAY MACCAULRY, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL ASSOCIATION, MARCH 29TH, 1897—JUNE 8TH, 1899.

1897.	Dr.	Yen.
Mar. 29. To balance		219 36
1898.		
Feb. 5. To subscription fees, twelve members at yen 6.00		72 00
Feb. 5. To receipts from performance of date		228 00
Dec. 31. To subscription fees from eighty-one members to date		486 00
May 17. To receipts from performance of date		1,178 00
July 18. To interest on bank balance		10 25
Dec. 7. To receipts from performance of date		333 50
1899.		
Jan. 10. To receipts from performance of date		233 00
Feb. 14. ditto		539 50
May 5. ditto		376 00
		Yen 3,675.61

1898.		Yen.
Dec. 15. To interest on bank deposit		9.68
		Yen 3,685.29

1898.	Cr.	Yen.
Feb. 5. By expenses of performance of date		149.83
Feb. 24. By rent of electric light plant for 1897		86.00
Feb. 28. By purchase of permanent properties February 5th		73 52
May 5. By sundry expenses since March 29, 1898, including wages of care taker, postage and cards, advertising, telegrams, matting, bamboo, canvas, Nozawa-ya, &c.		39 47
May 5. By St. Andrew's Orphanage		4.65
May 20. By expenses of performance of May 17th		302 61
May 20. By St. Andrew's Orphanage		100 00
May 20. By St. Hilda's House		50 00
May 20. By Golemba Leper Hospital		350 00

May 20. By Tankiji Convent Orphanage	350 00
May 20. By care taker's wages and collection of fees	16.65
Nov. 20. By preparation and furnishing of "green room" and orchestra gallery	156.19
Dec. 20. By black curtains for stage, printing plays, postage, &c.	54.47
Dec 20. By expenses of performance of December 7th	196 46
1899.	
Jan. 10. By expenses of performance of date	127.65
Jan. 10. By stage properties purchased	51.36
Feb. 6. By rent of electric light plant for 1898	86.00
Feb. 14. By expenses of performance of date	291.95
Feb. 6. By St. Hilda's Mission	55 00
Mar. 4. By Koishikawa Poor Boys' School	50.00
Mar. 4. By Leper Hospital, Golemba	50.00
Mar. 4. By Akasaka Byoin	50.00
April 17. By purchase of electric light plant	130.00
May 1. By wages of care-taker, printing, &c.	40 50
May 5. By expenses of performance of date	268.04
May 5. By purchase of furniture for stage and green room	173.25
	Yen 3,303 60
Balance yen 372 01 and interest, yen 9.68	381.69
	Yen 3 685 29

NOTE.—Subtracting from this balance the yen 75 voted for charities at the committee meeting of June 8th, there remains in cash to the Society's credit yen 306 69.

Respectfully submitted,

CLAY MACCAULRY,
Honorary Treasurer of T.D. and M.A.
June 8th, 1899.

MRS. PATTON'S CONCERT.

Both Mrs. Patton and her pupils may be congratulated on the success of the ninth concert of the Tonic Sol-fa Juvenile Choral Society on Wednesday. The more purely musical part of the programme proved most satisfactory the sound principles on which the teaching is conducted and the careful attention given to pupils collectively and individually. The solos and duets, vocal and instrumental, were far from poor, and the part singing was excellent. The second part of the programme was of a miscellaneous character, and afforded the young performers opportunities of displaying their precocious stage talents. The Highland fling was very prettily danced by Master Colin Hutchinson, and Miss E. Gillett and Master E. Steele, in quaint costumes, introduced a Russian song and dance, seen, we are assured by the programme, for the first time in Japan. The dismal fate of the over-particular "Three maids of Lee" was humorously depicted, though perhaps in the second scene the old maids were too old. When one is so decrepit as those unfortunate little old maids one is more interested in watching the undertakers' advertisements for offers of a cheap funeral than in worrying about the chances of a husband. However, it was very amusing. "The Bold Gendarmes" was a happy idea, and capably carried out. They were all very little boys in very smart uniforms and very big helmets, but the leader was less than little—he was absolutely Lilliputian. The deportment of this small hero and his troop was most amusing.

A large party of Filipinos, banished by the Spaniards to the Marianas, returned to Manila on the 29th May.

IS DR. KATO'S TEACHING DEMORALISING?

(COMMUNICATED.)

In his "Practical Introduction to the Study of Japanese Writing," Mr. B. H. Chamberlain, on p. 342, says of Dr. Kato Hiroyuki: "Though he is a highly cultured and most amiable man, all his work (so far at least as we are acquainted with it) has a profoundly demoralising tendency. It is materialistic to the core,—the materialism quite naïvely expressed, as is the Japanese way." Mr. Chamberlain is undoubtedly a great authority on Japanese literature, to the study of which he has given the best years of life. His opinion on any subject connected with that literature will carry weight with a large number of readers of his works. But it is important to bear in mind that Mr. Chamberlain's attention has been chiefly centred on ancient Japanese literature, and that he is one of those sinologues who find it difficult to become enthusiastic over the literary productions of the Meiji era. If we may judge from his own admission in the passage quoted above, he does not profess to have made anything like an exhaustive study of Dr. Kato's works. His criticism of Dr. Kato is simply a repetition of what has been said by certain Japanese writers and by a few of the missionaries. The charge brought against Dr. Kato by Mr. Chamberlain is a very serious one; nevertheless it is supported by no evidence whatever. This is unscholarly, to say the least of it. No one expects Mr. Chamberlain to imitate Exeter Hall methods of stirring up feeling against persons or opinions. Feats of term-throwing one anticipates when listening to a Protestant or Roman Catholic special pleader or to other narrow-minded religious zealots, but scholars like Mr. Chamberlain are naturally supposed to be above resorting to such ways of obtaining popular applause.

The present writer has for the past 20 years been an ardent admirer of Dr. Kato as a philosopher and a public speaker, and has translated for publication in the columns of the *Japan Mail* a large number of his essays. There is no feature of Dr. Kato's teaching with which he is unacquainted. The conclusion he has reached is that Dr. Kato's views on philosophy and morality are decidedly elevating, instead of being demoralising. But assertions without evidence on one side or the other are of little use; and so we proceed to go into details. After saying that Dr. Kato's work is demoralising, Mr. Chamberlain explains himself by adding that it is materialistic. This is the old theological way of trying to settle a controversy by applying an opprobrious epithet to an opponent. The most popular epithets formerly kept in the slings of Christian David to throw at unbelieving Goliaths were, "Atheist, infidel, sceptic!" the very utterance of which made pious old ladies and orthodox young ones put on their shocked looks and led them henceforth to regard the individual to whom the term of reproach had been applied as too wicked to associate with. To-day the correct thing to do is to call a man a materialist if his views on ethics, religion, and philosophy shock your susceptibilities. Now it is important to distinguish between the different meanings attached to this term materialist, and to decide in which sense Mr. Chamberlain uses the word. Materialism may be understood as the denial of the existence in man of an immaterial substance that alone is conscious, distinct, and separable from the body; or it may be taken to represent the metaphysical doctrine that matter is the only substance, and that matter and its motions constitute the universe. Philosophical materialism holds that matter and the motions of matter make up the sum total of all existence and that what are known as psychical phenomena in man or other animals are to be interpreted in an ultimate analysis as simply the peculiar aspect which is assumed by certain enormously complicated motions of matter. But the word is often used to describe opinions based on purely material interests, to represent any low view of

life, that is, it is made to refer to material things or interests as opposed to spiritual things or interests. It is quite evident that Mr. Chamberlain uses the word in this depreciatory sense. Used in its scientific or philosophic sense, Mr. Chamberlain must be perfectly well aware that to any unbiased mind it could not possibly become a term of reproach. For after all, the great battle between the school of thought known as materialism and that known as idealism is to a very large extent a question of the meaning to be attached to terms. The materialist gives a definition to matter that is sufficiently broad to comprehend mind and its phenomena as known to mankind by actual study, and the idealist on the other hand defines mind as the chief reality of the universe, as the basis and source of all matter. In the one case mind is one of the modes in which matter manifests itself; in the other matter is one of the modes in which mind manifests itself. The materialist philosophers assert that there is no reality apart from matter. The idealists, on the other hand, whether they belong to the school of Berkeley, of Fichte, of Hegel, or of Kant, maintain that all reality is in its nature psychical. Now if all philosophers are to be pronounced idealists or materialists, then undoubtedly Dr. Kato is a materialist. He believes that it is the study of matter and all its various phenomena that is the real source of most of the exact knowledge that we possess bearing on the laws and processes of nature. And he is of opinion that Japan has learnt more solid truth in this Meiji era from Western scientists than she learnt from all the speculations of Buddhist idealists in a thousand years. Dr. Kato maintains that as a method of studying the universe idealism has signally failed. Will the results of the investigations, he asks, of hundreds of subtle Brahmins, scores of keen Platonists, or of the followers of Kant, Hegel, and Fichte bear comparison with the brilliant discoveries of those men whose whole lives have been devoted to an exhaustive study of matter and its laws? But it is quite incorrect to say that all philosophers are either idealists or materialists. Though Dr. Kato is no idealist, if the word be understood in the sense indicated above, he is certainly an idealist of a very high type in the sense of having ever before him a lofty ideal, as we now hope to show by reference to his writings.

Before us lies a volume of short essays, which originally appeared in the *Taiyo*, but have since been published in book form under the title of the *Tensoku Hyakuwa*. In order to give an idea of the amount of matter the book contains, we follow the excellent plan adopted by *Literature*, and a few other periodicals, and state its size in inches. It measures 9 in. by 6 in. and covers 300 pages, including expositions of Dr. Kato's views on all the principal scientific, philosophical, and ethical questions of the day. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō observed not long ago that for wide influence on modern thought in Japan there was nobody to be compared to Dr. Kato and Mr. Fukuzawa. Mr. Fukuzawa's teaching has been condemned alongside of that of Dr. Kato by Mr. Chamberlain. We purpose discussing the views of the Mita Sage in a separate article, but of Dr. Kato we may say that undoubtedly his books have been read with delight by a very large section of the educated public and that in the main his views are those of the vast majority of thoughtful Japanese. The *Kokumin Shimbun* some time ago and Dr. Inoue Enryō quite recently maintained that Dr. Kato is principally responsible for the trend of modern thought on religion and ethics. This, in our opinion, is attributing too much importance to the influence of a single individual, however gifted he may be. Dr. Kato in Essay 49 laughs at the notion. Though, as President of the University for some time, as a member of the House of Peers, and of a number of learned societies, in addition to writing for leading magazines, Dr. Kato has undoubtedly exercised wide influence, yet the modern Japanese thinker is not in the habit of pinning his faith to any individual writer. Among the professors of the University whom the *Kokumin*

Shimbun says Dr. Kato led astray, there is no such thing as the slavish following of any one mind. The President of an institution of that kind in Japan has little connection with any of the teachers and still less with the students. The source of the tendency of modern thought in Japan is to be found in Western literature. The Japanese are an ambitious people and they strive to keep pace with the progress of ideas among ourselves. If they are agnostics, so, according to the most reliable authority, are the majority of thoughtful people in Europe and America. If they have rejected the supernatural, so have thousands upon thousands of London Church-goers. It was only a month or two ago that the *Saturday Review* which, far from being opposed to Christianity, often goes out of its way to defend what is capable of defence both in Christian ritual and doctrine, writing on the subject of Christ's resurrection, expressed itself in the following terms: "The primitive Christian celebrated Easter without the shadow of doubt crossing the horizon of his mind, and striking the chill of a terrible anxiety into his heart, but the thoughtful modern Christian no longer enjoys that attitude of unsuspecting belief. The resurrection of Christ is matter of history, and they are no mean authorities which affirm that the attestation of history to this fact is direct, cumulative, and ample. That may be the case as long as the character of the fact is left out of count, but when this is reckoned with, who can, on the basis merely of the evidence, affirm the Resurrection? What at best is the value of human testimony? Experience accumulates examples of the insecurity of that basis for belief; but, allow its sufficiency, what is the actual testimony which we possess to the fact of Christ's resurrection? Can it be successfully disputed that the New Testament documents are mutually inconsistent? . . . Is the description of the risen Christ in the narratives of St. Luke and St. John either coherent or even thinkable? How can we reconcile in a single conception a body which passes as a ghost through doors and walls and that which has flesh and bones and nourishes itself with material food? And even if these difficulties can be removed, in there any escape from Harnack's position that 'however firm may have been the faith of the disciples in the appearances of Jesus in their midst, and it was firm, to believe in appearances which others have had is a frivolity which is always repented by rising doubts.' " The doctrine of the resurrection of Christ gone, as it undoubtedly has gone in the case of the majority of thinking laymen, the whole of the so-called supernatural fabric built thereon falls like a pack of cards, leaving that part of Christianity only which Dr. Kato, in common with English writers of note, values at its true price. Dr. Kato has over and over again spoken highly of the moral teaching of Christ.

In order to give readers some idea of the views of Dr. Kato, after a careful perusal of all the principal essays in the *Tensoku Hyakuwa*, we furnish a very brief account of the position he holds in reference to religion, ethics, and philosophy, giving in each instance the number of the essay which contains the statements summarised in our review.

I. RELIGION.—In Essay No. 47 he congratulates the nation on that article in the Constitution which allows liberty of belief in the matter of religion, and shows that in granting this liberty the Japanese Government, while imitating Western nations, has in point of fact gone beyond them. In Europe and America the concessions made practically amounted to allowing people to adopt what form of Christianity they pleased or to become Jews, since no other creeds have any wide influence in the West. But Japan's concession was a concession to an alien creed, and that notwithstanding the fact that she has two very ancient forms of faith that may be said to be to a large extent national. There is no mistaking the meaning of Art. XXVIII. of the

* *Saturday Review*, April 1st, 1899, Art. entitled "Easter."

Constitution. It has special reference to Christianity and must be so interpreted and acted on.

In Essay No. 19 Buddhism is discussed. The general conclusion reached is that, though originally one of the best religions in the world, in Japan at the present time it is quite corrupt and effete, and that hence it promises to be replaced by Christianity before many years are past.

Essay 45 deals with Buddhist superstitions and errors.

In Essay No. 30 Dr. Katō maintains that scholars, though needing no religious teaching, have a fixed faith of their own, which influences their lives in various ways and which they think has a far more sure basis than is the case with men who still believe in supernaturalism.

In Essay No. 34 the evils of superstition are set forth.

In Essay 21 the reform of religion in Japan or the evolution of an entirely new creed is pronounced alike impossible, on the ground that the spirit of the age is against granting to any individual or to any religious body the necessary authority for accomplishing such a purpose.

In Essay 29 religion is declared to be like a firefly in a dark night and like a narcotic to the man or woman in pain. Though man is called the lord of creation and though his rank among created things is undoubtedly high, as a conscious being his suffering is far keener than that of any other animals, and religion has been devised as a solace and a deadener of pain. But the highly cultured man can no longer derive comfort from the doctrines that satisfy the masses, and he is driven to adopt other methods for obtaining such alleviation of his sufferings as is to be had. As for that which can't be cured, he endures it with a brave heart.

Essay No. 74 contains a comparison of Confucianism, Buddhism, and Christianity. While acknowledging that the three cults have all done much to improve the state of mankind and to lead them into the ways of righteousness, Dr. Katō proceeds to argue that Buddhism and Christianity are both pessimistic in character, and hence less suited to play the roles of reformers than Confucianism, to which the past and the future are alike indifferent. There are several other essays that treat of religion, but the above give a fair notion of the attitude assumed by Dr. Katō to existing creeds.

II. ETHICS.—Dr. Katō's ethical teaching may be described as Utilitarian.* This accords well with his admiration for Confucian ethics. In Essays 17 and 73 he elaborates the theory that morality has no object more worthy of consideration than the preservation of society. The ethical creed which satisfied the subtle mind of John Stuart Mill commends itself to Dr. Katō, who, in not in Mill's own words, which we quote below, in spirit says to his opponents:—"If the impugners of the utilitarian morality represented it to their own minds in its true character, I know not what recommendation possessed by any other morality they could possibly affirm to be wanting to it: what more beautiful or more exalted developments of human nature any other ethical system can be supposed to foster, or what springs of action, not accessible to the utilitarian, such systems rely on for giving effect to their mandates." If any one doubts the loftiness of Dr. Katō's ethical standard we would recommend him to peruse Essays 94 and 98. In Essay 80 Dr. Katō discusses the position he maintains in Ethics. He there states that he entirely rejects the theory of the intuitionists, that is, the doctrine that the perception of primary moral truth is immediate and direct, and declares himself an experientialist. In Essay 54 he shows conclusively that from age to age the standard of morals in a progressive nation undergoes changes. He illustrates this fact by reference to the moral sentiments of the Japanese in regard to three time-honoured customs. (1) For many centuries the vendetta was practiced in this country and morally approved of by the consciences of the best people. (2) The same was the case with

the practice of certain retainers' committing suicide on the decease of their lord, in order to accompany him to the land of shades. (3) Then it was universally felt that the nation was under a moral obligation to prevent foreigners from settling in the country. To slay any who persisted in trying to do so was considered a moral duty. Public opinion has entirely changed in reference to these matters, and what was formerly regarded as morally right is now deemed morally wrong. Dr. Katō argues that as long as the world progresses morality will progress too, and that there can be no such thing as a fixed standard for all times and all nations alike. He goes into the whole question of international morality in essays 72 and 88. In Essay 96 one characteristic of Christian ethics is discussed, namely, the importance it attaches to the future life as compared with this life, which Dr. Katō thinks to be a decided weakness. The need of practical morality and the importance to be attached to ethical teaching in schools are constantly dwelt on by Dr. Katō.

III. PHILOSOPHY.—Dr. Kato's philosophical views need no lengthy comment. He is an advanced evolutionist, and his philosophy leans more to the practical type of English lines of thought than to the metaphysical subtleties of the Germans. In Essay No. 1 he discusses the relative value of knowledge and the rank which various studies are entitled to hold. He entirely condemns the tendency to exalt matter above mind as a subject for investigation, and rightly maintains that it has been by means of philosophy and by the study of the mind and the laws of thought that many of the most valuable of the deductions of science have been reached. Philosophy, psychology, and sociology, he thinks worthy of equal rank with physics, chemistry, astronomy, and kindred subjects. In Essay 6 he discusses the influence of the theory of evolution on philosophy generally, showing that the general recognition of the principle has created a new philosophical era. Many of the old landmarks he declares to have been entirely removed by Darwin's discoveries. Some very interesting and very curious questions, which no one pretending to be fond of philosophy can well avoid considering, are discussed by Dr. Katō. One is the use that has been made of error in the development of the world's civilisation. This subject is treated in Essay 31. In that essay he cites as instances of errors that have done an enormous amount of good work in the way of restraining vice and inciting to virtue the Buddhist and Christian doctrines concerning heaven and hell, the Devil and sin. Schopenhauer has written fully on this subject, and Dr. Katō's views correspond with those of the German philosopher. In a volume of Essays of his translated into English by Mrs. Rudolf Dircks (London: Walter Scott), in the part entitled, "A Dialogue on Religion," it is argued that the world is so constituted that the majority of people cannot comprehend truth in its nakedness and that it needs to be adulterated in order to suit their weak digestion. One of the disputants in that dialogue maintains that all the religions in the world can never be true in *sensu proprio*, but only in *sensu allegorio*. "There," says the speaker, "lies the incurable mischief; the permanent evil; and therefore religion is always in conflict, and always will be, with the noble striving after pure truth." The same speaker further on is made to say:—"Religion is a *fraus*, it is indeed a *pis-fraus*; that cannot be denied. Then priests become something between deceivers and moralists. For they dare not teach the real truth, as you yourself have quite correctly explained, even if it were known to them; which it is not. There can, at any rate, be a true philosophy, but there can be no true religion: I mean true in the real and proper understanding of the word, not merely in that flowery and allegorical sense which you have described, a sense in which every religion would be true, only in different degrees. It is certainly quite in harmony with the inextinguishable mixture of good and evil, honesty and dishonesty, good-

ness and wickedness, magnanimity and baseness, which the world presents everywhere, that the most important, the most lofty, and the most sacred truths can make their appearance only in combination with a lie, nay, can *borrow strength from a lie* as something that affects mankind more powerfully; and as revelation must be introduced by a lie. One might regard the fact as the *monogram* of the world. Meanwhile let us not give up hope that mankind will some day attain that point of maturity and education at which it is able to produce a true philosophy on the one hand, and accept it on the other."

The above is the gist of Dr. Katō's contention in the essay quoted and elsewhere. And now we leave readers to answer the question for themselves with which we set out—Are Dr. Katō's views demoralising? Only one answer can be expected from many orthodox Christians—Dr. Katō is an agnostic and a sceptic, and that is enough to condemn him. But we have never hoped to convince such readers of this article. To the calm judgment of unbiased minds we commend this imperfect statement of the views of the only Japanese philosopher of modern times whose writings have received lengthy notices from his German confidants and whose exalted position as a teacher renders him a worthy subject of study to all those who wish to understand the serious and deeply earnest side of Japanese modern life.

CORRESPONDENCE.

EVANGELIZATION AND EDUCATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR.—Under the above heading there is, in the *Japan Mail* of May 27, an editorial note commenting on a letter that appeared in the *Japan Times* advocating the retirement of missionaries from all educational enterprises, and the devotion of all their energies to direct evangelization.

In this note the writer says: "We should have been greatly pleased to read some lucid comparison of the facilities enjoyed by missionaries and the facilities possessed by them, for propagating Christianity in this country." Now had the writer of the letter, who is evidently a missionary, piped about the facilities possessed by his brethren I am not so sure that the editor of the *Mail* would have danced. Rather would he have lamented the lack of that self-effacement which he considers becoming in the Christian propagandist.

There is, however, now no necessity for the missionary to speak of himself, for we can see his facilities as others see them; and the opinion is, like all that the editor expresses, illuminating and entertaining, though I cannot altogether agree with it. Concerning the facilities of the missionaries we are told: "Not one missionary can lecture about ethics or morals in such a way as to dignify the subject." And, with regard to the facilities that they might enjoy if they would, we read in substance: "Is not the instilling of high principles into young minds as much a part of the Christian propagandist's duty as the expounding of the gospel?"

This opinion of one who has had ample opportunities for observation is of more value to the missionary than any comparison that might be drawn by one of his number between his facilities and facilities. But if another who is not a missionary may be allowed to speak on his much-debated question he would say, in the first place that it is a question neither of facilities, nor of facilities, but of faithfulness to a command. "It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful."

The question of the proper relation of education to evangelization—to use the words in their ordinary sense—is a broad one that has been much discussed in India and elsewhere. This is no place to enter into it anew, but even the most earnest advocate of education does not urge that the whole energy of the foreign missionary body should be given to it. Yet the argument which we are considering seems to be that since the missionary cannot preach he should teach.

* Utilitarianism, 7th Edition, p. 25.

Not very much is promised him as the reward of his labours. With regard to results we are told: "We believe . . . that the educational work done by the missionary greatly furthers the cause of Christianity, or, at any rate, of Christian morality." If a clothing on of Christian morality be all that is to be hoped for, the steward of Christ might well say that he would have neither part nor lot in the matter. "If any speak not concerning Jesus Christ," wrote Ignatius, "I look upon them as tombstones and sepulchres of the dead, on which are written only the names of men."

Likewise with regard to lecturing on ethics and morals the missionary might say that to do so is no part of his duty. I am surprised at the statement that no missionary can lecture acceptably on these matters, but I accept the testimony of a competent witness. Now what I ought to do must be something that I can do, and if, of all the missionaries that have been in Japan, there is not one who can lecture about ethics we may well doubt whether to do so is any part of the burden laid upon the missionary.

But when we come to consider testimony I can testify to what any one may observe in the churches, that many a missionary can preach acceptably, both to believers and to unbelievers. After all, what is the missionary sent to do? "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have given you," said the Master. "Christian propagandist" is a long title with which we have become familiar, but "missionary" is a term more in accord with Scripture. Disciples are not sent primarily to propagate a system—that is the duty of the propagandist—but to deliver a message. And the message is not directly about ethics and morals. These will follow on the acceptance of the message along with Christian education, and other fruits which are fruits and not roots.

The delivery of a message, or, in short, evangelization does not consist wholly, or even in large part, of set preaching. Paul crossed over into Europe to carry the message, and after abiding in Philippi certain days he went out of the city by a river side and sat down and spoke to the women that resorted thither. He did preach sometimes as he preached at Athens, where those who wanted to hear a new thing listened to his lecture but mocked at his message. He tells the elders of Ephesus, "among whom he had preached the kingdom of God," that he had "not ceased by the space of three years to warn every one night and day with tears."

But whether the duty be preaching or the care of the churches, or the training of evangelists, or the perfecting of the saints, or the talking with men by the way side, it cannot be that the messenger is sent to do what he can not do. Is it that preaching may do for Africa and the Isles of the sea but that educational methods are what is needed for a country with so difficult a language as Japan?

We read somewhere of the sending of one of the first messengers into the land of Egypt, and he said: "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant; but I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue." To him the answer was, what it has been to messengers since, "Who hath made man's mouth? Have not I the Lord?"

Thanking you for presenting with so much authority one side of the question.

I am, Sir, very truly yours,

FRANK MULLER.

Etajima, June 9th.

MISSIONARIES IN THE CAROLINES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the *Weekly Mail* of last Saturday, referring to the Caroline Islands, you seem to imply that American Missionaries reside on Ascension Island, or Pohnpei, as you give it, or Ponape, as it is more commonly known. As a matter of fact, while Ponape was the centre of the mission work in the Caroline Islands, the missionaries were expelled a few years after the Spanish occupation which dates from 1887,

and have not been allowed to revisit or to communicate with their native converts. There is, however, a station upon the island of Kusaie, and another in the sub-group called Ruk. The missionaries at Kusaie have been for several years, although on Spanish soil, in close relation with the German authorities in the Marshall Islands, and their work has won the commendation of the Governor General, Dr. Irmer. The report from which I quote may be found in the *Deutsches Kolonialblatt* for March, 1896, a copy of which, at the request of the American Department of State, was kindly forwarded by the Foreign Office at Berlin with this memorandum:—"The relations between the state management of the Marshall Islands and the American mission are satisfactory."

The report contains the following paragraphs:—

The location of the mission with its many neat buildings scattered along the slope of the verdant hills is very pleasant. Upon the first ridge stand the dwelling of Dr. Rife, the leader of the mission, and the farm buildings. Several neatly kept paths of stone and sand lead up to the ridge. Higher up are the lodgings of the boys, and on the summit the house for the female teachers and the girls. Behind all rise ragged and steep the wooded peaks of the interior of the island. On the other side of the bay is the mission for the Gilbert Islands. All these buildings are connected together by telephone, and one is surprised at their convenient, substantial, and yet airy constructions and the attractive neatness of their interior arrangements, as well as of the grassy slopes and shrubbery around them. The arrangement of the rooms and sleeping apartments is excellent, and I understand now how it is that our Kanaken (native preachers and teachers), even after years of absence, look back to these scenes of their youthful training as to a paradise, and show their gratitude for these pleasant recollections by strong attachment to the mission. . . .

In short it must be acknowledged that, with the help of the magnificent natural advantages of Kusaie, leaders of the mission have done every thing to make the stay of their pupils with them and their education pleasant. The instruction, too, is given in an earnest and judicious manner, and the female teachers especially made a most favourable impression by their strict yet friendly demeanour towards the girls. The neat dresses of the pupils, their unconstrained joyousness, and their healthy appearance show that careful attention is paid to their physical well-being.

Owing to the natural advantages of which Dr. Irmer writes, it was found best to place the schools, that is, the higher schools connected with the work in the Marshall and Gilbert Islands, at Kusaie, which is a convenient centre. A small schooner with auxiliary steam plies between Kusaie and the neighbouring islands. Another schooner of rather larger size is usually stationed at Ruk for similar service. A third much larger still forms the connection with the base of supplies at Honolulu, 1,100 miles away.

It is hoped that under the new jurisdiction the missionaries will be able to return to Ponape, where there were in 1889, 4,509 enrolled Christians; fifteen native pastors; sixty-one native preachers and teachers; four training schools with 117 students; three seminaries for girls with seventy-nine pupils; forty-three common schools with 2,422 scholars. Whether looked upon from a religious or a humanitarian point of view the work was a brilliant success.

The leader of the first band of missionaries at Ponape was the late Rev. L. H. Gulick, M.D., who afterwards resided for several years in Yokohama as the Agent of the American Bible Society.

Communication between Yokohama and Ruk is not infrequent; for several Japanese vessels are engaged in trade with the Eastern Carolines, taking down a variety of Japanese goods and bringing up chiefly dried coconut, from which palm oil is prepared in Tokyo.

Thanking you for the space you have kindly allowed, I remain,

Yours, etc.

D.C.G.

THE MARQUIS AND THE CARDINAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR.—Might I suggest that, in the Summary

of the Religious Press (June 7th), in the conversation quoted of Marquis Saionji and the Cardinal, what the Cardinal did say was a quotation from Proverbs 9.17, which, in the Vulgate, reads, "Aque furtivae dulciores sunt," which, to one unacquainted with the Bible, might readily be rendered, *Subtle kiji wa umaki mono nari*.

Yours sincerely,

E. R. M.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Plunder Pit, by KEIGHLEY SNOWDEN. Methuen's Colonial Library: Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

We do not know Mr. Keighley Snowden, and presume him to be a beginner in authorship. If so, we should advise him to rest content with his maiden effort. It will be better for himself, and will certainly be to the advantage of the general public. Mr. Keighley Snowden hardly possesses a single qualification for his trade. His style of narrative is clumsy; his plot is only distinguished from entire commonplace by an obscurity which renders it occasionally incomprehensible; much of the book is written in Yorkshire dialect, and conveys no meaning to the ordinary Englishman; the characterisation is feeble; and the literary style poor. But the incidents are intended to be stirring, and some people may find the book readable.

BASEBALL.

Saturday's baseball game was one of the best matches we have had here for some time. The fielding was smart all round, while the batteries were exceptionally good. Cameron, the new pitcher, is an acquisition. He sends in a very swift ball with a most deceptive outward curve, and is sufficiently varied to puzzle batters till the end of play. As catcher, Goodwin is very smart, and he plays "good ball" all through: it is a pity that his stay in Yokohama is limited. Mr. Putnam was umpire on Saturday, giving entire satisfaction; and Mr. E. Mendelson was scorer. As will be seen in the details given below, the result hung in the balance till the very last innings, when Merriman's side put on four runs and thus won with only one run to spare.

Merriman's Team.	Pos.	At bat.	Runs.	1st Total.	B. Bases.	P.O.	A.	E.
Goodwin	C	3	3	1	1	3	5	—
McChesney	1B	5	2	2	5	13	—	—
Onderdonk	3B	4	1	1	1	3	6	4
Kilby, E. W.	SS	4	1	—	—	1	—	1
Jacott	LF	3	—	1	2	—	—	—
Vaughan	P	5	—	1	2	2	3	—
Kingdon, A.	CF	3	1	1	3	—	—	—
Gibbs, C.	RF	3	2	—	—	1	—	—
Merriman	2B	4	2	1	1	4	—	—
Totals		34	12	8	15	27	14	5

Blake's Team.	Pos.	At bat.	Runs.	1st Total.	B. Bases.	P.O.	A.	E.
Ellis	C	3	2	1	1	2	2	—
Thompson	1B	3	2	1	1	6	—	1
Cameron	P	5	—	2	2	12	5	2
Blake	2B	5	—	1	1	—	1	1
H. W. Kilby.	CF	5	1	1	2	1	—	—
Sutliff	3B	5	1	1	2	2	—	—
Chipman	RF	5	1	1	—	—	—	—
Read	SS	4	2	2	1	1	1	—
Kelly	LF	4	2	2	1	—	—	—
Total		39	11	12	11	24	9	4

INNINGS.								
Merriman	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Blake	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	1
	0	0	2	2	1	3	0	2

SUMMARY.
Merriman's Team:—Earned runs 1, first base on errors 2, Vaughan gave 3 bases on balls, Onderdonk 2, Wild pitches 1, Passed balls 0, Vaughan struck 1 man; Onderdonk struck out 3 men. Home runs 1.

Blake's Team:—Earned runs 3, first base on errors 4, Cameron gave 13 bases on balls and struck out 11 men.

Time of game, 2 hrs. 30 min.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

It is reported from Peking that the Chinese Minister at Berlin has been instructed by the Tsungli Yamén to contract with the Vulcan works at Sietin, Germany, for the construction of two armour-clads, of about 8,000 tons, and six protected fast cruisers of 3,500 to be completed within 30 months, for something like ten million taels. An order for fifty quick-firing field guns will also be placed in Germany.

The *North China Daily News* translates from the *Universal Gazette*—a Chinese newspaper published in Shanghai—some details of a story that was recently current in Japan and caused at the time some incredulous comment:—"The Japanese Government has been recently in close negotiations with the Chinese concerning the return of the remnants of the Peiyang fleet which survived the Battle of Yalu and the Siege of Weihaiwei in 1894-95. The transaction is termed 'a gift of Japan to China' and the vessels to be returned will be the armour-clads *Cheniyuen* and *Ping-yuen*, the protected cruisers *Tsien* and *Kuangping*, and the Armstrong "mosquito" gunboats *Chenpien*, *Chenchung*, *Chentung*, *Chennan*, *Chenhsi*, and *Chenpei*, or a total of ten vessels." Commenting on this news our Shanghai contemporary says—It is confidently asserted among Chinese officials here that there is to be *quid pro quo* in the matter, and that, if the deal takes place, there will be some important changes in Fokien province. A high Chinese official now in Shanghai on business, from the North, further states that the return of the old Peiyang Fleet to China will mark the era of an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and China and that, as an outcome, the Chinese armies and fleets will have a large proportion of Japanese officers and instructors to drill them. From indications it would seem that Chinese officialdom here talk freely and confidently as if the affair were an accomplished fact already.

The *Universal Gazette* states that General Yuan Shih-kai, whose troops were recently quartered at Tschou on the Chihli-Shantung border, awaiting developments in Shantung, has been commanded by Imperial edict to return to his cantonments at Hsiao-chan, near Tientsin. Steps have also been taken by the Generalissimo Juang Lu, to raise 10,000 Mongol cavalry in view of the presence of large numbers of Russian Cossacks in Manchuria, and a certain Mongol Prince has offered to raise and arm 5,000 more from his own tribe should China be involved in war, in the near future.

At Haining, Chekiang province, where the people earn their living by raising silkworms, a quantity of Japanese silkworm eggs have been imported as an experiment, and while it is stated that the Japanese worms spin a finer and a stronger silk than the native worms, the only drawback is that the former eat almost twice more mulberry leaves than the latter. It is, however, predicted, remarks a China contemporary, that the Japanese silkworm has come to Haining to stay.

Shanghai has sent the following gentlemen to Wei-hai-wei to take part in the sports, and cricket and other matches against the British Fleet:—Messrs. R. C. Farbridge, W. T. Tyack, G. F. Lanning, V. H. Lanning, A. E. Stewart, J. Mann, W. P. Lamp, J. C. Johnstone, E. Lynch, J. H. Teesdale, N. Ramsay, W. M. Wood, P. E. Beeston, Captain C. G. Close, and Dr. R. J. Marshall. Wei-hai-wei won the first cricket match by 8 wickets on the second innings.

Governor Ya, of Hunan province, recently issued a proclamation prohibiting the export of antimony from the province, on the ground that all antimony found in Hunan will be bought up by the authorities for use of the Government.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* states that immediately after the Agreements between the German and Chinese Governments with regard

to the railway constructions had been signed in Peking, the contract of the railroad in the hinterland of Kiao-chow was placed with the Shantung Syndicate under the management of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank. The same paper also states that steps have already been taken to push on the work of the line from Tientsin to Wehsien without delay.

The *Universal Gazette* reports that Great Britain intends to demand the opening of Tinghai, one of the Chusan Islands, and an independent sub-prefecture of Chekiang, as a treaty port, which accounts for the recent hydrographical survey of a British man-of-war around the Chusans. The Commander, it is said, has wired to the British Government, and if the demand is granted steps will be commenced after six or seven weeks to have the port opened.

According to the *Universal Gazette*, the Tls. 1,200,000 indemnity obtained by the French Minister at Peking for the destruction of R.C. property in Szechuan by Yü Man-ze and his followers will be divided by the R.C. mission among the 8,000 odd converts who suffered through the depredations of the rebels during the past twelve months or so.

According to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* the Anglo-French Quicksilver and Mining Concession Co., having secured the right, is about to commence the development of cinnabar deposits in Kweichow province, and a mining engineer has already arrived from Europe. The deposits are said to be very rich, the ore yielding 4 per cent. of quicksilver, whereas the only other worked mines in the world, in Spain, Austria, and Southern California, yield 1 per cent. Further the deposits are situated within 8 days' journey of the coast downward, while the upwards journey takes a matter of six weeks.

NOTES ON AMERICAN TOPICS.

Discussing the prospects of the Democratic party in the next Presidential election, the *Argonaut* says:—As yet it is too early to make any satisfactory forecast of the men and the issues that will occupy the public eye and dominate the public mind in the Presidential campaign of the coming year. But rumours are multiplying, individual opinions are being disclosed, and general interest is rising to such an extent that the subject already occupies innumerable columns in the daily press. The contest within the Democratic party over the question of again entering the lists with Bryan as its champion knight, panoplied in the same silver armour that was battered almost out of existence in 1896, and with the scarred motto of "16 to 1" on his shield, is still the most picturesque feature of this formative period of opinion and the demarkation of Popocratic lines. A peculiar feature among anti-Bryan Democrats is that no one seems anxious to be a candidate. Mr. Croker has made the only definite suggestion when he names General Miles for President and Augustus Van Wyck for Vice-President. As a military candidate the recent career of General Miles would scarcely fill a bill which demands an enthusiasm to offset the personal popularity of Mr. Bryan, and it would be extremely doubtful whether Mr. Van Wyck, who was defeated in the race for governor of New York last fall, could carry his own State.

The Chicago River is combustible, according to the opinion of firemen of the city, who declare that it should be watched with the same care as picture-frame factories and other inflammable things. It actually caught fire the other day, and blazed until the fire boat turned on streams of water to quench it. The bridge at Kinzie Street was damaged to the extent of five thousand dollars, by the flames, and other bridges and adjoining warehouses suffered. The cause of the fire is believed to have been oil which ran into the river from a sewer and covered the surface.

Mark Twain's lawyers have bought for him the old frame house in which he was born at

Florida, Mo. It is said that the new owner will renovate the place and restore it to the condition it was in during his boyhood.

In accordance with the request of Admiral Dewey, Mr. Secretary Long has presented to Mr. A. W. Robbins, master of the British ship *Buccleuch*, a fine chronometer in recognition of his services to the Asiatic Squadron immediately after the battle of May 1st, in communicating with the Spanish Governor-General at Manila for Admiral Dewey. Captain Robbins placed himself in the disposition of Admiral Dewey to convey messages to the Spaniards at Manila. The Admiral sent a request to the Spanish Governor-General to be allowed to use the cable connecting Manila and Hongkong, threatening if the request was not complied with to cut the line. The Spaniards refused and the cable was cut. There were several matters which the Admiral desired to present to the attention of the Spanish authorities, and Captain Robbins was generally the medium of communication.

A scheme to heat the United States postal service has been evolved by Chicago men. The plan is to gather up all the second-class mail matter of large commercial houses, ship it to Mexico by freight, change their American money into Mexican money at a ratio of two to one, buy Mexican stamps, and with them mail the matter back to the United States through the Mexican post-office. It is estimated that one-half cent could be saved on each letter and package thus handled. It is claimed that the government could not interfere without the aid of new legislation.

Miss Maude Adams has been setting the critics by the ears by her new reading of the rôle of *Juliet* at the Empire Theatre, New York. All are agreed, however, that she played the part as a natural girl—"with an abundance of youth" in fact, as one critic puts it. One writer summed up the performance in these sober words:—"Beyond peradventure Miss Adams is as wrong as wrong can be, yet she persists in playing *Juliet* in her own fashion, to the joy of the vulgar and the confusion of the learned. She flaunts tradition by carrying *Juliet* from art into nature. There is nothing finished in her performance. It is rough, uneven, in many matters uncouth, but in all particulars forceful, impassioned, and earnest in feeling. In her conception *Juliet* is more heart than head. Her business is to love *Romeo*, not to tickle the ears of the auditors with fine speeches. A hundred faults might be found in her style, not one in her sentiment. Those who go to hear her—as the old fogies do, closing their eyes and preparing to revel anrally in eloquent blank verse—will be disappointed. But watch the play of lights and shadows over her face, the quick, nervous gestures, the absolute suiting of the action to the word, and the skill with which she paints a picture on air in the potion scene; and if you are not erudite, but simply of the common people, you will find more Shakespeare in Maude Adams' *Juliet* than in any other *Capulet* of modern times."

In a special message to the Alabama legislature, Governor Johnston urges it to follow up its work in repealing the bill for a constitutional convention by the adoption for submission to the people of a constitutional amendment to eliminate the votes of the Negroes.

The Texas senate has passed an anti-trust bill, modelled after the law in Arkansas, and including the provision against insurance combinations on rates, whether such combinations exist within or without the State. Some amendments added make the measure more drastic than the Arkansas law. One would make the membership in a trust a bar against the collection of money in Texas for goods sold.

The New York *Times*, in discussing the system of retiring pensions for college professors, says: "The men who spend their lives in honouring and in bringing fame to a seat of

learning should not be forgotten. Educators, as a class, are notoriously improvident, but very often their entire salaries are expended for the benefit of the institution that employs them. They become old; they are retired with the empty title of professor emeritus. Very often they pass the declining years as objects of delicately bestowed charity. Still, it is charity. It should not be so. The German professors, the French, and the Italian can look forward to a tranquil old age—provided they don't offend their governments. It should be so with American educators."

The following telegram is labelled "Recent American Humour" in the paper from which we take it:—

Norfolk (Va.), May 17.—Mrs. John O'Keefe, wife of a well-known sign artist of this city, has presented her husband with three sons. To-day the father named them Dewey, Sampson, and Schley, in honor of the three naval heroes of the late war.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It is announced that H.M.S. *Egeria*, surveying vessel, has been commissioned for the purpose of surveying the route for the proposed Pacific cable.

A cablegram has been received in Yokohama recording the death on Monday by sunstroke at Manila of Captain H. E. Nichols, U.S.N., commanding the Monitor *Monadnock*.

The *Endymion*, cruiser, now attached to the Medway Fleet Reserve, Chatham, has been ordered to be brought forward at Chatham for Commission. She is to relieve the *Grafton*, Captain F. W. Fisher, on the China Station.

There was a football match at Singapore on the 9th May between the Tanjong Pagar Club and H.M.S. *Orlando's* team. The civilians scored two goals to nil. On the second goal being scored, the *Orlando's* claimed "off-side," and as the referee's decision was given against them they walked off the field.

The house belonging to Mr. Thwaites on Rokkasan, near Kobe, was burnt down on Wednesday morning. The man in charge left the house about half-past three o'clock to come to town, and when he returned found the house destroyed. The building is understood, says the *Hirogo News*, to have been insured. Mr. De Ath, we understand, had engaged to take the house during the hot weather.

Two Malay passengers, father and son, ran amok on board the steamer *Sri Pontianak*, near Singapore, on the 27th May. Armed with daggers they rushed amongst the passengers and crew, and three Chinamen, one Chinese woman, and one child were killed, and six Chinamen, two Chinese women, and four children were badly stabbed. Captain Koenig killed one of the murderers, and the other was wounded before being captured.

M. Doumer, Governor-General of Indo-China, left Hanoi for Yunnan on the 26th May. He is accompanied by Commandant Lysalle and Administrator Lagardie. Relays of ponies had already been prepared so that the journey from Laokay into the Chinese Province should be made with the least possible delay. M. Doumer has been very energetic during his brief term of office, and has proved himself a diligent Governor-General, as it was predicted he would be.

The Norwegian ship *Viking* has brought news to Leith of a letter written by Prof. Andree, which was found in a bottle early in April near Rifeang, on the northeast coast of Iceland, by a farmer named Johann Magnussen. The letter was then in a bottle addressed to the polar expedition at Cooiborg, and bore Andree's own stamp, with the request that it be placed in the nearest post office. Magnussen, it is added, gave the letter to a merchant, Sveinn Einarsen, at Thindford, who mailed it. The letter brought by the *Viking* was addressed to an Icelander

now in London, describing the finding and forwarding of Andree's letter.

Visitors to Leadenhall Market, London, the other morning, saw the novel spectacle of four frozen Siberian bears exposed for sale in a shop. Although they had been dead some three months their skins were in splendid condition. There was a male 9 ft. long and 5 ft. in girth, a female 7½ ft. long and 4 ft. in girth, and two cubs. The male weighed 4 cwt., and the female a hundred-weight less. The consignment was in the nature of an experiment, and if the results prove encouraging the enterprising salesman intends embarking on a regular trade in bears. Many Parisians relish bear's meat, and it is therefore concluded that it should not be disagreeable to the English palate.

Mr. Maurice de Bunsen, who will be remembered by many in Japan as acting as British *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo a few years ago, was married during the first week in May to Miss Berta Corry. The engagement had been broken off owing to Miss Corry's ill-health, and the marriage was therefore quite unexpected. The wedding took place in Scotland, the service being celebrated at the Church of St. James, Taymouth. Sir Everard Doyle was Mr. de Bunsen's best man, and there were only two bridesmaids—Miss Violet Corry and a niece of the bridegroom. Afterwards the happy pair drove to Mrs. Aymar Corry's shooting lodge; and later on they left for Constantinople, where Mr. de Bunsen is First Secretary at the British Embassy.

Admiral Dewey resumed his homeward voyage in the *Olympia* on the afternoon of June 6th, the flagship leaving her buoy in Hongkong harbour punctually at four o'clock. It was raining heavily at the time. When passing the *Powerful* the *Olympia's* band played the British National Anthem, the *Powerful's* band returning the compliment with "The Star-spangled banner." An Admiral's bugle salute then rang out from the *Powerful*, which was duly returned. As the *Olympia* passed the Italian cruisers *Eina* and *Amerigo Vespucci* a similar exchange of courtesies took place. The band of the *Powerful* then struck up "Home, Sweet Home," to which the *Olympia* replied with "Should Auld Acquaintance be Forgot," as she steamed rapidly off in the direction of the Lyceum Pass.

The opening ceremony of the Himmin Gakko (Charity School for poor children) founded at Yoshiokacho, Yokohama, by Mr. Hiranuma Senzo, took place on Monday. There was a large attendance, those present including Count Kabayama, Minister for Education; Baron Sengo, Governor of Tokyo; Mr. Asada, Governor of Kanagawa; Mr. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama, and other distinguished personages in Yokohama and Tokyo. Mr. Hiranuma first spoke, and was followed by the Minister and others. Mr. Hoshi Toru made an interesting speech. He said he had been in Yokohama while young, and once studied here. He was the son of a poor man, and received his education in a similar school to the present one. He expected great results from the school, and he had strong sympathy with the work of Mr. Hiranuma. The master of the school also spoke. Afterwards foreign luncheon was served. We understand the students number 350 and that Mr. Hiranuma presented a suit of clothes to each.

Statistics on the relative amount of sunshine and rain in the States of Central Europe have been compiled by an energetic Frenchman. It appears that of all the countries of Europe Spain is that most blessed with sunshine, as in the course of a year she enjoys no fewer than three thousand hours of bright sun. Italy comes next with two thousand three hundred, and then France follows with two thousand two hundred. When we come to Germany the fall is still greater, for the central Empire only has the advantage of one thousand seven hundred hours of bright sunshine. Poor England is, of course, the worst off, as it can only boast of one thousand four hundred hours per

annum, or rather less than half of that enjoyed by Spain. On the other hand, Great Britain has the largest amount of rainfall in the year. On the Continent the St. Bernard Alps are wet as any spot, but Germany is only about one-fifth as damp as Great Britain, Alsace being a trifle wetter than the country which has annexed it. Italy is not troubled with much rainfall, and Paris has surprisingly little, her total for the year not being quite one-sixth of that which falls in London.

SUGAR INDUSTRY IN HAWAII.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Honolulu, May, 1899.

Hawaii has become a part of the United States, but it is a monarchy still. King Kalakawa is dead, and Queen Liliuokalani is in self-imposed exile, but Hawaii has another king—king sugar. His rule daily grows more and more universal and despotic. Rich and poor of both sexes and of almost all ages feel the sway of his power. Other industries have been fostered by Government and people. This is especially true of the fruit and the coffee industries. Unquestionably both have great possibilities here. And they have not been fostered for their own sake alone. The more ultimate object has been to encourage a peasant proprietorship to "develop the small farmer" by introducing "brains and energy from the temperate zone" to make Hawaii "a land of homes." That diversified industries would promote the welfare of the Islands is recognized by press and people. But all in vain. King sugar is inexorable. With "Greater Profit" inscribed on his banner he compels the submission of all. The trees of coffee plantations abase themselves in the dust in his presence and the small farmer packs his trunks and seeks other fields.

In truth, the adaptation of this country to sugar growing is wonderful and the profits are simply intoxicating. Twenty-four per cent, and even thirty per cent, is spoken of as actually realized. One plantation has even paid five per cent, monthly for ten months past. Coffee-growing may or may not be a success; on that question there is a difference of opinion. But even granting that it is a success, a great success, not the most sanguine expects its profits to reach the half of the figures just given for sugar. And so it is not at all strange that right in the Olua district, the region of the most promising coffee farms, a gigantic sugar plantation has just been "promoted"—and it is the fear of many discerning lovers of the Islands, and the conviction of all, that this is to be repeated until every available foot of land adapted to sugar is planted with cane.

Sugar has been grown here for many years and so the adaptation of the soil to sugar-growing is not a matter of recent knowledge. It is irrigation which is of comparatively recent origin and which has proved the Islands to be one vast sugar plantation. A few plantations are watered from mountain streams brought down in ditches, as we so often see it done in Japan. But it is irrigation from artesian wells that is working wonders. From these wells the water is thrown into reservoirs 350 feet high, and with the very gradual slopes of the land this supplies a very large acreage. About 55,000 acres in sixty plantations are now growing cane.

The amount of cane produced is simply immense. The amount of sugar per acre runs from 3½ tons up to 15 tons. Now, as it requires eight tons of cane to produce one ton of sugar, it will be seen that the best land must produce 120 tons of cane to the acre.

On some plantations the cane when cut and stripped is floated down to the mills in "flumes," and it is an impressive sight to see the cane hurrying noiselessly along to its destination. Where this method is not available the cane is loaded on cars, tracks for which are laid all through the cane fields.

The sharp competition from beet sugar a few years ago led to the abandonment of the machinery in use up to that time and the substitution of the most modern and perfect machinery. The old machinery extracted but little more than one-half of the saccharine matter from the cane; the new machinery takes out from 93 to 97 per cent. of it. Some of the machinery comes from the United States, but the very best machinery is made in Honolulu itself.

The mills are wonderful illustrations of the success of science in saving time and labour. The cane is brought under the roof by flume or railway; seven hours later it is sugar in bags loaded on cars still under the same roof which (on Ewa for example) carry it to Honolulu for exportation.

The cane is crushed by three sets of rollers respectively of 360, 400, 410 tons pressure, and the juice is evaporated into sugar by machinery moved by steam from seven boilers, to heat which the crushed and pressed cane, or bagasse, is the only fuel used. The mill in question (Ewa), on the day preceding our visit, had thus turned out 2,200 bags of sugar of 125 pounds each. This plantation expects to send out 24,000 tons during 1899, and it is confidently believed that the 270,000 tons produced by these Islands in 1898 will in a few years reach the enormous aggregate of 350,000 tons. The value of sugar exported in 1898 was \$14,933,000. With the profits mentioned above, or even the half of them, it can easily be seen that the Hawaiians have enough to turn their heads—and just now that needs a very real danger. Speculation bids fair to take precedence of production and a genuine American "boom," with all its attendant evils, is threatening the hitherto prosperous archipelago. In a subsequent letter I hope to write of the Japanese in Hawaii, to which letter this may be regarded merely as an introduction. M. L. G.

DEATH OF MR. LE POER TRENCH.

The Hon. P. H. Le Poer Trench, formerly H.B.M.'s representative in Tokyo, died on 30th April, at his London residence 26, Albion-street, Hyde Park. He was in his fifty-eighth year. The deceased was the fourth son of the third Earl of Clancarty, and entering the diplomatic service as an *attaché* in June, 1859, after passing his examination, was appointed to Paris in August, afterwards serving in Constantinople and Munich. Passing another examination, he was promoted to be Third Secretary in 1863, and transferred to Rio de Janeiro in 1865, and to Washington in 1868, where he was also Private Secretary to Sir Edward Thornton. He was promoted to be Second Secretary in 1870, after which he was temporarily employed in the Foreign Office. He was promoted to be Secretary of Legation at Tokyo in 1882. He was in charge of the Legation for nearly two years from August, 1887, to March, 1889, on the return home of Sir Francis Plunkett, and the ability he displayed in the negotiations for Treaty Revision with Japan brought to light his powers as a diplomatist. After serving in Berlin as Secretary of Embassy, he was promoted in 1893 to be Minister at Mexico, and when the Legation at Tokyo became vacant a year later, Lord Rosebery selected him, in view of his previous services to Japan, for the post. Mr. Trench arrived at Tokyo just after hostilities had broken out between China and Japan, but his health unfortunately gave way under the severe strain of his duties during that critical period. In the spring of 1895 he was struck down by an attack of paralysis and aphasia from which he never entirely recovered. He was invalided home, and retired on a pension in 1896. The funeral took place at Highgate Cemetery on 3rd ult.

TELEGRAMS.

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

Saigon, June 9.

The Socialists are organizing a demonstration for Sunday next, on the course at Longchamps, in favour of President Loubet.

Saigon, June 10.

Lieut.-Colonel Picquart has been set at liberty provisionally.

Saigon, June 11.

The *Sfax*, having Dreyfus on board, sailed from Cayenne this morning.

Saigon, June 12.

An enormous concourse of people assembled on the race-course at Longchamps in connexion with the demonstration organized by the Socialists. President Loubet was cheered continuously by an immense crowd from the time that he left the Palace of the Elysée until he reached the course at Longchamps. His

appearance in the tribune was the signal for enthusiastic cries of *Vive Loubet! Vive l'Armée!*

Nothing untoward occurred. One or two collisions with the police took place, and there were a few arrests.

Saigon, June 13.

The ovation given to the President of the Republic was continued during his return to the Palais de l'Elysée.

Some disturbances took place, but they were isolated and of no gravity.

Later.

In yesterday's session of the Chamber of Deputies the Socialists attacked the Cabinet on the ground that the police had been guilty of brutality.

The Chamber, by 321 votes to 173, adopted a motion affirming the necessity of defending the Republic, but not expressing confidence in the Government. The Cabinet has resigned.

Saigon, June 14.

The Tribunal of Correctional Police has sentenced the Baron de Christiani to four years' imprisonment.

THE TRANSVAAL SITUATION. FURTHER DETAILS OF THE CONFERENCE.

London, June 9.

Mr. Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, speaking in the House of Commons, has confirmed the report that the Bloemfontein Conference has so far proved resultless; that the British Government consider President Krüger's proposals, according to which no change in the franchise is to be effected for two years and then only in the case of those Uitlanders who have resided in the Transvaal for eleven years, as entirely inadequate; that Sir Alfred Milner has also informed President Krüger that England would not consent to the arbitration of a foreign power; and that the question of the dynamite monopoly has been reserved for further discussion.

London, June 10.

The *Daily Graphic* learns that the conclusion has forced itself upon the Ministers of State, that if the Transvaal persists in its present attitude, England has no alternative but a forcible solution.

The *Chronicle* believes that Mr. Chamberlain's reply to the Uitlanders' petition which will now be presented to the Boer Government, will convey an unmistakable intimation that, unless concessions are made, an ultimatum will follow.

London, June 12.

Latest despatches from Johannesburg report much excitement there. Owing, however, to anxiety to preserve peace, it is understood in Bloemfontein that President Krüger is willing to abolish the dynamite monopoly; while the Congo Free-State is pressing the Pretoria Government to grant reforms. Nevertheless trains have been dispatched to Johannesburg to provide for a possible exodus.

London, June 13.

The *Times* strongly urges an understanding between the Imperial and the Cape Governments, regarding the form the Imperial interference on the Transvaal affair should take.

London, June 15.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, said that the Government was awaiting fuller despatches from Sir Alfred Milner before sending further instructions with regard to the Transvaal question.

The *Times* says that there is reason to

believe that Germany and Holland are urging President Kruger to give way. The *Times* earnestly hopes that he will take their advice, but declares that, at any rate, Great Britain can not abate her insistence.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN AGREEMENT.

London, June 9.

Mr. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary to the Foreign Office, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that, in the opinion of the Government, the Anglo-Russian agreement does not cover the question of railway communication with Peking.

THE JAPANESE LOAN.

Only twelve per cent. of the Japanese loan has been subscribed and the remainder has been underwritten and is quoted at 1½ discount.

ANTI-CHINESE ACT ALSO DISALLOWED.

London, June 10.

The Dominion Government of Canada has also annulled the anti-Chinese act of British Columbia.

COL. PICQUART RELEASED.

Later.

Col. Picquart (who had been confined in prison in connection with the Dreyfus affair) has been released.

ENGLAND AND CHINA.

TO PROTECT ENGLISH INTERESTS ON THE YANGTZE.

In a debate on China, in the House of Commons, Mr. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary to the Foreign Office, stated that the British Government had proposed that in order to hold China to her undertaking not to alienate the provinces bordering on the Yangtze, England will see that a force be stationed upon the Yangtze valley, sufficiently strong to protect the merchants.

BRITISH ATTITUDE ON RUSSIAN DEMAND.

The Foreign Under Secretary further stated that the Government doubted whether a demand for Russian railway connection with Peking had ever been made, but that he must declare that if such a demand be pressed, England will be forced to advise the Yamen against taking any step calculated to subordinate the Chinese Government to another Power.

ENGINEERS' CORPS FOR NATAL.

London, June 12.

The twenty-third company of Engineers has sailed for Natal.

THE CRICKET MATCH.

The Australians have beaten Cambridge by ten wickets.

FRENCH CABINET RESIGNS.

London, June 13.

The Socialists in the French Chamber of Deputies moved for a censure for alleged brutality of the Police while suppressing the cases of scuffling at the races at Longchamps on Sunday last. The Chamber refused this, but rejected the vote of confidence in the Dupuy Cabinet, which in consequence has resigned.

FEARFUL CALAMITIES BEFALLING RUSSIA.

London, June 14.

Famine and disease are causing fearful ravages in the Eastern provinces of Russia, while the recent cold weather is ruining crops in the north and centre, and drought is doing the same thing in the south.

GERMANY AND ARBITRATION.

London, June 13.

At the Peace Conference Germany has refused to consent to the establishment of a permanent tribunal of arbitration without guarantee of the tribunal's impartiality.

THE ASSAULT ON PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Baron de Christiani, who struck President Loubet, has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment.

AUSTRALIANS v. YORKSHIRE.

The cricket match between the Australians and Yorkshire ended in a draw.

MORE DYNAMITE OUTRAGES IN KOREA. JAPANESE CONSULATE IN DANGER.

Soul, June 13.

Last night some dynamite bombs were thrown near the Japanese Consulate. Three natives were wounded. Dynamite was also thrown at the private residence of Mr. Ho-kow Tuk, Governor of Yeichon, and other bombs were found in the compound of the Metropolitan Police Bureau.

The riots in Tel-la Tai have been suppressed.

Soul, June 14.

Last night a dynamite bomb was exploded at the house of the absent Mr. Pak Yong Ho, and two natives were killed. It is said that the bomb exploded while it was being prepared. Some thirty persons were arrested. They are suspected of being connected with conspirators in Japan.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

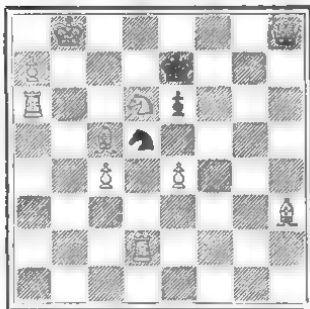
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 424.

- WHITE.**
1—R to B 2
2—Q to Kt 3 ch
3—Kt to Kt sq mate
- BLACK.**
1—Kt to R 6
2—B takes Q (must)
1—K to R 8
2—B takes Q (must)
1—P to K 5
2—Any
1—B any
2—K moves
- Correct solutions received from W.D.C., and East Anglia.

PROBLEM No. 427.

By A. H. ROBBINS.

BLACK.



WHITE.
White mates in two moves.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. BLACKBURN.

Sir George Newnes proposes that Great Britain shall honour her champion by a testimonial, as will be seen by the following letter from *The Westminster Gazette* :—

To the Editor of *The Westminster Gazette* :

Dear Sir,—I have been asked by a number of Chess-players to inaugurate a National Testimonial to Mr. J. H. Blackburn.

Since 1868 he played in all important tournaments at home and abroad, and in one instance was he not placed. Even then he was awarded a special prize. In all these he did battle in the name of Britain.

As a blindfold player he is admitted to be the

most brilliant who has ever lived. This interesting and even sensational form of play, carried on in London and the provinces for more than thirty years, has done a great deal to popularize the game in this country. On one occasion, playing a number of opponents, without sight of boards or men, he successfully announced, in a most intricate position, "mate in seventeen moves."

The consistent way in which he has played for Britain v. America in the Cable-matches, culminating in his brilliant victory quite recently, has earned the gratitude of very many British Chess players. I believe there is a general feeling amongst devotees of the game throughout the country that the time has come when a substantial sum should be given to or invested for him, so if the strain of blindfold exhibitions proves too much in his declining years, when that period arrives (and long may it be delayed), he will have the solace and comfort of knowing that, through the willingness of his friends, there will be something to fall back upon. Subscriptions will be thankfully received by myself, the Hon. Secretary of the British Chess Club, the Hon. Secretary of the City of London Chess Club, or through the Hon. Secretary or Treasurer of any accredited Club who will kindly forward them to your obedient servant,

GEORGE NEWNES.

GAME No. 517.

Below follows the sixth and deciding game of the contest just ended between Kemeny and Voigt to decide the tie for the championship of Philadelphia. The accompanying notes were contributed in the *Philadelphia Ledger* by the first-named player :—

FOUR KNIGHTS GAME.

White—S. Voigt.		Black—Kemeny.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	22 Kt R4	P x P
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	23 P x P	Q Kt3
3 Kt B3	Kt B3	24 K R2(I)	QR B q
4 B K5	B K5	25 Q Q3	R x B (u)
5 Castles	Castles	26 Q x R	Q x OP
6 P Q3	P Q3	27 Kt B3	Q KB5
7 Kt K2	Kt K2	28 Q B-q	Q Q
8 P B3	B R4	29 QR x Q	Kt QB3
9 Kt K13	P B3	30 Kt K2	B Kt5
10 B R4	Kt K13	31 Kt B4(h)	B x Kt
11 P Q4	B B2	32 R x B	K (Q2) x P
12 B B2	B K 5(a)	33 R Q Kt3	P Q5
13 P KR3	B K3	34 R x P	R Q q
14 Kt R2	R K-q	35 R B7	P Q6
15 P KB4	P x BP	36 R Q q(I)	P Q7
16 B x P	P Q4(h)	37 K K3(k)	Kt Q5
17 B x B(c)	Q x h	38 R B5(l)	Kt B4ch
18 P K5	Kt Q2	39 K B2	Kt Kt5ch
19 P KR4(d)	P QB4	40 K B3(m)	Kt (B4) K6
20 P R5	Kt K2(c)	41 R B8(n)	R x R
21 Kt B3	P Kt3	42 Resigns.	

NOTES.

(a) The usual and proper play is P to Q 4, and Black brings about an even position. The play selected gives White an advantage.

(b) This enables White to advance the K P, which opens the diagonal for the White K B, and he obtains a pretty strong attack. Black, however, had hardly any better play.

(c) Preferable, perhaps, was P to K 5 at once. The exchange of bishops somewhat relieves the Black game, for the Queen can be brought into play.

(d) Quite forcible, yet it unnecessarily weakens the king's side. Kt to B3 at once was, perhaps, stronger.

(e) Preferable to Kt (K3) to B-q. Black keeps the Q B square open for the other knight.

(f) Better, perhaps, was R to K B 2.

(g) Kt to B-q would have guarded against the threatening check, and, apparently, Black's game was not in danger. It must be admitted, however, that the attack was with White, and continuations like Kt to K 2 and Kt to B 4, or Kt to B 5, followed by Kt takes B and R takes Kt were threatening. The text move sacrifices the exchange. Black gets the valuable Q P, and completely neutralizes the attack. The play was, perhaps, the best Black had on hand.

(h) Kt (K 2) to Q 4, was, perhaps, better. If Black answers B takes Kt, then Kt takes Kt would follow. White should have endeavoured to get rid of one of the knights.

(i) White might have played Kt takes P, followed by R (B 7) takes Kt and R takes Kt, heading to an even game. Black's Q P is somewhat dangerous, and White should have been satisfied with a draw.

(k) To guard against the threatening Kt to Kt 5 ch, followed by Kt to K 6.

(l) He could not play R takes Q P on account of Kt to B 4 ch and R takes R.

(m) A disastrous mistake, which loses the game, as Black's Kt (B 4) to K 6 reply shows. He

should have played K to K 2, in which case Black would have answered Kt to Kt 6 ch, followed by Kt to K 5, or Kt to Q 5 ch, followed by Kt to Kt 6 ch, but in either variation, by proper play, White can hold his own.

(n) After this move the game was adjourned, but, White coming out a piece behind, surrendered before resuming play.

GAME No. 518.

CHESS IN OLD PHILADELPHIA.

The following interesting game and notes are taken as specimen of play in the Quaker City of bygone years, from the new book, "Chess in Philadelphia," recently published by Messrs. G. Reichen and W. P. Shipley, of that city.

Played in the Athenæum in the early forties.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

White—Mr. C. Vezin. Black—Mr. J. Thompson

WHITE.

1—P to K 4

BLACK.

1—P to Q B 4

Mr. James Thompson in those days was the Murat of chess and more feared than stronger but duller players. In this partie, the genial master of the Athenæum gives Mr. T. a dose of his own medicine.

2—P to K B 4

2—P to K 3

3—K Kt to B 3

3—P to Q 4

4—P to K 5

4—Q Kt to B 3

5—P to B 3

All this is the old form of play, now obsolete.

6—B to Q 3

5—B to K 2

A modern would play 6—P to Q 5.

7—B to B 2

6—P to B 3

8—P to Q 4

7—Kt to R 3

9—Castles

8—Castles

10—K to R-q

9—Q to Kt 3

11—B P takes P

10—P takes K P?

12—P to Q Kt 3

11—Kt to B 2

13—B takes P ch

12—Kt to R-q

14—Kt to Kt 5 ch

13—K takes B

15—R takes R ch

14—K to Kt-q

16—Q to R 5!

15—K takes R

This whole combination shows that Mr. Vezin was a very brilliant player and had a keen sense of the beautiful in chess.

17—Q takes Kt ch

16—B takes Kt

18—B takes B

17—K to B 2

19—Kt to Q 2

18—Q to Kt 4

20—P to K R 4

19—K to Kt 3

21—R to K H-q

20—Q to K 7

22—B to B 6

21—P takes P

A nice finishing touch.

22—Q takes Kt

And White mated in two moves.

COLLEGE CHESS.

A. Oxford and Cambridge universities furnished the English players in the late international College Match, it is of interest to know that these two great English universities have played twenty-seven matches. The following is the full score given by the *Literary Digest* :

OXFORD'S RECORD.

Date.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.
1873.....	9	2	2
1876.....	12	5	0
1877.....	8	1	2
1883 (draw) ..	—	—	—
1886.....	6	3	1
1888.....	7	2	1
1889.....	5	1	4
1895.....	4	3	0
1896.....	3	2	2
1897.....	3	2	2

CAMBRIDGE'S RECORD.

Date.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.
1874.....	13	3	4
1875.....	10	5	2
1878.....	10	2	0
1879.....	5	4	3
1880.....	11	0	2
1881.....	5	4	3
1882.....	5	3	5
1883 (draw) ..	—	—	—
1884.....	4	3	3
1885.....	5	4	3
1887.....	5	3	4
1890.....	3	2	3
1891.....	3	2	4
1892.....	3	0	3
1893.....	3	1	0
1894.....	3	2	2
1895.....	3	2	2
1896.....	5	1	1

Oxford won 9, Cambridge 17.

NOTES.

Showalter and Pillsbury sailed for Southampton at the beginning of May in order to participate in the great international chess tournament which opened in London on May 31st. Pillsbury, says an American exchange, is confident that he will be successful in carrying off one of the valuable prizes offered by the tourney committee and he expressed a hope that his visit to Europe may result in an arrangement being made by which Lasker and himself will do battle for the world's championship. Showalter, who was accompanied by his wife and child, was in capital spirits, but would make no predictions as to his eventual success in the coming contest. His wife, who shares with Mrs. Harriett Wood the distinction of being the strongest woman player in the United States, will return in season to be entered as a competitor in the International Woman's Chess Congress, which is expected to be held in the fall.

The first contest by cable between the English and American colleges resulted in a win for England by 3½ to 2½ games. There was not much about the match to create excitement or enthusiasm, as numbers of chances were missed on both sides, but the match had its interesting features and will doubtless be repeated next year.

The Major Tournament of the Scottish Chess Association was won by D. G. Mills, who thus remains Champion of Scotland.

The Ladies' Chess Club intend doing a graceful act in connection with the forthcoming London tournament. The idea is to present a special souvenir, in the shape of a substantial gold medal, to the first prize-winner in each tournament, and also to the winner of the most brilliant game.

THE PAWN.

I.
In hottest fight he's never shirky,
He never jumps wif' motion quicky,
O'er the board;
But often wif' a sudden jerk he
Loups at an opposing binkie
Wif' his sword.

II.
Tae every coward he's a model,
Tae holt ne'er comes into his noddle;
E'en the Queen,
When he gets a proper hand, he'll
Mak' wif' bitter shame tae toddle
Off the scene.

III.
On he gauges in gallant fashion,
Knights and Rooks he lays the lash on
Wif' a swing;
Then tae crown he makes a dash on,
And in regicidal passion
Slays the King.

P. Fyle, Glasgow, Herald.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. June 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu. June 28
Hongkong	M. N. Co.	Calendonia	Tu. June 27
America	P. M. Co.	China	W. June 26
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Italy	Sa. July 2
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	M. July 5
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohmannsberg	W. July 5
America	P. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. July 6
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	Th. July 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. July 10
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. July 10

a Left Hongkong on the 10th inst.

s Left Hongkong on the 13th inst.

g Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

To	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. June 17
Europe, via S'hal.	M. N. Co.	Sydney	W. June 21
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	W. June 21
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. June 22
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. June 24
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. June 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. June 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	M. July 3
America	T. K. K.	City of Peking	Tu. July 4
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohmannsberg	F. July 5
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	F. July 5
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. July 7

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 10th June.—Shanghai via ports, 3rd June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 10th June.—Hongkong, General.—Tayo Kisen Kaisha.
Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, H. Pybus, 10th June.—Hongkong via Moji and Kobe, 9th June, General.—C. P. R. Co.
Ambria, German steamer, 3,526, Burmeister, 10th June.—Hamburg via ports, Shanghai, 6th June, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Glenloch, British steamer, 2,997, J. McGregor, 10th June.—London via ports, Kobe, 9th June, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Idsumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Cunnaw, 12th June.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 10th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 12th June.—Vancouver, B.C., 29th Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, R. D. Jones, 12th June.—Kobe, 11th June, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Columbia, American steamer, 1,689, T. H. Dabson, 12th June.—Portland, Oregon, 23rd May, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Cardiganish, British steamer, 2,438, Hadley, 12th June.—London via ports, 11th June, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantou, 12th June.—Tacoma, Wash, and Victoria, B.C., 28th May, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 13th June.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 25th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Mogul, British steamer, 2,354, D. S. Bailey, 14th June.—New York via Suez Canal, Hongkong, 8th June, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Belgian King, British steamer, 2,170, T. L. Weiss, 15th June.—San Diego, Cal., General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 15th June.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 13th June, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 15th June.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 14th June, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Aubert, 15th June.—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 14th June, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman-Scally, 15th June.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 14th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Saschen, British steamer, 1,158, Hall, 15th June.—Anping, 9th June, Sugar.—Butterfield and Swire.
Deika Rickmers, German steamer, 2,361, Buhle, 16th June.—New York via Suez Canal, Kobe, 14th June, General.—C. Illies & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Waltersdorf, 9th June.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachr.
Birchtor, British steamer, 2,378, G. H. Balleine, 10th June.—Kobe, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
D. H. Watjen, German ship, 2,079, C. Wicke, 10th June.—Iquique, Chili, Ballast.—Grosset & Co.
Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, H. Pybus, 12th June.—Vancouver via Victoria, B.C., General.—C. P. R. Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 12th June.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Columbia, American steamer, 1,689, T. H. Dabson, 12th June.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. Horsfall, 13th June.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantou, 14th June.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Dorothea Rickmers, German steamer, 2,499, H. Pope, 14th June.—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 14th June.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, R. D. Jones, 14th June.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Idsumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,899, M. J. Cunnaw, 15th June.—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 14th June.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenloch, British steamer, 2,997, J. McGregor, 16th June.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 15th June.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Futami Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, C. H. Hillcoat, 15th June.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ambria, German steamer, 3,526, Burmeister, 16th June.—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Japan*, from Kobe:—Miss Pount, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong:—Mr. T. Kujima, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Brockelbank and child, Mr. and Mrs. Perayne, Mrs. C. A. Pass, Baron M. Mautenfel, Mr. W. J. Weaver, Mr. E. Ezaki, and Mr. K. Oshinara, in cabin; Mr. C. Tsukamoto, and Mr. and Mrs. Sue Ping Bung and family, in second class; 13 in steerage.

Per German steamer *Ambria*, from Hamburg via ports:—Dr. Lisse, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. T. C. W. Price, in cabin. For Vancouver:—Mr. W. S. Ayrton, Miss Ayrton, Mrs. W. Ayrton, Miss F. Ayrton, Master Ayrton, and Miss McClatchie, in cabin; Mr. G. H. Storck, and Mr. J. Brennan, in second class; 88 Japanese, and 92 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, C.B.:—Mr. Hart Buck, Mrs. V. R. Bowden, Mrs. F. H. Elbridge, Lord and Lady Huntingdon and servant, Hon. C. Hamilton, Baron Von Ketteler, Business Von Ketteler and maid, Mr. A. J. Letroy, Capt. and Mrs. Lawson and servants, Mr. R. A. Rutan, Mr. O. Strome, Mr. Trojan, Mr. Herbert Wilson, Mr. Clarence Wilson, Mr. Wilfred Wilson, Miss Wilson, and Mr. Bruce Webster, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash.:—Mr. Henry Musser, in cabin; 2 Japanese, and 26 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. I. Peck Epfinger, Mr. F. Deardoff, Mr. M. Deardoff, Master Max A. Laughlin, Mr. M. Kojima, Mr. A. Simon, Mr. George A. March, Mr. J. G. Ahnita, Mr. T. Wilson, Mr. J. C. Bents, Mrs. F. Deardoff, Mrs. Ida Kite and infant, Mr. H. Blumenstein, Mr. I. Kadono, Mr. John F. Duff, Mr. W. B. Tuttle, and Mr. C. Soto, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. T. Kooring, Mrs. A. H. A. Nicholson and child, Mrs. T. Kooring, and Mr. Bash McGargar, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. M. Martin, Capt. George W. Pigman, U.S.N., Dr. F. F. Sprague, Mrs. Caroline Williams, Essing W. S. Crosby, U.S.N., and Capt. H. J. McGrath, U.S.A., in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Selden and nurse, Mrs. Hampton, Mr. and Mrs. George, Mr. P. entier, Mr. R. Singer, Mrs. E. F. Stoddart, Misses E. and C. Stoddart, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Kock, Mrs. Schlichting, Mr. Watson, Business Heyking's maid, Miss Dudley, Mr. R. P. Saunders, Mr. B. Roth, Mrs. A. Roth and child, Mr. Irvine, Mrs. Layton and son, Mr. G. M. Hayward, Mr. J. A. Stagg, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Murray, Mr. F. G. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. G. Cobb and child, Mr. E. J. Marshall, Mrs. Wilson, and Mr. O. Pallak, in cabin. For Vancouver:—Mr. W. S. Roberts, Rev. and Mrs. Gould and 4 children, Mrs. Eyer, Mr. G. Lee Kang, Lieut. G. F. H. Dickson, Mr. A. Shuff, Dr. A. P. Peck, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mathews and child, Mr. H. D. Monro, Lieut. C. G. Hunter, R.E., Marquis de San Vin, Mr. C. F. Lung, Mrs. B. J. Allen, Mrs. M. M. Stevens, Mrs. May, governess and 3 children, Lieut. A. Strubling, Mrs. A. C. Clark, Mr. C. McCallum, Mr. W. A. Watts Jones, Mr. J. F. Roberts, Miss Roberts, Mrs. Wheen and child, Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Seymour and two children, Mr. A. B. Glover, in cabin, 14 in second class; 355 in steerage.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Takahira, child and servant, Mr. Carrillon, Mr. Cony Verneil, Mr. Jean Roustan, Mr. J. B. Cohen, Mr. Salamé, Mr. and Mrs. Tussou and family, Mr. Yan, Mr.

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Redemption Loan Bonds.....	94 80
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Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 100.....	100 00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50.....	50 00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100.....	100 00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75.....	75 00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50.....	50 00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50.....	50 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100.....	100 00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50.....	50 00
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 45.....	45 00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 20 50.....	20 50
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45.....	45 00
Kobe Railway, new—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47.....	47 00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 35.....	35 00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Hokkaido Colliery R'y, 2nd issue—paid up yen 20 00.....	20 00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Nano Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Hokuriku Railway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Toku Railway—paid up yen 15.....	15 00
Formosa Railway—application yen 50.....	50 00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25.....	25 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20.....	20 00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60.....	60 00
Japan Woolen—paid up yen 40.....	40 00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 30.....	30 00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50.....	50 00
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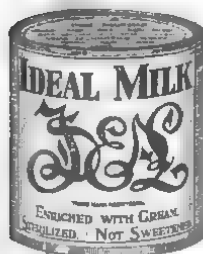
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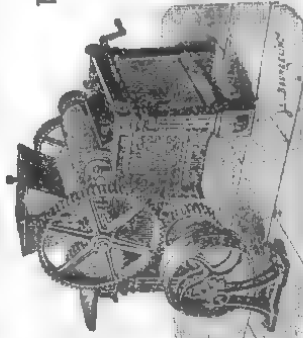
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 23.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 10TH, 1899.

月三年五十二分癸
西曆一千九百零一年五月

[VOL. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	557
The New Loan.....	558
Count Okuma and the Chinese.....	559
The Seoul-Wiju Railway.....	559
The New Political Party.....	559
Mr. Noshi Toru.....	560
The Japanese Nobility.....	560
The Tokyo Election.....	560
Shinagawa Electric Light Company.....	560
Japanese Ladies and the Peace Conference.....	561
John Bull in Japan.....	561
Germany's New Acquisitions in the Pacific.....	561
The Reddish Philippine Documents.....	561
Why Tokyo is so Unprogressive.....	561
The United States Minister in Sendai.....	561
Revolution in Life Insurance.....	562
Disturbances in Korea.....	562
Germany and Belgium.....	562
Lord Salisbury and the Russian Loan.....	562
Notes on Current Events.....	562
Death of Archdeacon Warren.....	562
Barley Crop for this Year.....	562
Another Accident in the Tokyo Water Works.....	562
An Indemnity from Korea.....	562
Extensive Thefts.....	562
The Plague at Hongkong.....	562
Leading Articles:—	
Affairs in France.....	563
For Ignorance of Japan.....	563
An Exceptional Millionaire.....	563
Monthly Summary of the Religious Press.....	563
Soul Electric Railway.....	563
American Writers.....	563
American Topics.....	563
The Woman's Burden.....	563
The Kumi-ji (Congregational) Churches in Japan.....	563
Bank of Japan.....	563
Correspondence:—	
Foreign Restaurant at Oiso.....	573
Can Foreigners Preach in Japan?.....	573
The Work before Us.....	573
Missionaries and the Japanese Language.....	573
Saturday's Storm.....	574
Piracy on the West River.....	574
Chinese Affairs.....	574
News of the Week.....	574
The Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1899.....	574
Telegrams.....	579
Latest Shipping.....	580
Latest Commercial.....	580

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

On 8th inst., at 104, Settlement, Yokohama, the wife of HUBERT J. OWAN, of a daughter (stillborn).—[Shanghai papers please copy.]

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Transvaal situation is regarded as being very grave.

THE plague is extending in Egypt, Europeans being now attacked.

THE death is reported of Colonel Mima Seiko, ex-Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture.

THE opening of the Iyogo canal took place at 2 p.m. on Monday, and was attended by about 500 persons.

COL. DU PATT DE CLAM has been arrested charged with forgeries in connection with the Dreyfus affair.

MARQUIS YAMAGATA, the Premier, has been the recipient of the Grand Cordon of the Red Eagle from the Kaiser.

THE other day a woman aged 35, wife of a pedler living at Sanyacho, Asakusa, Tokyo, murdered her child while her husband was away

from home, and then committed suicide. She had been afflicted with hypochondria.

COUNT ITAGAKI and some political adherents left Shimbashi on Wednesday morning on a canvassing tour to Kyushu.

ESTERHAZY has confessed to being the author of the *bordereau* that led to Dreyfus' conviction. He is in hiding in London.

EIGHT lives were lost in Kobe harbour on Saturday last, during a gale that suddenly sprang up from the south-west.

HONGKONG is suffering from a recrudescence of the plague, and along with Swatow has been officially declared an infected area.

A KOREAN who was suspected of having come to Japan to compass an assassination, has been deported by order of the authorities.

MR. ARTHUR DIOSY continues to receive unbounded hospitalities by the leading Japanese residents of Tokyo and Yokohama.

THE Court of Cassation has quashed the verdict in the Dreyfus case and ordered his return to Rennes, to be again tried by Court-martial.

AT the instance of Mr. Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, the Dominion Government of Canada has disallowed the British Columbian anti-Japanese Act.

THE construction of the Ikarigasaki-Hirasawa section on the Aomori railway having been completed, the line will be opened for traffic from the 16th inst.

THE President of the French Republic, while attending the Autenil races, was struck on the hip by a young nobleman. The affair created a great sensation in France.

OWING to the small number of passengers by express-trains between Kobe and Osaka, the authorities are said to have decided to suspend the service for the present.

THE Emperor of Japan has presented a decoration to the Emperor of China, and during the week Mr. Yano, the Japanese representative, had the honour of an imperial audience at Peking.

THE Venerable Archdeacon Warren, while making an inspection of some mission houses at Fukuyama, Bingo Province, fell down a flight of steps into a cellar and received such injuries that he died on the 7th inst.

CASES of contagious eye disease were discovered a few days ago among students in the Elementary Schools at Hongo district, Tokyo, and the number of patients is reported to have reached a total of 430.

A SMALL Japanese schooner was driven ashore at Negishi last Saturday during the height of the gale. The P. & O. steamer *Rosita*, on her voyage from Kobe to Yokohama, picked up the crew of a large junk that was dismantled by the same storm.

A GAS explosion took place at Janno Colliery, Fukuoka Prefecture, on the 25th ult. About 2 a.m. a miner entered the pit carrying a hand lamp, when an explosion occurred, hurling the man a distance of about 250 feet and killing him.

THREE European teachers (to be placed on the same footing as officials of *chokunin* rank) are to be engaged at a yearly emolument of

from 3,000 yen to 8,000 yen by the Police and Gao School, to be opened in September. A Judge in the Berlin Local Court is said to have been secured through the Japanese Minister there.

THE total number of applicants in the examination for Court interpreters is 35, of whom three-fourths profess proficiency in the English language. In regard to interpreters of the French, German, Russian and Chinese languages, the requisite number is far from being obtained.

MESSERS. KELLY AND WALSH have been served at Singapore with an injunction against selling Mr. Foreman's book on "The Philippines," by Mr. E. S. Pratt, the U.S. Consul-General at Singapore, who is suing for libel on account of an interview with Aguinaldo therein described being false.

AN official instruction has been issued to cities and provinces to the effect that statesmen like Marquis Ito, Count Okuma, Count Itagaki, Viscount Miura, and others who rendered meritorious services to the state in the Restoration shall be guarded without distinction of political views.

THE Spanish Cortes has been opened at Madrid. The speech from the Throne announced the cession to Germany of the Caroline, Palao, and the Mariana Islands, in consideration of a payment of 25 millions of *pesetas*. Spain keeps a coaling station in each group which Germany is required to defend in case of war.

THE Committee of the Peace Conference has resolved to prohibit the use of Dumdum bullets. The dissentients to the resolution are England, Italy, and Austria; nor is the Conference likely to endorse the Committee. The question of the reduction of armaments is not making progress, owing to pronounced differences of opinion among the delegates.

THE imports and exports during May at Yokohama, Nagasaki, and Kobe were as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports.
Yokohama.	4,407,354	6,346,835	1,987,541
Kobe	692,599	10,594,216	3,691,617
Nagasaki ..	529,845	689,484	159,639
Total ...	11,839,798	17,680,535	5,840,707

A BAG of registered letters was stolen last month at the Osaka Post Office. It contained three cheques for 3,000 yen drawn on the branch of the 3rd National Bank and the Hemmi Bank by a merchant of Kanazawa, and other cheques, money orders, etc., amounting to from 22,000 to 23,000 yen, forwarded from Kanazawa Post Office. The theft was discovered when a payee at Osaka demanded by wire payment from the Kanazawa merchant, stating that no cheque had arrived. Meanwhile the Hemmi Bank had cashed one cheque for 2,000 yen.

MR. HIROMI JINZABURO, owner of the steamer *Nara Maru*, which sunk near the Pescadores in 1897, instituted a claim for 60,000 yen, against the Japan Marine Insurance Company, as the Company declined payment of insurance on the plea that the scene of the accident was outside the limits of the insurance policy. Judgment being given for the defendants, the unsuccessful litigant brought the matter before the Appeal Court, but again failed, and he then appealed to the Supreme Court. Now both parties are reported to have nearly arrived at an amicable understanding.

THE NEW LOAN.

Saturday, June 3rd.

It is announced that the six instalments in which the new loan is to be paid will be £5 per £100 on application; £15 on the day of allotment; £15 on the 17th of July; £15 on the 17th of August; £20 on the 17th of September, and £20 on the 17th of October. But as £4 out of every £90 go to the intermediaries and underwriters, the sum actually received by Japan will be only 86 million *yen*, which brings the rate of interest to 4.65 per cent. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* affirms that the delay in concluding the agreement about this loan was due to opposition organized by Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Company, who had been the first to apply for it, but such a theory is difficult to credit. We find it much easier to suppose that the Minister of Finance hesitated, as was very natural, to close with terms which can not be called particularly favourable. Concerning the commission of £4 paid to the underwriters and intermediaries, our contemporary points out that it is not in excess of the usual figure under such circumstances—an almost superfluous explanation. We presume, however, that if the loan is subscribed at a higher price than £90, the Japanese Government will enjoy the benefit.

Monday, June 5th.

There is a marked difference of journalistic opinion about the new loan. The journals of the Opposition, vehemently led by the *Hochi Shimbun*, denounce the transaction as a flagrant blunder, call the rate of interest usurious, and insist that no just comparison can be set up between the Consols and War Bonds which are now on the eve of redemption, and these newly issued bonds which have ten years to run without redemption. The five-per-cent. War Bonds and Consols are now selling for 96 or 97 in Japan, though they may be redeemed at any moment, whereas the new four-per-cent. have been issued at 86 with ten years of interest certainly accruing. These journals apparently fail to perceive that although a capitalist prefers, for purposes of investment, a security which has a long period to run, he will not sell at a heavy discount a security which may be redeemed to-morrow at par.

The pro-Government journals, on the contrary, applaud the transaction. They admit that if the bonds are subscribed for at a much higher figure than 90, the Finance Department will be convicted of having given too favourable terms to the syndicate, but they do not anticipate such a result. We may mention, in this context, that, so far as we can see, the Syndicate is to reap the full benefit of any price above 90 which the public is willing to subscribe. Our own belief is that the bonds will sell for at least 92 or 93 in the London market, and that the Syndicate will make fully two million *yen* over and above the four per cent. already secured to it, but other folks think differently. Be that as it may, the Ministerial organs and the independent journals lay stress on the fact that the Government has succeeded in obtaining the loan without giving any security, and that it has reserved to itself the right of redeeming the bonds in whatever quantities it pleases after 1908, provided only that the process of redemption must

be completed by 1953. Having that discretion, Japanese financiers may take advantage of any favourable occasion to convert the loan, or to pay it off altogether.

In answer to the erroneous contention that since China was able to obtain 90 for her 4½ per cent. bonds, the sale of Japan's 4 per cents. at 86 places the two countries in virtually the same financial category, the *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes a table the details of which are very interesting:—

	Rate of Issue per £100.	Nominal Rate of Interest, per cent.	Real Rate of Interest, per cent.
Japan's first foreign loan, in 1870	98	9	7.6
Japan's second loan, in 1873.....	90	7	7.6
Japan's third (the present) loan, in 1899	90	4	4.4
Japanese Loan	90	4	4.4
Chinese Loan.....	84	4.5	5.4
German Loan.....	91	3	3.206
Russian Loan.....	101	4	3.960

In this table no account is taken of the payments made to underwriters—4 per cent. in the case of Japan's last loan—because such expenses are inevitable in every case. Attention is further called to the fact that, in order to obtain money at 5.4 per cent. interest, China had to pledge her customs duties and other securities, whereas Japan does not give any security whatever. The Syndicate is said to have pressed very hard for security of some kind, but the Japanese Government obstinately refused to entertain the demand. That was one of the reasons of the delay in concluding the agreement. Another, and even a more serious one, was the Japanese negotiators' insistence that the right of redeeming the loan at any time and in any quantity between 1908 and 1953 should be reserved to Japan. The trouble in connexion with that point, says the *Kokumin*, was more than outsiders can conceive.

A very remarkable fact is the fluctuations that Japanese Consols and War Bonds have recently undergone. Throughout April they were quoted at 95 or less, but in May they gradually rose to 96, 97 and 98, until, on the 20th of that month, they reached par, a quotation not recorded for several years. Their elevation, however, was of brief duration, for after a week they began to fall again, dropping from 99.50 on May 30th to 96.70 on June 1st, and to 95.60 on June 2nd. The *Mainichi Shimbun* has an irate article on this subject. It charges the Government with having "bulled" the market by buying up Consols and War Bonds in order to create abroad a falsely favourable impression about the state of Japan's finances, and it alleges that the rapid depreciation of the past few days is solely due to the withdrawal of the Treasury's sustaining hand. There does not, indeed, appear to be much room for doubt that the rapid movement of these securities was due mainly to purchases by the Treasury and the Bank of Japan, but the motive of the purchases is another question. As for the Bank of Japan, it has lately had large repayments made to it by its clients, and since the necessity of paying a tax on its note issues became imperative from April 1st, it probably found that the only way to avoid loss was to invest its surplus funds in War Bonds and Consols. The Treasury, on the other hand, has to redeem a considerable quantity of these securities during the current fiscal year, a fact which immediately accounts for its operations, though it is not impossible

that the time was chosen so as to suit the negotiations for the new foreign loan.

Wednesday, June 7th.

The journals of the Opposition continue to assault the Government vehemently about the terms of the loan. They speak of the transaction as a financial failure. Even the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, though it refrains from any extreme view, and prefers to describe the agreement as fairly satisfactory, nevertheless seems inclined to adopt an apologetic tone, for it repeats the statement originally advanced in other quarters, namely, that the situation was sensibly complicated by the hostility of certain great capitalists whose offers of co-operation Japan had rejected. There is no difficulty in identifying the capitalists in question, but there is much difficulty in imagining that they would have resorted to such devices. What surprises us is the extremely unpractical nature of these criticisms. On what grounds do the Japanese base their right of easy access to the money markets of the West? It is true that they are well able to pay their way, but it is equally true, and far more patent, that their methods of paying their way are not consistent with any principles of sound finance. If the Diet had accepted Count Matsukata's programme in its entirety last session, the European estimate of Japan's condition would be very different to-day. But by confounding politics and economics there resulted a scheme which we ventured to describe at the time as "finnikin finance," and which, in the eyes of foreign observers, was suggestive of great embarrassment. The raising of the railway fares and of the rates of posts and telegraphs may bring Japan a few thousands of pounds at the moment, but will be found to have cost her millions of *yen* in loss of credit. If her party politicians choose to represent her to the world in the guise of a country leading a hand-to-mouth existence, they can hardly expect the world to see gilt on the edges of her securities.

Friday, June 9th.

The *Chiuo Shimbun* says that the subscriptions for the new Japanese loan, the period for which came to an end on the 6th instant, were at first very brisk, but that they afterwards fell off, the final quotation being £89 6s. 3d. for the £90 bonds. Our contemporary observes that the Syndicate are to be commiserated, and that it can not but regret the low condition of Japan's credit in Europe. We certainly expected a more favourable result, but the Minister of Finance may at least congratulate himself on having obtained the best terms consistent with the state of the market.

The same journal (*Chiuo*) publishes the following remarks of Count Matsukata's with reference to the loan:—"The arrangements for this loan entailed great trouble. Numbers of cipher telegrams had to be sent. Sometimes their composition involved a whole night's labour. We received 50 telegrams from London and sent 30 from our side. The negotiations began at the end of April, and Nakai, of the Specie Bank's London branch, chiefly conducted them. In the beginning they said we must give security. We declined to do anything of the kind. Then they said we should have to take instalments. To that also we would not consent. The discussion went on for a long time. But the full ac-

count of the real state of Japanese finance published by the London *Times* was very fortunate. Up to that time people had supposed that Japan's finances were in disorder, and the constant outcry raised on this side for foreign capital had the effect of preventing things from moving. Just then *The Times* came out with full and emphatic utterances, and people's ideas underwent a change. They were enabled to understand Japan's financial condition, and our credit was restored. . . . As to the statements made in the newspapers about Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. having done this or that, they are irresponsible talk. The papers say that Mr. Mitchell offered to take the loan at 95. It is true that he did so, but his rate of interest was 4½! I imagine that 90 at 4 per cent. is a better business than 95 at 4½! The bonds will be issued during the present month; a quick operation, and as the Argentine, Chinese, and Russian loans had to be raised previously, the syndicate are said to have been very uneasy. I think we may feel satisfied that we have done very well."

COUNT OKUMA AND THE CHINESE.

Count Okuma was invited on the 31st ultimo to address the members of the *Chuka Kaikwan* in Kobe. The *Chuka Kaikwan* is an association of Chinese merchants, and "Middle-flower Society" is the meaning of the appellation they give themselves. Count Okuma spoke to them in very plain language. The gist of his speech was that China is being surely but quietly cut to pieces. A few officials, who exercise arbitrary sway, are signing away the country's independence, and the 400 millions of people vitally interested in the result know nothing of what is going on. If there is a dangerous lack of national spirit and of patriotism in China, the fault lies, in Count Okuma's opinion, at the door of these incompetent and corrupt officials, who make no attempt to educate the people, and who sit with folded hands while foreign States are scoring upon their country's map lines which are euphemistically called limits of spheres of influence, but which may at any moment assume a very sinister significance. It does not do now-a-days to rely on time as a remedial agent. Things no longer move in the leisurely grooves of olden days. Nations not prepared for a crisis are sure to be overwhelmed by it when it comes, for no interval for preparation will be allowed to them. The great want of China, then, in Count Okuma's opinion is the political education of the masses, and he urged his Kobe hearers to do what they could towards supplying the need. He thinks that upon Chinese subjects, who by travel and residence in foreign countries have learned something of the world, devolves the duty of rousing their fellow-nationals from the lethargy in which they are now plunged. It was a very stirring speech. We imagine that its chief effect upon a Chinese audience must have been to suggest the desirability of getting rid of their present officials, which is another way of describing the overthrow of the Manchu dynasty. It is not our business to advocate incidents of that kind, but we may note that many students of the time share Count Okuma's view. His Excellency deprecated the notion of blood-shed, but qualified even that note of moderation by saying that the safety of the State must outweigh all other considerations.

THE SŌUL-WIJU RAILWAY.

Monday, June 5th.

It is not often that we find the *Yomiuri Shimbun* and the *Jimmin* writing in accord, for the former represents the Progressists, the latter the Liberals. But the recently circulated rumour that the concession of the Sōul-Wiju Railway had been offered for sale by the French concessionaire to a Japanese capitalist, brings the two journals into the same camp at once. They contend that the Railway ought to be acquired by Japan without a moment's hesitation; first, because it would add some fifty per cent. to the value of the Sōul-Fusan line; secondly, because, when connected with the Chinese system, the road would form part of the overland route from the Far-East to Europe and Central Asia, thus making Japan the central station on that route; and thirdly, because a most beneficial effect would be produced on the trade between Japan and China, which result would conduce to the peace of the East. Concerning the money for carrying out the undertaking, Count Okuma, speaking recently to the business-men of Osaka, suggested that by combining with Chinese capitalists the Japanese might obtain large funds for useful enterprises. That idea is welcomed as brilliant, and the newspapers from which we quote, urge that it should be put into practice for the purposes of the Sōul-Wiju line.

This incident emphasizes the terrible disadvantage under which the Japanese labour for lack of capital. The spirit is willing enough, in their case, but the purse is shallow. Yet, there is a comical element in the matter: a nation pecuniarily impotent to construct much needed railways within its own gates, is burning to build lines in foreign countries! Besides, there is the very important query, would a line from Sōul to Wiju pay a dividend. We think it very doubtful. If the road from Sōul to Fusan, which traverses the most populous districts of Korea, presents such questionable prospects that no one can be found to put up money for its construction, what chances are there for the Sōul-Wiju road? As for connecting a Korean grand trunk line with the Chinese system of railways, one does not immediately see how the feat is to be accomplished. Manchuria lies in the way. Russia will have a railway running through central Manchuria from north to south. It will bifurcate above the Liaotung Peninsula, one part passing down the Peninsula to Talien and Port Arthur, the other trending westward to Newchwang, whence the British line to Shan-hai-kan will connect it with the Chinese system—if, indeed, an independent Russian line be not built. Russia will also have her great trans-Asian road, running west and east across a part of northern Manchuria. With which of these Russian railways could the Sōul-Wiju line be connected? To establish connexion with either of them would be a heavy engineering enterprise, and would also depend on Russia's coöperation. But Russia may be supposed to entertain two intentions. The first is to make Talien and Newchwang the great sea-ports for the southward trade of Central Asia; the second is to make Vladivostok the transcontinental station for Japan. Neither intention is consistent with the project of a Sōul-Wiju road. It appears to us, therefore, that the *Yomiuri* and the *Jimmin*

are more emotional than practical when they urge the purchase of the Sōul-Wiju concession. It should occur to them that if the expectations they found on the line were at all likely to be realized, the French concessionaire would not be found trying to dispose of it to Japanese capitalists.

Tuesday, June 6th.

It is stated journalistically in Tokyo that although the idea of purchasing the Concession for the Sōul-Wiju Railway has been taken up with some zest in Japan, the terms demanded by the French concessionaire are almost prohibitively high. This gentleman is evidently trying to play off Japan against Russia, a very wise proceeding from his point of view. It is said that he offered the concession in the first place to the Government in St. Petersburg, as was very natural, but that he failed to get what he wanted, or anything like what he wanted, and thereafter he turned his face to Japan. The *Nippon* alleges that, in consideration of the great importance of the railway to this country, the Foreign Office in Tokyo is actively seeking to effect some arrangement, but finds no margin for reasonable operations. Is the *Nippon* well informed? In the first place, the period of the concession has nearly expired, we believe. Unless the work of construction is commenced before the end of this month, the concession lapses. Possibly the Korean Government might be disposed to renew it, but if there is money to be made out of the thing, Korean statesmen will be false to their record unless they proceed so as to secure the profits for themselves. They can manage that very easily by simply declining to renew the concession for its present holder. Plainly there are many possibilities connected with the enterprise, and we can hardly think that the Foreign Office in Tokyo finds itself resourceless, or even embarrassed, because a high price has been asked by the French holder of the concession.

THE NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

The partitioning of the new political party appears to be progressing slowly but surely. Concerning its prospects the latest statement is that several members of the Liberal Party are likely to join it and that the latter, resenting such a conjuncture, is disposed to show its teeth. Two are needed, however, to make a fight, and the new Party evidently does not want to try conclusions with the Liberals. In reply to a message savouring of defiance from the latter, it is represented as having replied that its campaign will be against the positions now occupied by the Progressists; that it is not making any effort to obtain recruits from the Liberal ranks, though it can not reasonably refuse to receive them if they come, and that paltry points of friction should not be suffered to dislocate a coöperation which has hitherto worked usefully. A Tokyo journal shrewdly suggests that the relations between the new Party and the Liberals will depend on the former's dimensions. If the *Kokken-to*, after organization, is found to be no larger than the defunct National Unionists, there will be no occasion for the Liberals to gird at it, but if it be of formidable size, it will be regarded as a second Richmond in the field.

MR. HOSHI TORU.

Monday, June 5th.

Fortune seems to have fairly taken Mr. Hoshi Toru under her charge. She is determined to keep him before the public, a result which politicians find very useful. Just as his name had ceased to be on everybody's lips, an incident occurred which brings him again into notoriety. Mr. Hoshi's Tokyo residence being in the Kojimachi district of Tokyo, he resolved to offer himself as a candidate for the district in the present election for the City Assembly. The law provides, however, that to be eligible for election a man must have resided two years in the district he desires to represent. Mr. Hoshi has not been residing for two years in Kojimachi. He was absent in Washington as Japanese Minister until last autumn. The Headman of the Kojimachi district, in consideration of that fact, removed Mr. Hoshi's name from the list. Quite a sensation resulted. The columns of the Tokyo press teem with the question, not simply because of the principle involved, but because the Headman is suspected of having been influenced by political motives. Mr. Hoshi and his friends claim that the residential qualification prescribed by law does not mean the presence of a man in person. If it bore any such signification, then a candidate for election must remain constantly in the same district for two years before offering himself as a candidate. He could not even travel to another town on business without rendering himself ineligible. It is true that Mr. Hoshi was in Washington, but he kept up his house in the Kojimachi district all the time and his family resided there. The other side confine themselves to the simple contention that absence can not be regarded as residence. Legal proceedings have been instituted against the Headman, and once more Mr. Hoshi Toru is the talk of the town.

Wednesday, June 7th.

The Department of Home Affairs has issued an instruction to the district officials of Tokyo City, in the sense that absence abroad on official duty does not constitute any disqualification for the full enjoyment of public rights. Mr. Hoshi Toru thus comes out victorious. The officials of Kojimachi District declared him lacking in the necessary qualifications because he had spent in Washington the greater part of the two years which constitute the residential condition of eligibility. He naturally disputed a ruling so extravagant, and pointed out that if temporary absence be a disqualification, all the franchise-holders in the empire must remain fixed, each in his own district, during the two years prior to election. Zest will be added to this victory by the fact that the Kojimachi officials are supposed to have acted in the interests of the Progressists. Mr. Hoshi's political opponents.

The *Fiji Shimpō* turns the occasion to account in its cartoon columns. Its caricaturist depicts Mr. Hoshi as a deity carried by the citizens in festival procession, which is suddenly arrested by two Progressist officials holding a rope stretched across the road. Mr. Hoshi is a square effigy—the Japanese word "square" (*shikaku*) being homonymous with "qualification,"—and is identified by his star-shaped (*hoshi-gata*) face. This is a caricature in thorough accord with Japanese taste.

THE JAPANESE NOBILITY.

A series of unfortunate events have brought the Japanese nobility into evil repute of late. The Tokugawa family, the Sakai family, the Okubo family, and the Daigo family are all under a cloud. Tokyo journals find in these facts a theme for homilies. It does not appear that there is any desire to denounce the institution of nobility, but there is an evident conviction that the idle life led by the nobles in the capital, and their freedom from any necessity to work for a living, produce a demoralizing effect. The *Fiji* urges that they should be compelled to reside in the provinces, and that regular employment should be found for them, but how either of those recommendations is to be carried into practice, our contemporary does not attempt to explain. A nobleman is as fully entitled as a commoner to the rights guaranteed by the constitution, and one of those rights is sanctity of domicile. A Japanese subject, whatever his rank or social status, is free to live where he pleases and how he pleases within the limits of law and order. The chief interest attaching to these discussions is that they sometimes shed light on Japan's history as read by the Japanese. The *Fiji Shimpō*, for example, refers in this context, to the administrative system of the Tokugawa with much admiration. Iyeyasu, in his great scheme of feudal organization, not only distributed the nobles in such a manner that they acted as a check upon each other politically, but he also contrived that if they had the power of the sword, they should not have the power of the purse too. In pecuniary affairs they were dependent upon commoners—the merchant class. Each territorial noble had a *kura-yashiki* (store-house) in Osaka, whither he sent rice as security for loans obtained from the merchants of that city. Without the coöperation of the merchant he could never have carried on. The *Fiji* is disposed to admire that system. But are we to understand that the *Fiji* admires the nobility of Tokugawa times? If so, it will have few rivals in its admiration. It always seems to us a little extravagant to discuss the circumstances of a particular class of society because a few of its members happen to disgrace themselves. Such discussions have been of periodical occurrence in England in connexion now with the nobility, now with the clergy, now with some other section of society. But it is not the class that makes the man. Idle folks with assured incomes must always be specially liable to succumb to the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and since idle folks with assured incomes will always be features of every civilized community until some radical change is effected in the distribution of wealth, there is nothing to be gained by controversies of the kind that now occupy journalistic comments in Tokyo.

THE TOKYO ELECTION.

Tuesday, June 6th.

Everybody is looking forward with hope to the new City Assembly of Tokyo. It has a fine field if it really applies itself to removing from the capital of Japan the reproach of being the most unprogressive city in the civilized world. The *Fiji Shimpō* keeps importuning the Assembly to do something, and laughs at its extraordinary timidity in granting supplies or

imposing taxes. Recently, after a painful struggle with its proclivities, it voted a million *yen* for road-making, the expenditure of that total to be spread over a term of five years at the rate of 200,000 *yen* a year. Even Osaka, which has a population equal to only one-fifth of that of Tokyo, spends a great deal more for the same purpose. Tokyo's municipal revenue is only 1,260,000 *yen*, whereas Osaka's is over a million, and New York's is 80 millions.

Thursday, June 8th.

It is understood, we presume, that the elections now on the eve of being concluded in Tokyo are for one-half of the members of the City Assembly, it being the rule that a moiety of the Assembly is changed every second year. The Assembly has hitherto been controlled by the Progressist Party, which may be said to have its stronghold in Tokyo. But there seems to be a very general belief that the Liberals will be found in the majority, or at least that they will command a force equal to that of the Progressists, after the present elections. Mr. Hoshi Toru has been returned for the Kojimachi District, wresting the seat from a Progressist candidate. It is a singular fact, however, that no two of the estimates published by vernacular newspapers agree as to the relative strength of the parties' representatives. Even with regard to the affinities of the 30 members that continue to sit in the Assembly, there are flagrant differences of opinion. We shall not tax our readers' patience by quoting the various numerical statements, especially as the voting in the assembly for the offices of President and Vice-President on the 12th instant will decide the question. The Liberal candidates will be Messrs. Hoshi Toru and Nakajima Matagoro, and the Progressists will put up Messrs. Sudo Tokiichiro and Maruyama Meisei. It really matters very little to the public at large what may be the complexion of the Tokyo City Assembly, except from the point of view that nothing could possibly be worse than the way it has managed the affairs of the metropolis in the past, and that any change in its composition is to be welcomed as affording at least a chance of some improvement.

SHINAGAWA ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

There have been so many defalcations in Japanese commercial, industrial, and banking companies during the past few years that another instance will not surprise anybody. Yet the Company now in trouble enjoys the reputation of being a thoroughly sound concern, and is under the presidency of Mr. Yano Jiro, formerly Director of the Commercial School, a man of great business talent. The Shinagawa Electric Light Company was organized in 1889 with a capital of a million *yen* and a charter for 35 years. A few months ago rumours began to be circulated that a deficiency had been discovered in the accounts. The matter did not, however, attract much attention until recently, when a meeting of the shareholders was summoned, and the President informed them that defalcations aggregating 40,118 *yen* had been found in the accounts. We do not know whether the defaulter has been detected, but it is said that the shareholders are considerably perturbed and that they insist upon the directors making themselves responsible.

JAPANESE LADIES AND THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

The ladies of Japan, or, at least, the most prominent ladies in Tokyo, have openly joined their European and American sisters in forming a league to promote the purposes of the Peace Conference. In publishing their names they have also published a species of manifesto, wherein they combat the objections that have been urged against the course they are pursuing. The first objection amounts to this, that with so much to effect for the improvement of their own status at home, the time has not yet come for them to make excursions abroad. To that they answer, very naturally, that they have responded to an invitation addressed to them by the ladies of Germany; that every time is the right time for doing a right thing, and that, whatever work remains for them to do at home, they think that they have a title to be distinguished, and to distinguish themselves, from the ladies of China and Korea. The second objection is that the Peace Conference is merely a pleasant kind of fiction, and that practical people should have nothing to say to it. To that they reply that whatever be the practical outcome of the Conference they can not choose but sympathize with its avowed motives, and that sympathy is what they intend to show by joining the ladies' league. We do not, for our own part, see the necessity of these excuses and explanations. The second objection seems especially frivolous. If all the civilized Powers of the world combine to send delegates to the Conference, how can any one gravely allege that ladies should refrain from associating themselves with such an unpractical enterprise? As to not stretching out their hands abroad because they have not yet obtained due recognition at home, that is precisely an argument against which the ladies are bound to protest most vehemently. A public act of the kind they have now performed is distinctly a step towards the goal which their critics blame them for not having reached.

JOHN BULL IN JAPAN.

John Bull now figures on the canvas of the Japanese caricaturist. The *Fiji Shimpō* trots him out, not in his conventionally sleek and portly form, but in the shape of a somewhat diminutive and exceedingly vulgar looking person, identifiable only by his top-boots, his mutton-chop whiskers, and his Quaker hat. He is depicted in one cartoon feeling the pulse of Count Matsukata who suffers from a headache that has swelled his cranium to enormous dimensions, and draws drops of agony from his brow. On the next page, the sick man's cure is effected. The vast development of his head has been transferred to his paunch, he spreads his arms abroad—the "flourish of big hands" indicative of achievement in Japan—and he raises aloft a cup overflowing with ice—*kōri*, which has the second meaning of "high interest." John Bull stands off from his some-time patient, and exults inanely over the cure. The editor of the *Fiji Shimpō* ought to have a better *entente* with his caricaturist, for though the journal itself does not condemn the recent loan as an unsuccessful transaction, these pictures certainly convey that impression.

GERMANY'S NEW ACQUISITIONS IN THE PACIFIC.

The deal that Germany has just made with Spain is a remarkable, though not an altogether unexpected *coup*. For a sum of 25 millions of *pesetas*, to million *yen* approximately, Germany acquires the Caroline, the Palao, and the Mariana Islands. For the sake of those who are not strong in geography, we may explain that though three separate groups of islands appear to be indicated, the three in reality constitute the components of the widely scattered archipelago generally known as the Carolines. The Spaniards habitually divided the archipelago into the Western, the Central and the Eastern Carolines, and of these divisions the Western is otherwise known as the Pelew, or Palao, Islands; the Central, as the Carolines; and the Eastern, as the Mulgrave archipelago, the Mariana Islands, or Ladrões lying farther north. The Carolines, in fact, extend from 3° to 11° north latitude, and from 135° to 177° east longitude, while the Ladrões extend from 13° to 21° north latitude, and from 144° to 146° east longitude. The Pelew Islands have a total area of 346 square miles and are nearly encircled by a coral reef. The soil is fertile; the surface is often well wooded; there is a great variety of birds; the lagoons abound with turtle and fish, and bread-fruit, cocoa-nuts, sugar cane, oranges, and bananas are grown in abundance. The inhabitants, who do not exceed 10,000 in number, are of Malay or Papuan origin, and their civilization is of a very low type. The Carolines proper consist of 48 groups, aggregating from 400 to 500 islands, but their total area is only 360 square miles and the inhabitants number only 40,000. The Eastern Carolines, or Mulgrave Archipelago, consist of two groups with an estimated population of 100,000. Finally the Ladrões, or Mariana Islands, are divided by a broad channel into two groups, the northern consisting of ten uninhabited islands, the southern of five, four of which are inhabited, and the total area of the fifteen is 417 square miles. The majority of these Mariana Islands are thickly wooded and the vegetation is luxuriant. They produce areca and cocoa-nut palms, rice, maize, sugar, tobacco, cotton, indigo, bread fruit, bananas and castor-oil. The inhabitants are said to have numbered about 50,000 at the time of the seizure of the islands by the Spaniards, but the results of the conquest were such that in 1741 the population had fallen to 1,816. It is now about 8,000. It will be seen that these islands can not add much to the possibilities of German commercial expansion, but their possession gives her an important *piéd à terre* in the northern Pacific. None of the islands forming the Western, Central and Eastern Carolines is likely to become a home for Occidental people on any considerable scale. Pny-nipet (called Ascension Island by the French) in the Central Carolines, has a small colony of whites, and there has been an American mission there since 1851, but no other of these islands has attracted foreigners. The case of the Ladrões may be different, for their climate, though humid, is healthy, and the heat, being tempered by the trade winds, is milder than that of the Philippines. Speaking roughly, 900 miles of sea separate the Carolines from the Philip-

pines, so that Germany and America now become very close neighbours.

THE SEDITIOUS PHILIPPINE DOCUMENTS.

Information was brought here by telegraph, not long ago, to the effect that the United States Government had prohibited the carriage by mail of certain alleged treasonable publications, on the ground that they were calculated to provoke discontent and mutiny among the American troops serving in the Philippine Islands. No details were then given, but we now learn that the condemned matter consisted of three pamphlets written by Edward Atkinson, a prominent citizen of Boston, Massachusetts, and Vice-President of the "Anti-Imperialist League." These pamphlets were entitled, "The Cost of a National Crime," "The Hell of War and its Penalties," and "Criminal Aggression." The facts upon which they were based were partially supplied by a report from Mr. Clay MacCauley, of Tokyo, who recently made a tour of observation in Luzon. It is admitted that they strongly denounced the action of President McKinley and his advisers with regard to the Philippine annexation. At a meeting of the Cabinet on May 2nd, it was decided to order the postmaster at San Francisco to seize and confiscate all copies intended for transmission across the Pacific. The Postmaster-General professed to have knowledge that an edition of five thousand had been mailed for distribution in the Manila army. He asserted that their circulation would not only tend "to incite the soldiers to mutiny, but also to foment and encourage insurrection on the part of the Filipinos themselves." The Attorney-General advocated the arrest and prosecution of the author, on the charge of having violated the U.S. law against treason, but after a prolonged discussion this extreme measure was abandoned.

Investigation soon showed that the Washington authorities had rather lost their heads over the business. The five thousand copies of the Postmaster-General reduced themselves to exactly eight, and no more. These had been addressed to Admiral Dewey, Generals Otis, Lawton and Miller, Messrs. Schurman and Worcester, Government commissioners, and a New York newspaper correspondent, to whom two sets were transmitted. It could hardly be contended that the patriotism or loyalty of these officers and gentlemen would be seriously endangered by the reception or perusal of a pamphlet or two, however inflammatory the contents might be. Furthermore, it was ascertained that the Senate of the United States had caused Mr. Atkinson's productions to be reprinted and issued as Congressional documents, so that the President and Cabinet had placed themselves in the curious position of ordering the suppression of Government publications. The whole transaction is very freely criticized by American newspapers, and with almost unanimous condemnation. The general opinion,—too clearly indicated to be misunderstood,—is evidently that the administration has not only committed an error of policy in interfering with the freedom of the mails on so slender a pretext, but has invited the ridicule of the people to an extent which may make itself unpleasantly felt in future elections.

WHY TOKYO IS SO UNPROGRESSIVE.

Since the citizens of Tokyo were first arraigned—in these columns, unless we are much mistaken—on a charge of quite extraordinary want of progressive enterprise, they have been made the target for shafts of irony and ridicule from all directions. It is now accepted as a fully demonstrated proposition that they are conspicuously deficient in public spirit, and a leading journal (the *Kokumin*) makes an interesting attempt to explain the fact. It says that Tokyo has never been a civic entity. It was a kind of camping ground for the provincials nobles in Tokugawa days. Fully one-half of the city belonged to these outsiders, and the citizens recognised no public duty towards its immigrant population. In short, a sentiment of pride in the city was never educated.

We find that analysis very bizarre. Surely the presence of the *Daimyo* in Tokyo can never have weighed in the citizen's sight as compared with the fact that the city was the administrative capital of the empire? The *Daimyo* did not come to Tokyo of their own accord. They were compelled to come, and the sites of their splendid *yashiki* were not acquired by them of right, but were allotted to them by the Bakufu authorities. To say, therefore, that a moiety of the city was the dominant of outsiders seems a most misleading assertion. Besides, in what other city of Japan did the citizens ever develop so much local pride? The *Yedokko's* estimate of his own civic status had no parallel elsewhere. A more credible though partial explanation of the city's slowness in the matter of improvements is that the familiar old obstacle of too many cooks spoils everything. Certainly the city would long ago have had electric railways, or some other modern means of communication, had it been found possible to reconcile the claims of those competing for the concession.

THE UNITED STATES MINISTER IN SENDAI.

Colonel and Mrs. Buck, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Miller arrived in Sendai between 11 and 12 on the evening of the 29th ultimo. A deputation from the American citizens went down the line as far as Shiraishi to meet and welcome the Minister and his party. On reaching Sendai station Colonel Buck found most of the remaining American residents waiting to receive him. The Minister and Mrs. Buck were entertained by the ladies of the Miyagi Jogakko. On Tuesday, the 30th, the visitors, accompanied by all the American citizens, went to Matsushima, where the party had a picnic, after which they proceeded by boat to Shiogama, returning to Sendai at 4.30 p.m. On Wednesday, Colonel Buck performed quite a number of functions. The local authorities having been notified by Sendai residents some days before of the intended visit of the Minister, made preparations for his entertainment. The mayor of Sendai, Mr. Satomi, and eighteen other leading citizens organised a Japanese dinner for the latter part of the afternoon. In the morning the Minister visited the Tohoku Gakuin and the Girls' School, known as the Miyagi Jo Gakko. Early in the afternoon he held a reception for Japanese callers, which was very largely attended. Between

3 and 4 he proceeded to the Yusuikwan, where about 70 of the leading residents of the town were waiting to receive him. The Japanese and American flags hung side by side at the entrance, a band was in attendance, and there were many other tokens of warm welcome. Among those present were Mr. Chikami, the Prefect; Mr. Satomi, the Mayor of Sendai; Mr. Takagi, the President of the Court of Appeal; Mr. Yamada, the Ken Secretary; Mr. Takeuchi, the Chief of Police; Mr. Kikuchi, the Director of the Second Higher School; Mr. Shimonojo, the Director of the Middle School; Mr. Satomura, the Director of the Normal School; Mr. Yamada, adviser to the Prefectural Government; and the leading barristers of the town. After the party had witnessed *Fuji-tsu* and other performances, Mr. Satomi, the Mayor, made a speech in which he expressed the sentiments of the native community of Sendai in regard to Col. Buck's visit and alluded to the close relationship of Japan to the United States ever since the days of Commodore Perry. Japan, he said, had always felt that America was one of her warmest friends and that she had received no small benefits from the United States. Colonel Buck, in replying, said that he regarded the entertainment they had given him in his capacity of Representative of the United States as a genuine indication of the warm friendship that existed between the two countries. He was an ardent admirer of Japan and was quite astonished at the rapid strides she had made during the past few decades. He had heard much about her progress while in the United States, but since he had had the honour to represent his country in this land he had been in a position to verify for himself the reports which had reached him. The entertainment they had provided had been an agreeable surprise to him, as he was in Sendai only for the purpose of taking a prep at the beautiful scenery for which the neighbourhood was noted. In the name of the citizens of the United States he thanked the residents of Sendai for their liberal hospitality.

On the evening of the same day, all the foreign residents of Sendai were invited to meet the Minister and Mrs. Buck at dinner at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Hoy, when various speeches were made and a musical entertainment of a most enjoyable character was given.

The Minister and his party left for the capital on Thursday morning, being accompanied as far as Fukushima by a deputation of American citizens. Two policemen guarded the house in which Col. Buck stayed, night and day, and accompanied him on his excursions.

In the course of an interview with a Japanese gentleman, whose name is not given, Col. Buck is reported by a Sendai paper to have said that the United States aims at placing the Japanese on the same footing as Europeans as regards labour, but that the Government is determined to keep the Chinese out of the country as much as possible. He also said that in Hawaii the United States wished as far as possible to preserve the *status quo* as regards the Japanese. The United States fully recognised that the Japanese had a claim to be treated in a different manner from other Oriental races. He thought that a final settlement of the question of the future of the Philippine Islands was not far off.

REVOLUTION IN LIFE INSURANCE.

In the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York a judgment was delivered on May 2nd which will, if sustained by the highest tribunal of appeal, cause serious and radical changes in the business methods now pursued by Insurance companies in that State, and may result in the sudden division of something like two hundred million dollars among the policy holders of the large mutual concerns. As the most important of these institutions have agencies in the Far East, and as many foreign residents of Japan are directly interested therein, we take pains to gather the facts thus far developed, according to the records supplied by leading American newspapers.

It is generally known that the principal insurance corporations are conducted upon a "mutual" system, the basis of which is that the net profits of the business shall be equitably distributed among the holders of policies, each one of whom is thus made a partner in the establishment in which he is insured. In the suit recently decided, which was brought by a policy holder of the Equitable Society, it was alleged that this principle had been violated, and a claim of more than \$7,000 was preferred, the whole of which was promptly allowed by the Court,—three judges supporting the demand, while one dissented and another declined to vote. To make the position of affairs entirely clear, we shall give an outline of the plaintiff's case, and state the grounds upon which his action was resisted by the Company.

The Equitable Life Assurance Association is understood to be the most prosperous organization of its kind in the United States. It was founded forty years ago, by the late Henry B. Hyde, then an obscure clerk, with what now seems the insignificant capital of one hundred thousand dollars. For several years before his death,—which by a peculiar coincidence, occurred on the very day when the judgment we are reviewing was pronounced,—Mr. Hyde, as President of the concern, had drawn an annual salary identical in amount with this original capital; and the assets accumulated under his management are now reported to exceed two hundred and fifty millions. Like all insurance companies, it has been the custom of the Equitable to maintain a reserve fund, as a provision against extraordinary claims, should such be legitimately preferred. But of late years the practice of setting aside a huge "surplus" has been pursued—not only by this association but by most of its class. The surplus thus aggregated by the Equitable is said to be from 56 to 57 millions. That of the New York Life is nearly 38 millions, while the Mutual Life declares 34 millions. These are the heaviest figures, though the smaller companies follow in proportion to their opportunity and ability.

It was contended by the plaintiff in the Equitable suit that the enormous surplus, or a large proportion of it, was improperly and illegally withheld from the policy holders,—of whom there are about 400,000 altogether. He represented that under no circumstances could any necessity exist for so vast a fund; that the immense volume of business yielded an annual profit more than sufficient to cover all possible demands; that the company had contracted, by the terms of his policy, to pay him a just proportion of its earnings, which it had failed to do; and that in the

event of an insurer's withdrawal or death, he or his family would receive, under the present system, the bare amount of his risk, after which the account would be closed, without any consideration of the sum due him as a rightful claimant to a share of the surplus.

The defence of the company appears to have rested upon the single argument that the directors were entitled to exercise their own discretion in fixing the surplus and allotting dividends, and that all policy-holders were bound to accept such apportionment as they saw fit to prescribe.

In the decision pronounced by the majority of the Court, it was declared that the directors were privileged to determine what each annual surplus should be, but that, having done this, they must proceed to parcel out the whole sum, in accordance with a strict provision of the Company's charter, requiring them first, to "cause a balance to be struck which shall exhibit assets and liabilities and also the net surplus after deducting a sufficient amount to cover all outstanding risks and obligations; and next, "to credit each policy-holder with an equitable share of the said surplus."

The Court held that "the Company had bound itself, as a condition of its being, to place in the hands of its policy-holders a contract embracing these provisions, and it cannot now be heard to say that it has by a mere jugglery of words kept this promise in form only to defeat it in substance." Furthermore, it was asserted that "if this surplus is not divided among those who have paid the premiums, the institution is builded upon a false pretense, for it has held out to its policy-holders the promise that this fund should be distributed among them, and it has avoided its taxes to the State upon the proposition that the fund was held 'for the exclusive benefit of the assured.'" The judgment concluded by stating that "there was a contract between plaintiff and defendant, and the pleadings clearly indicate that the defendant owes the plaintiff an amount equal to that which is claimed."

The view of the single dissenting justice was expressed in these words:—"In general, only the directors of any corporation have the power to decide what amount or share of its earnings are to be applied in dividends and I can see no different principle which limits the authority of the directors of this society to decide what part of the net surplus is to be distributed to the policy-holders at any particular period."

From the comments in the New York press it would seem that the judgment was a great surprise to the Equitable directors, who will probably press their side of the case in the court of appeal with much more vigour than they have yet shown. They have issued a circular stating that the controversy has been unduly magnified; that the real points in dispute are unfairly represented; that the right of policy-holders to the entire surplus has never been denied, the only question being, how it shall be divided, and when; and that they look forward with confidence to a reversal of the decision by a higher tribunal. Should they be disappointed, the matter will affect a very wide range of interests, for none of the mutual companies can then refuse to apportion their total surplus at once. Public opinion, selfishly inspired, no doubt, evidently anticipates this result, though there are not a few financial authorities who predict

that the Equitable officials will be able to justify their course, and prove that no interference with the just rights of the insured has been attempted. On all sides, however, it is recognized that the matter should be brought to a conclusive settlement at the earliest possible moment, for the satisfaction of all concerned.

DISTURBANCES IN KOREA.

Saturday, June 3rd.

Information is published that a band of lawless persons, numbering several thousands, and calling themselves the "Southern School-men" (*Nangaku-to*), assembled in Chhung-chhong-do, Korea, and began to commit various depredations in the early part of last month. A company of gendarmes and policemen were sent against them from Soul. Several of their leaders were arrested and are undergoing examination, but order has not been restored and it seems probable that some difficulty will be experienced in pacifying the district. This intelligence comes by mail, but a telegram from Soul, dated the 29th ultimo, speaks of rioters in Cholla-do which adjoins Chhung-chhong-do. It would seem, therefore, that the disturbance has spread from the latter place to the former.

Monday, June 5th.

The latest news about the Korean insurgents is that they call themselves the "illustrious learning party;" that their operations involve five districts, and that there is talk of sending a company of Japanese soldiers to restore order. It seems to be quite impossible for outsiders to discover what these various elements in Korea signify.

Wednesday, June 7th.

There appears to be a great deal of uneasiness in Japan with reference to the disturbances in Korea. The Government's efforts to restore order are reported to be meeting with little success, and the state of affairs is compared to that which existed just before the war between China and Japan, when the Tong-haks threw the kingdom into a ferment. Some people hint that foreign influence has been exerted to foment the trouble, and others say that the Emperor talks of removing the Imperial residence from Soul, but these mysterious comments do not appear to deserve any credence. It is noticeable that no explanation is offered as to the cause of the tumult. But, of course, that is no novelty. We never do have any satisfactory explanation of *emeutes* in Korea. Their case appears to be like that of Topsy—they just grow. A writer in the *Asahi* is terribly in earnest about this latest occurrence. He declares that Korea falls within Japan's sphere of influence—her most important sphere of influence—and that her naval force ought to be employed freely to restore order in the peninsula. It seems that the *Maya Kan* has been ordered to proceed from Chemulpo to Mokpo, the latter place being near the centre of disturbance, and that Chemulpo is now without a Japanese war-ship, a state of affairs which causes some uneasiness to the Tokyo journal. Korea seems to us to be in the condition of a sick man before an operation, she will be a great deal worse before she is better.

GERMANY & HABUTAYE.

Wednesday, June 7th.

Germany is being patted on the head just now by Japanese writers because she has adopted a fiscal policy diametrically opposed to that of France. The latter has raised the import duties on Japanese silk fabrics, whereas the Berlin Government proposes to lower them from $\frac{1}{10}$ of a mark per kilo. to $\frac{3}{10}$ of a mark. According to the view of Japanese economists Germany's course is the true route to commercial success. We welcome such fine expressions of economical faith.

Friday, June 9th.

In the *Official Gazette* is published an extract from a despatch signed by the Japanese Consul at Hamburg and dated April 18th. It runs thus:—"According to the new German Tariff, the import duty on woven silk fabrics without design or colour is reduced to 300 marks per 100 kilos. But it must be noted that the reduction does not apply to goods with any appearance of twilling. The object of differentiating against fabrics according to their texture is to prevent the import of heavy silks under the name of *Habutaye*, for these, being dyed after importation, would come into serious competition with goods of domestic manufacture."

Another despatch from the Japanese Consul in Berlin, dated April 19th, says:—"The reduced tariff rate has gone into operation. The origin of this reduction is that the silk-weavers of Germany are keenly desirous of entering into competition in foreign markets with the manufacturers of other countries—especially with the French manufacturers, who have hitherto received *habutaye* at the same low rate of duty as that imposed in Germany. Germany will thus become the great market for Japanese *habutaye*, especially as France is about to increase the duty on the Japanese fabric on the ground that it competes injuriously with the French product."

LORD SALISBURY AND THE RUSSIAN LOAN.

An amplification is published of the telegram recently sent by Reuter, stating that the British Government had privately advised the capitalists of London not to subscribe to Russia's railway loan. The *Shogyo Shimpo* is responsible for the amplification. It says that Lord Salisbury invited the leading capitalists to meet him, and spoke to them privately as follows:—"Russia's attitude towards China is very difficult to understand. If she shapes her procedure on lines wholly indifferent to British interests and conservative of her own advantage alone, it will be impossible for Her Majesty's Government to refrain from protest. Under such circumstances, it becomes advisable to reflect carefully before locking up capital in Russian enterprises. Possibly the wisest course may be not to respond to Russia's application for money." The *Shogyo Shimpo*, though it circulates this intelligence, does not vouch for its correctness, but, at the same time, evidently credits it. We are of a different opinion. It would be a most unusual thing for a British Premier to take such a step, and the inevitable consequence would be a very strained state of relations between the cabinets of St. Petersburg and London. Besides, British capitalists

do not stand in any need of advice from officialdom. They would resent rather than approve, such gratuitous counsels. Their habit is to be guided by their own judgment, and when that ceases to be trustworthy the time will have come for them to put up the shutters. The main point, however, is that if Lord Salisbury went out of his way to offer such a recommendation, he would be wantonly imperilling the relations between England and Russia, and gratuitously slighting a great nation which has always held its financial obligations scrupulously sacred. We can not easily conceive any step better calculated to imperil the peace which Lord Salisbury has always shown himself so solicitous of preserving.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is announced in the *Official Gazette* that Mr. Kato Masuo has been relieved of his appointment as Minister Resident in Korea, and that Mr. Uchida Kōsai has been nominated Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary *en disponibilité*, in conjunction with his present office of Chief of the Political Bureau in the Office.

Our Tokyo contemporaries publish intelligence of the result of the trial of the Japanese labourers who recently engaged in a fracas with a number of Chinese labourers, and became responsible for fatal results. One of the accused, Ito, has been sentenced to death, and will be hung on the 28th of August; the second, Ozaki, has been sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment with hard labour; and the third, Yamane, to 5 years.

The Japanese Authorities have wisely resolved to make Mr. Yi Il-sik "move on." The man is known to have been implicated in two assassinations, attempted or achieved, and if the Korean Authorities allow such characters to roam abroad unrestrained, they can scarcely expect their civilized neighbours to be equally complaisant. Yi has been escorted by the police from Osaka to Kobe, whence he will be shipped speedily for the country that has the honour of owning him.

It is stated by the *Yimmin* that the Foreign Office estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year 1900-1 have already been sent to the Department of Finance, and that, on the whole, they show a slight reduction as compared with the outlays for the current years, but that increases are demanded on account of the establishment of certain new Consulates and the appointment of Ambassadors instead of Ministers to the Great Powers. From this it would appear that Japan has definitely resolved to take the long talked-of step of raising the status of her Representatives in Western countries, but we do not think that the *Yimmin's* news is quite trustworthy.

A telegram published by the *Chiuo Shinbun* and said to have been received by the authorities in Tokyo states that the French President received no injury at the hands of his Auteuil assailant, and that the latter was at once arrested. It is not improbable that factitious importance has been given to this incident. The pugnacious baron may have been lurching too generously, or is perhaps a gentleman of irresponsible impulses. We do not see why a sudden ebullition of

phrensy on the part of a solitary individual should necessitate the closing of even one social club, much less of several. The removal of the baron's name from the roll of the club to which he belongs should have amply sufficed to exonerate the latter.

In reviewing the first volume of "Selected relics of Japanese Art," the beautiful work on Japanese art which is now in process of publication, we referred to the English of the text, and expressed regret that a compilation of such high qualities and so costly should be disfigured by solecisms of phraseology. In connexion with this subject, the editor writes to say that some copies of the first part were hurried through the press without receiving revision from the foreign collaborator, Mr. E. Fenollosa, but that the remaining copies will have that advantage, and that the English text of the whole of the remaining 19 volumes is to be carefully supervised by Mr. Fenollosa. If that blemish is removed, the work will be incomparably the finest thing of the kind that has ever appeared.

It is stated by Tokyo newspapers that the combination of Japanese druggists—formed for the purpose of saving Japanese iodine from being beaten out of the field by a foreign firm working in concert with certain Japanese—are carrying on the campaign with more vigour than ever. The plan of the combination, as explained recently in these columns, was to boycott the foreign firm, and remove from the Druggists Guild the names of the Japanese acting in collusion with it. Some of the members of the Guild were averse to these extreme measures, and the result was that a dispute arising, the members of the Dye-stuff and Colour-sellers Guild tried to act as peace-makers. Their efforts, however, have proved ineffectual. The Druggists Guild have declined to be turned from their course. They are bent upon organizing the strongest competition with the foreign firm, and on boycotting Japanese that does business with it.

The United States Government is reported to have addressed to Japan a friendly inquiry about a rumour that supplies of arms and ammunition are being secretly sent from this country to the Filipino insurgents, and the Foreign Office in Tokyo is said to have been able to reply that the story had not the smallest basis of truth. We transcribe the statement because it has currency, but we attach no credence to it. The United States having already received assurances of Japan's official resolve to strictly guard against any and every breach of neutrality, is most unlikely to formulate any fresh query on the subject. If concrete evidence of the smuggling of munitions of war were forthcoming, the United States Authorities would doubtless call Japan's attention to the fact, but a mere breath of rumour would not warrant recourse to international communications, in whatever language they might be couched.

DEATH OF ARCHDEACON WARREN.

The *Japan Gazette* states that Archdeacon Warren, of Osaka, while inspecting the Mission House at Fukuyama, Bingo Province, fell down ten steps leading to the cellar. He was able to walk back to the house where he was staying, but afterwards became unconscious and died on June 7th.

BARLEY CROP FOR THIS YEAR.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has published an estimate of the barley crop this year. The following table shows the estimate together with the figures for the past 9 years:—

	Koku.
1890	10 712 965
1891	18 088 373
1892	15 941 276
1893	16 625 229
1894	19 809 965
1895	19 526 123
1896	17 329 317
1897	18 105 491
1898	20 462 053
1899 (estimate)	19 113 274
Average	18 259 225

The "average" here given is that for the seven-year period ended in 1896, excluding the best and worst years. It will be seen that this year's crop is estimated to be less than last year's by 1,340,000 *koku*, or 6.6 per cent., but to be 850,000 *koku*, or 4.7 per cent. above the average. On the whole the prospect is very encouraging, but last year's record was quite exceptional.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT TO THE TOKYO WATER WORKS.

Yet another accident to the Tokyo Water Works is reported. The main which runs through Sanjikkē-bori street, in the Kyobashi district, burst with a loud report at 1 a.m. on the 7th instant, and soon the whole district was flooded. Of course the people of the neighbourhood were much disturbed at finding their houses flooded, and a scene of great confusion is said to have been witnessed. By 8 o'clock the same morning the engineers succeeded in getting things under control, but not before considerable damage had been done. It is stated that a defective joint was the cause of the catastrophe. Very likely. Observing the methods pursued by the workmen in making the joints, we have always anticipated accidents. This is the fourth time a pipe has burst. Not a bad record for works still uncompleted!

AN INDEMNITY FROM KOREA.

The *Tokyo Asahi* says that the Foreign Office has preferred a demand for compensation to the extent of 32,000 *yen* from the Korean Government. The demand is made on behalf of Mr. Nakagami, a resident of Fusan, who, in April of last year, concluded an agreement for the purchase of 17,600 bags of beans, but when he came to take delivery in August, was prevented from doing so by the governor of the district, who alleged that the export of all cereals had been forbidden. Complaints of that nature have been common for years past in Korea.

EXTENSIVE THEFTS.

Two tin-plate workers, one named Takahashi Kintaro and the other Uchida Takizo, living at Furocho and Nigiwaicho, Yokohama, respectively, have been arrested on a charge of stealing a quantity of lead-plate, valued at upwards of 100 *yen*, belonging to the tea works at No. 143 Settlement, at which they were employed.

THE PLAGUE AT HONGKONG.

An official despatch from the Japanese Consulate at Singapore states that in view of the prevalence of plague in Hongkong ships coming thence with more than 20 Chinese emigrants are not allowed to land passengers until after quarantine inspection.

AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

IT was not to be expected that the judgment of the Court of Cassation and its momentous results would find the French nation entirely calm and self-possessed. During the course of the long discussion provoked by the DREYFUS affair passions have been roused which can not easily be allayed. A large majority of the French people have learned to think that the issue lies between the Jews and the Army, and, until the Army itself declares its mistake, these champions of its honour will continue to fret and fume. To persons living beyond the range of the excitement the impression conveyed is that a small coterie of officers set themselves originally to prove DREYFUS' guilt with almost vindictive assiduity. Two or three of them appear to have been unscrupulous men; one was probably a criminal. But there is nothing to show that the rest did not honestly believe in DREYFUS' villainy. The worst that can be said of them is that they approached the question with prejudiced minds. DREYFUS had always been an exceedingly unpopular person. He was unpopular in the army; he was unpopular in society; he was generally disliked. There were probably very few of his comrades in arms who did not welcome the rumour of his treachery as a happy means of driving him from the service. We know what distorted shapes thoughts take at their birth when they are fathered by wishes. The story of the notorious PANIZZARDI telegram is a striking illustration. This telegram was sent by the military *attaché* of a foreign Power to his general staff on November 2nd, 1894. It appears that the French Foreign Office has an organization for copying and reading the cipher telegrams despatched from Paris to foreign governments by the latter's representatives or agents in the French capital. Very likely a similar organization exists in other European Administrations, but with that point we have nothing to do here. The PANIZZARDI telegram, being in a novel cipher, could not be immediately interpreted at the French Foreign Office. But after a few days the official experts translated it thus:—

"Si le capitaine Dreyfus n'a pas eu de relations avec vous, il conviendrait de charger l'ambassadeur de publier un démenti officiel, afin d'éviter les commentaires de la presse."

There was at first some doubt about the rendering of the last eight words, and a tentative version had to be sent by the Foreign Office to the General Staff. This tentative version contained the phrase "notre émissaire est prévenu," instead of the correct phrase "afin d'éviter les commentaires de la presse." The substitution of the proper phrase was very soon made, but the telegram had thus been invested with an element of doubt, and perhaps

for that reason was not preserved at the War Office. Three and a half years later it was needed for insertion in the DREYFUS dossier, and somebody—HENRY, or DU PATY DE CLAM, or both, or another "confidential agent"—"re-constituted" the telegram from memory, and it then took this form:—

"Le capitaine Dreyfus est arrêté. Le Ministre de la guerre a la preuve de ses relations avec l'Allemagne. Toutes mes précautions sont prises."

Now it would have been easy to obtain a copy of the original telegram from the archives of the Foreign Office, but even men whose integrity we have no right to question were content to accept the version "reconstituted" from memory because it went to prove DREYFUS' guilt. In the face of such facts we can not avoid the inference that the moral equilibrium of many Frenchmen has been disturbed, and that this affair passed long ago from the domain of reason and justice into the realm of sentiment and prejudice. Delirious crises of that nature are to be found in the history of every nation. We have had them in England, and we have seen them elsewhere. But unfortunately for France she has at present in her midst men who see a selfish opportunity in her troubles, and who would be content to ride towards the consummation of their own aims on any wave of popular passion. There would be much ground for uneasiness if the machinations of these enemies of order were strongly reflected in parliament. But the results of the various votes announced by telegraph this morning show that the Chamber of Deputies is keeping its head, and has resolved to sacrifice all its "patriotic" convictions and prepossessions on the altar of strict allegiance to the tribunals of justice. The publication of the judgment of the Court of Cassation throughout the length and breadth of the land by order of the Chamber can not fail to exercise a most wholesome effect as demonstrating that the Legislature and the Judiciary are working hand in hand. It is, indeed, greatly to be regretted that recourse to a measure so extreme as the closing of the clubs should have been considered necessary. A large element of society will thus be impelled to opposition. Had that step been omitted from the programme there would not be much cause for alarm, but until we learn that a "class" element has not thus been imported into the controversy, it will be impossible to feel entirely reassured. After all, it is doubtful whether history contains any example of a similar shock to the morale of a highly civilized people. The French are passionately fond of logic. They justly believe themselves to be a nation of clear insight and well-balanced judgment. Yet now their highest legal tribunal tells them, in effect, that for the past eighteen months they have been passion-

nately pledging themselves to a profound blunder of perception and lending all their strength of discernment to the perpetration of a hideous wrong. Is it conceivable that they should bow to such a sentence without protest? If they do, they will more than expiate the error into which they have been betrayed by an unhappy combination of depravity and hysteria in quarters where high integrity and calm discrimination are usually found.

FOREIGN IGNORANCE OF JAPAN.

WE foreigners certainly must confess to a great deal of ignorance of Japanese manners and customs, but the ignorance that some Japanese writers display of foreign knowledge is far profounder. Consider this paragraph from the *Fiji Shimpō*, headed, "Do not convert *ukiyo-ye* into photographs":—

"Japanese *gen-re* pictures (*ukiyo-ye*) have become very fashionable of late in foreign countries. Many people buy them. But foreigners, not being acquainted with Japan, do not know what such pictures mean, and consequently seek an explanation from any Japanese students or travellers they meet. Naturally the drawings can be easily explained since they merely depict every day customs. But when one is asked to tell what kind of people are the low characters so often represented in the pictures of Moronobu, Itcho, Toyokuni, Kunisada and so forth, one is not a little embarrassed, and tries to get out of it by replying that they are maidens of old times, or women of the Bakufu Court. When the question is pressed home, however, there is nothing for it but to confess that they are *filles de joie*, and to add, perhaps, that the pictures are reproductions of now obsolete customs, or that they were formerly in vogue among the lower classes and never affected by the middle or upper. That is one way of covering up the disgrace, but now that we are about to have mixed residence, so that foreigners will be able to study Japanese ways at first hand, it is to be hoped that the country's reputation will not be destroyed and its disgrace proclaimed by conduct calculated to prove that the old-time *genre* pictures are photographs of existing realities."

Now that is a clever paragraph, and with the spirit of the writer we must all be in entire accord. But how wonderful is the ignorance it displays. In the first place, we can assure the *Fiji Shimpō* that the average foreigner knows all about the *genre* pictures of Japan. In fact, it is by foreigners that their history has been written and their motives have been explained. Has the *Fiji* no acquaintance with the writings of ANDERSON, of GONSE, of GONCOURT, of BING, and of the numerous other foreign connoisseurs who have made a study of this subject? We can assure our contemporary that none of the shallow subterfuges it puts into the mouths of blushing Japanese students and tourists would have the slightest weight with foreigners of ordinary intel-

ligence. But there is another and a very much more important point which appears to lie beyond the range of the *Fiji's* vision. It is that, for the past forty years, the Japanese, instead of seeking to cover up unsavoury things when foreigners are present, have adopted precisely the opposite course. That is the outcome of a mutual non-understanding. The average foreigner puts an altogether false construction on much that comes under his observation in Japan. He sees acts which in his own country would be called immodest, and heart language which in the West would indicate immorality, and without pausing to reflect deeply, he naturally associates such conduct and such expressions with the condition of ethical degradation that they would necessarily accompany in Europe or America. The consequence is that he regards the Japanese as essentially "loose" people, and in associating with them abandons all, or nearly all, the reserve that he considers necessary in Western society. Confronted by this conspicuously "free" demeanour, the Japanese, in turn, put a false interpretation on it. They have no suspicion that it merely reflects the foreigner's erroneous estimate of their own morals. They imagine, on the contrary, that the colour he displays is the real hue of his morality, and they adapt themselves to his plane. It is for that reason that Japanese tea-house girls take liberties with foreigners which they would never dream of taking with gentlemen of their own nationality; Japanese tradesmen, unsolicited, expose to foreigners wares which they would carefully conceal from their own people unless specially asked to show them, and even in polite society the foreigner is entertained with topics which would be tabooed if Japanese alone were present. If it is desired that the Japanese should display themselves in a purer light to the foreigner, they must first learn to regard him with different eyes. Hence we think that the *Fiji Shimpō*—whose earnest efforts to improve the tone of its countrymen's morality we profoundly admire—we think that the *Fiji Shimpō* is attacking from the wrong direction. It should begin by teaching its nationals that the foreigner, in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, is a being quite different from their conception of him, and that when they assume towards him an attitude of moral *abandon*, they are not consulting his tastes but caricaturing themselves.

The P. and O. steamer *Ancona*, 3,083 gross tonnage—once so well known on the Japan run—will shortly pass out of the possession of her present owners. Negotiations are in progress for her purchase by Hajee Cassum Jusuf, a well-known ship-owner in Bombay. The *Ancona* was built for the P. and O. Company in Greenock in 1879. Hajee Cassum, says the *Advocate of India*, owns several old P. and O. steamers, among them being the *Deccan*, *Pekin*, and *Thibet* (now the *Cashmere*).

AN EXCEPTIONAL MILLIONAIRE.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, Scotch-American manufacturer, is now receiving congratulations on having taken his degree as the second richest man in the world. The first position is understood to be held by Mr. Rockefeller, the "Standard Oil" dictator, whose property is so enormous that he has more than once declared himself unable to state its exact value. His income, however, is from twelve to fifteen million gold dollars a year, and from this we may form some estimate of his total possessions. Undoubtedly he is *facile princeps* among plutocrats. Candidates for the second place have hitherto been chosen from the grade to which men like Vanderbilt and Astor belong; but there is reason to believe that the fortunes of these individuals have been unduly magnified by popular imagination. The wealth with which they have been credited would probably be reduced one half, at the least, by a strict reckoning. But with regard to Mr. Carnegie there can be no mistake. Apart from his estates and investments in various parts of the United States and Great Britain, he has just received one hundred million dollars in a solid lump from his former partners, in exchange for his shares in the great steel company of which he was the head. That is to say, he has received first mortgage bonds to that amount on the industries which he created and controlled, preferring this method of payment to solid cash, on account of the difficulty of investing so vast a sum to advantage. As the securities thus acquired bear interest at five per cent., his annual returns from this source alone will be five million dollars,—a revenue believed to exceed that of any other living person, except, as aforesaid, the autocrat of "Standard Oil."

Mr. Carnegie's reasons for separating himself from the active interests he had so long directed have been made public through a London newspaper. He has realized his immense capital for the simple purpose of giving the greater part of it away. This, he avers, has been his intention for years, his conviction being that "a man who dies rich, dies disgraced." Since he became the possessor of more money than he cared to use for himself, he has founded some thirty charitable institutions, at a cost of seventeen millions. He now proposes to devote much larger sums to the same ends. He has only one child, a daughter, of whom he says, "I shall not leave her weighted down with great riches. I shall provide for her handsomely, but she will not be what the world now calls a great heiress." When asked in what especial directions he could exercise his beneficent influence, he answered, "Watch and see. I hope I shall not justify the definition sometimes deserved of a philanthropist, as a man with a great deal of money, but a very little sense."

Immediately after the transfer of his manufacturing interests in America, Mr. Carnegie started on a visit to England, where his first public action was to offer, through Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, an endowment of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars to the Birmingham University, on condition that the scientific school be made the principal department in that institution. His explanation of this proviso was that he had observed the tendency of English universities in general to overlook all training but that which is needful for the

learned professions; and it was his desire to increase the opportunities for education of a more practical nature. It need hardly be said that this lavish distributor of bounty has become the lion of the hour. If he proceeds to execute his benevolent projects on anything like the promised scale, he may rise to a renown exceeding that of George Peabody, though he cannot look forward to a long tenure of his position as "the second richest man in the world."

The rapid rise of Mr. Carnegie to almost unexampled prosperity would be more than a nine days' wonder if similar phenomena were not of constant occurrence in America. To spectators at a distance the sudden acquisition of colossal fortunes in that country is absolutely bewildering. Fifty years ago, the number of genuine millionaires was infinitesimal. The first Astor, who led the list, had only seventeen millions when he died. Any man whose bank account touched one hundred thousand dollars was entitled to call himself rich. Before the civil war, huge aggregations of wealth were virtually unknown. Such careers as those of Gould, Sage, Mackay, Huntington, and their kind have been possible only under the extraordinary conditions of the past forty years. The hardest thing to understand is, where this incalculable flood of wealth has come from. Some of it, to be sure, has been dug from the bowels of the earth, but only a small proportion. Yet the millionaires of to-day march in legions. To be the owner of a single million, or even two, is not, indeed, a very lofty distinction. Millionaires ten times over abound in every State. Where do they get it all?—that is the marvel. With scarcely an exception, the great fortunes have been gained by the men who now enjoy them, or by their fathers. Not only were Rockefeller, Gould, Carnegie, and those whose names are most familiar, among the poorest of the poor in their youth, but the entire host of plutocrats, as a rule, began their lives with nothing. And now the possessions of many of them throw the legendary treasures of ancient Rome into comparative insignificance, and make the fable of Monte Cristo a feeble mockery. When we remember that by dexterous manipulations of oil shares, a little while ago, five millions were added in as many hours to the nominal wealth of Mr. Rockefeller, the story of Aladdin's lamp seems rather a commonplace and matter-of-fact record. Where, it may well be asked, does the money all come from? And where, if we give ourselves time to think about it, will it all go to?

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The *Rikugō Zasshi* discusses the constitution of the new Dōshisha and attempts to forecast the ultimate outcome of the reorganisation of the institution. We give the gist of its comments:—It would be a mistake to suppose that there is no connection whatever between the new Dōshisha and the old, or that the new Trustees are all bent on turning the Dōshisha into a mission school. There is a good deal of difference of opinion between the missionaries and certain of the trustees as to the course to be pursued in future. If the situation is forced by the missionaries, things will by no means go smooth-

ly later on. Some of the trustees are of opinion that the efficiency of the institution cannot be maintained if it be carried on in the manner proposed by the missionaries. . . . The aims of most of the trustees are no doubt good, but how far they can be carried into practice is questionable. The *Taiyō*, says the *Rikugō Zasshi*, writes of the handing back of the institution to the missionaries as a retrograde movement, as the triumph of conservatism, and hence as a proof of the failure of liberal Christianity to hold its ground against its opponents. This is in a measure true. But it would be premature to predict what will be the next step taken. At present all is calm; not a ripple appears. But we do not regard this stillness with complacency. The ship fared better in turbulent waters. To use another figure, it would be true to say that the *Dōshisha* is at present asleep, there are reasons for thinking that the sleep may be that very bad kind from which there is no waking. (*Kirisuto-Kyō sen-tai* wa Shibaraku oki, Dōshisha ni torite wa kyoku-sui (極寒) no yemin (永眠) ni iritaru toki naran to shinsu.*)

* * *

The meeting of native and foreign Christians organised by the Fukuin-Dōmei-kai, to which reference has already been made in these columns, took place at the Imperial Hotel on April 18th. This was followed by other meetings. The whole proceedings are reported at some length by the *Fukuin Shimyō* and the *Kirisuto-kyō Shimbun*. The following condensed account is taken from these sources. The meeting at the Imperial Hotel was called Naigai-jin-kōwa-kai (A Friendly Conference between Foreigners and Japanese). Dr. Miyake Yūjirō was asked to speak at this meeting. Referring to some remarks of Dr. Imbrie's, this speaker said that among scholars no fears were entertained that patriotism and Christianity would come into conflict with each other, and that therefore to lay stress on this subject as Dr. Imbrie had done showed lack of acquaintance with the existing state of opinion in Japan. Rather than spend time over such a topic, Christian teachers would do well to make the character of Christ or humanity their theme. Then there were persons who said that the disintegration of China and the partition to which she was being subjected was the result of her non-acceptance of Christianity. No such simple theory sufficed to explain what is taking place in China. Did the Christianity of Poland prove adequate to save her from partition? The enunciation of such mistaken opinions did more harm than good, as they were calculated to stir up hostility against Christianity.†

On the 20th a large meeting was held in the Kinkikan, Kanda, the audience numbering over one thousand persons. Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki caused a big tumult by the tenor of his remarks. After stating that the Japanese were very deficient in the religious instinct, he gave it as his opinion that unless they accepted

* The reference here is to the predictions of the *Taiyō* as to the fate of certain forms of Christianity in Japan.

† The *Fiji Shimyō* rather condemned this attack on Dr. Imbrie as out of keeping with the character of the meeting, whose chief object was to promote friendly feeling between foreigners and Japanese. But Dr. Miyake would no doubt contend that Dr. Imbrie's remarks were provocative of the retort made.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

Christianity they were as a nation in danger of destruction, whereupon the uproar was so great that the speaker was obliged to leave the rostrum without finishing his discourse.

On the 21st a *Shimbokukai* was held at the Nakamura-rō, which was attended by about 250 persons. On the 22nd the Young Men's Society held a meeting at the Seinen Kaikan, at which about 600 people were present. On the 23rd preaching services were held, and on the 24th a second huge lecture meeting was convened, at which Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki repeated his address, causing a second disturbance. Mr. Matsumura, however, stuck to the platform and succeeded in finishing his discourse. His pluck and persistence were considerably admired, but his contention that Japan can only be saved from becoming a prey to foreign foes by accepting Christianity naturally appeared to the thoughtful portion of the audience to be an exaggeration of the real situation.

Commenting on these meetings, the *Fukuin Shimyō* says that, with the exception of the Imperial Hotel friendly conference, they were all successful. On that occasion the exact object of the meeting was not clear, and from want of proper previous arrangement things took an unfortunate turn.

* * *

The following statistics bearing on Protestant missions are furnished by representatives of the various bodies. The total number of Christians belonging to different Protestant denominations is 47,845, divided as below:—Universalists, 99. Bifu,‡ 406. The Episcopalians, 8,237. Southern Methodists, 600. Fukuin (Evangelical Association of N. America?), 819. Methodists (American?), 5,177. Baptists, 2,801. Nihon Methodist (Canadian?), 2,363. Chōrō (?), 158. Friends, 131. Kumiai (Congregational), 13,627. Christian Church, 807. Nihon Kirisuto-Kyōkai (Presbyterian), 12,441. Fukuin (General Evangelical German and Swiss), 107. We observe that the total is higher than that given in Mr. Loomis' report for the year 1898, his total being 40,981. It may interest some readers to know that there are no less than 37 different Protestant Mission bodies in Japan, according to the latest report published by the Rev. H. Loomis, of Yokohama. It may be well to state here that the total number of R. Catholic adherents is 53,427, and that of the Greek Church, 24,531. Assuming that the figures for Protestant missions given above are correct, we reach a grand total of 125,803 Christians.

* * *

In No. 821 of the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun*, under the title of *Kyōdai (聖大) naru Kyōkai* it is argued that Protestant Christians lose much from not joining hands more than they do. The efforts of small bodies of professing Christians are sadly crippled from want of money and other means of making their influence felt. Though there are over 40,000 Protestant Christians in the country, as a force they lack power because scattered and divided. The ability of the majority of Christian believers to contribute to the funds of the church is evidently extremely limited, says the organ we are quoting. The Yokohama United Presbyterian Church

‡ We are not able to identify with certainty the mission referred to by the characters given.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

may be said to be the most prosperous of the Churches connected with the Nihon-Kirisuto-Kyōkai, with a membership of over 600, yet the annual contributions of the members do not amount to more than about 1,000 yen. Among the Kumiai Churches there are only a few where, with 500 members, the amount of money subscribed amounts to 1,000 yen. These figures represent the maximum of effort; so that it is easy to see how poor the minimum must be. Thus we see that there is an urgent need for a union of forces and more thorough organisation.

* * *

It is considered that the Sugamo prison affair has been satisfactorily settled by the appointment of Mr. Tomeoka Kōsuke to be one of the instructors in the new School established by the Government for the training of prison officials and the superintendents of reformatories. In his new sphere Mr. Tomeoka will have special charge of those branches of instruction in which he is so well versed, and hence will be able to utilise his knowledge in a way that would not have been possible while a mere chaplain in a gaol.

* * *

In No 16 of the *Seikai-no-Nihon*, Marquis Saionji gives an account of an interview he had with Pope Leo XIII some 12 years ago, when on his way to Berlin. He was much struck by the strictness of the rules enforced in the case of all persons presented to His Holiness, whatever their rank may be; one of these being that all ornaments of every kind shall be removed in the ante-room of the Audience Chamber. The Marquis was favourably impressed by the strong personality of the Pope and the geniality of his manner. In appearance he seemed to the Count to be a fac-simile of Voltaire. . . . Afterwards I went to call on the Pope's chief Cardinal, says the Viscount. He entertained me with a repast such as I had never tasted in any mansion before. He seemed very anxious to know whether the cooking pleased me, and, when I praised it, expressed great surprise that I should know so much about foreign cooking. After a while he handed me a cigar of a quality that I had never met with in all my travels. "Does the Pope," I asked, allow such "luxury as this in his palace?" Smiling he replied, "His Holiness winks at it. This is a Palace secret. It is a case of stolen kisses being sweet." §

* * *

The *Shinseiki* expresses the opinion that Dr. Imbrie's choosing patriotism and Christianity as the subject for his speech at the Imperial Hotel was justified by the attitude of the Imperial Household Department, the Higher Educational Council, a certain section of the Mombushō, and the whole of the Nippon Shugi party towards Christianity, and by a large amount of popular misrepresentation on the subject. At the same time Dr. Miyake's complaint that Christian lectures too often are negative rather than positive in character is true, the *Shinseiki* says. All kinds of opinion have been expressed as to the results of the series of meetings held by the Fukuin-Dōmeikai, some asserting that they were quite fruitless of any effects likely to prove lasting, others

§ The remark as given by the Marquis is *Subete his wa umai mono nari.* It is necessary to state this, as our English equivalent of the saying may seem unsuited to the lips of a cardinal.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

attaching great importance to them. The *Shinseiki* is on the whole optimistic on this as on so many other Christian subjects, but thinks the Imperial Hotel affair a failure when the expectations of its promoters are considered.

The following statistics are of interest, showing as they do the progress made by the missions referred to in the reports from which they are culled.

The Kumiai Churches held their Fourteenth General Meeting at Osaka in April. The report given at that meeting did not go further than November of last year. The number of baptisms for the year was 431, being an increase of 51 on the figures of the previous year. The total number of churches was 70, 33 of these being self-supporting. There were 31 preaching places, 72 teachers of various kinds, 35 of these being ordained pastors and 28 evangelists. The total number of members was 10,046; 5,220 of which were males. The money collected for various purposes during the year amounted to 21,937 yen, and the expenditure to 15,106 yen. Two new churches were formed and two previously existing ones disbanded.

From the Report of the Methodist Churches presented at their Annual Meeting in March we quote the following figures, having reference to 8 months only (August/98—March/99). In the seven mission stations situated at Tōkyō, Yokohama, Nagoya, Shinano, Sendai, Hakodate, and Sapporo 424 persons received baptism, and there were 3,023 inquirers. The total expenditure for native pastors was 2,874 yen. The number of churches was 60. The largest number of adult baptisms was at Hakodate, where no less than 38 persons were baptised. Next to this stood Yokohama and Tōkyō, with 27 each. The total amount subscribed by the churches was 10,939 yen, exclusive of a sum of 40,000 yen spent on the building of a church in Yokohama. The rate of subscription per head stands at 3 yen 61 sen.

The Keiseisha, Uneme-chō, Kyōbashi, Tōkyō, announce the following four Christian books as on sale. (1) "Christianity and Buddhism," 15 sen. (2) "Christianity and Philosophy," 25 sen. (3) "Christianity and Society," 15 sen. (4) "Christianity and Education," 12 sen. These all consist of a collection of articles previously published in various magazines. No. 1 contains 13 articles; No. 2, 15, Nos. 3 and 4, six each. With the exception of an essay by Dr. Gordon on "Amida," the articles are all from the pens of well-known Japanese Christians.

No. 148 of the *Bukkyō* has an article entitled *Bukkyō-seito-dōshikai* (清徒同志會) *no Soshoku*, which gives an account of the establishment of a new society, which, according to its chief promoters is to be purged of all the disfigurements that have characterised Buddhism as known in Japan in late years. The reformers aim at doing for Buddhism what the Protestants are said to have done for Christianity in Luther's time. They purpose removing the rubbish that has accumulated in the course of ages and of thus revealing to the world the beauty of the original structure. Whether they will succeed in their task nobody can tell, but their efforts deserve notice and encouragement. As an ethical reforming agency Buddhism as it exists to-day in Japan is powerless,

contends the *Bukkyō*, simply because it is compounded of good and bad elements in such a way that the powers of the former are neutralised by that of the latter. There is a great deal that passes as Buddhist doctrine that is no part of the original creed and should be unreservedly rejected. The mass of tradition that has grown up in the course of ages is quite separate from the original creed, and deference to the authority of this tradition should be made quite optional. The *Bukkyō* gives the following as the articles of faith of the new sect and the objects it aims at. (1) We believe in the fundamental truths taught by Buddhism. (2) We aim at reforming society radically by a revival of belief in these fundamental truths. We are advocates of free inquiry and investigation in the study of Buddhism. (4) We are entirely opposed to superstition of every kind. (5) We see no reason for insisting on the retention of the religious system hitherto maintained and followed by Buddhists. The above are the chief articles of faith. As supplementary to them it is affirmed that the sect disapproves of State aid or control. The headquarters of the new body are at No. 73, Susakimachi, Mukōjima, Tōkyō. No fees are to be collected from members.

Commenting on this movement, the *Taiyō* says that, considering the urgent need there is for reforming influences and agencies at the present time, action of this kind should be welcomed. Hitherto the most discouraging feature connected with Buddhism has been the fact that adherents of the old school and the new school have alike been devoid of real faith. If, by a removal of the many obstacles to intelligent belief, the Seito Dōshikai can awaken in the hearts of their fellow-men a new interest in a religion which has shown itself so powerful in the past, the benefit to society at large will be considerable. What the *Taiyō* desires to see is the adoption of clear historical methods in dealing with the records of the Buddhist religion and the rejection of all material that cannot stand the test of thorough criticism. By adopting two distinct methods of interpreting, called the *大乗*, *Daishō* (Mahayana), and the *小乗*, *Shōjō* (Hinayana),* says the *Taiyō*, they have mystified history and doctrine to such an extent that no ordinary people can understand them, and have cut themselves off from the sympathy and support of persons who would otherwise be ready to back them.

A writer signing himself "Hakugan Itsujin," in a long article published in No. 12 of the *Seikai-no-Nihon*, expresses profound disappointment at the slow progress being made by Christianity at the present time. Though the tone of the article is revealed by its title, *Shitsubō seru Kirisutokkyō*, the writer is evidently a man whose sympathies are

* These terms were originally applied by the Lamaistic Buddhists to systems of doctrines about the beginning of the Christian era. The northern disciples of Buddhism called their doctrine "The Great Vehicle" and those of the Southern Church "The Little Vehicle." They represented at that time different developments of the original Buddhist creed. But in Japan the terms are used in a wider sense and often seem to almost express the meaning of esoteric (*daishō*), and exoteric (*shōjō*), Buddhism. They are also used in the sense of stages of knowledge and attainment, as well as for methods of interpretation of Buddhist sayings. For a full account of the origin of the terms vide the article on "Lamaism" in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

wholly Christian, and who would be glad to have a different tale to tell as to the general attitude of the Japanese mind towards Christianity and the actual attainments and leading characteristics of professing Christians. We give the gist of the essay in as condensed a form as possible. There was a time when the light of Christianity shone brightly in this land, and it seemed as though Japan was destined to become a Christian country. But now all is changed. Both inside and outside the church there is alike failure. I am one of those who wish it otherwise. I would fain see the Kingdom of God established in this land. But I am not one of those who is content to live in a fool's paradise, to imagine that things are bright when they are dark. . . . Our Japanese Christianity is good enough for old men nearing the grave or for widows left to go through the world alone. Our Christianity figures only in condemning certain practices, that is, on the negative side. It condemns smoking, drinking, improper intercourse with women, and such things, but it is utterly powerless on the positive side in pointing out to men by precept and example what they must do. The burden of its message is "do not." Pharisee-like, our Christians thank God they are not as other men, because they abstain from certain things that others practice. But as for Christians supplying the nation with a fixed standard of life and morals, this they have not done; therefore it is that I say Christianity has failed. . . . In many respects Shintoists and Christians are half-brothers. Alike they rely on tradition. Alike they regard modern science and intellectual development with distrust and suspicion. Alike they quote their ancient records, the *Kojiki* and the *Nihongi* on the one hand, and the Bible on the other, against the opinions and theories prevailing at the present time. Alike they appeal to emotion and mere sentiment instead of to reason. . . . Can it be said that our Christian philosophy has been any more successful than our preaching of morality? I trow not. After attempting to call in German materialism to the aid of Christianity with poor results, our philosophers fell back on the ultra-idealism of Brahmanism and Buddhism, with the outcome that they have gradually explained away the personality of the Christian God, reducing him to a mere controlling force or to a fixed law called *天命*, *Temmei*. What possibility is there of building a system of morality on belief in the existence of such an entity as this? . . . If we ask what amount of real faith in Christianity there exists in this country, the answer must be discouraging. Christians dispute about opinions and discuss this doctrine and that, but beneath it all, it seems to me, there is little real belief. Christianity in coming to us has had the advantage of being associated with a system of civilisation whose merits are acknowledged. It has been represented as part and parcel of that civilisation, and hence has in the past received a certain amount of prestige that it is no longer likely to retain. The feeling of the nation in reference to the various elements composing what is called Western civilisation has changed, and hence Christianity is no longer likely to be regarded as an inseparable part of that civilisation. If things proceed thus, in 30 years Christianity in Japan will be effaced.

In commenting on the above Mr. Take-

nokoshi Yosaburō, the editor of the *Seikai-no-Nihon*, who is himself a Christian, says that, though not agreeing with all the statements of the writer of the article, he entirely endorses the conclusion to which he arrives, namely, that there is no future for Japanese Christianity. The words he uses are as follows:—*Sono in tokoro mattaku dōi subekarazu ga, Nihon no Kirisutokyō ni sento nashi to iu ketsuron wa, warera ga uragaki wo suru ni chūcho senaru tokoro to su.* The reason given by Mr. Takenokoshi for this opinion is that the evidences of Christianity are far too complicated to be comprehended by the lower orders, and, as for the educated classes, they are so wedded to the Confucian system of morals that Christianity has no attractions for them.

In the *Rikugō Zasshi*, under the pseudonym of "Kenkōsei," a writer discusses at great length the present state of the Buddhist priesthood. He divides priests into no less than 20 classes, coming to the conclusion that there is little to choose between the different classes. Though the statements made must be received with caution, proceeding as they do from one who can see no good left in the ranks of the Buddhist clergy, they no doubt represent a great deal of truth. The article opens with the statement that among the 100,000 Buddhist priests scattered over the empire, only a few are living moral lives. Then comes the classification, which is worth producing here for the sake of its exhaustiveness. As many of the terms used do not lend themselves to concise and expressive translation, we give the original terms with explanations: (1) *Kokusoku Bōzu*. Lit. Corn-stealing Priests, men who do nothing to earn the bread which by some means or other they manage to procure. They are to be regarded as a burden on the community. (2) *Taikomochi Bōzu*. Lit. Drum-carrying Priests, that is jesters or buffoons, whose chief object it is to please those who visit the temples and thus induce them to give money. (3) *Kōgyō Bōzu*. Performing Priests, or Showmen, who spend their time in exhibiting objects of interest connected with temples and who receive money for the entertainments they give. (4) *Haiyū Bōzu*. Priests who resemble actors in the way they get themselves up for effect. They dress in brocade and make a display of themselves in an unbecoming manner. (5) *Kyōin Bōzu*. Demon-Priests. Like the spirits in the nether world, they await with interest the death of parishioners, making nice calculations as to how much money they will realise by the funeral ceremonies. Being more interested in the deaths of men than in their lives, they are called "Evil Spirits." (6) *Baikyō Bōzu*. Scripture-selling Priests. These go around from house to house reading words that they themselves don't understand and never attempt to explain, which, parrot-like, they have learnt to repeat. They charge so much per passage for what they read. (7) *Baidan Bōzu*. Speech-selling Priests. These put on the air of learned Buddhists, imitate the voices of actors, sway their bodies to and fro and make flourishes with their hands, and expound in a baughty manner any subject that happens to occur to them at the time regardless of truth. (8) *Chikushō Bōzu*. Concubine-keeping Priests, who, for the sake of appearances, often have wives as well. (9) *Haka-ban Bōzu*. Grave-keep-

ing Priests. They look after the sweeping of graveyards and the placing of flowers on tombs, &c. (10) *Yotogi Bōzu*. Priests who sit with the dead. It is customary in Tōkyō especially to send for a priest when a person dies, who remains all night by the side of the corpse reading prayers for the comfort of the soul of the departed. (11) *O-toki Bōzu*. Priests who spend their time in reading scriptures before the household divinity, and who receive money for their services from the heads of the houses they visit. With us foreigners the reading of the scriptures also forms part of worship, but the scriptures are read for the benefit of the audience and not to please or appease the Deity. But in our prayers the scriptures are largely quoted, which perhaps amounts to the same thing. (12) *Kojiki Bōzu*. Mendicant Priests. These are of two kinds, real and false. A good many ordinary beggars assume the garb and manner of mendicant priests and pretend to read or sing scriptures made up for the occasion. (13) *Oyakata Bōzu*. Head-Priests. These are superintendents of mendicant friars. It is not open to any priest to become a mendicant at will. He needs to receive permission from his sect. These *oyakata*, however, are said to sanction fraud in consideration of regular payment from the beggars they set up in life. (14) *Hensai Bōzu*. Priests who collect money on false pretences. They pretend to be collecting money for the repair or erection of temples and often obtain considerable sums from the unwary. (15) *Shōbai Bōzu*. Trading Priests. These buy and sell temple shares, according to the expected rise or fall in the revenue of temples. (16) *Kwasai Bōzu*. Priests who are ordered to collect money. The order referred to comes from the head-temple. This opportunity is utilised for practising all manner of deceit whereby they enrich themselves. (17) *Kaichō Bōzu*. Priests who make money by opening shrines for people to worship the image inside or by showing heirlooms and treasures. (18) *Kyūten Bōzu*. Moxa-marking Priests. These make a trade of choosing and marking suitable spots for the application of the moxa. (19) *Uranai Bōzu*. Divining Priests. (20) *Kitō Bōzu*. Praying Priests, who also sell charms. The writer of the article says that there are doubtless other methods of obtaining a living not specified here, but that these suffice to show to what shifts priests are driven to keep body and soul together and to what a low status the Buddhist priesthood has sunk. He concludes by observing that there can be no hope of Buddhism becoming a power in the country so long as its teachers are as degraded as the facts given above plainly indicate.

SOUL ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

Sōul now has an electric railway running from a few yards outside the New West Gate, the whole width of the city, a distance of three miles, to the East Gate and thence to the Imperial Tomb. A Korean Company, under the Presidency of the ex-Governor of Sōul, the Hon. Ye Chū Yūn, was formed, and the firm which undertook the building of the Sōul-Chumulpō Railroad, which was turned over to the Japanese at the beginning of this year, built this road. The money for the construction, I understand, was all paid into the hands of the firm at the time the contract was signed. The

track was laid last Fall, the power-house built, and the cars and machinery arrived this spring.

A grand opening was planned but had to be postponed on account of the breaking of something about the engine. An immense crowd assembled in the street to see the cars move and probably did their best to get in the way of the wheels. But on account of the accident their curiosity could not be gratified. A few days later, without formal opening ceremonies, cars were run over the line. This has continued for the past week or so. The speculation and curiosity of the crowd were simply wonderful.

The average Korean, like most of us, is so made that he can look at and examine a thing best when he is right on top of it. So with the electric car. Whenever the car stopped a crowd at once closed around it, looked at the wheels beneath, and at the fishing-rod affair above. I have for years noticed the Korean has a decided aversion to getting out of the way, and prefers to risk being run over to giving an inch more than is absolutely necessary. He, therefore, stands as near the electric track as possible; he does not get off the track until the very last half second, and then is not sure which way to step.

Friday, May 26th, was the day set to make a trip over the line out to the Imperial Tomb. Up to this time cars ran inside the city only. On this day the whole line was to be opened. The President of the company and a few invited guests were to make the trial trip.

But another element, over which the construction company had no control, came into the count. We have not had the usual spring rains—in fact, no rain worth mentioning since last November. The spring crops are a failure and the outlook for the rice crop is that of complete failure. The government is strongly conservative. The Progressists have not piped the least sound since their dispersion in Chong-nō last December. But this drought has to be accounted for. It cannot be the fault of the patriotic, loyal, and honest men who administer the affairs of state; they are causing a general resurrection of what some prematurely thought was dead and buried; the lung pipe, that necessary appendage to true Korean greatness, which was thrust aside by the zealous reformers, is seen in its full length; copper cash is being brought into the city by the cart load—I am not drawing on my imagination, for only to day I counted ten carts with the filthy stuff making their way to the Imperial exchequer; and the zealous Premier is putting forth his best efforts to revive the cult of Confucianism—the State Religion; the temple of the God of War, which was burned down, is being rebuilt, so that no one but the most cynical could attribute the lack of rain to the absence of zeal for the things of the remote past.

But there must be a reason for the drought. It occurs to some one that the electric wires shut off the influence of heaven. Remove the wires and the lung looked for rain will descend and refresh the parched earth. The telegraph wires are soon included. Then some one finds out that when wires were first introduced into Japan there was a famine for three years. The conclusion is natural, inevitable—the baneful wires must go.

First the rumour was that an extension of time until the end of the Korean moon would be granted; then the rumour was about that the order for the removal had been given already.

Such was the feverish state of excitement on the morning of the 26th, the day when the trial trip was to be made over the whole road. The cars had run more or less regularly for over a week. On this day a child—between eight and ten years—ran across the track in front of the car and so close to the car that the motor-man could not stop it in time. The wheels ran over the child, and it was killed almost instantly. This accident, for which, as far as I could hear, the management was not responsible, roused the crowd to a great pitch of excitement. When the car arrived at the Big Bell, and stopped there, stones were thrown at the motor-man and the conductor. Unable to defend themselves they ran off and the car was

left for the multitude to wreak its vengeance upon. The car was thrown off the track and burned. When I saw it at eleven o'clock there was nothing left but the iron. Another car was stopped and turned over into the street. The mob, by this time, got into working mood and proposed to go to the power-house, at the East Gate and wreck it. But the men there were not to be driven out without resistance. What transpired at the power-house I have not been able to learn, though one man with a knife cut (in the back, where Koreans are nearly always wounded on such occasions) was reported at the Government hospital as a case "at the point of death," but the physician did not deem the case sufficiently serious to receive him.

Japanese policemen were called to guard the property of the company, which, not having as yet been turned over to the Koreans, is still foreign property, and for hours had the pleasure of riding on the cars free. The Korean policeman and soldier took to his heels at first sight of danger. We are so accustomed to look for this that it does not surprise us any more. But he returned when the danger had passed away and was found pushing back the ever-advancing line of spectators; his principal efforts were devoted to the usual boy.

The day began so inauspiciously ended hopefully. The Company was determined not to stop running the cars, because, as one man said to me, "we should never be able to start again." It is hoped this day's experience will be of value to both the company and the people: as to the former, to exercise even more precautions, and to the latter, to be less persistently curious.

AMERICAN MATTERS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Ithaca, N.Y., May 12.

Looking out upon the world from the University hill at Ithaca, the two thousand young men here find much to talk about. In the world of sport and athletic exercise, they have awakened with the birds. In Percy Field, which is the name of the large athletic grounds attached to the University, there has already been held a Spring Meet, in which "the star athletes" of the state of New York have tested each other's prowess. Football and baseball are still the favorite games. Although Cornell has not yet wrested the laurels from the brow of Princeton, and although the New Jersey "tigers" are still able to defeat, by a large score, the Cornellians, yet the latter hope to beat other college teams and this year to lower the score even with the Princetonians. In aquatic there will be a race on Lake Cayuga here on Memorial Day, May 30th, and as the race is in full view of the lake shore, which is lined on either side by a railway, tickets for the observation car are already in demand. Cornell beat Yale and Harvard so very badly last year, that this fact may have something to do with the other facts, namely, that Yale and Harvard will have a race by themselves this year. The only large contest in which Cornell will play a part with other American college crews will be in the races of the Intercollegiate Rowing Association, on the Hudson river at Poughkeepsie. Meanwhile two Presidents of Cornell University are busy in diplomacy. Mr. Andrew D. White, the first president, who, with Ezra Cornell, founded this, one of the youngest and the most typical of American Universities—which propagates no religious creed and opposes none, while yet nursing a genuine Christian life—is now ambassador to Germany, and will be one of the men prominent at the Congress of Disarmament to be held at The Hague. Mr. Seth Low, the president of Columbia University, is also a commissioner along with Captain Mahan, probably the foremost naval writer in the world, and with Captain Crozier, the inventor of the disappearing gun-carriage, and one of the first military experts of the regular army. The sessions of the Congress will be held in the Huis ten Bosch, or House in the Woods, in which, Americans remember, Motley was a guest and where his portrait hangs to-day. One cannot help but wonder whether the personal

discomfort and pain which the present Czar, when Czarevitch, suffered in Japan, from the sword-cut of the fanatical native policeman, had not a strong influence upon the "autocrat of all the Russias" in prompting him to send forth an invitation to the world to inflict less pain and do less killing. I have just re-read the incident in the fascinating pages of Mrs. Hugh Fraser's delightful book, which the Macmillans have just issued, under the title of "Letters from Japan."

Although it is the general opinion in this country that the Congress itself will not accomplish anything immediate or definite, yet it is believed, and certainly very earnestly hoped, that it will initiate measures which may lead to a tribunal of nations for the settlement of international difficulties. A good deal of effort is being made in print and through the religious press and pulpit to have the peace sentiment brought especially before public attention during the sessions of the congress.

It is interesting for a Philadelphian to recall that, two centuries ago, William Penn met the Czar, Peter the Great,—their medium of communication being the language of Penn's mother, Dutch,—and had a long talk about disarmament and the means of supplanting war as a settler of difficulties, especially through a federation,—the United States of Europe. William Penn's elaborate paper, on the possibility of the forming of a European confederacy of nations, is well worthy of study to day, and has been re-printed as a leaflet in the series of the Old South Historical Studies in Boston.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the earth, the president of Cornell University is acting as head of the peace commission. It is the general impression throughout the country that the end of the military operations in the Philippines is near at hand. Dr. Schurman is a Canadian by birth, having been born in Prince Edward's Island, and although many of his friends would be glad to see him president of the United States, he is not likely to hold an elective office, though it is more than probable that when peace is over in the Philippines he will be wanted for work that is more strictly political than the presidency of Cornell University. Those who know his varied gifts, however, regret that one so eminent in philosophical studies should not have pursued his work further in the line of pure thought, for our American metaphysicians and philosophers of highest rank are none too many.

This reminds me that fresh honours were recently paid to the memory of Jonathan Edwards in Massachusetts, a few days ago. Indeed, in this decade, the number of bronze statues, memorials, and other works of art, recalling the virtues, abilities, and work of the makers of America, have been unusually numerous. I was in Boston a few days ago, and besides seeing again the superb bronze statue of Colonel Shaw and the century old bas-relief of his negro soldiers, I noticed that the old tablets on Beacon Hill had been re-set into a new base, and over their massive granite receptacle had been reared a soaring column crowned by the American eagle, to remind one of the old days when a beacon burned brightly on the hill (where now the State House stands) to guide vessels up the harbour. A little to the south, fronting the magnificent new extension of the State House, rises in bronze the stately effigy of General Devens, the brilliant and dashing commander, during the whole war, in the battles from Ball's Bluff to Appomattox Court House, and after ward the dignified judge and scholar. Inside the new building I saw that the golden cod-fish, symbol of Massachusetts' early wealth, even as the wool-sack was of England's, hung in a place of honour, while in the new library the Bradford manuscript, absurdly called "The Log of the Mayflower," but by itself rightly named "The History of Plymouth Plantation," rests under glass, in a bronze case by day, and at night in a fire proof safe especially made for it. Like the Holy Bible itself, this book of Genesis in American history shows by its own

texture that it owes its preservation primarily to the genealogical information which it contains.

Who can speak of Genesis or the Bible in these days of searching scholarship without thinking of Dr. Briggs and of the severe attack of indigestion which the Presbyterian body suffered and which the Episcopalian corporation are suffering now? It is curious to note how long the theological mind, rather I should say the clerical monopolies and ecclesiastical corporations are, in facing facts before yielding to realities.

In other sciences than those associated under the general head of theology, it is a credit to a professor, or a public teacher, to be abreast with the latest fruits of research and scholarship. But, somehow or another, within those social bodies of men called churches, there is that most mysterious and ever-changing thing called "orthodoxy." We all know its meaning, when taken in a literal sense; but, what it means when human ambitions, selfishness, ignorance, and a thousand other peculiarities of human nature disguise themselves under it, who can tell? What can it mean or be? Our friend, the ambassador to Germany, has written two octavo volumes on what he calls "The Warfare of Science with Dogmatic Theology." Dr. Draper, before him, wrote learnedly on what he called "The Warfare of Science and Religion." Both of these titles seem absurd. Millions, not only of intelligent Christians, but Hebrews, Mohammedans and Buddhists, know that there is no conflict whatever, and never has been, between religion and science, or between science and dogmatic theology,—any more than there has been between science and geology, or science and bacteriology. There always have been conflicts, however, between the men of one school or line of thought, even in the same science, and we see the men of medicine, for example, divided into different schools of theory and practice. When in that domain called religion we see men holding power not only over the conscience but also over the purse and the sword, and find them claiming to have the "keys" to other worlds called Heaven and Hell, and making those keys powers of literal force for personal weal or woe, then we have "conflicts" innumerable. We always have had them and always will while human nature remains the same and the lower motives inherent in human nature cloak themselves under high sounding words and names.

Down at the bottom, as honest men believe, and especially that large number of good men outside the churches, the Briggs incident means that men are not saved by Bibles, or churches, or clubs, societies, or corporations of clerical gentlemen, but are saved by faith and through character, which comes from following the noblest of all examples. The great and honoured Presbyterian church was put to the test when the question arose whether this church was able to live up to its traditions of scholarship, and keep within its fold one who was not only a scholar but who was the great exponent and popularizer of Biblical scholarship in the United States. The average uninformed church member and lazy or uninterested person is very apt to style the solid results of biblical scholarship as "Briggism," but every scholar knows that Dr. Briggs has done nothing but popularize what the leading biblical scholars of the world are already familiar with. In deposing him from its ministry, the Presbyterian policy tied itself to a corpse and shook the faith of all those who believed that this great and honoured church loved learning and feared no result of research. The writer, educated in a Presbyterian Seminary, imbibed there that idea, as a commonplace of fact and history.

Now, in like manner, the denomination which especially calls itself, like so many other denominations, "the church," and is even desirous to be called "the American Church," is under trial. If this body of Christians cannot include within its household a scholar who teaches nothing more than what Dr. Cheyne, Canon Farrer, and many other British scholars have already taught, then, as many honest men here believe, it is only a sect and has no more

claim of being a Church, in the primitive Christian sense, than have those obscure bodies which base the acceptance of Christianity upon the non use of tobacco, or wine, or some other purely personal matter of practice.

When I began this letter it was still uncertain how Bishop Potter would act. The telegrams of this evening, however, show that official notice has been given that the Bishop of New York will ordain on May 14th, at the Pro-Cathedral, Staunton St., New York, at 10 45 a.m., Rev. Dr. C. A. Briggs and Rev. Charles H. Schnedeker.

The Rev. Dr. Henry P. Smith, who was decapitated, so to speak, by the same guillotine which removed Dr. Briggs' head from nominal service in the Presbyterian body, has entered the fellowship of the Congregational Churches. The whole series of incidents serves to show that religion is becoming, for the thoughtful man, more a matter of reality than of tradition, and it belies the various religious organisations, which call themselves Churches, to take account of the signs of the times. It is a sign of cheer, in itself, that so honoured a body of clergy as the Episcopalians have bishops who can discern the signs of the times.

The Rev. John Ochiai, a Japanese Episcopal deacon, was to have been advanced to the priesthood on the same day and place with Dr. Briggs and Mr. Schnedeker, though I do not see his name announced.

In a recent visit to Boston and Worcester, Mass., I had an hour's delightful chat with Dr. Berry and his wife, who were at Kobe from 1872 to 1892. The Doctor looks well and is very active in his profession at Worcester, Mass.

Probably before your readers read this letter, our old friend Commodore John C. Watson, who was on the Asiatic station from 1870 to 1874, and long in charge of the store ship *Idaho*, in Yokohama Harbour, will be in charge of the American naval forces in Manila, to succeed Admiral Dewey, who, we are all hoping, will survive the fearsome welcome that awaits him in his native land.

I must close by telling the readers of *The Japan Mail* an incident which occurred last summer in England. I was spending a week, rambling among scenes delightful through ancestral associations, in Nottingham. Wishing, in view of the coming Cromwell Tercentenary (which has just been celebrated in England and not unnoticed in the United States), to see Huntingdon, I rode over into Huntingdonshire. In the town itself I was shown by the courteous rector, Rev. Heddy Vicars, the record of Cromwell's birth and other interesting events and persons connected with him. Going down to the Cromwell house which stands on the site of the altar, in which the future Protector was born, I rang the bell. Who should come to the door but a Japanese about thirty-eight or forty years of age? Addressing him in his own tongue, he seemed dazed. I tried it again. His face gave no sign of understanding. I then asked him in English, "Are you not a Japanese gentleman?" He answered "Yes." "Can you not speak Japanese?" I asked. "Not one word," he answered, "I have forgotten everything." He then told me his story. He had come to England twenty years ago, with the proprietor of the house, a captain on the Peninsular and Oriental line of steamers, and had hardly seen one of his own countrymen since. He was very courteous and showed me all over the grounds, and, on the lower floor of the house, the Cromwell relics and things of Oriental interest. On parting, he used for a farewell the very inappropriate word "Ohayo." It seems incredible, and yet considerable questioning and testing in this case, showed that one's native tongue can be so far forgotten as to be an near death that recognition would be a matter of difficulty.

W.E.G.

By the collapse of a verandah in Queen's Road, Hongkong, on May 30, two Chinamen were killed and four injured. Jerry-building was the cause of the accident.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Recent events in South Carolina and Georgia have again brought vividly before the public mind the subject of lynching and the questions growing out of it. On Saturday, April 22, a jury in the United States circuit court at Charleston, S.C., trying the men charged with killing Postmaster Baker (coloured) at Lake City, S.C., February 22, 1898, reported their failure to agree upon a verdict; on Sunday, April 23, Sam Hose (or Holt) a negro accused of murder and rape, was mutilated and burned to death at Newman, Ga.; and later in the same day "Lige" Strickland, a coloured preacher whom Hose had accused of complicity in his crime, was hanged near Palmetto, Ga., despite his protests of innocence and the protests of Major Thomas, his employer. These occurrences, with several lynchings of a less sensational nature before and after, such as the shooting of eight negroes at Palmetto, Ga., for alleged incendiarism a few weeks ago, have brought out no little comment in the States. The disagreement in the Lake City trial is notable from the fact that it is said to be the first time that a South Carolina jury has failed to acquit the prisoners in a lynching case. The South Carolina State supreme court has also just handed down a decision supporting the anti-lynching law, which awards damages of not less than \$2,000 to the legal representatives of the victim, to be paid by the county in which the lynching occurs.

Most of the Southern papers deplore lynchings as ineffective to prevent crime. The *Atlanta Constitution*, which offered and paid \$500 for the capture of Hose (or Holt), does not defend lynching, but presents on the editorial page a vivid picture of Hose's crime and asks its readers to keep that scene in mind when passing judgment on the lynching party. A day later, in a three-column editorial, *The Constitution* takes as a text the declaration of Mr. S. M. Inman that 95 per cent. of the negroes and white men in the South are as respectful toward women as any people on earth, "but the other 5 per cent. of white and negro scoundrels, rumps, and brutes are responsible for all the trouble." *The Constitution* declares that the problem would be solved if the better 95 per cent. of the negroes would deliver negro criminals to justice instead of harbouring them as now, and if the better 95 per cent. of the white men would require good references from the negroes they employ.

Dr. W. R. Tuttle, of Yale University, is inclined to admit that the American higher education is producing a race of pessimists. He notes the tendency among college bred men to stand coldly and critically aloof from all movements toward social betterment, and to consider themselves as mere onlookers in the drama of human suffering. The antidote needed for this form of pessimism, Dr. Tuttle tells us, is enthusiasm. Yet at present, he is forced to admit, enthusiasm too often accompanies ignorance or fanaticism. It is the trained man who has unrivaled power for good, if he would but use it.

The Carnegie Steel Works, including mines, railways, collieries, and furnaces, have been sold to a New York Syndicate for 300,000,000 dollars, two-thirds going to Mr. Andrew Carnegie.

The New York Pacific Cable Company proposes to lay a telegraph cable between the United States and the Philippines. It is to be 11,000 miles long, is to touch at Hawaii and the Carolines, and connect the Southern Ladrones, being thence extended to Manila. The weight of the cable amounts to twenty-eight tons per mile. The cost is reckoned at \$1,000 per mile, and as soon as Congress has given its consent to the concessions still demanded, the company is ready to commence work. The starting point, according to the company's plans, will be Monterey, in California, and the last point the town of Manila. Two years will probably be spent on the completion and laying of the cable, but the survey

of the route across the Pacific in Manila will probably be begun immediately. A telegram of forty words from Washington to Manila now costs \$2.52 per word, and takes about two to three hours in transit. At least half a day, therefore, is necessary for an exchange of telegrams. With the new connection, a telegram of the same length to Manila will cost at first only \$30, and according to the calculations of the Cable Company, would reach its destination in not more than half an hour. One difficulty has hitherto been the want of intermediate stations in the Pacific, as the islands which would have served the purpose did not possess a Government of their own. If Hawaii, Wake Island, Guam, and the Philippines can be utilized as landing-places for the cable, there will be no extent of cable between these points so long as to constitute a difficulty. None of these sections would be as long as the French cable, which is laid from Brest to Cape Cod, on the coast of Massachusetts, and which is 3,250 miles in length. The longest section of the proposed Pacific cable would be that from San Francisco to Hawaii, amounting to only 2,098 English miles; from Hawaii to Wake Island is 2,040 miles; from Wake Island to Guam, 1,290 miles; from Guam to Manila, 1,520 miles. In the opinion of experts, there are no depths on the route of the projected cable which would greatly exceed those at which cables have already been laid in other seas.

A terrible ordeal awaits Admiral Dewey on his return home. The whole nation wishes to do him honour and preparations on an enormous scale are now afoot. Mr. Secretary Long, of the Navy, has been informed that Admiral Dewey a month ago, learning of the welcome awaiting him, said he was afraid to come home, and the department officials add that from the invitations being extended to him he has good reason for his fears.

There is every probability of an autumn session of Congress being called by the President as he is said to want the policy of the Government in respect to the Philippines and other colonial possessions thoroughly defined and the currency question disposed of before the next campaign. These are the governing considerations, but there are minor reasons for beginning work on October 20, instead of December 4.

The American authorities are sending a small military commission to Java to study the Dutch Colonial methods, with a view to their application, where suitable, in the Philippine Islands.

The *New York Journal* announces that the Pope has issued a Bull instituting a year of Jubilee to commence in the sacred city of Rome with the first vespers of Christmas, 1899, and to cease on the same day in 1900.

In the pro-Cathedral on Stanton-street, New York, on May 14, the Rev. Dr. Briggs, who was suspended for heresy by the Presbyterian General Assembly, was ordained a priest of the Episcopal church, together with the Rev. Charles N. Snedeker. The ordination ceremonies were conducted by Bishop Potter. The little church was crowded with people, and the ceremonies were notable for the quietness that prevailed. Those who expected, from the great outcry of the preceding three or four weeks, some sensational features, were disappointed. There was no scene, no excitement, and no protest was filed in the beginning, during, or at the close of the ordination.

It appears from returns of the Secretary of State of New Jersey that certificates of incorporation were issued to almost as many concerns in April as in any preceding month since the present marked tendency toward combination set in. Receipts for the granting of such certificates amounted to \$113,466, something like \$5,045 less than the receipts of March. Approximately the capitalization of all the concerns incorporated under the laws of New Jersey since January 1 this year to the end of April may be placed at \$1,500,000,000. The

following is a list of the companies incorporated in the month of April, with an authorized capital of \$2,000,000 or more:—

Amalgamated Copper Company	\$75,000,000
United States Woisted Company	70,000,000
American Smelting and Refining Company	65,000,000
American Plumbing Supply and Lead Company	35,000,000
American Steel Hoop Company	33,000,000
American Railways Company	25,000,000
United States Flour Milling Company	25,000,000
American Power and Transportation Company	12,500,000
Union Match Company	10,000,000
Woods Motor Vehicle Company	10,000,000
Consolidated Rubber Tire Company	10,000,000
International Smokeless Powder and Dynamite Co.	10,000,000
Continental Cotton Oil Company	6,000,000
Reynolds Tobacco Company	5,000,000
Lewis Motor Vehicle Company	5,000,000
North Star Mines Company	5,000,000
Montana Coal and Coke Company	5,000,000
Compania De la Hacienda d'Coalhuayula	5,000,000
International Automobile Vehicle Tire Company	3,000,000
Acker Process Company	3,000,000
Acker Process Patent Company	2,000,000
Mutual Mercantile Agency	2,000,000
American Incandescent Light Company	2,000,000
Continental Tobacco Company (increase of capital)	25,000,000

Total\$448,500,000

The *Chicago Tribune* gives some details of the huge steel and iron combination which is now being formed. The following corporations are interested in it:—The Carnegie Company, \$250,000,000; Federal Steel Company, \$100,000,000; American Steel and Wire Company, \$90,000,000; National Steel Company, \$52,000,000; Republic Steel Company, \$50,000,000; American Steel Hoop Company, \$33,000,000. The new trust will undertake to capture the business of European concerns, and furnish rails and steelplates for European railways and warships. No foreign company, they assert, is big enough to be a formidable competitor.

Ex-Governor Flower, of New York, died at Eastport, Long Island, on May 12. Mr. Flower was one of the founders of the Federal Steel Trust, whose stock already issued is \$99,737,000. Good authorities estimate that Mr. Flower's profits in the last eighteen months in Wall-street have exceeded \$10,000,000. He has become in that time the acknowledged speculative leader in the financial markets of the United States.

Rear-Admiral Watson, the new U. S. Naval Commander at Manila, comes down from a line of American fighters. He was born in Frankfort, Ky., and was graduated from the Naval Academy in time to get aboard Farragut's flagship and fight all through the Civil War. He served on the flagship until peace was declared. It was Watson, then a young Lieutenant, who lashed Farragut to the rigging during the battle of Mobile bay. He is a grandson of John J. Crittenden, who was once Attorney-General of the United States and who wrote the famous Crittenden compromise bill. He is a nephew of General George H. Crittenden and Thomas L. Crittenden, who were among the heroes of the Civil War. The Rear-Admiral is a high type of American citizen—cool, fearless, quick in judgment. He is tall and slender, with hair prematurely white, and the hands and face of a woman, but he is a prudent and resourceful commander, with the persistence of a bulldog and the courage of a lion. Moreover, he is an earnest Christian, but of the Stonewall Jackson sort. Hard fighting follows his praying. To his sailors he is known as "Able Seaman Johnny," which is considered as great a compliment as could be given. Rear-Admiral Watson was married in 1872 to Miss Elizabeth Thornton, a distant connection, and daughter of Judge James Thornton, of San Francisco. The result of this union was eight children, seven of whom are

living. The eldest son, John Edward Watson, is an ensign in the Navy.

President McKinley proposes to make a tour of the West during his coming summer vacation. Arrangements for the trip have not yet been perfected, but it is understood that he will go to San Francisco by the Southern Pacific route and return to Washington on board a special train of the Northern Pacific, stopping en route at Yellowstone Park and other points of interest. He will leave about the middle of July and be gone probably six weeks.

THE WOMEN'S BURDEN.

They are slipping down the Channel, they are working down the Bay,
The keels that bear the mothers' sons, for whom the mothers pray.
From Solent and from Humber, from Mersey, Thames, and Clyde
The mothers' sons of England go out on every tide

By all the ocean gateways, where the light-capped headlands tower,
The ships that take the mothers' sons are sighted every hour.
They are ploughing through the Forties, they are heaving round the Horn.

They are gliding over glassy seas to greet the golden morn.
And some are for the fighting line, some go to wield the pen.

Within the pickets others trade, but all are fighting men.
Wearing every badge of service—wearing none, it's much the same—

Even though they never know it, they are playing England's game.
And while the sons go trooping forth, to find, to take, to share

The White Man's Burden that we know,—have they no load to bear
Who choke their sobs, and say "farewell," and bide at home and long—

Who bore the sons of England—the mothers of the strong?
They bore with pain and travail, they nursed upon their knees.

The men who rule in many lands, the lords of all the seas,
They have learnt to bear their partings—when the time has come they know—

For last born follows first-born on the way they have to go.
What of the mothers' burden, what of their sacrifice,

Can ye huy their love for a bauble, can ye pay their tears with a price?
Forasmuch as the White Man's Burden is borne by the sons they bare

Unto them let it be counted, they carry their own full share.
And what of the plighted maidens, what of the new wed wives,

Who go on every out-bound ship to share the driven lives,
Some wooed and wedded on English soil, some wed on the alien ground?

And the wan-faced women who journey Home, what of the Homeward bound?
Brief are their joys and little their mirth in the glaring endless days.

They spend their strength in the unbought toil that earns small meed of praise.
They have given their youth to the grasping years, they have given the light of their eyes,

And motherhood's joys are bitter, for parting is sacrifice,
Well-loved and strong-souled singer, whose voice sounds from afar,

To the last, least, loneliest island where the burden-bearers are:
Who sang the song of the swaddled lives beyond the purdah's hem,

Master, these are thy kindred—hast thou no word for them?
—*Pioneer*, April 23.

THE KUMI-AI (CONGREGATIONAL) CHURCHES IN JAPAN.

The fact that the first two churches of this order organised in Japan have just celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of their organisation, in Kobe and Osaka, respectively, suggests a brief statement of their present condition. There are now connected with this associated body seventy-two churches, thirty-three of which are self-supporting. There are thirty-five ordained pastors, and over ten thousand members. *Yen* 21,937 was contributed by these churches for all purposes last year. The two oldest churches in Kobe and Osaka which have just celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary, have about five hundred members each. The Osaka church has just made its pastor, Rev. T. Miyagawa, a present of about 1,000 *yen* and given him a vacation of a year, and he is to visit the United States. Two of the original members of this church were present at the anniversary exercises, and took part, one of them being eighty-three years of age. The pastor expressed for the church the determination to be twice as earnest and active in the future as they had been in the past. At the anniversary exercises in Kobe, nearly two hundred members of the church arose in token of their pledge to each try to lead at least one person to accept Christianity during the present year. When a body of self-supporting churches numbering over thirty have been gathered in twenty-five years, and as many more which are largely self-supporting, it cannot be said that mission work is a failure in Japan.—*Communicated*.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, June 3rd:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000	
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	15,532,657	
Amount of convertible notes issued	170,952,550	
Government deposits	34,464,942	
General deposits	5,658,865	
Exchange liability	49,653	
Total	256,658,668	

	Cr.	
Discount notes	27,389,647	
Foreign discount notes	8,897,335	
Loan to Government	22,000,000	
General loans	46,064,081	
Exchange liability	1,860,983	
Government bonds	45,148,330	
Property	1,839,231	
Bullion and Specie	103,459,059	
Total	256,658,668	

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued	171,228,863
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	99,312,104
Silver	—
Total	99,312,104
Securities:—	
Government bonds	35,465,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	7,346,794
Commercial notes	7,104,024
Total	71,916,759

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	786,720	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	3,273,312	—
Government deposits	791,961	—
General deposits	—	187,092

Down to the end of April, the Cuban and Philippine wars had cost the United States 300,000,000 dollars (about £60,000,000).

CORRESPONDENCE.

FOREIGN RESTAURANT AT OISO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—Foreign residents, as well as tourists, visiting Oiso during the summer months may be glad to know that a long felt want has been supplied, and that they can now get there an excellent foreign meal—plain, but well cooked and very cleanly served—at the "Miyoshike Restaurant." It is a newly built little house, situated not far from the Torijō kwan, with a fine sea view. The proprietor has been some years in the United States and speaks English. A party would do well to write or telegraph in advance.

Yours faithfully,

CYCLIST.

CAN FOREIGNERS PREACH IN JAPANESE?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—Not with a desire to provoke controversy but rather to invite a general expression of opinion on a timely subject, I wish to express my dissent from an article in a recent issue of the *Japan Weekly Mail* entitled "Evangelization and Education." The gist of this article is that the acquisition and right use of the Japanese language is a matter so difficult as practically to debar foreigners from successfully engaging in direct evangelistic work.

Now, I would not dare deny that the Japanese language is difficult, or that the Occidental who must work through it labours at a disadvantage. But I think you unduly magnify that disadvantage. I cannot at all agree with you in the statement that "not one of them (foreigners) could stand up and lecture about ethics and morals in such a manner as to dignify the subject," and I think a good many men in Japan who are competent to express an opinion on the subject would differ with you.

While fully conscious of the difficulty under which we labour in this regard and painfully aware of our own shortcomings in the language, some of us think it possible to do effective preaching in spite of these, and that too "without perpetrating solecisms which deprive our words of all semblance of eloquence." Men speak in acquired languages in the West with good effect; why should they not do it in Japan?

As a matter of fact, some missionaries do preach acceptably and effectively in Japanese. I have occasionally overheard Japanese speaking among themselves concerning a foreigner whose address they had just listened to, to the effect that it was as ornate, eloquent, and convincing as if it had been delivered by a Japanese. And I have often heard native Christians say they were much more benefited by the sermons of certain missionaries than by those of the Japanese pastors.

To your question, "Are foreign missionaries competent to carry on evangelization in Japanese with any prospect of success proportionate to that which men of equal endowments might expect to achieve in an Occidental country?" I would answer, No. We do not meet with the same success in evangelistic work here that we could reasonably expect in the west; but neither does the man engaged in educational work. The same men and money used in education in Christian lands could make a better showing in immediate visible results. There are sufficient reasons why this should be so, and we do not expect the same success on the mission field that we would meet at home. But this matter of proportionate success here and in the west has nothing to do with the question under discussion.

Sincerely yours,
Sage.

R. B. PEERY

* Italics are mine.

THE WORK BEFORE US.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—Some of the statements in the enclosed article, written by a well-known American

author, may be questioned. However, believing the principles involved well worthy the consideration not only of the missionaries, but of all thoughtful people, I submit it for reprint, if you can kindly give it space.

Sincerely yours,

MARY BROKAW JONES.

June 1st, 1899.

BY REBECCA HARDING DAVIS.

A suggestive item of news comes to us this week from England. The Sirdar, it will be remembered, asked a month or two ago for £100,000 to found a Gordon memorial college in Khartoum. Having successfully avenged Gordon's death by the slaughter (planned for fourteen years) of tens of thousands of Dervishes and negroes, he now proposes at once to elevate the miserable conquered residue. A huge university is to be built in Africa. British teachers are to be sent out, and the sons of the headmen of the villages are to be the first pupils. It is distinctly stated that there is to be no religious instruction in this college, and no meddling with the opinions of the pupils upon questions of morality. Hence there can be no attempt to change their daily thoughts and actions on to a base of more decent and pure principle. The one thing which is promised is that the English language shall be taught. The undergraduate may worship his gods or serve Mohammed as he chooses, to the end of his days. But he must recite his creed in grammatical English. *Et voilà tout!* He is saved.

The last reports assure us that popular feeling in England is strongly in favour of this project. Half of the sum required has been subscribed, and the Queen and Prince of Wales have offered to become Patron and Vice-Patron of the college.

The reason why this incident is of peculiar interest to us Americans lies in the fact that it is a deliberate, well considered effort by a civilized race to elevate a mass of human beings inferior and alien to themselves. How are they going to do it? Is the way they take the best way?

Now, the American believes that this work of elevating alien and inferior races is the one to which he, in the Providence of God, has been called. He has been busy with it ever since the first ship disgorged its load of emigrants on our coasts. He is experimenting on it now at Hampton and Tuskegee in every reservation in the West, and in every public school in the East. He will soon probably extend his experiments among millions of Malays.

He of all men, therefore, is interested in the question:—How shall an ignorant race, differing from ourselves in creed, habits and speech, be lifted to a higher place in the ranks of men?

The presumptuous answer which most of us would give is that of Lord Kitchener:—First, teach him to speak English, to wear our clothes, to copy our social customs, to force his life into our mould of life.

That is the only remedy urged by some of our reformers for all the Indian difficulty. Compel the Sioux or Cheyenne boy to believe that he is not red, but white. Put a hat and trousers and a football sweater on him, dub him "Sam Jones" instead of "The Eagle," blot out in him all memory of the woods and the ancient proud traditions of his tribe and the old blanket-quaw, his mother. If that does not make a man of him—what will?

But birth-marks are not easily rubbed out of body or mind. It is a singular fact that the individual man reaches his highest development on his own racial lines. Be he red, or yellow, or black, as soon as he forswears the blood which God gave to him he becomes a cheap, factitious copy of a man God may forgive, but Nature never does.

The boy who, had he been true to the tendencies of his race might have been a leader among negroes or Hindoos or Indians, being false to them, goes skulking through life a mongrel unstable white.

History is full of records of the defeat of such masquerading folk: of Russians who tried to be German, of Germans who tried to be French; of the hopeless struggle of England for four hundred years to persuade the Celt that he was English; of the triumph of the Jew who, in spite of the persecution of nineteen centuries, now holds alarming power among the nations that hate him, by simply persisting in being a Jew.

But in spite of these hints from history, the Sirdar apparently has no doubt of the success of his experiment. He evidently thinks that the Soudanese can be as easily turned into an Englishman as into a corpse. Backed by the Queen and applauding England and a hundred thousand pounds he grapples with the mass of Dervishes and negroes, orders their clothes and their language to be changed, gives them a smattering

of modern science and policy, and presto! the work is done! They are Anglicized and civilized. Now and then amid the applause which is given to his plan we hear a note of anxious doubt.

The *Spectator* says:—

"We do not doubt the readiness of all the tribes, Shillooks included, if they can be persuaded to dress, to fill the classes to repletion, and become surveyors, engineers, doctors, traffic managers, and even men of learning. But we are afraid of one thing. Lord Kitchener is striking the note at which all future education in Ethiopia will be pitched, and we fear the note is wrong. He and his future colleagues evidently intend that the education they give shall be given in English—that is, shall lose almost all its vivifying power. They propose, it seems clear, to repeat the blunder which India owes to Macaulay, and which has spoiled the results of a splendid effort continued for half a century. That narrow man of genius insisted on English training instead of training in the vernacular or in Persian—and we have as a product the 'educated native,' who, though a much abler man than he is commonly taken to be, is the despair alike of the politician and the moralist. No race will ever be civilized through teaching in a tongue in which it does not think, and when the teacher is a Northern and the learner an Asiatic—that is, when the two men's thoughts turn on different pivots—the jar between their ideals produces nothing but mental bewilderment, and a breakdown of all the supports among which character is built up.

"The scholars of the Soudan will not be like the Baboos whom England has created and now regards with such scorn; but they will be people who are not wanted, saturated with surface-ideas which are not built up on their own ideas, but are only thinly veneered over them. We cannot, we well know, produce conviction for the whole utilitarian world is bitterly against us. The English is convenient because you can get English teachers cheap, because it will smooth the path of all young officers, and because it will make the work of engineers, railroad managers, electricians and all their kind—a most valuable kind in a way—somewhat easier to them; and for this convenience all else that is included in education will be sacrificed."

The calmness with which all moral and religious influence is ignored in this plan is amusing. The ordinary observer would probably regard the negro *per se* as of more importance than his dress or table-manners, or even his knowledge of chemistry or mathematics, and think that what he says is of more concern than the language in which he says it.

Sum up the requirements in the Sirdar's abstract of civilization—the English language, clothes, learning, and habits—and the trickiest political boss among us can boast of them all, while it is certain that St. John himself could not pass muster on a single point!

The plain fact of the matter is that this extraordinary scheme of education has its root in the complacent self-conceit of the English race. We share it with our cousins across the sea. We are always right; hence all other races must be more or less wrong. Our language, our religion, our manners, even our whims are the best of their kind; so we use them as inch rules by which to measure the condition of inferior races. We hold that they are inferior, as a matter of course. When, therefore, we set out to raise and better them we naturally try to turn them into a poor copy of ourselves as quickly as possible. Hence the Sirdar's plan.

This monstrous content with ourselves is at the bottom of quiet English insouciance and rudeness and of American pretension and brag. Other races probably have it. But it is not their arrogance which lowers us. It is our own. It blinds us to the possibilities in other races, and unfits us to deal with them intelligently. We have talked of "poor Loo," and of the negro as one of the servile races for two centuries, and never have seen that by nature one was a gentleman and the other a better soldier than ourselves.

This defect in Anglo-Saxon character becomes important just now, when two successful wars have thrown the control of millions to aliens into the hands of the English speaking peoples.

The Sirdar has shown us what England will do for her pupils. How will we deal with ours?

Recliothe them, change their speech, give them an inkling of arithmetic, geography and modern civilization? Nothing more? Is civilization after all a matter of railways or even the ballot box?

Beneath these outer casings of life, beneath even the differences of race is the Man whom we must make or mar in our handling.

The White Fathers are said to have been the most successful teachers of the heathen, because

they wasted no time in changing his clothes, language or harmless customs, but struck straight at the soul of their pagan brother, and tried to make it faithful—God, true, clean and honest. It was a different plan from that of the Sirdar.

If we make ourselves the keepers of these teeming millions of aliens, there is something more to consider than rates of custom or military occupancy.

What condition is the American in just now to become the controller and guide of any alien brother?

Is his own domestic life clean and unselfish and noble with content and simplicity, or is it tawdry with vulgar display and mean ambitions? Are his public men working for their country, or for the next election? Is the press just and dignified and free from scurrility and filth?

Does he really at heart worship God—our money?

MISSIONARIES AND THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Report of the Seventh Conference of Foreign Mission Boards (1899) contains a paper on the Science of Missions by a layman, Mr. Robert E. Speer, that is both interesting and instructive. No doubt most missionaries have these reports; those who want them can get them from the "Foreign Missions Library 156 Fifth Avenue, New York." In his paper, Mr. Speer lays down certain principles that were not controverted by any person of the more than forty missionary boards represented. He defines the evangelistic methods of missionary work as that which "relies on no indirect method, but is concerned with the direct and simple oral presentation of the Gospel. This is the supreme method. The best missions are those which use it most."

With regard to mission schools he says, "They must be unqualifiedly Christian, bringing and keeping all their pupils under powerful and personal religious influence." "A predominant heathen influence is fatal to the best results."

"The number of pupils should not be so large as to preclude the maximum of personal contact with the pupils."

"There are fields where this secondary education is used as an evangelistic agency—but there are cases also where its use involves a disregard of the limitations because there is not a sufficient Christian community on which to rest a school with a predominant element of Christian students."

So much for the voice from the North American Continent. What is the voice from the British Empire? By their fruits, some 6,000 souls, ye shall know that the subjects of Her Gracious Majesty love their Japanese brethren, and have taken the most direct methods of winning them. What is the voice from Europe? Our brethren of the Roman obedience have in the college of the Propaganda the digested results of centuries of missionary effort and experience; their methods are so fixed that they are not affected by the fluctuations of feeling, or the fickleness of the populace to whom they minister, or by newspaper articles. They have already a "Science of Missions" towards which Mr. Speer and others are only slowly and feebly groping.

Their schools are conducted by men and women with a distinct vocation to teach, and they are so good that people who declare with great heat that "The Romanists are no better than the Buddhists," send their children to these schools because there are none better. But the French Fathers do not waste their time and energy in secular education but devote themselves to their work of winning souls, hence their success of over 50,000 converts. Bishop Nicolai has been, by the voice of one high in authority, declared to be the greatest missionary to Japan. He has shown his wisdom by neglecting secular education—the exception of a school for girls (absolutely necessary at present) proves the rule. The result is nearly 25,000 Christians.

A glance at the statistics shows that the direct result of evangelistic methods in the conversion of souls far exceeds that of the secular educational method.

What is the voice of the Government of Japan? Clearly this: "We want our schools to be secular and not religious; and especially to be free from all foreign domination or influence."

Witness the conscription laws and the spirit of the action of the Educational Council. The type of school indicated in Mr. Speer's paper quoted is especially obnoxious.

And now some one on the staff of the *Japan Mail* says, in effect, that missionaries are so stupid that they can never master the Japanese language, and they therefore should teach English

and let the benign influence of their morality be shed abroad in silence about those supernatural matters that they have been sent to preach. This seems to be also the voice of the Japanese public so far as it has sufficient interest to express.

To be sure the *silent* influence of a true Christian is felt everywhere. There is a case on record of the calm smile of a lady on a journey saving a man from suicide on the same steamer, an influence unknown to the missionary at the time. But the mission boards do not pay high salaries for smiles only. There is a demand everywhere for specialists, experts, masters of their professions. Society progresses by the differentiation of functions. Missionaries must excel not only in golden silent smiles but in silver-tongued eloquence. If it be true, as you say, that the missionaries have failed to acquire the language of Japan; it will be impossible to hide the fact very long from the folks at home who provide the funds. In fact, in the very report referred to (on p. 14) is the pertinent question, "How far do missionaries fail to acquire a working use of language?" The next question that may be asked is, "Why do they fail to acquire a working use of the language?" And the answer will probably be, "Because their strength is wasted in teaching English."

The next question may be, "How can missionaries master the Japanese language?"

If it can be shown to be necessary, teachers may be employed in theological and other seminaries, and Japanese studies may be carried on by students in missionary colleges, and candidates chosen for appointment after examination in the home lands.

If necessary, missionaries can take up the same studies in Japanese and Chinese that are taught in the Japanese schools; or better still, study as special students side by side with Japanese boys if the Government does not forbid.

I will venture to make the practical suggestion that a board of examiners arrange a course of study for five years, and hold annual public written and oral examinations with graded reports of the results, giving a diploma to those who pass. I would nominate to be on that board the our foreign born man who is able to earn his living from the Japanese people by speaking the Japanese language to Japanese, namely, Mr. Ishii Black, for the colloquial; Prof. Chamberlain for the written language; and Captain Brinkley as President of the College. Let these publicly examine first and elect afterwards into the Board of Examiners those men who have edited books for students of Japanese and Chinese, and afterwards others from among those who hold the diploma of the body.

Such an Institute would be welcomed by all those missionaries, merchants or teachers, who hope to spend their lives in this land, and the yearly pass-examination certificates and the diploma would be worth working for, if for no other reason than that it would be a test and standard of what is mastery of the Japanese language, and thus be a protection to the reputation of both the living and departed. The Mission Boards might possibly make the examination by such an institute compulsory for future missionaries if not for those in the field.

Of course, all missionary teachers should be exempted from such an examination for the reason that the less Japanese they know the better. Let them smile. "But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant" 1. Cor. XIV.

But after all there is a miraculous mystery about the spread of the gospel that is not dependent on human eloquence. The stammering lips are often blessed. Even on the day of Pentecost the cry was, "Are not all these which speak Galileans?" the rough country dialect was not removed, but 3,000 souls were born again from above with water and the Holy Ghost, as the result of their preaching. Scholars say that S. Paul's Greek is often lame, involved, and confused, and yet his epistles must have been more finished than his speeches, for he quotes his converts as saying that his speech was contemptible; and yet following the discussion of the use of the gift of tongues comes this ethical gem of 1 Cor. XIII., and the maker of black goats' hair tents, preaching the doctrines of a crucified carpenter, gives to literature that speech in Acts XXVI. that excited the oft repeated admiration of the great American orator, Daniel Webster.

S. Francis Xavier was only a year in Japan, he never learned the language; he preached from Roman letter manuscripts, but 500,000 souls resulted from the spiritual seed sown,—and in spite of bloody persecutions the doctrine lives and thrives yet in those parts, and the Satsuma crest means to Christian eyes the eternity of the doctrine. "Wherefore brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues."

智神和。

SATURDAY'S STORM.

YOKOHAMA.

The south westerly gale of Saturday was preceded at Yokohama by a rapid fall of the barometer, and early in the morning seafaring men prophesied more than "a capful of wind" before dusk. Rain began to fall in slight showers about 11 o'clock, and by noon the downpour had increased in severity. As the afternoon wore on the wind sprang up—but this did not deter the hardy sportsmen of the Yokohama Yacht Club from continuing their races. By six o'clock a hurricane was raging and continued till late in the evening, the storm blowing itself out after midnight. Little damage, beyond blown-down fences and broken foliage shrubs and plants, has been done in Yokohama.

SHIP ASHORE AT NEGISHI.

During the height of the gale on Saturday, the schooner *Awa Maru*, 70 tons, was driven ashore at Negishi and now lies high and dry on the beach.

It happened that some of the crew of the vessel were on shore at the time, and hearing their comrades crying for help, tried to put it to the ship. The heavy sea prevented them from launching a boat, and finally one of them, Inagaki by name, despite the furious gale, swam off to the vessel and reached all his shipmates. It was a courageous action worthy of high praise.

EIGHT LIVES LOST AT KOBE.

Telegraphing at 5:35 p.m. on Saturday, our Kobe correspondent said that a storm had been raging there since noon, but had then abated somewhat. Considerable damage has been done in the harbour and several junks were driven ashore. Mr. Sim's auxiliary steam-yacht, the *Snowflake*, was driven up on the Bund wall. Several lives were lost among the *sends* of Kobe harbour.

Kobe, June 4.

About 50 boats and junks were sunk during Saturday's storm, with a loss of 8 lives. The damage on shore is also extensive.

When the steamer *Airlie* came in a Chinese seaman got washed overboard. A boat was immediately lowered, manned chiefly by Europeans, to rescue the unfortunate sailor. They could not find him, however, and the sea was so rough that the boat could not return to the ship. Finally, after pulling about for nearly two hours, a landing was effected at Ono.

The steamer *Indrapura* only narrowly escaped going aground.

PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.

BRITISH STEAMER HELD UP.

Information has been received in Hongkong, says the *Daily Press*, that Messrs. Banker and Co.'s steamer *Wo On* was held up on May 23, at Kamchuck, on the West River, cargo being taken and passengers robbed to the extent of \$7,000. There are three Chinese torpedo boats on the river to assist the *Sandpiper* to suppress piracy. One of them passed the *Wo On* while the latter had her flag flying reversed but took not the slightest notice of her. The captains on the West River report that these torpedo boats do nothing but tow junks up and down from port to port, and as they get their coal gratis from the Government they make a nice squeeze for themselves. In the evenings they make a practise of anchoring in the creeks and become for the nonce flower-boats, being crowded with singing girls.

The *Renown* will not come out to the Far East after all, Vice-Admiral Sir John Fisher preferring to have her as his flagship in the Mediterranean, the reason being that she is one of the best fitted and most comfortable of our modern warships. The *Renown* has been Sir John's flagship during the full period of his command on the North America station and was to take him home to England.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

It is stated, observes the *N.-C. Daily News*, among native sources in Newchwang, that there are over 25,000 Russian troops in the Liaoting peninsula, not including the garrisons at Port Arthur and Talienwan. These 25,000 Russians are said to have their baggage, ammunition waggons, etc., all in complete readiness to move to any point within forty-eight hours of the order to march, and of these troops nearly 5,000 are composed of Cossack cavalry. We (*Japan Mail*) believe the number to be considerably exaggerated.

Shanghai mandarin circles are saying that Japan has been trying to get the Chinese to throw in their lot with her in resisting the aggressions of the Russians, but that the Tsungli Yamen had instructed Minister Li Sheng tu, at Tokyo, to reply that unless the sister empire could persuade Great Britain to join in the opposition proposed, China dared not move, as it would be fatal to her, and that for her own protection China must stand by Russia, unless efficient help be given to enable her to resist Russia successfully and permanently.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* of the 27th May publishes a note about the recent Russian demands for a railway to Peking. It is to the effect that Russia finding vast swamps to cross in following the route originally projected to Vladivostok, wishes to give it up and construct a line direct from Kiachta to Peking following the old caravan route. Thence the line would lead *via* Mukden to Newchwang and Port Arthur, with a branch line to Vladivostok.

The authorities of Nanking are said to have been thrown into a considerable state of trepidation upon arrival of the Empress Dowager's edict appointing Kang Yi to investigate matters in Kiangsu province, and immediate preparations were made to give a fitting reception to the dreaded envoy of a dreaded Mistress. Amidst all the turmoil, the only person who remained cool and calm was the man whose affairs are specially to be investigated, viz., H. E. Viceroy Liu. There are not wanting those whose declare that the Viceroy is "all right," and that being in his own stronghold in the Yangtze Valley, Kang Yi will not dare to harm Liu in any way. Others, again, declare that Viceroy Liu has all along been most anxious to retire from official life, and that he welcomes the advent of any chance to enable him to leave Nanking for his home in Hunan for good.

The new Taotai of Shanghai, Huang Heenyuan, who has for many years been resident director of the China Merchants at Tientsin, is said to be a man of fully six-feet-five in height, with breath in proportion. Huang, according to the local correspondent of a Shanghai contemporary, has no clear a head as he has fine a body. He talks little, listens much, and is unequalled in the quickness with which he seizes the essential points of a plan or scheme. He does not speak English and has never been out of China. In business his national predilections never appear. He is a Cantonese, and before now has acted as *locum tenens* in the Tientsin Haikuan Taotaihip: indeed, he was generally suspected to be the next nominee for this position. In connection with the appointment, it may interest readers to know the gossip of the native official class, even if they do not receive it as gospel; *en dit* that Tls. 250,000 were paid for the billet; and that during the last five years the Shanghai Taotaihip has fallen from the second place to the third in lucrativeness. It used to come next to the *treppo*-ship of Canton, but the Tientsin billet now has that honour, and is worth more than that of Shanghai.

Owing to the varying degrees of fineness and weights of the dollars coined in the various Government mints in the provinces of Kuangtung, Fukien, Chékiang, Kiangsu, Anhui, Hupéi, and Chihli, which cause great inconvenience to traders who are unwilling to accept these silver dollars as legal tender, it is stated that

the Empress Dowager intends soon to issue a decree commanding a combination of all these mints into one, to be situated in Peking, where all the money coined will be of one standard weight and fineness.

The *N.-C. Daily News* translates the following notes from its German contemporary:—In obedience to instructions from Peking, General Yuan Shih-kai, during the first days of May, started for the Shantung borders from his cantonments of Hsianochan, near Tientsin, with 5,500 men. Each of his soldiers carried 200 cartridges, while the two batteries of field artillery and thirty mountain guns were each provided with 140 rounds of ammunition. In connection with the above, General Nieh, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Chihli and commanding the Army Corps at Lintai (near the Kaiping colliery) also began to move southwards with a force of 15 battalions of 500 men each, his objective also being Shantung. According to the latest news received, these troops are near Ts'angchow, a short distance north of Têchou. In addition to the above, a corps of Kanan troops, numbering 9,000 men, under General Tung Fuhsiang, are said to be on their way to Shantung on the pretext of going through certain military evolutions. These Generals have maps with them on which are marked the routes to be taken when they arrive in Shantung province, namely, one corps was to march from Têchou to Weihai and thence to Chinanfu (the capital of Shantung), another corps from Têchou *via* Chinanfu to Weihai, while a third route was marked leading from Chinanfu to Ichoufu. As was pointed out last week, it is apparent that these expeditions are intended to be against the Germans at Jehchao, although the Chinese wish it to be understood that this is not so, and that they are planned only for the exercise of the officers and men in military evolutions. Were this indeed so, such large quantities of ammunition would not be needed, while the absence of military instructors in the ranks of General Yuan's regiments on what is called a march of exercise and instruction is also suspicious. As a matter of fact, these military instructors have all been given a furlough of three weeks, which is significant. Neither can it pass unnoticed that the fleet in being collected in the Gulf of Pechili. The only solution to these movements of Chinese troops seems to be that the Chinese Government deem it necessary to mobilise troops in good time and in the least conspicuous manner, in the vicinity of the frontier. It is feared that, in consequence of the failure of the harvest, famine may prevail in Shantung and disturbances break out in consequence. This would be an excuse for an attack on the Germans which would be attributed to the fanaticism of the uncontrollable natives.

The German newspaper published in Shanghai gives an account of a highland ruse perpetrated by the officers of the *Illis* at Jehchao to obtain hostages so as to ensure the settlement of the Stenz outrage in that city:—The Chinese Government having guaranteed the Germans in Shantung from further attacks, the Governor of Tsingtao decided to recall his troops at Jehchao, whither they had been specially sent to obtain satisfaction for the attack on Stenz and the punishment of the culprits concerned. This not having been done it was determined to take hostages prior to the departure of the troops. With this in view Captain von Falkenhayn, commanding the detachment, asked the local mandarin to arrange a meeting for him with the principal *literati* of the city. This was accordingly done, and the time fixed for this meeting was to be on the forenoon of the 25th of May at 11 o'clock. On the morning of that day the German gunboat *Illis* came over from Tsingtao and anchored off the harbour of Jehchao, and immediately all the baggage and impedimenta of the troops were embarked on the gunboat, the men themselves remaining on shore to await further developments. When Captain von Falkenhayn met the *literati* he asked them what they intended

to do about the Stenz case. As no satisfactory answer could be obtained from the *literati*, Captain Falkenhayn informed them that he would then take five of their number with him to Tsingtao as hostages. The consternation which this declaration caused was very great, and they with one accord rose up against the local mandarin, accusing him of being privy to this breach of faith; but apparently no one was more astonished at this result of the conference than the mandarin himself. He at once begged of Captain Falkenhayn to take him to Tsingtao instead of the five hostages, but was promptly refused. When at last the *literati* saw that the German officer was in earnest, they submitted with the best grace they could, and went on board the *Illis* under the escort of the troops. In the meantime the news had got to the families of the five hostages, and the former brought money, etc., for the latter to take with them to Tsingtao. The *Illis* then weighed anchor and steamed back to Tsingtao. The five hostages are placed in one of the camps on the island, where they are allowed perfect freedom, but are obliged to report themselves before dark to the officer on duty.

Writing from Newchwang under date May 27, the local correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—

Lawlessness is rife in the province. At a place called Huaijinhien, about 180 miles east from this, a band of mounted robbers is said to have made general good delivery, and afterwards to have killed six Russians whom they met on their way back. At another place Huatêhsien, about 300 miles north from this, another band have carried off the local magistrate. At yet another place about 20 miles N. W. from this, General Chang's troops attacked some robbers and were repulsed with the loss of nine lives. In the port itself a *fracas* occurred a few days ago, just after sunset, between some smugglers and the Taotai's people, one of the former and three of the latter being killed, while a stray bullet from the scene of conflict crossing the river whizzed unpleasantly close to some foreigners who were taking a stroll along the bund.

The *Universal Gazette*, as translated by the *Shanghai Mercury*, gives the following account of the Tientsin-Chinkiang Railway. The line extends 635 miles and the proposed loan is £7,400,000 at 5 per cent. interest, to be issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the German Bank, the agreement to be exchanged when the engineers have completed the survey of the route. The line is to be completed in 5 years, and 50 years is limited for the repayment of the entire loan. The Board of the railway will consist of three officials appointed by China and three each by Great Britain and Germany. The section from Tientsin to the southern boundaries of Shantung is to be under German control and the remaining section to be controlled by the British. The Chinese Government will guarantee the loan and the line itself will be held as security.

Piracy has been very frequent in Ningpo waters of late. Two native craft were boarded and one lost a considerable amount of money, while the crew of the other were carried off and held for Tls. 8,000 ransom. The vessel was also held and Tls. 7,000 demanded. Later on a Chinese gunboat, disguised as a merchant vessel, succeeded in bringing a few of the pirates to justice.

Sir Nicholas Hannen and Capt. F. Kleffel, sitting as Arbitrator and Naval Assessor, respectively, in the cases of the collision between the China Navigation steamer *Tamsui* and the Norwegian steamer *Hermes*, which occurred near Gough Island, on March 23rd last, have found the *Hermes* solely to blame.

Says the *Hongkong Telegraph*:—The many friends of Captain Inman Sealby of the steamship *Coptic*, will regret to hear that his return to San Francisco will be his last trip across the Pacific in the O. & O. line. His transfer from the Pacific to the Atlantic means well-deserved promotion for him. On his arrival in San Francisco he will turn over the ship to Captain Rinder, formerly of the *Belgic*.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The King of Siam has taken to cycling. The other evening, accompanied by fifty other cyclists, His Majesty took a ride round the city.

Mr. W. Wallace, who is now staying at the Imperial Hotel, was robbed of a watch, valued at £50, at Nara Station on the 22nd ultimo.

The new French flagship *D'Entrecasteaux* arrived at Saigon on the 12th May. Admiral Courrejolles has raised his flag on the *D'Entrecasteaux*.

Prince Keiki Tokugawa, the last of the Shoguns, visited Yokohama on Tuesday and took tiffin at the Oriental Hotel. He was accompanied by a small suite.

Messrs. Mori & Co., one of the oldest firms in Japan, are closing business in Yokohama and Kobe. The accounts of the firm have been transferred to Messrs. Ahrens and Co.

Admiral Dewey is passing his time quietly at the Peak Hotel, Hongkong, and now feels very well. He, however, does not wish to attend any public functions—he will have enough of them when he gets home.

The *Sunday Daily Mail* has been withdrawn, ostensibly in deference to public religious opinion. Sir Edward Lawson has not replied to Mr. Harmsworth's suggestion to withdraw the *Sunday Daily Telegraph* simultaneously.

The mission of H.E. Kang Yi, Assistant Grand Secretary, who is now staying at Nanking, is the raising of a loan to the amount of several million taels in Hu-nan and surrounding districts, and also the inspection of the forces.

Mr. G. R. Birt, chairman and managing director of the Millwall Dock Company, who disappeared in February last leaving a deficit of over £200,000 in the affairs of the concern, has been sentenced to nine months' imprisonment. Mr. Birt is 70 years old and the father of thirteen children.

Local admirers of Shakespearian and high class drama will be glad to learn that an American company, staying in Yokohama on its way to Manila, will play on the 13th, 16th, and 17th. Miss Janet Waldorf is the star of the company, and the performances ought to be well worth patronizing.

Mr. A. Coxe, while travelling by train on Tuesday morning, met with a painful accident soon after leaving Hodegaya. Some miscreant threw a stone at the passing train, and the missile shattered one of the windows, fragments of which struck Mr. Coxe in the face, inflicting a nasty wound. It is time these outrages were stopped.

The German cruiser *Hertha*, which replaces the *Prinzess Wilhelm* on the China Station, arrived at Singapore on the 21st May. The *Hertha* was built in 1897, is of 5,650 tons displacement, engines of 10,000 i.h.p., and has a speed of 30 knots. She carries 500 tons of coal, under normal circumstances, but she can carry 950 tons with a displacement of 6,100 tons, and provision is made in her for liquid fuel. Her commander is Capt. von Usedom Tregattenkejtian.

Mr. Rehei Fujiwara, Captain of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Miyagawa Maru*, which came into collision with the N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshiu Maru* near Tadoan last November, it will be remembered had his license suspended by the Marine Court of Inquiry at Osaka for nine months. He appealed, however, to the Higher Marine Court of Inquiry at Tokyo, where judgment was rendered on the 3rd inst. that the license of Captain Rehei Fujiwara be suspended for six months.

The Secretary of the Chilean Navy has received official dispatches from naval authorities at the Straits of Magellan and from the

commander of the small Chilean gunboat *Huemul*, wrecked in those straits, stating that the captain of the British Atlantic liner *Liguria* steamed past the wreck, paying no attention to the signals of distress, although they were seen aboard the *Liguria*. The captain of the steamer asserts that he did not see the signals, as it was night time, and it was thought the fires were made by savages. The crew of the *Huemul* were saved, but suffered six days of terrible privations on weather-beaten rocks till rescued by the German steamer *Luzor*.

Following is the record of the Australian cricket team to date:—

May 8.—South of England at Crystal Palace; drawn.

May 11.—Essex at Leyton; won by Essex by 126 runs.

May 15.—Surrey at Kennington Oval; won by Australians by an innings and 71 runs.

May 18.—South of England at Eastbourne; won by Australians by 172 runs.

May 22.—Yorkshire at Sheffield. (No report.)

May 25.—Lancashire at Manchester; won by Australians by an innings and 84 runs.

June 1.—First Test Match at Nottingham; drawn.

The officers of the Seventeenth Regiment of Chasseurs have a girl baby as a regiment mascot. She is proudly, and probably with justice, declared to be the only regimental mascot of the kind in the world. Several officers of the Seventeenth Chasseurs found the little girl abandoned in a railway carriage at Rambouillet, where the regiment is stationed. The baby would have been taken to a foundling asylum, but the officers, being kind-hearted and in a good humour, decided to save her from that fate. They took her home to adopt her as "the Daughter of the Regiment." Arrangements were made with a sergeant's wife to nurse her. The little girl will in future go wherever the regiment goes, and be educated at its expense.

When the Italian cruiser *Piemonte* entered Nagasaki Harbour en route for Shanghai on the 25th inst., a high official of the port visited the warship, and the Commander asked him if he would return the salutes fired by the cruiser. The officer, who not well acquainted with French, in which language the conversation was conducted, hardly grasped the meaning of the request, and thinking the captain was speaking of some such trifling matter as the weather replied, "Yes." But trouble ensued when the warship fired 21 guns, and there was no reply from the land. The Commander considered he had received a great insult, and sent some officers ashore with a protest. It was then found that there were no saluting guns about the Harbour Office. This matter was reported to the Italian Legation by the Commander, who took it quite *au grand sérieux*.

Some detailed information has come to hand, says the *China Mail*, respecting the piracy of Messrs. Banker and Co.'s steamer in the West River. It appears that a number of old women came on board at a port between Canton and Kumchak. These women had in their possession a large amount of money which they kept on their persons. A number of men came on board at the same port. As the steamer neared the Kumchak rapids, these men broke up into parties. One party took possession of the upper deck, another body of men went down into the engine room and ordered the engineers to stop the ship, while a number of the thieves obtained the money from the passengers by means of threats. The Chinese captain was then ordered to take his steamer in the direction of Kongmoon, and anchor. When the steamer had anchored, two sampans put off from a couple of lighters lying near the bank and took off the thieves with their booty. After the departure of the thieves, the captain turned round the steamer and made for Canton, where he reported the occurrence.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

BY HOMER B. HULBERT, A.M.

CHAPTER X.

CHINA'S REPLY TO THE JAPANESE—THE CHINESE ARMY—THE CHINESE COMMANDER INTERVIEWS THE KING—MARCH ON PYONG—CHINESE TREACHERY—THE NEW YEAR—CHINESE HELP NOT ALL A BLESSING—PYONG-YANG INVESTED—THE CHINESE FORCE AN ENTRANCE—JAPANESE DRIVEN TO BAY—HOW THEY ESCAPED—THEY MASS AT SOUL—CHINESE STOP AT SONG-DO—KOREANS BRIDGE THE IM-JIN—CHINESE RETIRE TO PYONG-YANG—KOREAN VICTORY IN THE NORTH—GREAT VICTORY AT HANF-JU—THE JAPANESE SUE FOR PEACE—CONFERENCE ON THE HAN—JAPANESE EVACUATE SOUL—THE TERRIBLE CONDITION OF THE CITY—CHINESE ENTER SOUL—THEY PREVENT PURSUIT—JAPANESE DESECRATE A ROYAL TOMB—CHINESE ACCUSED OF BAD FAITH—JAPANESE LINE OF CAMPS—CHINESE REINFORCED—THE GREAT BATTLE OF CHIN-JU—A LOYAL DANCING-GIRL—ADMIRAL YI STILL ACTIVE—CHINESE TROOPS RETIRE.

We must now return to the north and witness the final struggle which was to begin the Japanese retreat from the whole north. It was not till long after the fifty days had expired that General Sim Yu-gyung returned from Nanking. The Japanese had sent time and again asking why he did not make his appearance, but now on the sixth day of the twelfth moon he entered the city of Pyong-yang, making no excuses for his tardiness, but delivering his message as follows: "I have seen the Emperor and he says that if you wish to become vassals of China you must first give up all the territory taken from Korea and you must give back the two princes whom you have captured. If you do not see fit to comply with this demand the Emperor will send a million men and destroy you." He then gave to each of the Japanese leaders an ornament for the hat, from the Emperor. This was a trick to discover how large the Japanese force might be. It was determined that there must be about 20,000 Japanese troops in the city. What reply the Japanese gave to the Emperor's demands is not told, but that it was a negative one seems sure from what followed.

The Chinese army of counter-invasion lay just beyond the Ya-lu River. It was an enormous host and, as armies went in those days, it was a thoroughly effective one. In connection with this army was an official who held the rank of "Military Adviser," by the name of Sang Kung-ch'ang. The office carried no active power in the field, but it seems to have been a sort of check upon the commander-in-chief, for the duties of the office were to keep the Emperor informed of what was going on at the seat of war. The actual General-in-chief was Yi Yu-sung. Under him were three generals, of the Right, Left and Centre, respectively. The General of the Left was Yang Wan, and under him were Generals Wang Yu, Jung, Yi Yo-ma, Yi Yu-o, Yang So, Sa Da-n, Son Su-ryum, Yi Ryung and Kal Bug-ha. The General of the Centre was Yi Yo-bak, and under him were Generals Im Jagang, Yi Bang-jin, Ko Ch'ak, Ch'ao Sé-jung, Ch'uk Keun, Chu Hong-mo, Pang Si-whi, Ko Seung and Wang Mun. The General of the Right was Chang Sé-jak, and under him were Generals Cho Seung-hun, O Yu-ch'ang, Wang Pil-ul, Juk, Cho Ji-mok, Chang Sung-ch'ang, Nak Sang-ji, Chin Bang-ch'il, Kok Su and Yang Sin. The rear guard was under the command of General Pang Si-ch'an and the engineering corps was commanded by Generals Yu Whang-yang and Wun Whang. The main army was composed of 43,000 troops, while in the rear was a reserve force of 8,000. This army crossed the Ya-lu on the twenty-fifth of the twelfth moon, the dead of winter. It is said that when on the march this army stretched along the road a thousand li (three hundred miles and more) and that the sound of their drums was continuous along the whole line.

General-in-chief Yi Yu-sung, dressed in crimson robes and riding in a crimson chair, arrived in Eui-ju and immediately sought an interview with the King. The latter said: "I have governed this country badly. The Emperor has been put to a great deal of trouble on my account, and all these good men have come a long cold road to fight for us. Though I lay open my vitals with a sword I cannot repay you all for this kindness." General Yi smiled and said, "The Emperor's might reaches to the heavens. For the sake of Your Majesty's happiness we have been sent and all your enemies will soon be put to flight." To this the King rejoined, "Our nation's life hangs by a thread and the result lies with you." General Yi raised his

two hands in salute and answered, "I am come at the Emperor's orders and life or death are all one to me. When I started out my father said to me, Fight valiantly for Korea and return victorious, and so how can I do less than my best?" The Koreans say that this man's father was a native of Sun-san in the province of P'yeng-nan, Korea, but that for some offence he had fled to China and together with many of his relatives was enjoying high position under the Emperor.

General Yi started for P'yeng-yang with his whole army, taking 80,000 bags of rice and 20,000 pounds of powder. His troops were not provided with muskets but they had small cannon. The Japanese on the other hand had muskets but no cannon. Upon the arrival of the Chinese at An-ju they were met by the Prime Minister Yu Sung-nyong, who laid before General Yi a map showing the roads leading to P'yeng-yang. General Yi took red ink and indicated on the map the various routes by which he intended to lead his forces to that city. Calling General Sa Da-su, he sent him forward to deceive the Japanese by saying that a few Chinese had come to effect a peaceful solution of the difficulty. The Japanese were pleased at this and sent twenty of their people to meet, as they supposed, Sun Yung-nyung at Sun-an. General Sa feasted them there, but meanwhile had the place surrounded and in the midst of the banquet the Japanese were treacherously assaulted and cut down, three only escaping. From these the Japanese learned of the hostile intentions of the Chinese and were greatly disturbed, but being forewarned, they put themselves in readiness for an assault.

And so the old year died—the terrible Im-jin Year which witnessed the indescribable horrors of the ruthless invasion which swept it from end to end, which saw too the gradual awakening of the dormant military spirit of the people, until at its close the wave of invasion had not only broken and spent itself, but had left the remnant of the invaders cut off from their home land by one of the greatest naval geniuses of his own or any other age, surrounded on all sides and hemmed in by forces which, though perhaps unable to cope with them in the open field in a pitched battle, could yet harass and cut them off on every side. It must be clearly borne in mind that the Chinese did not raise a hand to help Korea until the invasion had virtually collapsed. The Koreans without the aid of China could probably have staved the Japanese out of P'yeng-yang and driven them southward cutting them off on the left and right till they would have been glad to take ship for home. In a sense the Chinese counter-invasion was an extremely unfortunate thing for Korea, for the dormant energies of the people were just rousing themselves to action. Armies were being levied, every day saw the Japanese forces melting away, and there was a magnificent opportunity for Korea to turn upon her devastators and drive them headlong into the sea. It would have given a tremendous impulse to patriotism and national self-respect, and it might have been a stepping-stone to a strong national life; but the coming of the Chinese soldiery immediately threw everything into Chinese hands, and they reaped all the benefits of the situation. Even the Koreans themselves did not realize how they were playing into the hands of China. The Japanese in P'yeng-yang were weary and sick, at heart glad of any excuse for retreating. It could be done without too great a loss of dignity. It was at just this moment that the Koreans put the game, already won, into the hands of China to reap all the credit and all the prizes of success. The Koreans leaned back upon China and relapsed into their old self-complacent "Inol's paradise."

With the beginning of the new year General Yi moved southward toward P'yeng-yang as far as Suk-ch'iu, where he intended to halt for the mass sacrifice at Sun-an, and wishing to give a little time for preparation as possible, pushed on by night and in the morning planted his banners before the ancient city of P'yeng-yang. The city was forthwith surrounded. The Japanese could be seen covering the slope of the hill within the wall with their blue and white flags, and soon they opened fire on the besiegers. At the same moment they rushed to the walls and manned them. The Chinese Generals of the Left, Centre and Right were stationed with their respective forces before the three gates Ch'i-sung, Ham-gu, and P'u-t'ung. The General-in-chief Yi, with a banner in one hand and a drum-stick in the other, rode swiftly from one division to another encouraging the men. His forces could hardly be held in check, they were so eager, in spite of their long cold night march, to rush at the wall and scale it. They were not long kept from their desire, for at eight o'clock word was given for the whole assaulting force to advance to the wall. The cannon thundered, the fire-arrows flashed through the air, the very ground fairly trembled with the noise of

battle and the tramp of eager feet. One of the fire-arrows alighted in the quarters of the Japanese general-in-chief, and it was soon in flames, which soon spread to all the surrounding buildings. The Japanese guarded the walls with the greatest gallantry and with spear and arrow, hot water, and stones they made it quite impossible for the Chinese to effect an entrance. The wall bristled with weapons, so that, in the words of a native chronicler, it was "a hedge-hog's back." So it happened that the Chinese forces fell back from the fierce defence of the Japanese. Many of them contemplated a general retreat and started to leave the field, but General Yi, who was always found where most needed, saw the defection of his men and, pursuing them, struck off the heads of a few as an example to the rest. Then he turned and cried, "Fifty ounces of silver in the first man to set foot upon the battlements of P'yeng-yang." This was doubtless a more powerful appeal than he could have made to their patriotism or love of glory. Immediately the tide of battle turned. A Chinese captain, Nak San-j'i, a man well along in years and whose proportions were so ample that the Korean chronicler says of him that he weighed a thousand pounds, led on a company of men, and by a mighty effort succeeded in reaching the top of the wall. He held his ground there while others could scale the wall at his back, and so an entrance was effected. The Japanese began to desert the wall and soon the Chinese entered by the P'u-t'ung and Ch'i-sung Gates, while the Korean allies entered by the Ham-gu Gate. By this time the Japanese had entirely left the wall, and had moved themselves as best they could in various parts of the city determined to make a desperate stand. The Chinese infantry and cavalry both swarmed in on every side and all Japanese stragglers were cut off, while the fight throughout the city became general. Before the Japanese could firmly establish themselves upon the hill and in other defensible parts of the town they lost two captains, 2,285 men, 45,002 weapons of various kinds, besides 1,015 Koreans, whom they had held as captives.

Many of the Japanese had taken refuge in various government buildings which had barricaded as best they could. The Chinese went to work systematically to burn these down, and in the few hours remaining before the fall of night nearly half of the entire Japanese force succumbed to the weapons of the Chinese. One instance will suffice to illustrate the method of procedure. Many of the Japanese had taken refuge in a large building on the wall, well up on the side of the mountain and looking directly down upon the waters of the river. General Yi had it surrounded with piles of wood, the timbers of houses, and hewn logs; and these were set on fire. The entrapped Japanese then had the choice of roasting in death or of leaping down upon the ice of the river. Hundreds chose the latter alternative, but the ice was not strong enough to stand the tremendous strain, and they were all engulfed in the river and carried under the ice below. As for those that remained it is said that the smell of burning flesh could be discerned a quarter of a mile away.

General Konishi had taken refuge with a large body of troops in a building called the Yong-gwang-jung, very near the Ta-dong Gate, which opens directly upon the water front. Night had fallen, and the fight had lulled for a time. What took place at this time may be open to some doubt. The Korean account says that the Chinese commander sent a message to Konishi demanding the surrender of his whole force and that Konishi replied, "Our remaining force is small, and we wish to evacuate the city and retreat if we may be allowed to leave quietly." It is affirmed that General Yi consented to this, and left the Ta-dong Gate unguarded, and in the dead of night the Japanese troops passed swiftly out and crossed the river. On the face of it this statement is hardly credible, but, judging from future events, the Koreans believe that General Yi received a large bribe from the Japanese as the price of this act of leniency. It is true that future events justified the Koreans in suspecting some such thing, but as the Japanese were immediately beside the Ta-dong Gate and under cover of night might easily have forced their way out, especially as the Chinese were exhausted by their long forced march and the fight about the city, we may well believe that the Japanese did not need to appeal either to the pity or the aversion of the Chinese in order to effect their escape. It may be, too, that General Yi did not wish to be hampered with so many prisoners of war and was rather glad than otherwise to let them get away. Of course the Koreans who had suffered so terribly at the hands of the Japanese would have been glad to see every one of them massacred and their anger at seeing them escape may have led them to impute wrong

motives to General Yi. Subsequent events, however, gave some colour to these suspicions, as we shall see.

This retreat from P'yeng-yang in the dead of winter was like Napoleon's retreat from Moscow on a small scale. The Japanese were without provisions or proper clothing. Many of them threw aside their arms and luggage and, turning from the main road, begged their way from house to house. When at last they reached the city of Soul and found food and safety they were in a savage humour. Most of the Koreans who had fled from the capital had now returned, and on them these half-starved and wholly disappointed Japanese wreaked their vengeance. They seized hundreds of the unoffending people and put them to the sword. Scores of them were taken outside the South Gate and slaughtered like oxen.

General Katō, who had led an expedition eastwards into Ham-gu Province, hearing of the evacuation of P'yeng-yang, immediately put his troops in motion and hastened down to Soul, burning as he came. And in a short time all the remnants of the Japanese army were congregated in the capital.

The Japanese retreat from P'yeng-yang was not without its casualties. A Korean general, Ko On-bak, met a body of the Japanese, probably a part of the retreating army, at P'a-ju, seventy li out of Soul, and punished them severely, taking, as it is said, seventy heads; not a great achievement when we remember that the Japanese were practically unarmed.

But by this time the Chinese General Yi was on his way south from P'yeng-yang, rather tardily as the Koreans thought; but hearing of this engagement of General Ko, he quickened his pace. Coming to He-om Pass, some seventy li out from Soul, his horse slipped, throwing him heavily on his face. He was severely though not dangerously hurt. At that moment a company of Japanese was sighted on the mountain side and General Yi ordered instant pursuit. The Japanese, probably a foraging party from Soul, closed with them, and as the Chinese were on a marshy piece of land where they sank to their knees in the mud and had no other weapons with them but their swords, the Japanese inflicted severe punishment on them, killing eighty of their number. General Yi was so weak from loss of blood that he did not dare to prolong the fight. So he called a retreat and the next day went into camp at Tong-p'a, a hundred li from Soul. From that point he immediately despatched a letter to the Emperor, saying "There are 20,000 Japanese firmly entrenched in Soul, and with my present force I dare not attack them. I am also ill and cannot fight. I should be glad if you would send someone to relieve me of the command." Then he retreated fifty li further to Song-do in spite of the earnest entreaties of the Koreans. The Korean General Yi-Bin said, "You came to tender aid to our country. Why is it that you now retreat?" Whereupon one of the general's staff promptly kicked him out of the house.

General Yi ordered General Sa Da-su to go and guard the ferry at the Im-jin river, which was now partly frozen but impassable for boats, and ordered the Koreans to go to work building a bridge for the transport of the Chinese army. Here was a piece of work that might have daunted a better engineer than the average Korean general. But the way the Koreans went about it and the brilliant success they achieved show what the Korean is capable of when really in earnest. And it shows as well how thoroughly they were determined to see chastisement inflicted upon the Japanese. It was a swift broad river, partly frozen, with no possibility of driving piles nor of erecting any supports from the bed of the river itself. It must be a suspension bridge or none at all. On either side of the river heavy timbers were planted firmly in the ground some twenty feet apart. Behind these horizontally were laid heavy logs. Then between these supports on either bank were stretched fifteen heavy strands of the tough fibrous vine called *sh'ik* by the Koreans. It is the *pueraria thunbergiana*. Of course these sagged in mid-stream so that they swept the water. To remedy this, stout levers were inserted between the strands and twisted until the cables swung clear of the water by many feet. The foundation having thus been laid, willow branches were spread thickly upon the cables and finally a heavy layer of earth was added and the whole was packed down tight by the tramping of many feet. And so was completed the first suspension bridge which history records. We see that during this war the Koreans had originated three important things, namely the iron-clad, the mortar and bomb, and now the suspension bridge. And on this bridge the whole Chinese army crossed in safety.

But General Yi was tired of the war and was extremely anxious to get back to China. So when

he heard that Kato was crossing the peninsula he said, "He may come to Pyeongyang and in that case I must hasten back to that place and hold it against him." So he started back toward that city, leaving General Wang Pil-juk in charge of the forces that were advancing on Soul.

At this point mention must be made of the victories of General Chong Mun-bu in Hamgyong Province. In three successive fights he had defeated a large, though not the main, body of Japanese and seems to have entirely cut it off from forming a junction with General Kato as he retreated toward Soul with his dwindling though still formidable army. After the departure of the Japanese, General Chong went to the far north, even to the Tu-man River, and inflicted severe punishment on all those who had aided the Japanese or had sided with them in the betrayal of the two princes. This done, he pacified the disturbed province as much as he could and then disbanded the militia and sent them to their homes.

Kwon Ryul, the governor of Chin-la, of whom we have heard before, took 4,000 men and marched on Soul, not by the main road but by way of Yang-ch'un. Crossing the Han at that point he went into camp at Hang-jin and surrounded it with a paling of heavy logs. The Japanese in Soul ridiculed it, but sent a strong body of troops to attack it. A long fierce fight ensued, and the result was doubtful. At last the Japanese succeeded in setting fire to the wooden paling, and had it not been for the most strenuous efforts on the part of the Koreans they would have been burned out. But they succeeded in quenching the flames. When their arrows gave out their outlook was again apparently hopeless, but in the very nick of time Admiral Yi Bin, of Chin-la Province, came up the river by boat with 20,000 arrows, and, as the camp was immediately on the river bank, the Koreans were saved, and soon the Japanese were driven back. Kwon Ryul took the bodies of the Japanese who had fallen, cut them in pieces, and impaled the fragments on the top of the stakeade. The next day the Chinese General Sa Da-su arrived, and, seeing these trophies of victory, praised General Kwon highly and sent him to P'ae-jin to guard against any possible northward movement of the Japanese. At the same time small companies were sent in all directions to cut off foraging expeditions of the enemy. In this way the Japanese in Soul were cut off from all supply of fuel. The Japanese general who had suffered defeat at Hang-jin thirsted for revenge, and he led many a fierce sally from Soul, but always with great loss.

In the third month confidence was so far restored in the north that the King began to think of returning toward the capital. The first stage of this journey was as far as Yong-yu. At this same time the Japanese sent a letter to the Korean Yu Sung-nyong, saying that they wished to conclude a treaty of peace. He, as in duty bound, sent this message on to the Chinese General Yi in Pyeongyang. He in turn despatched Sim Yu-gyung, who had before acted as an emissary of peace between the Japanese and the Emperor, to take charge of the negotiations and with instructions more or less definite. When this commissioner arrived in the vicinity of Soul a meeting took place between him and the two Japanese leaders, Konishi and Kato, in mid-stream off the village of Yung-san. General Sim opened the conference by saying, "If you had listened to my advice in Pyeongyang you would have saved yourselves all this trouble. The Chinese 40,000 strong are all about you. They have gone south to fortify the Cho-yung Pass and thus cut off your retreat. The Han River is guarded so thoroughly that you cannot cross; General Yi Yo-sung is returning from the north with 300,000 fresh troops (an unblushing lie), and I am prepared to offer you the only possible way of escape. You must give up the two princes; you must leave the capital and move south to the coast of Kyung-sang Province. Then and not till then will we conclude peace and the Emperor recognise you King as his vassal." The vanquished invaders saw that there was nothing to do but comply, and so in the name of the thirty-seven Japanese generals they engaged to evacuate Soul on the nineteenth day of the fourth moon. It was further agreed that they should leave untouched 20,000 bags of rice which was stored in the government granaries. The two princes were to accompany the Japanese as far as Fusan and were to be handed over to the Korean authorities there.

In accordance with their promise the Japanese evacuated the city on the very day appointed, and General Yi Yo-sung, who seems to have recovered his health rapidly after he found that the Japanese did not mean fight, entered the city the following day. The condition in which he found things is almost indescribable. The Ancestral Temple and three palaces had been burned. Only the Nam-

byul-gung, which the invaders had used as headquarters, was standing. The country all about was lying fallow, and a great famine stared the Koreans in the face. A thousand bags of rice were hastily brought out and made up into soup or gruel, mixed with pine leaves, and a few of the starving thousands were fed. A General Sa Da-su was passing along the street he saw a young child trying to suck milk from the breast of its dead mother. The sight aroused his compassion and he carried the child to his quarters and ordered it to be cared for. Rice was so scarce that a whole piece of cotton cloth could be purchased with about three quarts of it. A horse cost but three pecks of rice. Famishing men fought and killed each other, the victors eating the vanquished, sucking the marrow from the bones, and then dying themselves of suicide. It is even said that, when a drunken Chinese soldier vomited, half-starved men would crawl toward the place and fight over the possession of this horrible substitute for food. This state of things naturally brought on an epidemic of the native fever, a species of typhus, and the dead bodies of its victims lay all along the road, the head of one being pillowed on the breast of another. The dead bodies in and immediately around Soul were gathered and piled in a heap outside the Water Mouth Gate, and it is affirmed that the pile was ten feet higher than the wall.

It was on the twentieth of the fourth moon that General Yi entered Soul. He took up his quarters in the Nambyul-gung. He seemed to be in no haste to pursue the Japanese, so General Yu Sung-nyong hinted that as the Japanese were in full flight it might be well to hurry after them and cut them down as occasion offered. The Chinese general had no intention of leaving his comfortable quarters so soon, but he gave consent to the project of pursuit and detailed 10,000 men under the lead of General Yi Yok-bak. A day or so later this doughty warrior returned saying that he had a pain in the leg. So ended the first attempt at pursuit. Then the Korean General Kwon Ryul came in from P'ae-jin and urged that there be immediate pursuit, but for some unexplained reason the Chinese commander forbade it, and the native accounts even add that he sent secretly and had the boats on the Han destroyed so as to render pursuit of the Japanese impossible.

After crossing the Han River, the retreating Japanese seem to have been in very ill-humour, for they did not confine their exhibitions of temper to the living alone, but even attacked the dead. They dug open the royal tomb at Chong-neng, a short distance the other side of the river. Digging fifteen measures deep they found some tags and a few bones. These they scattered about on the ground. They then filled in the hole with rubble. Another royal tomb was opened and the casket and remains were burned.

In the beginning of the fifth moon a letter arrived from the Military commissioner, Song Eung-ch'ang, in Pyeongyang, ordering a general pursuit of the Japanese. The Koreans believe this to have been a mere bluff, for the Japanese had twenty days' start of them, and pursuit was of course out to the question. At this point again the Koreans make a serious charge against the Chinese, asserting that the Japanese, before leaving Soul, sent large sums of money toward Pyeongyang for General Yi Yo-sung and Song Eung-ch'ang, and that by this means they secured immunity from pursuit. The delay was a cause of great wonderment to the Koreans and it is not unlikely that this theory of a bribe explained for them most fully the actions of the Chinese. And it must be confessed that there is little in the temperament or antecedents of the Chinese on which to base a refutation of the charge. An instance is cited to bring home the charge. A Korean who had come upon a Japanese straggler and killed him was severely beaten by order of the Chinese general in charge.

Finally, when all too late, General Yi made a pretence of pursuit, but after crossing Cho-yung Pass and still finding himself no nearer the enemy than before, he turned back and resumed his comfortable quarters in Soul. If he thought the Japanese would hasten to take boat and return to their native land, he was much mistaken. It may be that they wished to do so, but the terrible punishment that Admiral Yi Sin sin had inflicted upon the army of reinforcement made them wary of approaching the coast, and so they found themselves practically entrapped. Had the Korean land forces been fed at this time by a man of the skill and bravery of old Admiral Yi the country would have been spared long years of war.

The Japanese in their flight south were brought face to face with this stern fact, and like the soldiers that they were they set themselves to solve the problem. They wanted to be near the sea, perhaps with a view to taking advantage of any

opportunity that might present itself of slipping across to Japan, and yet they were so numerous that, living as they must on forage, it would be impossible for them all to encamp at the same place. So they adopted the plan of fortifying a long strip of the southern coast reaching from the harbour of So-sang in the district of Ulsan in Kyung-sang Province to Sun-ch'un in Chin-la Province, a distance of over two hundred and seventy miles. There were in all between twenty and thirty camps. Being thus about ten miles apart they had room for forage and still were near enough each other to render assistance in case the Koreans or their allies the Chinese should besiege them at any point. These fortified camps were all of the same general kind, overlooking the sea from a bluff and on the land side surrounded by a moat and earthworks. These preparations were made with the utmost care, for there was no hope of immediate succour and the Japanese foresaw stirring times.

In course of time the Chinese court was informed of these events and the success of their generals in the north seems to have given them some enthusiasm for prosecuting the war; so additional troops were sent to the front under the command of Generals Yu Jung and Hu Guk-ch'ung. These troops numbered 5000 and were from southern China. Among them there are said to have been many "ocean imps," or savages from the southern islands. These men could enter the water, it is said, and scuttle the enemy's ships from beneath. We are told that there were also in this army some men of immense stature who came in carts rather than on foot. These forces went into camp at Song-jin in Kyung-sang Province. General Oyu-ch'ung went into camp at Son-san, while Generals Yi Ryung, Cho Seung-hun, Nak Sang-jin, and Wang Pil-juk all encamped at Kyong-jai. In the latter part of the fifth moon a large force of Japanese attacked the important town of Chin-ju in Kyung-sang Province. At this place there was a large Korean army under General Kim Ch'un-il, Kim Sang-gi, Ch'oe Gyung-wi, Ko Jong-hu, Yang San-do Yi Jong-in. Under them were large numbers of militia and raw recruits, and this accounts in part for the speedy fall of the town and the terrible slaughter that ensued. The Japanese laid siege to the place, and after nine days, during which time they made a hundred separate assaults, they were reinforced, and the defenders, exhausted by the long struggle, were finally driven from the wall and the Japanese effected an entrance. But even after they got in, the Koreans fought desperately and sold their lives as dearly as possible. Of this most sanguinary battle only one incident is preserved in the Korean accounts. When the Japanese entered the city and had advanced to a point on the wall which overlooks the waters of the Nam-gang (river), a desperate encounter took place, in the midst of which the Korean general, Yi Jong-in, seized two of the Japanese about the waist, and, dragging them to the brink of the precipice, threw himself and them into the water below. Korean accounts say that in this battle the almost incredible number of 70,000 were killed, and that an equal number of the Japanese perished. This latter must be an exaggeration, for the loss of that number would have swept well-nigh the entire Japanese army from the country. We must remember that the Japanese army had received practically no reinforcements from the time it first landed on Korean soil, and it is safe to say that, what with the losses by sickness and accident, together with the thousands who had fallen at the hands of the Koreans and Chinese, the original force must have dwindled to 150,000 or less; in which case the loss of 70,000 men must have put them *hors de combat* at once. This battle is called the greatest in the whole war by the Koreans, though it is not considered the most important.

An interesting story is told of a dancing girl of this town. When the Japanese took possession of the place she was appropriated by one of the Japanese generals. One day while they were feasting in a summer-house on the wall overlooking the river, she began to weep. He asked her the reason, and she replied, "You have come here and driven away our people and our King. I do not know whether my sovereign is living, and yet I sit here and feast. I can hardly claim to be better than the beasts to sit here and make merry. I must put an end to my life." Thereupon she threw her arms about her paramour and flung herself and him over the edge, thus ending her weary life and helping to avenge her native land at the same time. For this reason she was canonized at a later date and her spirit was worshipped at this place each year by royal edict.

All this time the great Admiral Yi was in camp at Ham-an Island off the coast of Kyung-sang

Province. His force was not large, but during his enforced idleness he prepared for future work. He set all his men to work making salt by evaporating sea water, and by this means he got together a great store of provisions. Needing barracks for the soldiers, he offered to the carpenters and workmen all about a bag of salt for a day's work. His energy and patriotism were so contagious that many worked for nothing and the barracks were soon built. At this point the King conferred upon him the admiralty of the three provinces of Ch'ung-ch'ung, Chul-la, and Kyung-sang.

In the ninth moon the Commissioner Sung Rung-ch'ang and General Yi Yo-sang collected their forces and started back for China. They evidently considered the back-bone of the invasion broken, and so it was; but like most spinal diseases it was destined to linger on for years before it came to an end. When these generals set out on their homeward way they left 10,000 Chinese soldiers in the hands of the Korean generals Yu Jung and O Yu-ch'ung to act as a bodyguard for the King. In spite of their suspicions of the corruptibility of General Yi Yo-sang the Koreans speak in high terms of him. They describe him as a young man of thirty, of handsome person, broad mind, and possessed of great skill in the art of war. When he was on the eve of returning to China he bared his head and showed the Koreans that his hair was already turning to gray. He told them it was because he had worked so hard for them, which piece of bathos seems to have impressed them deeply.

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

DREYFUS VINDICATED.

Saigon, June 3.
Maitre Mornard yesterday concluded his argument tending to demonstrate the guilt of Esterhazy. He said that he did not demand the reversion of Dreyfus' sentence without a fresh hearing of the case, because Madame Dreyfus desired that her husband should be tried again and acquitted. The Court will probably make its ruling to-morrow.

Saigon, June 4.
Esterhazy, who is now in London, has confessed that he is the author of the *bordereau*.

The Court of Cassation has given judgment ordering the revision of the Dreyfus case, and the re-trial of Dreyfus by the Court Martial of Rennes.

Saigon, June 5.
The French Government has decided that the cruiser *Sfax*, commanded by Captain Coffinières de Nordeck, which is now at Fort-de-France (in Martinique), shall go to Guyane to fetch Dreyfus, so that he will arrive at Brest about the 26th of this month.

Saigon, June 6.
Proceedings have been opened against Esterhazy with reference to the manipulation of the documents of the secret *dossier*. An enquiry has been opened on his demand into the subject of the manner in which General de Pellieux directed the inquiry into the Esterhazy affair.

Saigon, June 7.
The Chamber further decided, by 299 votes to 238, to postpone until after the finding of the Rennes Court-martial, the nomination of a commission to prosecute General Mercier, and ordered, by 307 votes to 212, that the judgment of the Court of Cassation should be advertized throughout the whole of France.

MAJOR MARCHAND.

Saigon, June 3.
Major Marchand has been received by the President of the Republic and by the majority of the Ministers. The Chamber has unanimously voted congratulations to

General Gallieni, to Major Marchand, and to M. Liotard.

GERMANY IN THE PACIFIC.

Saigon, June 4.
The Cortes has been opened at Madrid. The speech from the Throne announced the cession to Germany of the Caroline, Palao, and the Mariana Islands, in consideration of a payment of 25 millions of *pesetas*.

ROYALIST DEMONSTRATION AGAINST PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Saigon, June 6.
A number of young Royalists yesterday organised a demonstration against the President of the Republic at Auteuil Races. Various cries were raised, and a general hubbub ensued. Count Christian (?) struck President Loubet's hat with his cane. One hundred arrests were made. The President re-entered the Elysée amid acclamations and shouts of "Vive le Président."

Saigon, June 7.
After a stormy discussion, in the course of which the conservative Deputy, M. Burgentay, was expelled, the Chamber of Deputies, by a vote of 513 to 32, stigmatized the Auteuil scandal; approved by 326 votes to 173 the declarations of M. Dupuy, who described the Auteuil demonstration as an outrage; and passed a motion for closing the clubs.

Saigon, June 8.
Telegrams of sympathy are flowing in from abroad at the Elysée, notably from Queen Victoria and the Pope.

The French Senate, by 258 votes against 20, has offered warm expressions of sympathy to M. Loubet.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

THE DUM-DUM BULLET.
DISARMAMENT NOT MAKING PROGRESS.
London, June 2.

The Committee of the Peace Conference has resolved to prohibit the use of Dum-dum bullets. The dissentients to the resolution are England, Italy, and Austria; nor is the Conference likely to endorse the Committee.

The question of the reduction of armaments is not making progress, owing to pronounced differences of opinion among the delegates.

MARCHAND AT PARIS.
Major Marchand has arrived in Paris.
ITALY AND CHINA.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has approved the declaration of the Foreign Minister that Italy has no intention to pursue in China the policy of occupation, its policy being merely for commercial expansion.

A DERBY HORSE KILLED.
Holocauste, which broke its leg in the Derby race, has since been killed.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.
London, June 4.

The French Court of Cassation has quashed the verdict of guilty on Dreyfus, and ordered the case to be retried before the Court Martial of Rennes.

Count Esterhazy has confessed that he had prepared the *Bordereau*.

London, June 5.
The decision for holding a Court Martial at Rennes is based on the irregularities at the first Court Martial, and on the evidence that Esterhazy was the author of the *bordereaux*.

A cruiser has been despatched to fetch home Dreyfus, who is to arrive at Brest on the 26th of June.

London, June 6.
The Chambers have resolved that the judgment of the Court of Cassation should be placarded throughout France and to postpone the prosecution of General Mercier until after the Court-Martial at Rennes shall have concluded its task.

HONOURS FOR MR. JACKSON.

Mr. Jackson, General Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has received a knighthood.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF DUTCH INDIA.

General Roseboom has been appointed Governor-General of Netherlands India. TRANSVAAL.

According to the Blue Book concerning the Dynamite Monopoly question in the Transvaal, Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, sent in a strong protest in February last against the measure, in response to which the Government of the South African Republic stated that there was no infringement of the Explosives Monopoly Convention. When another protest was made during May, the South African Republic replied curtly reiterating its former statement.

The conferences at Bloemfontein are proceeding in absolute secrecy.

London, June 8.
The conference at Bloemfontein has turned out a failure. President Krüger had proposed considerable concessions concerning the questions of franchise and naturalization, which Sir Alfred Milner regarded as inadequate; but President Krüger made all proposals independent of England's acceptance of the principle of arbitration over all the differences between the two countries. It is surmised that this constituted the especial difficulty. The position is regarded as grave.

SPAIN AND GERMANY.
Queen Christina's address from the Throne at the opening of the Cortes states that the Government has signed a treaty conceding the Caroline, Pelew, and Ladrones to Germany, subject to the Cortes' approval.

COL. DU PATY DE CLAM ARRESTED.

London, June 5.
Col. Du Paty de Clam has been arrested charged with forgeries in connection with the Dreyfus affair.

ONE MILLION STERLING FOR THE CAROLINES.

Germany pays one million pounds sterling for the Carolines and Spain keeps a coaling station in each group which Germany is required to defend in case of war.

MORE BIRTHDAY HONOURS.
Mr. J. P. Rodger, the British Resident in Selangor, has been gazetted a Companion of St. Michael and St. George.

CRICKET.
The first test match between England and Australia has resulted in a draw.

PRESIDENT LOUBET ASSAULTED.

London, June 6.
President Loubet visited the races at Auteuil, when a violent demonstration of the Patriotic League took place. Baron Christiani struck the President with a stick. Several arrests have been made, including many titled royalists, mostly the *élite* of

and the match resulted in an easy win for Surrey with 99 points to 51.

Mr. J. L. Jacobsen, who won the Australian chess championship from Mr. Crane and recently successfully defended it in a protracted match against Mr. Jones, has announced his resignation of the honour. Perhaps this is due to some failure in the negotiations for his match with Mr. Wallace, to which we recently referred. Meanwhile Mr. Wallace informs the public through the newspaper columns, "that Mr. Jacobsen has resigned the championship in his favour, being afraid to defend it," and that he (Mr. Wallace) now considers himself the champion of Australia.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
America	C. P. & Co.	Gaelic	M. June 22
Canada, &c.	C. P. & Co.	Em. of India	M. June 22
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Optic	Th. June 22
Hongkong	C. P. & Co.	Em. of China	Th. June 22
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Sydney	Th. June 22
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	Th. June 22
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. June 22
America	P. M. Co.	China	W. June 22
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. June 22
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. July 2

- 1 Left San Francisco on the 25th ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	C. P. & Co.	Em. of India	M. June 22
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. June 23
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. June 24
Shanghai	N. Y. & Co.	Kobe Maru	W. June 24
Canada, &c.	C. P. & Co.	Em. of China	F. June 25
America	O. & O. Co.	Optic	Sa. June 26
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Sydney	W. June 27
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. June 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. June 29
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. July 4
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. July 2

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 2nd June,—Kobe, 31st May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 2nd June,—Yokkaichi, 1st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Afridi, British steamer, 2,354, Thos. Golding, 1st June,—Hongkong, 25th May, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Kawahara, 2nd June,—Kobe, 31st May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 2nd June,—Shanghai via ports, 26th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, Wm. Bainbridge, 2nd June,—London via ports, Kobe, 1st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Birchton, British steamer, 2,378, G. H. Balleine, 3rd June,—New York via Suez Canal and way ports, Shanghai, 28th May, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 3rd June,—Yokkaichi, 2nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Idomenous, British steamer, 4,299, J. Riley, 3rd June,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 2nd June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Sakimoto, 4th June,—Yokkaichi, 3rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, J. Hutchings, 4th June,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 18th May, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Daphne, British gunboat (8), 1,140, Commander C. W. Winnington Ingram, 4th June,—Hongkong, 28th May.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 5th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 16th May, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 5th June,—Otaru via ports, 31st May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 6th June,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 3rd June Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Tsuji, 5th June,—Kobe, 4th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, P. W. Horton, 5th June,—Seattle, Wash., via Kobe, 4th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 5th June,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 4th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 5th June,—Hakodate, 3rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Woltersdorff, 6th June,—Hongkong, 31st May, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 6th June,—Otaru via ports, 1st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Futami Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, C. H. Hillcoat, 6th June,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Kobe, 5th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, H. Fraser, 6th June,—Kobe, 5th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 6th June,—Hakodate, 4th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 7th June,—Seattle, Washington, 22nd May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 7th June,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 6th June, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. Hoisfall, 7th June,—New York via Suez Canal, Kobe, 6th June, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 7th June,—Yokkaichi, 6th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 8th June,—Yokkaichi, 7th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. Higo, 8th June,—Otaru via ports, 3rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 8th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Japan, British steamer, 2,795, G. K. Wright, 8th June,—London via ports, Kobe, 7th June, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Olaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 9th June,—Kobe, 7th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Dorothea Richmers, German steamer, 2,499, H. Pupe, 9th June,—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 2nd June, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 2nd June,—Moj, Ballast.—Missu Bishi Co.
Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 2nd June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Cleveland, United States Transport, 1,130, F. Klitgard, 2nd June,—San Francisco, Ballast.—Browne & Co.
Kotik, Russian steamer, 299, Paulin, 2nd June,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Walsh Hall & Co.
Olaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 3rd June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Arakawa, 3rd June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,682, W. Townsend, 3rd June,—Marseilles, London via Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Kawahara, 3rd June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 4th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Afridi, British steamer, 2,354, Thos. Golding, 4th June,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Sakimoto, 5th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 5th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, J. Hutchings, 5th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 6th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 6th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 6th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Idomenous, British steamer, 4,299, J. Riley, 7th June,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, C. Vaquier, 7th June,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Nishimura, 7th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 7th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 7th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Futami Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, C. H. Hillcoat, 8th June,—Uruga, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Daphne, (8), British gunboat, 1,140, Commander C. W. Winnington Ingram, 8th June,—Hakodate.
Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, Wm. Bainbridge, 8th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 8th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Arakawa, 8th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 8th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 8th June,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Saikio Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. E. MacCob, Mrs. C. B. Dupas, Mr. R. Morris, Mrs. N. Tanaka, Miss N. Tanaka, Master R. Tanaka, Master R. Tanaka, Mr. D. Ito, Mr. D. Y. Ito, Mr. S. Ito, Mrs. S. Ito, and Miss Y. Ito, in cabin; Mrs. T. Azuma, Mr. H. Kobayashi, Mr. Y. Yamada, Mr. J. E. Hait, and Mrs. M. Mayeda, in second class; 44 in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer **Inaba Maru**, from London via ports:—Major Tachibana, Major Mitake, Capt. Mukoyama, Com. Uyehara, Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Kubo, Mr. J. B. Hartley, Mrs. and Master Farmer, Rev. L. B. Chalmers, and Miss Lloyd, in cabin; Mr. W. Gorst, Mr. S. Ayley, Mr. P. Palma, and Mrs. Fernald Trinidad, in second class; 4 Japanese, in steerage.
 Per British steamer **Rosetta**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Pibblado, Mr. C. F. Napier, Mr. Brady, Surgeon Reed, R.N., Mr. L. Wall, Mr. E. Gillard, Mr. H. Pepper, Mr. E. A. Goodings, Mr. G. Warner, Mr. Silvester, Mr. D. Murray, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Skinner, Mrs. Reed, Mr. J. Roberts, Mr. J. Foster, Mr. G. H. Brown, Mr. E. James, Capt. Simmonds, R.A., Miss Kie, and E. Finch, in cabin; 7 Chinese, and 2 children, in steerage.
 Per American steamer **City of Peking**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. C. H. Percy and infant, Mr. C. N. Milken, Mr. M. Darville, Mrs. E. A. Dall, Mr. D. E. Spooner, Mr. A. Ruegg, Dr. and Mrs. J. Uchida, and Mrs. Sherman Clark, Mr. Geo. E. Boardman, Miss Janet Waldorf, Miss Ada Don Carrier, Miss Virginia Granna, Mr. Norval McGregor, and Mr. Jas. H. Love, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Rear-Admiral J. C. Watson, U.S.N., Lieutenant Frank Marble, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dodd, Mr. A. D. Smith, Mr. C. A. Johnson, Mr. C. A. Fitzgerald, Mr. W. M. Fluck, Mrs. M. M. Cox, Mr. F. Sovereign, Miss Blanche Allen, Miss Florence Allen, Mr. H. D. Smith, Miss Freeman, Mr. Geo. Burnap, Mr. E. R. Kimball, Mr. C. B. Peck, and Miss E. Basford, in cabin; Mr. F. S. Brannon, Mr. E. P. Schall, Mr. H. Schmitz, and Mr. J. Down, in European steerage.
 Per American steamer **City of Rio de Janeiro**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. A. E. Long, child and maid, Mr. W. G. Graham, Mrs. W. G. Graham, Mrs. H. Blum and maid, Mr. M. Chiquant, Mr. M. Suhewach, Mrs. Sonnenblick, Mrs. Hall, Mr. J. Schmidt, Mr. A. J. McGlew, Mr. B. Ruge, Mr. M. Goodwin, and Mr. H. V. Summers, in cabin. In Transit:—Miss N. P. Morgan, Mr. Blaine Morgan, Capt. Ava Walker, U.S.N., Rev. H. I. Von Gualen, Mrs. G. F.

Brady, Mr. E. M. Neakings, and Mrs. Yuen Chang, child and servant, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. M. Elin, Mr. G. C. Buchanan, Dunlop and children, Mr. and Mrs. Kayser, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Mr. C. J. Kohn, and Mr. F. Schwalbe, in cabin; Miss Asch, Mr. C. Frobenius, Mr. W. Emsley, 3 Japanese women, and 4 Chinese, in second class; Mr. H. Debalay, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Futami Maru*, from Sydney and Melbourne via ports:—Mr. O. S. Mawson, Mrs. O. S. Mawson, Miss Grace, Miss Wilkinson, Mrs. Wilkinson, Capt. J. B. Carpenter, Mr. Reece, Mrs. Reece and infant, Mr. R. Harker, Mr. W. La Carter, Mr. R. C. H. Foster, Mr. N. Mayes, Mr. W. E. Bailey, Mr. C. E. Bailey, and Mr. Fred. S. Hendra, in cabin; Mr. Deill, Mr. Richardson, Mr. K. Ogawa, Mr. G. Nakashima, and Mr. Y. Suganuma, in second class; 8 Japanese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. Shigeaki Someya, Mr. E. D. Setck, Mr. F. J. Morse, and Mr. Cho Yo, in cabin; 8 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sharp, and Mr. R. B. Anderson, in cabin; 2 Europeans, 1 Russian, and 1 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. M. Mitchell, Mr. C. S. Baiff, Mr. H. Tanaka, Mr. S. Koizumi, and Mr. M. Kodaira, in cabin. In Transit:—Mr. A. W. Stiven, Mr. D. Muir, Mr. J. A. Welch, Mrs. B. Browning, Mr. H. H. Buis, Mr. P. S. Sherkey, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Griffin, Mr. G. Muir, Mr. W. T. Monserat, Rev. D. S. Sheffield, Dr. and Mrs. Fearn, Rev. and Mrs. Inwood, Mr. J. H. Dyer, Gen. W. McE. Dye, and Dr. and Mrs. Hall and 3 children, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sanuki Maru*, for London via ports:—Prof. K. Jimbo, Com. H. Saito, Paymaster N. Yamada, Surgeon H. Nakagawa, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Johnson, Mr. J. G. Baratta, Mr. and Mrs. L. La Dow, Mr. J. Kernan, Mr. and Mrs. Fred. Yates and child, in cabin, Petty Officers G. Niname, and T. Sakuma, Mr. A. J. Correa, Mr. Wm. Angus, and Mrs. M. Nakayama, in second class; 45 crews I.J.N., in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Dodd, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, Miss F. Allen, Miss B. Allen, Miss Nicholson, Mrs. M. M. Cox, Miss Callaghan, Miss Davis, Mr. H. D. Smith, Mr. Geb. J. Birnap, Mr. F. Sovereign, Mr. C. A. Fitzgerald, Mr. C. K. Kimball, Capt. Rowcraft, Lieut. Frank Maible, Admiral Watson, Miss Bashford, Miss M. Freeman, Mr. Wm. M. Pluck, Mr. Chas. B. Peck, Mr. F. L. Pfingst, Mrs. Pfingst, Captain Campbell, Mrs. Campbell, Mr. W. Nicholson, Mr. G. M. Blair, Mr. E. A. Johnson, and Mr. A. D. Smith, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, for Marseilles via ports:—A. V. Boluszewicz, Mr. H. J. Stempel, Mr. J. J. Lillie and boy, Mr. B. Hernandez, Mr. G. A. Alcoli, Mr. W. Kluse, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Fernandez, Mrs. M. Tono, Miss R. Donnerberg, Mr. Selv. Arlegui, Mr. C. A. Marquez, Mr. Clouzel, Mr. Verone, Mr. Nishimaki, Mr. P. Chavanne, and Mr. G. Shast, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. G. Brady, Mrs. Crozier, Mrs. Yuen Chang, child and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Delapalme, Mr. Deuman, Mr. E. W. Digby, Captain N. M. Dyer, U.S.N., Mr. Ewing, Miss E. M. Fawcett, Miss E. E. L. Fawcett, Mr. B. A. Johnson Ferguson, Mr. E. W. Griffith, Mr. E. E. Kearling, Mr. H. Kilcullen, Mr. Hans Lippegaus, Captain J. W. Lee, Mr. Jas. McGiegot, Mr. Blaine Morgan, Miss N. P. Morgan, Rev. C. B. Piñblado, Rev. H. Quelen, Mr. P. F. Rockett, Mr. W. G. Royd, Mr. W. Shakespeare, Mr. N. I. Tsimbolinko, Dr. Vo-winkel, Mr. F. de Wout, Capt. A. Walker, U.S.N., and Mr. John C. Wise, Medical Inspector, U.S.N., in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. J. Asata, Mr. Pierre Best, Mr. Beers, Mrs. B. Browning, Mr. C. S. Baiff, Mr. Lotius M. L. Champion, General W. McE. Dye, Mr. J. H. Dye, Mr. C. P. Davis, Mr. John F. Elliott, Dr. and Mrs. Fearn and infant, Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Griffin, Mr. H. Heunisch, Dr. and Mrs. Hall and three children, Rev. and Mrs. Inwood, Mrs. M. Kirkpatrick, Miss Kirkpatrick, Miss E. A. Kirkpatrick, Miss N. R. Kirkpatrick, Miss C. A. Kirkpatrick, Mr. G. Muir, Mr. D. Muir, Mr. H. Matsui, Mr. Geo. Meyer, Mr. T. D. McKay, Mr. A. Miura, Mr. W. T. Monserat, Mr. D. Newman, Mr. Geo. A. Newhall, Mr. E. B. Reynolds, Mr. P. S. Shirkey,

Mrs. Shiraki and governess, Rev. Mr. Sheffield, Mr. A. N. Stiven, Mr. J. Strauss, Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Schwabe, Mr. S. Jebb Scott, Mr. H. Sakurai, Mr. S. Takaya, Mr. C. Todsan, Sir James Westland, Miss Westland, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Wickman, Mr. V. E. Weed, Mr. J. A. Welch, Mrs. F. K. Winston and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Webb, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarns are duller, but prices are gradually going up. A smaller business has been doing at increased prices. Grey shittings are also duller, but prices are likely to improve. Nothing doing in fancy cottons and woollens.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

Grey shittings—8½, 38½ yds. 39 inches	2.50 to 2.90
Grey shittings—gib, 3½ yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
1. cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo shittings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.30 to 2.50
Prints—various, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Balteas Black	PER YARD.
52 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

Flannels	PER YARD.
Italians (cloth), 30 yards	10.40 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.32 to 0.50
Cloths—Pilot, 54 to 56 inches	0.16 to 0.35
Cloths—Pilot, 54 to 56 inches	0.10 to 0.73
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5½ per lb	0.55 to 0.85

Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 32 inches	6.50 to 0.75
Victoria lawn, 12 yards, 42½ inches	7.75 to 10.00
Turkey Red—2 to 3½ yds. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Red—3 to 4 yds. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.30
Turkey Red—3 to 4 yds. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16½, Singles	PER POUND.
Nos. 16½, Singles	137.00 to 18.50
Nos. 18½, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 20½, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 22, Doubles	40.00 to 41.00
Nos. 24, Doubles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 26, Hain	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 28, Plain	40.50 to 41.50
Nos. 2100, Plain	102.00 to 103.00
Nos. 260, Gassed	77.00 to 80.00
Nos. 280, Gassed	90.00 to 93.00
Nos. 3100, Gassed	117.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	PER POUND.
Indian Broach	\$19.25 to 19.50
Chinese	18.25 to 18.50
Chinese	20.00 to 21.00

METALS.

The market is firm, but the high prices prevailing on the other side make business impossible.

Round and square, 1 inch and upward	PER POUND.
Iron Plates, assorted	4.80 to 5.20
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.80
Galvanized iron sheets	5.80 to 6.30
Wire Nails, assorted	1.70 to 1.25
1 in Plates, per box	6.80 to 8.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	9.35 to 2.40
Hot Iron (½ to 1 inch)	6.25 to 6.50

KEROSENE.

The market is weak.	
American	\$1.25 to 2.27
Russian	2.20 to 2.22
Langkat	2.10

SUGAR.

The usual trade has been going on at practically unchanged quotations.

Brown Takao	PER POUND.
Brown Manila	\$1.85 to 3.70
Brown Taitong	5.00 to 6.00
Brown Canto	4.50 to 4.60
White Java and Penang	4.50 to 6.80
White Refined	6.80 to 8.40
White Refined	7.95 to 9.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quite lifeless pending the arrival of the new crop.

QUOTATIONS.

Figures—Extra, Fine	
Figures—Kaba, Coarse	
Figures—No. 1, Fine	
Figures—No. 1, Coarse	
Figures—No. 1, Fine	
Figures—No. 1, Coarse	
Figures—No. 2, Fine	
Figures—No. 2, Coarse	
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	
Re-reels—No. 2	
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kabedon—Extra	
Kabedon—No. 1	
Kabedon—No. 2	
Kabedon—No. 3	

Nothing is doing, and prices are nominal.

WASH SILK.	
Nothing is doing, and prices are nominal.	
QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filatures, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	
Noshi—Shimoda, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shimoda, Good	
Noshi—Bu ton, B st	
Noshi—Bushi, Good	
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	
Noshi—Bushi, Good	
Noshi—Bushi, Best	
Kibi—Filatures, Best	\$90 to 100
Kibi—Filatures, Coarse	85 to 90
Kibi—Oshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibi—Bushi, Best	20 to 30

TEA.

A large business has been done, but was slackening towards the close, arrivals falling off, as the first crop is almost finished and the second has not yet commenced. Prices are firm with practically no alteration as compared with last week. The total shipments up to June 8th were 108,037 piculs compared with 98,624 at corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	31 & upward
Choice	30 to 31
Finest	28 to 29
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 8. Though silver has not altered, sterling quotations from China come ½ higher and have caused local rates on China to rise easier, but no change in the other rates.

Bank of China	1/02
— Bank on demand	2/02
— 4 months' sight	2/02
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— 6 months' sight	2 1/2
— Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263 to 28
— American—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2 to 1
— German—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214 to 103 1/2
— Hongkong—Bank sight	31 1/2 to 32
— Private 10 days' sight	41 1/2 to 42
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	76 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Re. Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, June 8. Iron Works have sellers at yen 210. Japan Breweries have again changed hands to-day at yen 172.50 and are wanted at 175; shares have been sold for forward delivery at 185 per 1 December, 1899, and at 200 per 1 June, 1900. Grand Hotels can be had at yen 227.50. Club Hotels are offering at yen 87. Oriental Hotels are steady at yen 125. Offers of Nagasaki Hotels are wanted. Bretts are wanted at yen 9.50. North & Raes are in demand at yen 200. Langfeldts are steady at yen 160. Steam Laundries can be had at yen 70. Japan Brewery Debentures have been dealt in and are wanted at yen 108 and Y. U. Club changed hands at yen 107. Oriental Hotel Debentures are wanted at yen 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	100 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	175 B.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	187.50 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	87 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	125 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Pda.)	125 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd.	100 S.
North and Raes, Ltd.	200 H.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	9.50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	160 St.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd.	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.	70 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 1% Deb.	108 S.
Kobe Club 6% Deb.	30 S.
Yokohama United Club 7% Deb.	108 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7% Deb.	108 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb.	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb.	100 S.
Reserve Fund.—1 yen 3,200 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2 yen 17,770.80; 1 yen 16,195.44; 4 yen 77,881.06 and yen 48,228.05 at Co. of Working Acc.	
N.M.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, S.—Enquiries.	

Tokyo, June 8.

Redemption Loan Bonds	95.80
War Loan Bonds	95.80
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	95.80
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	97.30
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 30	98.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	98.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	98.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	98.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	98.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	98.00
Tokoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	98.00
Japan R. W'y.—paid up yen 50	98.00
Japan R. W'y., 2nd issue—paid up yen 45	98.00
Japan Railway, 3rd issue—paid up yen 30	98.00
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 11	98.00
Kobe Railway, new—paid up yen 25	98.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	98.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	98.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	98.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 35	98.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 30	98.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'w'y., 2nd issue—paid up yen 25	98.00
Sohn Railway—paid up yen 50	98.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	98.00
Hoso Railway—paid up yen 50	98.00
Fogohama Railway—paid up yen 50	98.00
Nano Railway—paid up yen 37.50	98.00
Hokuryu Railway—paid up yen 50	98.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	98.00
Chongoku Railway—paid up yen 11	98.00
Iodo Railway—paid up yen 15	98.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 2.50	98.00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	98.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 25	98.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	98.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	98.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 20	98.00
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	98.00
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	98.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	98.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	98.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	98.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	98.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	98.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	98.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	98.00
Tokyo Meats & Cattle Exchange—paid up yen 25	98.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 5	98.00
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	98.00
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 11	98.00
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 30	98.00
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 20	98.00
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	98.00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 20	98.00
Kanagawa Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 30	98.00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	98.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 30	98.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	98.00

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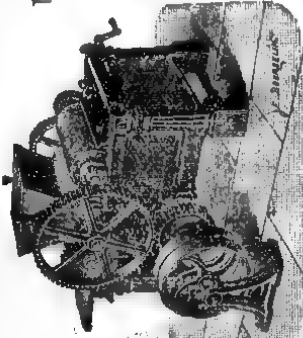
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[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	533
The Civil Code of Japan.....	534
The Foreign Loan.....	534
A Financial Complaint.....	535
Foreign Affairs.....	535
Imports and Exports.....	535
Look at Home.....	535
Silk Crop in China.....	535
The Japanese in Korea.....	535
Anti Tax-Increase League.....	535
"Selected Relics of Japanese Art".....	535
Dogs and Diplomacy.....	537
Dysentery.....	537
Nippon Yonen Kaisha.....	537
Marquis Ito on China.....	538
Laws and their Study.....	538
Remonstrated Agitation.....	538
Is there any Exodus.....	538
Foreign Population of Japan.....	540
Elections for City and Prefectural Assemblies.....	540
Tobacco-plant.....	540
The Bank of Formosa.....	540
Heretic.....	540
Forest Fire in Hokkaido.....	540
Orient Mark Lodge of Japan.....	540
The Victoria Cross.....	540
Leading Articles:—	
Dreyfus.....	541
The Educational Question.....	541
Correspondence—The Hokkaido Recluses.....	541
Die Medicinische Monatschrift in Taiwan.....	541
The Sendai Festival.....	541
Baseball.....	541
The Interport Regatta.....	541
Chinese Affairs.....	541
News of the Week.....	541
The Salvation Army in Japan.....	541
Postal Information.....	541
Club Hotel, Limited.....	541
The Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1895.....	541
Bank of Japan.....	541
Revival of Confucianism in Korea.....	541
Telegrams.....	541
Letters.....	541
Latest Shipping.....	541
Latest Commercial.....	541

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAUCES QUE VOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 3RD, 1899

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

CASTELAR, the Spanish republican leader, is dead.

ROSA BONNEUR, the celebrated painter of animals, is dead.

EIGHT cases of plague are reported from Alexandria, involving four Europeans.

THE result of the Derby was as follows: 1. Flying Fox; 2. Damocles; 3. Innocence.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has given orders for ceasing negotiations with the Filipinos.

THE Educational Department has ordered 38 scholars abroad to complete their education.

THE final federation referendum in South Australia stands, 66,000 for and 17,000 against.

A FIRE broke out at Tanskudo-machi, Ushigome, Tokyo, about 1.30 a.m. on the 30th.

Seven houses were wholly, and one partially burnt, and a godown was destroyed.

MAJOR MARCHAND has arrived at Toulon. The authorities and deputations received him with enthusiasm.

THERE are fears of a dysentery epidemic in Kanagawa Prefecture. Several cases are reported.

THE Paris Assize Court has acquitted M.M. Dérondelle and Habert charged with inciting the French Army to rebellion.

SIR ALFRED MILNER and President Krüger have arrived in Bloemfontein. Official receptions were held in their honour.

THERE were 32 cases of dysentery during May in Tokyo, while in the districts under the jurisdiction of the city there were 18 in all.

GENERAL GALLIENI, Governor of Madagascar, has arrived in Paris. He was received at the station by various delegations.

A COLLISION took place on the railway at Takasaki Station on Monday evening resulting in the destruction of two passenger cars.

A WASHINGTON despatch says that the Japanese Government are negotiating the engagement of two tobacco-experts for the Agricultural and Commercial Department.

MESSES Tanuma Goyemon, Tanabe Kohichi, and six others propose building an electric railway at Yokohama with a capital of 150,000 yen. They have petitioned for official sanction.

THE report on the Suez Canal states that the receipts for 1898 reached eighty eight million francs, the largest figures on record, and alludes to the increasing trade between America and Asia.

THE report of the President of the Civil Chamber of the Court of Cassation—written by M. Ballot-Beaupré—is in favour of revision of the Dreyfus case, and of its re-submission to the Council of War.

VISCOUNT SAKI CHUYU (21), Yamaicho, Ushigome, Tokyo who had been confined in a reformitory on account of loose habits of life, was arrested on Tuesday on a charge of being implicated in uttering a forged bank-note.

THE death is announced of Mr. Kamiya Saburo, who passed away on Wednesday morning at the Hospital attached to the Imperial University. He had held office as Consul and Consul general at San Francisco and Hawaii successively.

A DESPATCH received on the 31st ult., states that the torpedo boat-destroyer *Yugiri* arrived at Macao on the 29th ult. from Singapore and left for Shanghai the following day. The *Inauma*, a sister vessel, arrived at Colombo from Aden on the 30th.

A STUDENT was discovered infected with a form of contagious eye-disease early last month at the Home Ordinary Elementary School. In spite of measures of disinfection the disease rapidly spread among the students, and 305 cases are reported.

MR ODAGIRI, Japanese Consul in Shanghai, reported under date of May 24th, that it being feared that the plague would spread at Swatow, and the Shanghai Council recognizing that port to be infected, it has been determined to enforce quarantine on all ships coming to Shanghai from Swatow.

TAMANO ICHIKUMA, son of Mr. Tamano Risei,

ex-President of the Court of Cassation, who has been leading a dissolute life of late, was arrested on the 29th ult. on a charge of having concealed some of his property when the latter was seized by creditors. The following day he was sentenced to one month's rigorous confinement by the Tokyo Chibo Saibansho.

ABOUT 600 peasants in Hongo and Mizuno villages, Kawachi District, Tochigi Prefecture, proceeded to the Prefectural Office on Monday morning and sought an interview with the Governor. They had a grievance in connection with a canal which has lately been commenced.

MEMBERS of the Political Economic Investigation Society and the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce entertained Mr. Arthur Dixon on Tuesday at the Imperial Hotel. Baron Osaki, Mr. Shibawawa, and other leading Tokyo business-men, numbering over 100, were present. Mr. Dixon spoke on commercial and industrial affairs.

THE graduation ceremony of the Rikugun Chuo Yonen Gakko (Central Military Preparatory School) was held on the 29th, and was honoured by the presence of the Emperor. Diplomas were given to 41 graduates by the President. His Majesty was pleased to present binocular field-glasses to three graduates.

ON Sunday at noon a Dutchman, cook aboard the German steamer *D. H. Watten*, now at anchor at Yokohama, rowed ashore in a boat. He was returning to the ship when the boat was capsized by the strong wind. The man was on the point of drowning when he was rescued by one Arai, who happened to pass in a sampan.

ON Tuesday a *jinrikisha* man named Akizuki Takijiro (32), living at Kyobashi, inflicted serious wounds with a kitchen knife on three fellow coolies who were drinking in a horse-flesh-shop. Akizuki was enraged because the other coolies begged a sum of 3 yen soon after they had borrowed yen 1.50 from him to pay the bill. The coolie thought he was being imposed upon.

ABOUT 12 o'clock on the 26th, a man, apparently 20 years old, ran into the Isezaki Police Station, Yokohama, carrying a drawn sword, and stated that he was a younger brother of Shirokura Kinsaburo, living at Kamocho, and had just wounded his brother and his brother's wife. A police inspector found the man and women lying in pools of blood, and their aged mother almost demented with terror.

THE Emperor graciously contributed two pieces of white silk fabric and 1,000 yen toward the funeral expenses of the late Marquis Daigo, besides 2,000 yen as a special gift from His Majesty to the relatives. The Crown Prince and H.I.H. Prince Kuninomiya also made gifts. Marquis Daigo's funeral took place on the 27th ult. The coffin left the residence just after noon, accompanied by military escort and a large crowd of attendants. The remains were interred at Aoyama Cemetery.

A WELL 10-DO person named Tanji Kinji living at Todamachi, near Yokohama, was arrested on Monday. He had two daughters, but not content with these, adopted another girl, aged 10, last year. This latter child he tortured mercilessly. On one occasion, suspecting her of stealing a five yen piece, he tied her hands together, and hanged her head downward from the roof of the kitchen, flogging her mercilessly with a bamboo. When the child was examined by the police she was found covered with wounds caused by hot iron tongs, and was very feeble owing to the scarcity and coarseness of her food.

THE CIVIL CODE OF JAPAN.

Mr. J. H. Gubbins has now published the Second Part of his translation of the new Civil Code, thus bringing his work to its completion. This part comprises two Books, the first on "Kindred," the second on "Succession." It is incomparably the most interesting portion of Japanese civil law, for it embodies all the customs of the country with regard to family relations, marriage, and inheritance. Recognising the fact that in the provisions of the laws relating to these topics may be found full details about a highly special phase of Japanese civilization, and recognising also that not even the average student, still less the every-day reader, is likely or competent to collect evidence so fragmentary in character, and to construct from it a comprehensive synthesis of the subject, Mr. Gubbins has prefaced his work with an introduction treating of the Japanese family system. His essay, 59 pages in length, appears to us to be an eminently learned and lucid exposition of a recondite theme. It constitutes, in fact, one of the most valuable contributions yet furnished to a knowledge of Japanese manners and customs. Our readers must not suppose that Mr. Gubbins has confined himself to throwing into connected form the disjointed story told by these sections of the Code. He has done a great deal more. He has written the history of the old ethics embodied in the provisions of the new laws, and has shown not only the peculiarities of the Japanese family system, but also the indications already apparent of an inevitable conflict between such a system and the egoistic civilization of the Occident which Japan is now rapidly assimilating. The essay has absorbing interest for every one desirous of understanding the Japanese, and we are much mistaken if the profound research and exceptional power of analysis it displays do not add considerably to Mr. Gubbins' reputation as a scholar. With regard to his translation of the laws themselves, his thorough knowledge of the Japanese language and his legal qualifications—he is a student of the Middle Temple—guarantee the accuracy of his work, and in every case his choice of language appears to be very happy. He has also followed the excellent plan pursued in his previous volume, namely, appending in the margin of every article its Japanese original. The advantages of such an addition are obvious. Another most valuable feature of the work is a copious index covering the whole Code—Parts I. and II. This Index has been compiled with the greatest care. It covers 72 pages, and by its aid one can refer in a moment to the exact provisions bearing upon any particular subject. The preparation of such an Index and the compilation of the Introduction referred to above are features which enormously enhance the value of the work and place Mr. Gubbins' translation of the Code far ahead of all competitors. There is, unfortunately, a somewhat formidable list of errata. A few of them represent corrections of translation, but the vast majority are due to typographical blunders. Mr. Gubbins employed Japanese printers, and, although Japanese printers deserve great credit for their success in setting manuscript written in a tongue that is foreign to them, they never-

theless fall into many errors, and seriously augment the labour and worry of an author. Indeed, although the preparation of Mr. Gubbins' Introduction and Index amply account for the delay that has occurred in his publication of this Second Part of his work, we strongly suspect that much of the responsibility rests with the printers. The two volumes will certainly be recognised by the public as standards, and should effectually silence all complaints about the inaccessibility of Japanese laws to foreigners.

THE FOREIGN LOAN.

Considerable interest has been excited by the news that Japan has obtained a foreign loan of 10 million pounds sterling, the rate of interest being 4 per cent. and the price of the bonds, 90. The *Mainichi Shimbun* sent a member of its staff to various responsible persons to make inquiries—the Vice-President of the Bank of Japan; the Vice-Minister of Finance; the Chief of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Office, and a Private Secretary of the Foreign Office, Mr. Hara—but they all declined, or were unable, to furnish any information. Our contemporary found, however, the usual refuge, "a certain influential person," and learned from him that an agreement had been concluded some time ago, but that, the particulars having been kept quite secret, telegraphic intelligence has come only now. The Syndicate underwriting the loan consisted, he explained, of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and two other great capitalists. The *Kokumin* is more explicit. It professes to have been officially informed that great efforts were made to obtain a four per cent. loan at about 95, but that, owing to the loan's clashing with the floating of bonds for Chinese railways, it was found impossible to get a better figure than 90. Inasmuch, however, as the 3-per-cent. bonds are only worth 100 in the home market, it is plain that 4 per cents. could not be sold for more than 80, so that the price obtained abroad is 10 per cent. better than the price in the domestic market. The actual rate of interest is 4½ per cent., which is nearly 1 per cent. more than Germany pays, but Germany and Japan are very different, of course.

Rumours more or less conflicting are in circulation about Japan's new foreign loan, but the salient facts seem to be tolerably distinct; namely, that the agreement was signed on the 29th or 30th ultimo; that the underwriters are a syndicate consisting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Parr's Bank, the Chartered Bank, and the Specie Bank; that the rate of interest is 4 per cent.; that the Syndicate purchase the bonds at 90; that ten years are to elapse before redemption commences, and that redemption is to be thereafter completed in forty-five years. As to the manner of redemption, however, we have no details. The present Japanese system confers on the Treasury discretionary power to regulate the amount redeemed each year; an arbitrary arrangement, not at all satisfactory to foreign investors. We do not know, also, whether any engagement has been given about the taxing of the bonds. But since, if the interest is paid abroad, they now escape taxation in Japan, it is possible that no special stipulation on that subject has been considered necessary.

The transaction is not brilliant, but it can not be called unsatisfactory when we remember that the field was already occupied by a Russian loan and a Chinese railway loan. The *Tokyo Asahi*, however, gives currency to a statement that better terms were offered by a syndicate composed of Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and the Chartered Bank. Their representatives submitted to the Treasury a proposal the conditions of which were, 20 years without redemption, 30 years for redemption, 4 per cent. interest, and bonds at 95. The *Asahi* wonders why this proposal was rejected, but the *Asahi*'s statement requires confirmation.

The facts as to the new foreign loan have now been published in the *Official Gazette*. They are these:—

I.—The loan amounts to ten million pounds sterling worth of 4 per cent. bonds, which are underwritten by a syndicate composed of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Parr's Bank, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and the Chartered Bank.

II.—The bonds are not registered, and have the coupons attached. Their denominations are expressed in English pounds sterling; namely, £50, £100, and £500.

III.—The rate of interest is 4 per cent.

IV.—With regard to the redemption of the bonds, they are to run for a period of 10 years, counting from January 1st, 1899, after which redemption is to commence and be completed in 45 years, the bonds to be redeemed each year being determined by lot.

V.—The interest will be paid in June and December every year.

VI.—The amount of the loan is to be paid over to Japan in six instalments, commencing from June 1899, and the first half year's interest will be paid in December of the same year.

It will be seen from the above that the bonds differ from ordinary Japanese consols in three respects: first, their denominations are expressed in sterling, not in yen; secondly, their unredeemed period is to be 10 years instead of 5; thirdly, their redemption is to occupy 45 years instead of 50. Concerning the cost of this loan to Japan, an easy calculation shows that for 90 million yen which she now receives, she will have paid back 226 millions by the year 1949, when the redemption is to be completed. The total would be 228 millions were the bonds to run for a full period of 10 years before redemption commences; but by reckoning from January 1st, 1899, and making the first half-yearly payment of interest in December of the same year, the period prior to redemption is in reality reduced to 9½ years. Thus stated, the figures seem to show that Japan pays 126 million yen for the accommodation of 90 millions now given to her. But we have to remember that money is worth at least 5 per cent. in this country. Hence, adopting the same rule of simple interest, and assuming that the proceeds of the loan can be productively utilized at once, another short calculation shows that the sum actually accruing from the loan by the year 1949 will be 243½ million yen, and since the sum paid will aggregate 226 millions, as shown above, the net benefit realized by Japan will be 17½ million yen. Of course these figures do not apply if the money is devoted to unproductive purposes, as armaments. The results would be larger, also, if the interest were compounded, but we confine ourselves to an easily intelligible statement.

A FINANCIAL COMPLAINT.

The Japanese are fond of saying that foreigners are ignorant of this country's affairs, but it sometimes seems to us that the compliment might be returned with interest. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for example, declares that the native agents and clerks of foreign merchants in Yokohama receive as good pay as *chokunin* officials and live in just as fine style. Who thrust such a phantasy into our contemporary's head, we wonder. There is probably not one *tedai* or *banto* in Yokohama who receives a salary of 100 *yen* a month, whereas the lowest pay of a *chokunin* official is 250 *yen*. However, this question of employes' emoluments is only incidental to the *Mainichi's* general argument, which aims at showing that unfair discrimination in favour of the foreign merchant is made by the Specie Bank. It is not the first time that our contemporary has given utterance to this grievance. It ventilated the subject with great vehemence and no apparent result about a year ago, but it now approaches it from a different stand-point. The general impression, we read, is that the foreigner has far more capital at his command than the Japanese. But in truth such is not the case: The majority of the foreign merchants conduct their business with a capital of from ten thousand to a hundred thousand *yen*. Very few indeed have a capital of half a million. On the other hand, there are numbers of Japanese traders who are good for half a million or more. Yet they do not make the same profits or enjoy the same luxury as the foreigner. What is the reason? Is it not that the foreigner knows how to utilize his capital much better than the Japanese does, and that he can obtain credit from the banks on much easier terms? It is here that the *Mainichi's* arraignment of the Specie Bank comes in. The people at the Specie Bank, it avers, trust a foreigner much more readily than they trust a Japanese, and while they honour the former's bills without hesitation, they will not look at the latter's without substantial security. Hence the foreigner has a manifest advantage.

It might have occurred to our contemporary that the fault in this matter lies, not at the door of the Specie Bank, but at the door of the Japanese merchant. Such, at least, would be the view taken by any foreign critic. If a bank gives to A credit which it denies to B, not the bank is to blame, but B's failure to be worthy of trust. It is very probable that Japanese merchants are more or less hampered in their business, as compared with foreign merchants, by the difficulty of obtaining accommodation from the banks, but to hold the banks responsible is putting the saddle on the wrong horse altogether. We may add, too, that we doubt the correctness of our contemporary's fundamental assertion. We doubt whether the plums of the country's foreign trade fall into the lap of the foreigner. The volume of the trade has increased enormously in the last two decades, yet the number of foreigners engaged in carrying it on has remained virtually stationary, which certainly would not be the case if they were making money. The Japanese element, on the contrary, grows more and more numerous, and it is in the Japanese settlement that we detect all the evidences of expansion and prosperity. The banks may not be kind to the Japanese merchant, but he

"gets there" all the same, a fact which does credit to his shrewdness and business capacity.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The journey taken to Kyoto by Mr. Mitsuhashi, of the Foreign Office, has set the tongue of rumour wagging. According to the *Asahi's* information, the Emperor, reading the telegrams recently received, desired to address some inquiries to the Cabinet, and in the absence of the Prime Minister, sent Marquis Tokudaiji to the Foreign Office as bearer of certain questions. The Minister of Foreign Affairs deemed it advisable to consult Marquis Yamagata before replying, and sent Mr. Mitsuhashi to Kyoto for that purpose. Such is the *Asahi's* version. It is very probable, we imagine, that Mr. Mitsuhashi's mission has for its object the conveyance of some message to Marquis Yamagata, but if the Emperor wanted information about foreign affairs, His Majesty would send for Viscount Aoki and consult him directly. There would be no occasion for communicating with the Prime Minister in the ordinary course of events.

The sensational stories circulated about the mission of Mr. Mitsuhashi, of the Foreign Office, to the Premier in Kyoto, are now replaced by a statement that the purpose of Mr. Mitsuhashi's journey is to obtain Marquis Yamagata's views about a question submitted by Baron Hayashi, who represents Japan at the Peace Conference in Holland. Baron Hayashi seems to have found that the Conference's deliberations had assumed a character not clearly contemplated by his instructions.

The appointments long predicted in connexion with the Foreign Office in Tokyo, have now become an accomplished fact; namely, Mr. Hayashi Gonsuke to be Minister Plenipotentiary in Korea; Mr. Nakada Keigi to be Minister Resident in Siam, and Mr. Sugimura Shun to be Head of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Office, *vice* Mr. Hayashi. We are not cognisant of the reasons which have prompted a change of Japanese Representative in Seoul, for Mr. Kato's success there is understood to have been unequivocal. Probably the explanation is that Mr. Kato, having served nearly five years, will be appointed to some other post in the ordinary routine.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Sinister predictions have recently been based by certain vernacular newspapers on the excess of imports over exports since March last. For example, comparing the March and April returns, it is found that the exports of the principal staples declined as follows:—

	March. Yen.	April. Yen.
Raw Silk	2,320,000	1,490,000
Habutaye	1,240,000	720,000
Cotton Yarn	2,890,000	1,960,000
Copper	1,100,000	920,000

The *Fiji Shimpō*, however, points out with much truth that the export trade is always comparatively small during the first half of the year. Even in 1892, when the exports for the whole year exceeded the imports by 19,770,000 *yen*, the imports showed an excess during May. It may therefore be reasonably expected that the second half of the year will redress the balance to some extent at all events.

LOOK AT HOME.

There is no gainsaying the sound common sense of the *Kokumin Shimbun's* views about Japan's present-day foreign affairs. The advocates of a stalwart policy in China, the men who cry out for a basis of operations in Fuhkien and denounce Viscount Aoki as a worthless statesman because he does not amuse them with displays of fireworks—these complainants would do well to consider the uses to which they and their countrymen have put the privileges secured by the Shimonoseki Treaty. New Japanese settlements in China were provided by that agreement, but they remain to this day nurseries of weeds and residences of vermin. Would a concession in Fuhkien fare differently? The Japanese are intelligent. They bring a clear faculty of discernment to the study of the world's history. They must be sensible, therefore, of the reason why Great Britain's growth has no element of artificiality. They must see why she utilizes all the opportunities she obtains, and why each new step of advance that she makes is justified by the story of her previous progress. It is because the enterprise of her people precedes the action of her officials. There is nothing tentative or experimental about the privileges her statesmen busy themselves to obtain from foreign countries. Definite practical proof has been obtained in every case that the privileges will be turned to profitable account by British subjects, and will neither remain mere empty concessions nor inure to the benefit of foreigners only. But, while Japanese agitators expect their Government to obtain new privileges from China, it does not occur to them to reflect that the privileges already obtained remain a dead letter. The ultimate truth is that the Japanese have no spare capital. They have not money enough even for their own needs. Impenitency is fatal to enterprise abroad. If Englishmen were not perplexed to discover uses for their vast accumulations of capital; if, like the Japanese, they had at their own doors opportunities to profitably employ every available shilling, they would be comparatively quiet stay-at-home folk, for, though the capitalist himself may not go abroad in search of investments, he is always ready to come to the aid of those that do. When the Japanese have developed something of the Britisher's mood, acquired something of his capacity to exploit new fields, and begun to strike out on their own account, it will be time enough for them to dictate a policy of aggrandisement to their statesmen.

SILK CROP IN CHINA.

A telegram published by the *Fimmin* and said to have been received from Shanghai on the 24th ultimo by the Yokohama Silk Company, says that the production of silk in China this year is expected to be 62,000 bales of white; 8,000 bales of green-white (*awo-shiro*), and 7,000 bales of best filatures. That would be a yield ten per cent. better than last year's. The production for the past six years stand thus:—

1894	67,200 bales
1895	70,000 "
1896	60,000 "
1897	60,000 "
1898	70,000 "
1899	77,000 " (estimate).

THE JAPANESE IN KOREA.

There are 2,000 Japanese residing in Sŏul; 6,000 in Jinsen; 5,000 in Fusan; and about 3,500 elsewhere in Korea, making a total of 16,500. If to these be added the men who go every season to fish in Korean waters, it is estimated that the aggregate can not be less than twenty thousand. Mr. Kato, Japanese Representative in Sŏul and now in Tokyo, has been adducing these figures in support of his contention that Japan has great interests in the peninsula, and that her people should bestir themselves to make the most of their present opportunities before Europeans and Americans come in to compete. Mr. Kato has represented his country in Korea ever since the assassination of the Queen. He says that his position after that terrible affair was very difficult. The Koreans hated and distrusted the Japanese, and Mr. Kato found nothing but cold looks, if not actual hostility, everywhere. But by degrees the evil past has been lived down, and now the Japanese occupy a good place in Korean esteem. Mr. Kato might have supported his assertion by pointing to the comparative immunity from outrage which his nationals now enjoy in the peninsula. For quite a long while after the death of the Queen, not a month, sometimes not a week, passed without intelligence that a Japanese merchant or traveller had been killed or dangerously wounded by Korean roughs. The Tokyo Government showed a great deal of long-suffering in its manner of dealing with those incidents. It might have made them a pretext for demands of a very substantial character. But it probably recognised that they were partly due to resentment resulting from the Queen's fate. We never hear of such sanguinary incidents now. The inference is very plain.

ANTI-TAX-INCREASE LEAGUE.

The League for effecting a reduction of taxation held a meeting in Kyoto on the 27th instant. Delegates from two cities and twenty-seven prefectures were present, and the audience is said to have numbered two thousand four hundred. The principal political leaders who attended were Count Okuma, Viscount Miura, Messrs. Ohigashi, Suzuki, &c. The meeting endorsed by acclaim a proposal pledging the Progressist Party to agitate for restoring the Land Tax, the Soy Tax, and the Post and Telegraph rates to the amounts levied prior to the recent changes.

It appears to be the general opinion that this agitation for reduced taxation is not likely to be very successful. The people are not really suffering from heavy taxes. No one is sensibly embarrassed by the increases that the Diet voted last session, and any folks who can be induced to support the agitation will obey motives of craft, not dictates of honest conviction. Still the issue has at all events the advantage of being tangible and intelligible. In the past it has been the misfortune of Japanese political parties to stand upon platforms incapable of clear definition. No one appreciated the disadvantages of such nebulousness better than Count Okuma, and he and his colleagues are doubtless charmed to have found a text which appeals to the discernment as well as the interests of the people.

"SELECTED RELICS OF JAPANESE ART."

The first volume of this work is now published. We have already spoken of its scope and object, but we may here repeat that the intention of the publishers is to lay before the world a thousand pictures of the finest specimens of ancient Japanese art, and that the task will involve the issue of 20 volumes each containing about 50 plates. The prelates of the Zen Sect of Buddhism are the chief promoters of the undertaking. They have placed at the disposal of the publishers all the heirlooms of the great monasteries over which they preside, and other Sects are lending their coöperation. It is only in the temples that really grand and authentic examples of this country's old art are to be found, and unfortunately they are virtually inaccessible to the general public. It is true that a zealous dilettante can obtain access to these treasures by going from temple to temple. But, unless he is armed with special credentials, he must select the fête days when access to the heirlooms of the monasteries is granted to the general public, and in any case he will not only fail to see some of the choicest specimens, but will also experience nearly insuperable difficulty in obtaining information essential to an intelligent review of their periods and artists. We have often alluded to these difficulties, and expressed a strong hope either that steps would be taken to bring the various objects together in a national museum—which would certainly be the most satisfactory course—or that pictures of them would be taken and published. About 10 years ago, if we remember rightly, a Government Commission, under the Presidency of Viscount Kuki, was sent round to inspect all the art treasures of the temples, and it was understood that the Commission seized the opportunity to photograph the best specimens. The photographs are now in the possession of the Art Museum. We imagined that they were destined to illustrate a comprehensive history of Japanese art, materials for compiling which were to be collected by Viscount Kuki and other connoisseurs and students. But apparently the project has not made much advance towards achievement, and in the meanwhile the Zen Prelates and certain ardent students of art have come forward, selected a thousand of the finest specimens in the monasteries, and commenced to publish pictures of them in a series of volumes which, when completed, will form a magnificent and absorbingly interesting album. It is scarcely necessary to remind the public that Japanese art may be said to have grown up under the shadow of Buddhism. The greatest efforts of sculpture, of painting, of decorative carving, and of lacquering were made on behalf of the temples. That is especially true of the Zen Sect. One of the last of the Ashikaga Shoguns, Yoshimasa, whose life of artistic refinement and voluptuous self-indulgence made the second half of the fifteenth century memorable, is counted to this day the greatest dilettante Japan ever produced. It was he that elaborated the tea ceremonial, and it was in his palace at Higashi-yama that a collection of objects of *virtu* was formed which to this day holds easily the first place in the nation's traditions of everything eminently aesthetic and artistically orthodox. In all

that phase of his career Yoshimasa had the countenance and encouragement of the Zen prelates, and it may well be supposed that he did not fail to follow the example set by the Imperial Court and the great nobles from the days of the Empress Suiko through the Nara, Heian, Kamakura, and Muromachi epochs, the example of enlisting the aid of the country's best artists for the decoration of the temples, the provision of their furniture and paraphernalia, and the enrichment of their heirlooms. Even Hideyoshi, with whom aristocratic traditions counted for so little, Hideyoshi, three of whose most renowned lieutenants had originally been a carpenter, the son of a druggist, and a menial, respectively—did not neglect the canon of generosity to the temples or fail to add to their art treasures. If, when Buddhism was disestablished after the Restoration of 1867, it had occurred to the Government to adopt immediate precautions against the dispersal of the temples' heirlooms, there might now be a possibility of forming a national museum which would be a Mecca to all the art pilgrims of the world. A grand opportunity was lost—not wholly, however, for, though many noble specimens have been sold abroad, broken up, or otherwise lost to the nation, many still remain, as is amply attested by the beautiful volume now before us. It will at once be evident to any one examining the volume that the compilers have found it impossible to arrange the specimens in historical sequence. They tell us so, indeed, quite frankly. Had they been able to do so, the value of the work would have been immensely enhanced. But there will be nothing to prevent re-arrangement after the completion of the series, for the authors have wisely refrained from numbering the plates, and as each is accompanied by a very full note explaining the subject, identifying the artist, where identification is possible, and drawing attention to the most noteworthy features of the work, any amateur will be able to place the pictures hereafter in regular sequence. These notes are printed in Japanese and in English. Their authors are Mr. S. Fujii, of the Middle School of Saitama, and Doctor J. Takakusu, of the Imperial University of Tokyo—a gentleman deeply versed in Buddhist lore. The English text is revised we are told, and special notes in art history and criticism are added by Professor C. F. Fenollosa, but there is reason to doubt the statement. The celebrated photographer, Mr. Ogawa; the wood-engraver, Mr. O. Morikawa; and the colour-printer, Mr. T. Tamura, are responsible for the execution of the illustrations, and Mr. S. Tajima is the general editor. All these gentlemen have done their work admirably, but we venture to say one word to Mr. Tajima, namely, that he had better refrain from publishing any English text which has not had the benefit of Mr. Fenollosa's revision. Japanese cannot write book English, any more than Englishmen can write book Japanese. It is easy to see that very few of the notes accompanying the plates have passed through Mr. Fenollosa's hands: they are not composed in the strong, nervous, and highly idiomatic English of which he is master, as proved by the preface to which his name is affixed. Indeed the composition of some is almost ridiculous, as when we are told, for example, that the "noble and dignified feature" (of four

images) "can inspire a fear to us," and that "their strong constitution of body and quiet attitude are worthy of the patrons of the religion and of the world;" or elsewhere, of another image that "his meek countenance and formal dress are the marks of a master-work of the old age;" or again, of an image of Fudo, that it was sculptured by Kobo Daishi "doing homage three times in each cut." Moreover, in a leaflet descriptive of "the woven figures on the cover and the written characters on the title," we find it stated that "Emperor Uda was the 59th of the Imperial line who deeply believed in the law of Buddha"; and that "Kobo Daishi was notorious for his calligraphy." Now it is true that the Emperor Uda was the 59th of the Imperial line, but it is not true that he was the 59th who believed in Buddhism, since twenty-five of his predecessors never even heard of Shaka, and to say that a man is "notorious" for a learned accomplishment is an execrable abuse of terms. The trouble—we that speak have suffered—the trouble of working in association with Japanese is that one never knows when they will break away on some independent line of their own, and disfigure a whole enterprise by solecisms which might have been completely avoided had the principle of co-operation been scrupulously adhered to. The "woven figures" referred to in this leaflet are the decorative design of the silk cover, which is said to be an exact reproduction of the brocaded silk stole worn by the ex-Emperor Uda—whose date, we observe, is given as 867 to 931, whereas all the historical records with which we are acquainted represent him as having come to the throne in 893 A.D. Of the 53 plates contained in this first volume, three are chromoxylographs; the remainder, colotypes. They are really admirable reproductions, telling us more about the artists of old Japan than volumes of description could teach. Only one example of bronze sculpture appears in this part, but we presume that the deficiency will be made good hereafter. To us the most interesting plates are the reproductions of works by celebrated painters. Looking at these pictures by Soga Jashoku, Meicho, Kano Motonobu, Sesshu, and Kano Eitoku, and recalling the shallow and flippant generalizations of certain foreign writers who deservedly rank as great sinologues, we are reminded of the old truism that too much learning is one direction often makes men blind in another. Possibly these volumes will open their eyes. It is to be sincerely hoped that the enterprise will repay its projectors. The expense must be very great. It ought to be possible to find in America and Europe purchasers of the 1,000 copies to which the edition is limited. We can not too strongly recommend the work—or at any rate this first volume of it—to every one interested in the art of Japan.

DOGS AND DIPLOMACY.

The uses of diplomacy are evidently very varied, according to the view of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It represents the Spanish Minister as actively engaged negotiating with the Japanese Foreign Office about the recent poisoning of his pet dog. An important international question, truly! The Foreign Office, our contemporary goes on to explain, ex-

periences great difficulty in obtaining satisfaction for His Excellency, inasmuch as the action of the police is impeded by Consular Jurisdiction. A certain lady, of German origin but naturalized in America, is suspected of having ordered her *betto* to lay in likely places pieces of meat sprinkled with strychnine. But the lady can not be arraigned before her Consul in the absence of tangible evidence, and evidence is hard to obtain, since the *betto*, in his capacity of a foreigner's servant, is beyond the reach of the police.

Dismissing the absurd notion that the Foreign Office can have been approached about such an affair, we may point out that unless it can be proved that the poison was laid on the public thoroughfare or within the compound of some one who was not the poisoner, the police have no competence to take any step. There is a theory that some of the dogs found the strychnine on the road-side, and that some received the dose within the precincts of their owners' residences. It would be very difficult, we fear, to prove anything of the kind. Were proof forthcoming, however, the *betto* and his mistress would be liable to punishment, whereas if they confined their operations to their own compound, they were within their rights.

DYSENTERY.

Some uneasiness is caused by the returns of dysentery received from provincial districts. Not only has the disease declared itself unusually soon, but its virulence is already marked. The record for a period of 5 days shows 15 cases in Niigata Prefecture, 17 in Kumamoto, 15 in Kagoshima, 17 in Miyazaki, and 13 in Tochi. In Tokyo also the disease has made its appearance, and the Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, the Governor and the Chief of Police, after consultation, have applied to the Mayor asking for an emergency meeting of the City Assembly, and the appointment of a sanitary committee.

We find some very interesting figures in the *Jimmin* with reference to dysentery. The terrible ravages made by the disease in Japan have often been referred to in these columns, but our contemporary's statistics are more eloquent than words. During the five years ended in 1897, the total number of persons attacked by the eight infectious diseases in Japan was 938,216, and out of that aggregate no less than 552,109, or 58 per cent., were dysentery patients. Further, the deaths from these 8 diseases aggregated 269,086, and of these 137,880, or 51 per cent., resulted from dysentery. In short, dysentery attacks 110,420 persons on the average every year, and kills 27,578. Turning to Tokyo, the *Jimmin* points out that the total number of persons attacked by the eight diseases in the above five-year period was 17,107, of whom 6,921 were dysentery patients; and the total number of deaths was 5,298, dysentery being responsible for 2,148 of them. That is to say, dysentery was the cause of illness in 40 per cent. of the cases, and the cause of death in 40 per cent. also. It further turns out that Tokyo is incomparably the most backward city in the whole empire with regard to sanitary precaution. Not backward in proportion to its population, but actually behind far smaller towns in the amount of

its expenditure for this important purpose. Here are the striking figures:—

AMOUNT ANNUALLY SPENT FOR PURPOSES OF SANITATION IN THE YEAR 1896	
Tokyo	11,126 Yen.
Yokohama	39,211 "
Osaka	67,000 "
Kobe	47,000 "
Kyoto	13,000 "
Sendai	10,000 "
Niigata	14,000 "
Hiroshima	11,300 "
Takamatsu	19,000 "

Tokyo takes the wooden spoon all round. It is the worst governed and the most unprogressive city in all Japan. It will wake up some day and be thoroughly ashamed of itself.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The semi-annual general meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha took place in the Hall of the Seinen-kai, Kanda, Tokyo, on the 26th instant at half-past three p.m. The President, Mr. Kondo, having taken the chair, addressed the meeting as follows:—

Gentlemen—The past half-year has been a time of depression for the maritime carrying trade on the coast and in neighbouring waters. No signs have yet become apparent of an improvement in Japanese economical conditions, and a comparative dullness of goods traffic has to be recorded. The fishing industry in Hokkaido proved almost unprecedentedly unsuccessful, and that fact, supplemented by the opening of railways in the Hoku-iku district, caused a very marked diminution in our revenue as compared with the figures for the preceding year. With regard to our European service, again, there has been since last autumn a great falling off of goods traffic and a marked tendency to dullness, but by exercising diligence in obtaining cargoes, we were able to secure a fairly good result, and to escape the large reduction of business that threatened at one time. As for the American service, the conclusion of the war with Spain was followed by a tolerably good trade. On the Australian line, the depression existing in Japan resulted in an unavoidable diminution of imports, but, on the other hand, exports increased and the passenger traffic was good. Nevertheless, in consequence of employing vessels of an expensive character on these lines, we found it difficult to secure a proper return on the capital involved, and had to ask the Government for assistance. Our application was successful, and since April we have been in receipt of an increased subsidy. Finally, on the Bombay line our returns have been satisfactory. Such are the general results of the half-year's working. The accounts are as follow:—

Brought over from preceding period	Yen. 587,036
Net profit, &c., for the half year ...	1,155,110
Total	1,742,146
To Reserves	Yen. 57,735
Rewards to Officers	42,293
Dividend, at the rate of 9 per cent.	990,000
Carried to next account	652,098
Total	1,742,146

We do not propose a larger dividend because we anticipate small returns during the next half-yearly period owing to a depressed state of the carrying trade in domestic and adjacent waters. Moreover, now that the Company has achieved its long-entertained hope and obtained a special subsidy from the Diet for the American and European lines, we have incurred corresponding responsibilities as to the nature of the services.

After the conclusion of the President's speech, the report was passed without discussion, and the meeting broke up at half-past four, having lasted only an hour. Vernacular newspapers state that 2,076 shareholders were present—the number is scarcely credible—representing 295,330 shares. The three largest shareholders were, the Imperial Estates Bureau (80,550 shares), Baron H. Iwasaki (26,447 shares), and Baron T. Mitsui (8,212 shares).

MARQUIS ITO ON CHINA.

"This is certainly not a time for inactivity," Marquis Ito is reported to have said, speaking at Kurume on the 17th instant with reference to the China question. "The Far-Eastern problem has entered an acute stage since the war. It is not possible to express in words the degree of the acuteness. * * * Looking closely at the condition of China, we find it changing from day to day, and the probable result seems to be that, before many years have passed, she will fall into an exceptional state. Hence, when I was last in China, I approached the Ministers charged with the conduct of the country's affairs, and expressed my opinion plainly. I came back filled with regret at observing that virtually no change corresponding to the progress of the age is taking place either in the customs of the Chinese, or in the disposition of the people, or in their traditional habits, or in the education which they have so long trusted. It is true that none of the officials with whom I spoke dissented from my views. What Japan desires for her own sake and for her neighbour's is that China's integrity should be preserved, that she should become progressive, and that she should maintain her position in the Orient. But it must be confessed that China has fallen into a condition which offers very little hope of these things being accomplished. What then is to be the issue? It will be, I think, that we shall find ourselves separated from the countries of Europe by only a narrow strip of water. It seems to me therefore of paramount importance under such circumstances that Japan should take steps for her own protection, that she should seek to improve her position, and that she should make every effort not to let her rate of progress fall behind that of the countries by which she will be confronted."

These words, assuming them to correctly reported, are very unequivocal. They indicate complete loss of hope in the possibility of saving China, and they also indicate a firm belief that her partition among the Powers of Europe is only a question of time. We entirely agree with Marquis Ito.

Count Okuma's optimistic views about China's resistance to disruption are not shared by the *Fiji Shimpō*. That journal's opinion is that the so-called "future problem of China's dismemberment" is not a future problem at all, and will never enter the realm of practical problems. The world will have no opportunity of discussing the event until it is an accomplished fact. If China were so small that the operation of cutting into her involved a clashing of weapons, we might expect her dissection to be preceded by discussion and arranging. But she is so huge that every one can take a slice without encroaching upon his fellow amputator. It is true that England and Russia have been talking together lately and that their *pourparlers* have resulted in a Convention. It is also true that some folks attribute the Convention to a desire on the part of the contracting parties to avoid a collision with one another. But the *Fiji* thinks that the true motive of the negotiators was to proclaim their rights and thus extend their claims. The first announcement of the Chinese disruption problem will be an advertise-

ment that disruption is achieved, and that the integrity of the ancient empire exists no longer even in name.

LAWS AND THEIR STUDY.

Do the Japanese read their own laws, we wonder? The *Fiji Shimpō* declares that they do not, and is disposed to blame them greatly for want of diligence. Laws, it says, have from time immemorial been regarded by the Japanese as mere instruments of punishment or vetoes against wrong-doing. Beyond perusing the special enactments posted up from time to time in public places, a man had no need to trouble himself about the laws. All that was necessary was that he should follow the dictates of his own conscience, assured that, if he did so, the law would never intrude itself upon his daily life. Civil legislation was something of which he had no conception. But our contemporary thinks that he ought to abandon that mood of indifference, since codes of civil law and civil procedure have been enacted and promulgated. It will not do for him to live by rule of thumb, trusting to be rescued by a legal expert from any difficulties into which his ignorance may plunge him.

That is a sensible homily no doubt. Does it apply to the Japanese alone? The foreign residents will very soon pass under Japanese laws, and many of them profess to be very uneasy on the subject. Do they make any attempt to acquaint themselves with the nature of this country's laws? There is no difficulty to be overcome in acquiring a fair general knowledge. Able translations of the Codes have been published in English, German, and French. They are accessible to everybody. But to the majority of the community they appear to be a sealed book, and, judging from some of the comments that have appeared in the local press, even those that undertake to criticise them will not go to the trouble of reading them.

RUMOURED AGITATION.

Some publicists are quite determined that the calm now prevailing in the official world shall not continue, if they can possibly create a storm. Even the usually sedate *Mainichi Shimbun* lends itself to that kind of effort. It represents the leaders of the Liberal Party as having held a secret meeting, and resolved to address to the Cabinet various questions; as, for example, what are the relations between the Government and the new political party; whether the Government intends to help the Liberals in the July elections for members of the Local Assemblies; what is to be done about the long-talked-of special regulations with regard to official appointments; will due consideration be given to the Liberals' views about railways, harbour construction, and education; and what course does the Cabinet intend to take about China. Such assertions must be received with all reserve.

The same journal has another item of intelligence. It alleges that the Liberals have at length awoken to the necessity of curtailing the military expenditure, and that Count Itagaki, calling on Viscount Katsura on the 24th ultimo, submitted four suggestions on behalf of the Liberals:

first, that the Army estimates for next year shall not exceed those of the present year; secondly, that measures shall be adopted to increase the number of soldiers who are allowed to return home before the expiration of their time with the Colours; and thirdly, that soldiers shall not be employed any longer as body-servants for officers. These, our readers will observe, are precisely the views recently advanced by Viscount Miura. Of course it might be possible to give effect to the second and third proposals without changing the *post-bellum* programme, but to keep next year's estimates down to this year's figure would involve abandonment of the expansion scheme at the point to which it has already been carried. We do not for a moment suppose that Count Itagaki has advanced any such doctrine.

IS THERE ANY EXODUS.

Truly we fail to discover any grounds for the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* assertion that the prospect of passing under Japanese jurisdiction is thinning out the foreign community of Yokohama. Our contemporary says that, according to the Japanese forecast, an access of foreigners should result from the opening of the country, but events are falsifying the prediction. People are emigrating to Hongkong, to Shanghai, and to Singapore. Vacant houses abound on the Bluff; even the prisoners in the British Consular jail are to be moved to Hongkong. Have these allegations a basis of fact? We do not hear of any departures. There used to be a great deal of talk about something of the kind. The prophets of evil foretold that, rather than submit to Japanese jurisdiction, many of the foreign merchants would put up their shutters and go elsewhere to seek fortune under the ægis of their country's laws. We have had the pleasure of encountering precisely one person who professed to be leaving Japan for that reason. It was about a year ago. He passed through Tokyo on his way from Kobe to Europe, and subsequent inquiry revealed the fact that his departure was due to a want of appreciation on the part of his fellow-residents, none of whom found it worth while to pay him to stay. Is it likely that any one professing to fly from Japanese jurisdiction is really influenced by considerations similar to those which drove out the Kobe patriot? No one is going to fly until there is something to fly from. The door of exit will always stand open. As for the prisoners in the jail, the *Nichi Nichi's* reference to them is entertaining.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The torpedo-destroyer *Ikasuchi*, which left Hongkong on the 21st ultimo, arrived at Sasebo on the 25th at 8 p.m. She was built at Yarrow's. Her launch took place on the 15th of last November, and she set out from England on the 8th of March, so that her voyage occupied 78 days—a very leisurely gait. The *Ikasuchi* is 311 tons displacement, and has a speed of 31 knots. She was brought out by an English crew.

Japanese bonds held by foreigners in England have hitherto escaped taxation, if the interest on them is paid outside Japan. But their days of immunity are over. Required to make up a deficiency

of nearly three millions in the public revenue the Chancellor of the Exchequer has obtained the consent of the Commons to impose a tax of five shillings per £100, or $\frac{1}{20}$ th per cent., on all bonds on the occasion of their transfer or sale.

The Emperor of Korea is said to have given five interviews to Mr. Oniwa Chobei, and to have conferred on him the second class of the Korean Order. By way of explaining such graciousness, our Tokyo contemporaries allege that the Emperor believes Mr. Oniwa to have initiated the project of transferring a sum of 20 million *yen* from the Chinese Indemnity to the Japanese Imperial estates, and that His Majesty hopes to have Mr. Oniwa advocate a similar appropriation of 5 millions for the Court in Sōul. A brilliant idea!

Our Tokyo contemporaries announce, with some not unnatural satisfaction, that Mr. Kurosawa Reikichi has been appointed to a post in the Imperial Chinese Customs at Amoy. The rules of the Service declare all nationalities eligible, but hitherto Europeans and Americans alone have been admitted. Mr. Yano, Japanese Representative in Peking, appears to have recommended Mr. Kurosawa to Sir Robert Hart, and the Inspector-General has now acted on the recommendation. Mr. Kurosawa completed his education in America. He ought to be competent to discharge the duties which he now assumes.

It is stated by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that the engagement of Dr. Myers as Adviser to the Formosan Government has been discontinued. The information is contained in a telegram dated at Taipei on the 28th instant. Dr. Myers' views as to the best method of administration in the island were said to be more or less in conflict with those of Dr. Goto, the Head of the Civil Government Bureau, and, if the *Yomiuri's* intelligence be correct, we surmise that the opinions of the two experts could not be reconciled. When Dr. Myers left Tokyo, there did not appear to be any prospect of his services terminating.

All the dignity of big type and double leading is given by the *Shogyo Shimpō* to a rumour that the French syndicate—or individual—who two years ago obtained from the Korean Government the concession of the Sōul-Wiju railway, has offered to sell the privilege to a Japanese capitalist, following the example set by the American concessionaire of the Sōul-Chemulpo road. Assuming that the offer has been made, the question is—will any Japanese be found to accept it. We doubt it. A railway from Sōul to Wiju has no prospects whatever as a money-earning enterprise. It has great strategical importance, but private capitalists do not spend their funds upon purely political objects.

The *Yoroku Chōko* and the *Chiuo Shimbun* publish a scandalous story of the grossest character, the principal actor in which is a former Cabinet Minister who is also a prominent member of the Diet and was once his country's representatives at a foreign Court. We refrain, of course, from giving the particulars of the affair or the name of the gentleman concerned, and, indeed, if the tale rested on the authority of the *Yoroku* alone, it would not receive much credence. But the added testimony of the *Chiuo* is

not without significance. It will be interesting to see what steps are taken by the ex-Minister. If he suffers such a tale to pass without refutation or denial, the public can not choose but condemn him—that is to say, the foreign public, for there seems to practically no limit to the licence that the Japanese public allows to the press.

"Is something striking to be done in foreign politics, or are the country's armaments to be reduced? One or the other of these two courses must be taken. The ostensible reason assigned for expanding the armaments was the inception of an active foreign policy. It was pre-empted that the same submission made to the three Powers in the matter of Liaotung had been necessitated by insufficiency of armaments. It was further alleged that the same cause must be held responsible for Japan's inaction in the face of China's partition by foreign States. But we can not tell how the conditions of Western countries will have changed before Japan's armaments are complete. * * * To go on keeping a great force of men with the Colours, as is done to-day can not be a wise course. Is the battle to be joined forthwith, or is a minatory attitude to be assumed? Whatever is done should be done quickly. Otherwise the national resources will be exhausted." Such is the *Nippon's* way of thinking. It is a fine example of statesmanship!

The members of the Tokyo City Assembly are the object of much abuse and ridicule now-a-days. Their project—from which they were with difficulty diverted—of despatching a committee to Europe and America for the purpose of inspecting and reporting upon the municipal control, sewerage, drainage, policing, communications and so forth of all the chief cities of the Occident, in the brief space of 10 months, naturally provoked much merriment, and it is now openly declared that their complaisance in allowing the Tramway Company to increase its fares by 20 per cent. is the result of a generous distribution of *douceurs* by the Company. The clever caricaturist of the *Fuji Shimpō* occupies his brush with this subject. He shows a tram-car drawn by centaurs with the heads of City-Assembly members. The driver holds suspended before them a bag of money dangling from the end of a pole, and the centaurs gallop along in pursuit of the bait, while the horses, relieved from their wonted labour, sit by the road-side fanning themselves, with inane surprise depicted on their countenances. Japanese public morality must be in a rather decayed condition if we may credit all the things that are written and said about it.

Those that may be credited with an intimate knowledge of Marquis Ito's sentiments are unanimous in denying the possibility of any union between him and Count Okuma. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* delivers the latest judgment on this subject. It declares that the rupture between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma in 1889 was final: there is not the least probability of their coming together again. Further, Marquis Ito has no disposition at present to re-enter the political arena. What he might do in the event of a national crisis is a question apart; but, speaking generally, he is not inclined to ally himself with any of the parties now

occupying the field. Their methods and their organization are objectionable to him. At all events, he would insist upon his own terms, and whether they could be carried out under present circumstances is doubtful. Evidently he regards the political education of the people as one of the most important problems of the time, and in obedience to that conviction he is travelling hither and thither, and delivering sometimes as much as three lectures a day. It is certain that the audiences he addresses will acquire a greatly enlarged knowledge of the spirit of constitutional government.

Our readers are aware that a committee was appointed some time ago to investigate the question of erecting permanent buildings for the Diet. The present structure is of a purely temporary character, and would have been already replaced by a solid edifice had not financial difficulties stood in the way. We read in vernacular journals that the Committee, at its meeting on Saturday last, debated three questions: first, whether the plans should be prepared by Japanese architects; secondly, whether their preparation should be entrusted to some eminent European architect; and thirdly whether a prize should be offered for the best design by any architect of whatever nationality. The third system was finally decided on, with a further provision that the various designs be examined and judged in Paris at the time of the International Exhibition. Whether that entails the presence of the Committee in Paris we do not know, but, inasmuch as the total expenses of the competition—including the prize—are estimated at 500,000 *yen*, we are inclined to think that the Committee intended to provide for a trip on their own account to Europe.

Rumours are circulated to the effect that another assassin *in posse* has arrived from Korea. He is said to be the notorious I Isik, who came to Japan some years ago to compass the death of the ill-fated Kim Ok-kyun, and was sentenced to banishment on his return to Sōul, not—some folks said—for having attempted the crime of murder, but for having failed to accomplish it. This worthy gentleman has grown weary of exile, and having changed his name to I Sesik, made his appearance on the 24th instant at Moji, among the passengers in the S.S. *Chikugo Maru*. The report assigns to him a mysterious companion, who seems averse to letting his face be seen, and adds that the two men wore Japanese costume, and took refuge from public observation in the cabin of a Mrs. Yun Hyochang, who was on her way to Japan to join her husband. It is altogether a very sketchy kind of anecdote, for nothing is said as to this secret executioner's intended victim, nor do we know that any political refugee now sojourning in Japan is sufficiently important to merit such a delicate attention as a special murderer all on his own account. However, some of the Korean residents in this country are said to be considerably alarmed, mainly, so far as we can perceive, on the general principle that when a man like I Sesik is abroad, assassination is in the air. But the Japanese police are not at all clumsy in keeping touch with a would-be criminal. If Mr. I is really out on a knifing expedition, he will probably have his trouble for his pains.

FOREIGN POPULATION OF JAPAN.

According to a table compiled by the *Fiji Shimpō*, the foreign residents of Japan at present are as follow—we append the corresponding figures for 1891 for purposes of comparison:—

	1899.	1891.
Chinese	5,297	5,344
British	1,763	1,725
American	1,140	967
German	481	523
French	420	378
Russian	214	74
Korean	196	6
Portuguese	124	138
Swiss	69	58
Austrian and Hungarian	66	51
Dutch	61	93
Italian	46	39
Danish	37	56
Swedish and Norwegian	31	44
Spanish	24	15
Belgian	13	20
Hawaiian	13	14
Brazilian	11	—
Grecian	4	—
Turks	3	—
Mexican	2	4
Total	10,015	9,549

These figures indicate an almost stationary condition. The only noteworthy increases are in the cases of the Russians and Koreans. The four nationalities by whom the foreign trade is almost entirely carried on, namely, the British, the American, the German, and the French, aggregated 3,596 in 1891, and now number 3,804, an increase of 211. On the other hand, the value of the foreign trade swelled from 142½ million yen in 1891 to 442½ million in 1898. Thus, if we compare the foreign population with the trade, we find that whereas the average share of each foreign resident in 1891 was 14,923 yen, the corresponding amount in 1898 was 44,183 yen. It is certainly a remarkable fact that this rapidly increasing trade does not attract some commensurate increase in the number of those that carry it on, and it is a still more remarkable fact that, whereas the bulk of each foreign resident's business appears to have swelled more than three-fold, the profits accruing do not seem to have increased at all. Doubtless there are many explanations of the discrepancy, but probably the principal explanation is that the major part of the profits resulting from the trade go into the pockets of the Japanese. We have no statistics at hand to show the growth of the Japanese section of the treaty-port population during the past decade—in other words, the increase in the number of Japanese that make a living out of the foreign trade,—but we believe that the figures would be striking were they set down. Certainly in Yokohama's case, while the foreign settlement has not received any notable extension, the Japanese town has increased beyond all forecasts.

ELECTIONS FOR CITY AND PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLIES.

July is evidently to be a lively time. There is every prospect that the elections for City and Prefectural Assemblies will be hotly contested by the two great parties. Mr. Hoshi Toru has decided to stand for the Kojimachi district of Tokyo. He will be opposed by Mr. Tanaka Bukei, of the Progressists, and active canvassing has already commenced.

TOBINO-MONO.

It was one of the characteristics of the Tokugawa Government, according to the *Fiji Shimpō*, that while wielding very arbitrary sway over the provinces, it left to the citizens of Tokyo a large measure of administrative autonomy. Thus there came to exist in the city a class of men known as *tobi-ninsoke*, who discharged many of the functions of police, being specially useful in case of conflagrations or to guard houses against burglaries. They were stalwart, active fellows, indifferent to danger and ready to undertake the most perilous service. Another of their special employments was to set up the New Year's decorations, and to suspend the lamps used to illuminate the streets at times of festival. It appears that these men have outlived the circumstances which created them, and have now become a nuisance rather than an assistance. They are divided into bodies, each having its own district—its "rope-stretch" (*nawa-bari*) as the phrase is,—and every labourer working in that district must pay a certain per-centage of his earnings to the "Fly-fellows Guild," nor can any building be commenced without the Guild's permission, given in exchange for due recompense. In fact, these men are public parasites batten on the hard-earned gains of the working classes. The *Fiji* recommends that they should be formed into permanent fire-brigades, and thus brought under efficient surveillance.

THE BANK OF FORMOSA.

The number of shares of the Bank of Formosa offered for public subscription was 40,000, and the number applied for was 158,000, including 10,000 by the Imperial Estates Bureau. It follows, therefore, that each applicant will receive about 25 per cent. of the amount applied for by him. There is nothing at all surprising in these figures. With the experience of the Bank of Japan and the Specie Bank to guide them, capitalists naturally anticipate that before many years have passed the shares of the Bank of Formosa will be at an immense premium. Under such circumstances the fact that the applicants have been numerous does not furnish any index whatever of the state of the Japanese money market.

ITERATION.

We can not but admire the pertinacity of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. Finding that its iterated and reiterated attacks upon the Minister of Foreign Affairs produce no effect owing to their extreme vagueness, it now quotes its Shanghai correspondent as alleging that Viscount Aoki has preferred two demands to the Chinese Government, and that both of them have been refused amid the jeers of foreigners. One of the demands is "something about the relations between the two empires"—that is our contemporary's delightfully nebulous way of stating the case—; the other is for mining privileges in Fuhkien. "What will Minister Aoki do next?" asks the *Yomiuri*. Smile at these silly canards we imagine.

FOREST FIRE IN HOKKAIDO.

The forest fire which broke out in Hokkaido on the 15th or 16th ultimo had not been subdued on the 22nd, when the latest advices were forwarded to Tokyo. The conflagration seems to have originated at Soya, which adjoins Saghalien. Thence it spread southward, finding highly combustible material in the grasses and trees parched by a long succession of sunny days. On the 19th it invaded the Otaru district, and the Headman took some unsuccessful steps to arrest its progress. On the 22nd, the woods at the source of the Katsu-no-gawa were reported to be in flames, and a force of 150 men was despatched to the scene. It is not yet known whether their efforts were efficacious.

ORIENT MARK LODGE OF JAPAN.

The annual installation meeting of the Orient Mark Lodge of Japan, No. 304, E.C. was held at the Masonic Temple, Yokohama, on Tuesday evening. There was a good attendance of the Brethren. Wor. Pro. Stanley E. Unite installed Wor. Bro. A. Bellamy Brown in the Master's chair with impressive ceremony, the musical portion of the service being in the capable hands of Bro. W. Karl Vincent. The Worshipful Master then invested his officers—some by deputy—as follows:—

Wor. Bro. Stanley E. Unite.....	I.P.M.
Bro. Rev. W. J. White	S.W.
Bro. Thos. W. McIlraith	J.W.
Wor. Bro. Geo. Hodges.....	Treas.
Bro. F. W. Thomas	M.O.
Bro. F. C. Heib	S.O.
Bro. C. T. Benney	J.O.
Bro. H. J. Owen.....	Sec. & Regs.
Bro. J. MacDonald.....	S.D.
Bro. L. Dawette	J.D.
Bro. E. Trösch	I.G.
Bro. J. Delborge	Tyler.

A cold collation was served at the closing of the Lodge, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

THE VICTORIA CROSSES.

The *London Gazette* announces that the Queen has been graciously pleased to signify her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross on Corporal James Smith, of the Buffs (East Kent Regiment), whose claims have been submitted for her Majesty's approval, for his conspicuous bravery during an engagement at Bilot, on the North-West Frontier of India, on the night of the 16th-17th September, 1897. The following is the act of courage for which he was recommended:—On the night of the 16th-17th September, 1897, Corporal Smith, with a party of the Buffs, responded to Lieutenant Watson's call for volunteers, and followed that officer into the burning village of Bilot, driving off the enemy with the bayonet. Afterwards, although wounded, he continued firing steadily and coolly, and also helped to carry the wounded to the place prepared for them. When Lieutenant Watson left, in order to fetch assistance for the wounded, Corporal Smith held the position till that officer's return, exposing his life freely in watching the enemy and directing the fire of his men.

Memorials have been received at Peking by the Board of War from various Brigadier Generals commanding troops in Northern Kansu, reporting considerable unrest amongst the Mohammedan Chinese in that vicinity. This is said to be due to the arrival of large numbers of Russian emissaries who have been lately stirring up discontent in the country. We have heard these stories before, but anyhow reinforcements are urgently needed in Kansu, and it is probable that General Tung Fu-chiang may be sent back to restore order.

DREYFUS.

THE telegrams received during the past few days seem to point to the innocence of DREYFUS. It looks now as if his so called "confession" to Captain LEBRUN-RENAUD would be verified—the "confession" in which he said:—

"Je suis innocent. Dans trois ans on reconnaitra mon innocence. Le ministre le sait, et le commandant Du Paty de Clam est venu me voir, il y a quelques jours, dans ma cellule, et m'a dit que le ministre le savait. Le ministre savait que si j'avais livré des documents à l'Allemagne ils étaient sans importance, et que c'était pour en obtenir de plus importants."

"I am innocent. In three years my innocence will be admitted. The Minister knows it, and Major Du Paty de Clam came to see me a few days ago in my cell and told me that the Minister knew it. The Minister knew that if I had given up documents to Germany they were without importance, and that it was to obtain more important ones."

The "three years," however, have been prolonged to five. It makes for DREYFUS' innocence that he has waited quietly. A guilty man would have found some means of doing away with himself. Major FORZINETTI who was governor of the Clerche-Midi prison where DREYFUS was incarcerated in 1891, deposed before the Court of Cassation that after the verdict he remained with DREYFUS until 3 o'clock in the morning trying to console him, and that he induced DREYFUS to swear not to take his life since the public verdict would then be that "the traitor had done justice on himself." FORZINETTI added that at parting DREYFUS shook hands with him, and told him that it was only the grave from which there was no coming back, and that he had the conviction that one day his innocence would be acknowledged. If that forecast prove correct, what amends can France make to the unfortunate man? It is one of those cases where redress is impossible. There is a suggestion that DREYFUS will have the satisfaction of recognising in himself a benefactor of his country, since his terrible experience will probably be the means of doing away with trials by courts-martial in times of peace, and of putting an end to the system of secret-service money which the Minister of War has at his disposal. That kind of abstract consolation does not count for very much, however. But, in truth, if DREYFUS is declared innocent, there will be, first of all, the illimitable pleasure of returning to his family, his country, and his service with re-established honour. It has been well said that physical pain is worth suffering for the sake of the enhanced value it imparts to health. We can conceive no joy greater than that of DREYFUS will be if he recovers his liberty and his fair fame. Nature, in short, will compensate him though his fellow-men can not. And the French, essentially a generous and emotional nation, will spare no means to make him forget his sorrows. We do not think that he will be a subject for pity if his innocence be established.

THE EDUCATIONAL QUESTION.

IT is always possible to create a prejudice against any official measure in Japan by representing that it has been undertaken at foreign suggestion. That line of action was adopted with remarkable success by the enemies of the New Code in 1891. They proclaimed that wholesale legislative changes were pressed upon the nation in deference to alien principles and without due regard for the immemorial manners and customs of the people. Similar tactics are now being adopted by the conservatives who desire to see the educational field closed to foreigners and to the inculcation of foreign ethical teaching. The *Nippon*, as might be conjectured, leads this opposition. It publishes an article in which the Foreign Office is represented as having bowed to the *dicta* of the British and American Ministers and of the Missionaries, and the Educational Department as having yielded to the remonstrances of the Foreign Office. Our readers recall, doubtless, the subject in question, but the memory of some probably requires to be refreshed. A short time ago, the Department of Education submitted to the High Educational Council a draft of proposed school regulations, which contained several illiberal clauses—clauses whose effect would be to banish religious teaching altogether from the instruction of Japanese youths, and to greatly hamper foreign educational enterprise in Japan. Public opinion, so far as it is reflected in newspaper columns, rebelled strongly against such narrow conservatism, and the leaders of officialdom were also understood to disapprove, so that the proposed restrictions did not seem likely to become law. The *Nippon* has now returned to the charge. It alleges that the Foreign Office, having been approached by the American and British Ministers and by the Missionaries, has shown its usual obsequiousness to foreign pressure, and has made such a strong protest to the Educational Department that the latter, with its wonted weakness, has yielded and agreed to pigeon-hole the projected regulations. The *Nippon* professes to feel very bad because foreign interference is permitted in such matters, and endeavours to make its readers feel bad too. The device will probably succeed, for many of the *Nippon's* readers will not be in a position to detect that this appeal to their patriotism is based on pure falsehood. The Representatives of America and Great Britain are too familiar with the legitimate limits of their diplomatic functions to interfere in matters of the kind, and the missionaries have too much tact to be betrayed into such blunders. In short, the *Nippon* has allowed itself to be egregiously misled. If, happily for the cause of sound education and for the sake of their country's

reputation, Japanese statesmen are disposed to reject the views of the High Council, foreign interference can not in any way be credited with having inspired their wholesome mood.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HOKKAIDO RECLUSES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

CHER MONSIEUR,—La haute bienveillance que vous témoignes au personnel de la Mission Catholique, comme aussi votre amour de la vérité, me donnent lieu de croire que vous serez bon accueil à ces quelques communications, destinées à redresser les erreurs qui circulent sur les Monastères Cisterciens du Hokkaidô.

Et d'abord, il faut que je vous rassure au sujet de l'âge des religieux, puisque c'est le thème principal de vos réflexions.

La plus jeune des huit sœurs (et non vingt) installées à Yunokawa le 30 Avril 1898 (et non depuis trois ou quatre années) est âgée de vingt-neuf ans. Les deux premières postulantes japonaises qui viennent de se présenter à la communauté, auront 28 et 23 ans respectivement, lorsque la Règle les autorisera à faire la demande de s'engager dans la vie monastique. Je pense que ces explications vous suffiront.

Pour ce qui est des austérités du cloître, je me bornerai à vous dire que la règle de St. Benoît, qui est un chef d'œuvre de sagesse et de discrétion, concilie admirablement la pratique héroïque des conseils évangéliques avec les lois de l'hygiène. Et vous en avez la preuve dans ce fait remarquable que, chez les trapistes, la moyenne de la vie dépasse 60 ans. Si le niveau de leur longévité est tant au-dessus de celui du commun des mortels, leur bonheur n'est pas en moindre proportion. *O beata solitudo! O sola beatitudo!* s'écriait l'illustre Cistercien, St. Bernard. Au monastère, on ne travaille qu'à faire des bienheureux, et dans la mesure exacte où l'on y propage la sainteté, on y propage le bonheur. Vous vous en convaincrez d'ailleurs en lisant tel ou tel chapitre de l'Imitation, qui est l'ouvrage le plus compétent sur la matière,—par exemple le Chapitre X. du III^e Livre, intitulé: *quid spero mundo, dulcis est servire Deo*. Il n'y a donc pas lieu de plaindre les heureux habitants des monastères. Du reste ils y sont librement, ils y persévèrent librement, et, au Japon comme partout, ils paraissent enchantés de leur sort.

Quant au "terrible greeting, *memento mori*, "the monks' vesper digging of their own graves, "and their couches on the straw of their own "coffins—all these things are" . . . une pure fable, mise à la mode par Chateaubriand, mais c'est une fable.

Avant de finir permettez-moi, Monsieur; de citer le témoignage d'un illustre penseur, Joseph de Maistre, qui écrit, à propos de la vie religieuse au point de vue social et politique, ces graves paroles justifiées par l'expérience des siècles: "Jamais il n'y eut d'idée plus heureuse que celle de réunir des citoyens "pacifiques qui travaillent, prient, étudient, "écrivent, font l'aumône, cultivent la terre, et "ne demandent rien à l'autorité."

En vous remerciant de votre bienveillance—que veuillez nous continuer—je me dis, cher Monsieur, avec une sincère estime,

Votre très humble et dévoué serviteur,

A. BERLIOZ, Evêque de Hakodate.

Evêque de Hakodate, Japon, le 24 Mai, 1899.

(TRANSLATION.)

SIR,—The great good-will you show towards the personnel of the Catholic Mission, as well as your regard for the truth, warrant me in believing that you will welcome this communication, which is intended to correct errors that have been circulated on the subject of the Cistercian monastic settlements of Hokkaido.

In the first place, I must reassure you on the

subject of the age of the nuns, since that is the principal subject of your remarks.

The youngest of the *eight* (not *twenty*) sisters who have been settled at Yunokawa since the 30th April, 1898 (not, as has been stated, for three or four years past), is twenty-nine years old. The two first Japanese candidates who have just presented themselves to the community will be twenty-eight and twenty-three respectively by the time the rules authorise them to make their demand for admission to monastic life. I think that these explanations will be sufficient for you.

Concerning the austerities of the cloister, I will limit myself to saying that the rules of St. Benoît, which are a master-piece of wisdom and discretion, reconcile admirably the strict practice of the counsels of religion with the laws of hygiene. You will see the proof of this in the remarkable fact that, with the Trappists the average of life exceeds 60 years. If the level of their longevity is so much above that of ordinary mortals, their happiness is in no lower ratio. "*O beata solitudo! O sola beatitudo!*" wrote the illustrious Cistercian, St. Bernard. In the monastery they only work to make people happy, and, exactly in proportion as they propagate sanctity, they also propagate happiness. You may further convince yourself of this by reading a chapter here and there of "*The Imitation*," which is the most competent work on the subject—for example Chapter 10 of the Third Book, entitled "*Quod spreto mundo, dulce est servire Deo.*" There is, therefore, no need to pity the happy inmates of the monasteries. They are, moreover, there of their own free will, they remain of their own free will, and in Japan, as everywhere, they appear to be enchanted with their lot.

As to the "terrible greeting, *memento mori*, the monks' vesper digging of their own graves, and their couches on the straw of their own coffins"—all these things are a pure fable, made fashionable by Chateaubriand, but still a fable.

Before concluding allow me, sir, to quote the testimony of an illustrious thinker, Joseph de Maistre, who writes, *à propos* of the monastic life from a social and political point of view, these grave words, which have been justified by the experience of centuries: "Never was there a happier idea than that of bringing together (in such communities) peaceful-minded citizens who work, pray, study, write, give alms, cultivate the earth, and ask nothing of authority."

Thanking you for your courtesy, &c.

A. BERLIOZ, Bishop of Hakodate.

DIE MEDICINISCHE MONATS SCHRIFT IN TAIWAN.

ON THE PRESENT SANITARY CONDITION OF JONAI, THE CITY WITHIN THE WALLS OF TAI HOKU,* ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS A SYSTEM OF OPEN SEWERS.

The sanitary conditions of Jonai, as I first knew it about three years ago, presented several peculiar features. The city in its form is that of an area approximately square enclosed by high walls, the length of any one side being about three quarters of a mile. This area is nearly dead level, and the soil is of a most tenacious clay. The rainfall is very great, amounting to terrific floods during the typhoon season, and there are many portions depressed even below the general plane. These are in great part due to the fact that the Chinese built their houses for the most part, or at any rate to a very great extent, out of the clay or "mud" within the enclosed space of the City. I regret to say that the Japanese have done the same to some extent and are still doing it. The general result is that the ground is water-logged, the underground water reaching within a few inches of the surface, and there being much stagnant water. The problem of drainage is thus

made one of the greatest difficulty. On the other hand the city had streets for the most part broad, even when taken over from the Chinese, and there is now what I cannot help considering an excellent supply of water, for by boring to a depth of a little less than 200 feet, water immediately flows from the bore at the ground surface, or even some feet higher.

I know that some doubts have been thrown on the quality of this water, and it is true that some of it has a more or less "sulphury" smell. But sulphur in small quantities is harmless, and I cannot help believing that the water must be remarkably free from pathological bacteria in the state in which it rises in the bore, and I cannot help thinking that, if samples of the water have proved unsatisfactory on bacteriological examination, bacteria have not come from the stratum 180 feet underground; but from either tanks on the ground level or the decomposing bamboo that generally lines the upper part of the bore. I have seen tanks in a condition of uncleanness that guaranteed a large percentage of bacteria. The water is soft, containing but a small quantity of mineral matter, and that of a harmless nature. I speak of the water supply as, in my opinion good, but this does not refer to the method of collecting or of distribution. This needs to be systematised, and a plan has already been made whereby there may be water at high pressures in iron pipes in every street. In any case the superfluity of artesian well water was one of the reasons for adopting the present sewerage system which may be said to be to a certain extent unique. Three years ago there was a great deal of the squalor and filth that seems to be the accompaniment of a Chinese population in whatever part of the world it may be. This has been very greatly cleared away, though there is yet a good deal to be done. In general appearance the city has vastly improved. Three years ago it would have been described by any countryman of mine as a "filthy" city, now it would be described on a general inspection as distinctly clean, for it is only on penetrating into obscure alleys and back ways that it is seen that there is still much to be done in the matter of house-drainage and garbage removal. This improvement is entirely apart from the many handsome buildings that the Japanese have erected, and the fine new roads that they have constructed—which latter should make Tokyo think shame of herself—if she is capable of so doing. The problem of the drainage and sewerage system was the first that was taken hold of by Mr. Y. Hamano, C.E., and myself, about 3 years ago in connection with Tai-Hoku. At first it appeared that an underground reticulation of pipe and brick sewers approaching in principle the "Separate System" would be the best to adopt, and indeed such a system was designed. In the case of the "Separate System" in its integrity, as recommended by Waring, nothing but sewage is admitted to the sewers proper. Underground water is dealt with by separate drains, and the rainfall is, so far as possible, carried off on the surface of the streets, various means being resorted to where a heavy rain would be likely to lead to flooding.

Our first design was for a set of underground sewers which would receive all sewage, and also act as drains for underground water, the surface water to be dealt with by the existing street side drains or gutters, which were to be cleaned out, improved, and where necessary added to, and I have no doubt that would be a better system than the one actually adopted, but, on going into this matter, the difficulties assumed a most formidable aspect. Perhaps it would be more correct to say that the first cost assumed formidable dimensions. In fact it ran up to a sum which simply could not have been afforded.

With underground sewers of the kind just described the fall must be such as to render the sewer self-cleansing—that is to say if the system is to be efficient. Now, as I have already stated, Jonai is nearly dead level. From Jonai to the Tamsui River there is, however, a fall of about 22 feet and the distance is not great so that the system would have been possible—indeed

not presenting any really considerable engineering difficulties—, but the fall within the City would all, or very nearly all, have had to be got by making a sewer deeper and deeper as it approached the outlet, and, as the minimum or top-point level could scarcely have been less than 3 feet below the street surface, the excavations for trenches towards the lower ends of the sewers would have been very great, and difficult, with the soil to be dealt with. Then the numerous and deep man-holes that would have had to be built would have been a very heavy item of expense, and the question of house connections would have presented great difficulties.

These things being as I have described, an efficient sewerage and drainage system seemed to be almost an impossibility for many years to come, I being both by education and prejudice entirely opposed to the idea of open sewers. It was at this juncture that Mr. Hamano and I visited Singapore, where we inspected the sewerage system there, a great part of which (far the greater part, in fact) is open, or at any rate then was.

The system struck us very favourably. The sewers were clean and gave off no offensive smell. It was then that it suggested itself to me that this system was the system for Taihoku. The constant overflow of artesian wells was such as to make it almost perfect for such a city. The present Jonai system is based on that of Singapore and the reasons why I call it to some extent unique is that I believe the Singapore system may be said to have grown up, whilst that of Taihoku was designed as a whole, from the beginning. Indeed, what is being described is only a part of a system designed for Jonai, Daidotei, and Banks, that is to say Taihoku both within, and without the walls. That within the walls is finished, that without is not yet begun, though it is all included in the one scheme.

Further, the presence of the continual flow from artesian wells introduces a novel feature. Of course open sewers are not suitable for large and busy cities such as Tokyo, London, Paris, Berlin, New York, &c., but they have some very distinct advantages for such a city as Tai-Hoku, where the streets are wide, the traffic is comparatively small, and best of all, where there is the continual flushing from the over flowing artesian wells. The great points are these:—The condition of the sewer can be seen at all times, and it (the sewer) can be very readily cleaned out should it not be in a satisfactory state. The ventilation is of course perfect. The first two items are on the assumption that the cross section of the sewer is scientifically designed, and that material and workmanship are good. The most scientific section would hypothetically be that of the small end of an egg, generally called the "oval section," but for all practical purposes a semi-circular invert with vertical sides is good enough, and it is probably preferable on account not only of the ease, but of the comparative accuracy with which a sewer of such section can be constructed, but a few words of qualification are necessary:—

A "self-cleansing velocity" could by no means be obtained for the whole of Tai-Hoku for open sewers except by making some of them extravagantly—nearly impossibly—deep. There is, however, a very slight slope of the ground, and there is nothing impracticable in making the larger sewers 4 ft. to 5 ft. deep. Thus by keeping the upper ends of the sewers as high as practicable, and gradually deepening, an additional fall of about 1 in 1250 ($\frac{1}{1250}$) can be obtained—at places more, at places less—and a very fair velocity can be obtained, indeed in most places one that will prevent deposit, though it may not remove it.

It was on account of these considerations that the writer, with a good deal of diffidence, suggested to the recent Governor-General of Formosa, H.E. Baron Nogi, a complete set of open sewers for Tai-hoku. His Excellency gave instructions that a mile or so of experimental sewers be made. In consideration of the success of these the writer was directed to

* Tai-Hoku, formerly called Taipei, is the capital of Formosa.

design a complete system for Tai hoku. This was done, and the portion for Jonai has, as already indicated, been finished. The work must, I think, be considered, if not perfect, at least a success. With but little care the sewers are kept clear. In virtue of the over flow of artesian well-water, many of them flow like mountain streams, and there is no perceptible smell from any of them. The work was carried out under the able supervision of Mr. V. Hamano, C.E. Whilst mentioning those who have been connected with the carrying out of this sewerage system it would be very unfair to omit the name of Mr. K. Nabeshima, the foreman of works, to whose great intelligence and unflagging energy the success of the design is in great measure due.

Various difficulties were met with in carrying out the plan, and some mistakes were made at the beginning; but as these were entirely of an engineering nature, and as I am not writing for an engineering magazine, they are not described here. For the same reason details as to materials and methods of construction are not entered into. The main system is finished, but there still remains to make it thoroughly efficient by improved house drainage, and by taking advantage of it for the removal of surface-water and for the lowering of the level of the ground water. The inverts of the sewers have been kept low enough to allow of house drains, at their upper ends, simply semi-circles or "half pipes," to discharge into the sewers.

Most of the surface-water can be drained away by the sewers; but there will still be places needing filling-in, and the great difficulty is to get material to fill in with. The material excavated for the construction of the sewers will go some way, but it will not be enough. The ground water can be lowered an average of several feet by the use of numerous "agricultural drains" discharging into the open sewers.

It is impossible to end a general survey of the sanitary condition of Taihoku without referring to two things:—the desirability of upper stories for sleeping rooms in every case possible, and the desirability of planting the City (and not only the City) with the blue gum tree, or *Eucalyptus globulus*. That Tai Hoku is a malarious town goes without saying. Flat drainage and other improvements will greatly reduce the extent of malaria I have no doubt; but I have not the least doubt that malaria will cling to the city for many years to come, if not for all time. Now if there is one particular point on which authorities on the subject of malaria appear to agree it is that the malarial miasma reaches to a varying height from the ground, and that this miasma is particularly dangerous during the night. Some consider that it works its fatal work during sleep more than at other times. It has struck me (the observation is probably not original) that this, if an actual fact, may be due to the unconscious "mouth-breathing" common in sleep. I remember that the great Goethe, who has touched on nearly every subject pertaining to humanity, mentions that, being about to travel during the night across the Pontine marshes near Rome in a carriage, and sleep being probable, he and his companions tied handkerchiefs over their mouths, to exclude the miasma of fever, which rose to a considerable height from the ground. In those days plasmadium had not been heard of, and I think the words "bacterium" and "bacteria" had not even been invented. All this clearly points to sleeping at a considerable height from the ground, 10 to 12 feet being the minimum heights commonly recommended. Yet by far the greater number of houses in Tai-Hoku are but one story high, and these include the official residences and even the Tai-Hoku hospital!

I write in Tai-chu, where there are being built at the present time official residences only one story high! It seems the greatest pity. There seems to be a curious misunderstanding as to cost. On asking why these buildings were not two stories high, with sleeping-accommodation on

the upper floor, I was answered that "it would cost too much." This is a complete mistake. Of course a two storied building costs more than a one storied building if the unit be one square yard, meter, or one *tsubo* of area of ground, or any other unit of superficies; but if cubical contents, the true standard, be taken, a two storied house is cheaper than a one storied—much cheaper if the land be expensive, either in first cost or in capitalised rent. Thus, taking the hypothetical case of a building of 24 rooms all of the same size, that of two stories high will be found cheaper than that of one story. It is for the sake of cheapness that Americans build "sky-scrapers."

As regards the Blue-gum tree very little need be said. In the matter of malaria, the scourge of nearly the whole of Formosa, its prophylactic properties have been amply proved in Australia and in other countries, and there can be no doubt of the advantage that would accrue were it planted generally in Formosa.

Several attempts have, indeed, already been made at cultivation, but these have been on a small scale and they have not been very successful. The difficulties would appear to be that there are some two hundred to three hundred varieties of the Eucalyptus, that the Globulus is the only useful one so far as prevention of malaria is concerned, and that till quite recently there has been some doubt as to which of many kinds imported was this actual Globulus. Again, it seems that a certain depth of properly drained soil is necessary, and that the tree needs the most tender care to protect it from the effect of wind for about three of its first years, after which, however, it becomes very robust.

So far as Tai Hoku is concerned, all that can be said is that the drainage system already described will probably give the necessary depth of dry soil, whilst it is quite worth the trouble to give the care necessary to protect the young trees from wind for the three years or so necessary.

It is on the authority of a German botanist that I state that the common sunflower has been found quite as prophylactic in the case of malaria as the blue gum tree. Surely it might be tried—for example in the grounds of the Tai Hoku hospital, at present one of the most malarious spots in the City.

It must be distinctly understood that what I say about great improvements in sanitary matters in Tai Hoku applies to Jonai—the intra-mural city—only. Banka, where far the greater proportion of Chinese now live, has, indeed, been a good deal improved; but Twatnia within which is the foreign settlement, remains as insanitary as ever; some say it is in a worse condition than when the Japanese first took it over.

W. K. BURTON.

THE SENDAI FESTIVAL.

With perfect weather for the whole three days, the Sendai Festival, which began at 4 a.m. on the 23rd ult. and lasted till the night of the 26th, passed off without a hitch of any kind. Never within the memory of the oldest citizens had the town attracted so many visitors. All the chief thoroughfares were thronged from early morning to midnight. The police force was largely augmented, but the crowd was very orderly and there was little drunkenness of an offensive type. Pedestrians arrived from all quarters in their working clothes with their best toggety tied up in a bundle, and, dusty and footsore, made a somewhat sorry spectacle and presented a striking contrast to the gaily decked streets. A town with narrow streets, most of them running straight and constantly intersecting each other, lends itself to decorations of the Japanese type in a way that a city with broader thoroughfares would not do. Many of the streets were provided with wires running over the centre of the roads, attached

* Since I wrote the above steps have been taken to improve matters, principally on account of the action of Dr. S. Goto, the Civil Governor, who has just returned from Tokyo.

to poles some 700 or 800 yards apart. On these were hung pretty lanterns each with a little umbrella opened above it. These lanterns, added to those hung in front of each house, sufficed to light up the town at night in parts where the electric dimness which the Sendai people are accustomed to call light is not furnished by the municipal authorities. In the outskirts of the town the decorations were of a purely native type, but in several of the chief streets the ubiquitous American cigarette agents utilised the occasion for advertising their wares. Some of the prettiest arches erected at public expense in honour of the ceremony had the word "Pinhead" or "Hawk" inscribed beneath "The Three Hundredth Anniversary of the Founding of Sendai." The tobacconists had *dashi* of their own, on one of which was a foreign boat with two spruce looking westerners in the act of bringing a cargo of cigarettes on shore, and near them were hideous monkey-like human figures made of paper floating in the air and waving advertisements to passers-by. All this seemed to certain citizens to be sadly out of harmony with the spirit and life of the man whom the whole province had agreed to honour.

At one of the Southern entrances to the town at the top of the road known as Tsuchi-Isai stood a high platform bearing a life-sized paper horse with Date Masamune clad in full armour on his back, surrounded by numerous pretty coloured lanterns. This object seemed to give more pleasure to the country folks than the pretentious and gaudy cars erected at more central spots.

The funds for the festival were subscribed by all the inhabitants of Miyagi-Ken, with the single exception of one ill-fated little town (Shiroishi) that was almost wholly reduced to ashes a few days before preparations for the festivities commenced. The subscriptions, it is stated, were nearly all voluntary, and they amounted to about two thousand yen. It is worthy of mention that not a few residents of Sendai, in the earlier stages of the preparations for the event, objected to the form that the celebration eventually took. They said that Sendai needs better roads, that it needs a good public library and a great many other things, and asked whether it would not be carrying out the ideas of the founder of the city in the way that, were he living, he would approve of, if the commemoration took some permanent form. But the majority were of opinion that the object of the festival was to attract a great many visitors to Sendai and to impress them with the importance of the place, and that this could be done only by making a big display. The people who came streaming into the city from all parts were mostly ignorant peasants, who would have been disappointed had not the festival taken the shape to which they and their forefathers were accustomed.

In connection with the career of Date Masamune, it is important to remember that one of the great desires of his life, which he did not live to see realised, was the connection of Sendai with the sea by means of a canal. He actually began to dig the canal, but his successors were men of less force of character, and to this day Sendai has been content to be within six or seven miles of the ocean without connecting herself with it, though the provision of a waterway would be one of the easiest pieces of engineering possible to imagine; the country that lies between the town and the ocean being a perfectly flat and well watered plain. Date Masamune founded Sendai, and thus created a lasting memorial for himself, but that spirit of discontent with past attainments, that pressing forward to something beyond, that energy and push which made him second only to the First Tokugawa Shogun, he seems to have carried with him to the grave. While the Sendai folks sing his praises, few of them are conscious that the backwardness of the city to-day compared with places of more modern growth and with fewer privileges, is a proof that the prophet is not without honour except in his own country.

The Sendai Elijah ascended to heaven without bequeathing his garment to any one. We search the annals of the city in vain for a record of deeds worthy of comparison with those of the great baron whose one eye saw infinitely more than it is given to most people to see with two.

BASEBALL.

Y.C. & A.C. VERSUS MIYAKO CLUB.

The opening baseball match of the season was somewhat of a disappointment to players and onlookers alike, as a glance at the scores will show. The home team were not by any means in good trim, and the visitors were far from showing the style that some Japanese vines have displayed in play against a Yokohama team. Batting, of course, was the weak point in the Miyako Club's representatives, and their fielding was rather faulty, while once or twice they were "rattled" in a most deplorable fashion. The game attracted a very good crowd—both outside and inside the fence—and every good bit of play was loudly applauded. Yokohama opened the score with 4 runs in their first innings, but dismissed their opponents for nothing. Eleven runs were made in the second innings, 6 by Yokohama, and 5 by the Miyako. The third essay brought 7, all for the home side, and after that the Japanese gave up hope of catching the foreign players, though they stuck to the match gamely to the end. Yokohama piled up most in the seventh innings, owing to the visitors being "rattled" when all three bases were occupied, and the applause that rang out as man after man got home was loud and long. Messrs. Stone and Gibbs were umpires, and Mr. E. Mendelson scorer. Score:—

YOKOHAMA.		
L. C. Putnam.....	P	6
L. E. McChesney ..	CF	3
D. H. Blake	2B	5
H. K. A. Oudenkirk ..	3B	6
D. H. Cameron.....	2S	4
M. I. Ellis	C	5
W. L. Merriman	RF	1
J. F. Thompson	1B	2
W. C. Read	LF	5
		37

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
4 6 7 5 2 2 8 2 1=37

MIYAKO CLUB.

P. Tokita	P	2
Mori	2B	1
Wakagi	3B	1
Kubo	RF	1
T. Matsugata	3B	1
Hara	1B	3
Kaiyeda	LF	1
Yamanaka	C	1
O. Matsunaga.....	CF	3
		13

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
0 5 0 0 0 2 4 1 1=13

THE INTERPORT REGATTA.

Kobe was lucky in the Interport Regatta on Saturday, no less than three of the events being won by the southern representatives. The *Hioo Evening News* says that unfortunately there was a strong north wind against the boats all the afternoon, and the sea was lumpy. The Interport events were as follows:—

INTERPORT FOURS.—1 Mile.

Kobe.		
1.—"HART."		lb.
Bow A. McGlew		148
2 E. Oldenburg		155
3 C. Mancini		150
Stroke P. Sorhagen		152
Cox J. R. Gibson		130
2.—"FRAWIT."		
Bow H. E. Hayward		143
2 G. C. Alcock		154
3 J. J. M. Carst		160
Stroke W. Goddard		128
Cox W. M. Carst		129

Time, 8 m. 54½ secs.

Yokohama quickly got a lead of half a length, but did not maintain it long. The Yokohama boat was stroked at about 40 to the minute, while Kobe was pulling splendidly at 30 to the minute. The race, which had been regarded before the start as a certainty for Yokohama, was soon seen to be a certainty for Kobe, for before the half mile was reached Hayward broke his stretcher.

INTERPORT PAIRS.—1 Mile.

Kobe.		
1.—"PRIMROSE."		lb.
Bow C. Mancini		150
Str. P. Sorhagen		152
Cox J. R. Gibson		130
YOKOHAMA.		
2.—"SNOWDROP."		lb.
Bow G. C. Alcock		154
Str. J. J. M. Carst		160
Cox W. M. Carst		129

Time, 10 m. 12½ secs.

A capital start was effected, but Yokohama, at a very quick stroke, soon obtained a slight lead, which, however, they did not long maintain. At the half mile it was judged that Yokohama was fully two lengths behind. They then steered inside the Kobe boat, and put on a fine spurt. Sorhagen likewise spurred, and increased his lead, coming in four or five lengths ahead. The Kobe men had only been out once together before the race.

INTERPORT DOUBLE SCULLS.—1 Mile.

Kobe.		
1.—"PEARL."		lb.
Bow W. Pitzcker		155
Str. A. McGlew		148
YOKOHAMA.		
2.—"TURN."		lb.
Bow H. A. Poole		162
Str. Levedag		184

Time, 10 m. 11½ secs.

Kobe won this race easily. Yokohama steered a rather erratic course, and lost time in clearing a junk and a boat. Even before this Levedag had "caught a crab," and stopped a moment, but went on again with every prospect of a close race. The Kobe boat, however, stood out, and left the Yokohama boat hopelessly behind. The boats had a rather strong wind against them, and rowing was distinctly unpleasant.

INTERPORT SINGLE SCULLS.—½ Mile.

YOKOHAMA.—1.		
H. Irwine	145 lbs.	152½ lbs.

Time, 3 m. 37 secs.

Owing to the roughness of the water the distance in this race was reduced to half a mile. This was the only race in which Yokohama expected defeat; but victory was theirs instead. Sorhagen, who had rowed in the Fours and in the Pairs, was evidently tired, whilst Irwine was quite fresh and rowed exceedingly well, steering a perfectly straight course. He came in four or five lengths ahead, and was carried up the beach on the shoulders of Yokohama men and heartily cheered by the spectators.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

According to a Peking dispatch, says the *N. C. Daily News*, the Empress Dowager has again telegraphed her command to ex-Governor Liu Ping-heng, late of Shantung, to go up to Peking and he, as determinedly, has also again telegraphed his inability to comply with the command, the excuse being, of course, the stereotyped one of chronic illness. Another telegram was also recently sent to Governor Têng of Anhui, commanding him to inform the retired ex-Vice-President of the Board of Civil Appointments, Wu Ting-fên, that his presence is required in Peking once more. This official, who is a member of the Progressive Party, was fortunately on sick leave at his home in Anhui province at the time of the Empress Dowager's *coup d'état* in September of last year and so escaped its consequences.

Immediately upon the Empress Dowager's assumption of power he got Governor Têng (also a Progressive official) to memorialise his (Wu Ting-fên's) serious illness with a prayer to be allowed to retire into private life. This was most convenient to the Empress Dowager, who wanted then the best and most lucrative posts to reward her adherents, and so Wu Ting-fên got permission to retire, although only a man of about fifty-five years of age. Now, however, the affairs of the Empress Dowager being more settled, she has had time to look about her and call back to office men who, although tainted (*sic*) with progressive ideas, have not proved themselves her determined opponents. This has led her to send forex-Vice-President Wu and several other retired officials, and, as most probably Wu has also obtained promises from Peking to let bygones be bygones, there is every likelihood of his going up to return to official life by the end of the present month. Apparently the Empress Dowager recognises the sad fact that, as far as knowledge and experience in foreign affairs is concerned, she has been surrounded by ignoramuses ever since her assumption of sole power, and this invitation to Wu Ting-fên, who was also a member of the Taungli Yamên, is probably a step towards calling around her men of more advanced proclivities in the near future.

Professor Giles recently published, through Mr. Bernard Quaritch, a work entitled "Chinese Poetry in English Verse," and has revealed to English readers a rich store, the existence of which had long been known only to scholars. Some of the lyrics are worth quoting. Here is a specimen from Mei Sheng, written in the second century B.C.:

Green grows the grass upon the bank;
The willow-shoots are long and lank;
A lady in a glistening gown
Opens the casement and looks down.
The roses on her cheek blush bright,
Her rounded arm is dazzling white;
A singing-girl in early life,
And now a careless rouse's wife,....
Ah, if he does not mind his own,
He'll find some day the bird has flown!

In a different vein is the following rendering of an anonymous author in the first century, B.C.:

Man reaches scarce a hundred, yet his tears
Would fill a lifetime of a thousand years.
When days are short and night's long hours
move slow,
Why not with lamp in search of pleasure go?
This day alone gives sure enjoyment—this!
Why then await to-morrow's doubtful bliss?
Fools grudge to spend their wealth while life
abides,
And then posterity their thrift derides.
We cannot hope, like Wang Tzu-ch'iao, to rise
And find a paradise beyond the skies.

This is by Tu Mu in the first half of the 9th century:—

Too late, alas!.....I came to find the lovely spring
had fled.
Yet must I not regret the days of youth that now
are dead;
For though the rosy buds of spring the cruel winds
have laid,
Behold the clustering fruit that hangs beneath the
leafy shade!

Chinese poets, as their fellows elsewhere, have many truths, not always the most pleasant, to tell. Li She, in the 9th century, did not find friends in high places above the common run of humanity, and we find him apostrophising them in the following bitter lines:—

The rainy mist sweeps gently o'er the village by
the stream,
When from the leafy forest glades the brigand
daggers gleam.....
And yet there is no need to fear or step from out
their way,
For more than half the world consists of bigger
rogues than they!

Hsi Chih-hsiang, the Literary Chancellor of Anhui, who jumped into notoriety when he bitterly denounced Prince Kung and the Viceroy Li Hung chang in the latter part of the eighties, on the charge of favoritism, avarice, and love of display, is dead. It will

be remembered that he repeated the performance in 1893, when he wrote tirades against Li Han-chang, then Viceroy of the Two Kuangs, on similar charges to those preferred against the elder brother; and also against Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy of the Hokuang, whom he charged with partiality towards certain officers near him and extravagance in inaugurating huge enterprises which he had no funds to continue and make permanent. These indictments had only the effect of cashiering and dismissing from office half-a-dozen or more of the smaller fry; they did no harm to the principals. The only thing Hsi Chih-hsing succeeded in doing was to make enemies of the powerful satraps and to shut the doors of Peking against himself, where his irascible temper and envy of others were also feared. This, says a Shanghai contemporary, prevented him from remaining there after entering the Hanlin Academy and obtaining the highest preferment for which his literary ability and great erudition in ancient Chinese classic works certainly fitted him.

H.M.S. *Woodlark* successfully completed her steam trials on the 16th May and was commissioned on Saturday, the 20th, exactly 28 days from the time the sections were landed at Tangkadoo Dock, Shanghai. Her sister ship, the *Woodcock*, is on the Yangtze above Ichang.

The Portuguese journal *Lusitans* suggests that Portugal should acquire the district of Houngshan, near Macao, which it thinks would not be very difficult. It would suffice to make the colony yield a rich return to the coffers of the metropolis. Possibly, continues the journal, if the Portuguese Government would negotiate an agreement with the English Government to support us in this pretension the exchange of some territory, useless to us, in our African empire, would secure for us the expansion of our dominion in China.

The Peiho River Conservancy, remarks the *N.-C. Daily News*, are making great strides in the task they have undertaken. Some big engineering work is being executed at Taku, and the creek adjacent to the village, which is connected by numerous waterways to Little Hainsaike, is to be put under control. At first it was intended to block it up entirely—a scheme that was bitterly opposed by the local gentry. However, the cofferdam was barely finished when the pent-up waters swept it away. Now, the authorities are digging a canal, in which a lock is being built, from above the first bend of the creek to a point higher up the river. There is no doubt that this creek has been largely accountable for the scant water in the river, as below it there are 3½ fathoms, whilst immediately above but 12 feet are to be found. Another creek which runs into the river on the opposite side and close to Michol's farm is being locked. This waterway has a length of 85 miles and was originally cut for the conveyance of coal from the mines near Lutai. When these two undertakings are completed Tientsin may reasonably expect the return of the shipping trade it has been denied these last few years.

The midshipmen of H.M.S. *Bonaventure* challenged the Shanghai Rowing Club to a mile race in heavy fours, the other day, but were beaten by a couple of lengths.

The *North China Daily News* was misinformed about the action of the Syndicate that was supposed to have proposed taking over the electric lighting of the two Settlements. Whatever may be the intentions of the Syndicate their scheme is that present entirely in embryo, and no proposals whatever have been submitted to either the English or the French Council.

Our senior Shanghai contemporary learns from a Peking correspondent that Dr. Yang Wing, LL.D., Yale University, U.S.A., was decoyed from Shanghai to Peking recently by direction of Prince Ching. When Dr. Yang Wing reached there he was bound and imprisoned for several days in a temple. Ostensi-

sibly this was done because he was believed to have had some relations in, or connection with, the late unfortunate Reform movement, but really to extort money from him or from friends who might have been ready to pay heavily to deliver him from imprisonment, torture, or death. A foreign subject dressed in Chinese costume went to the temple and by threats, accompanied by pistol brandishing, etc., secured Dr. Yang Wing's release. Still spies dogged his steps and he was in great danger until another friendly foreigner discovered a way to send him to Tientsin. It is hoped that he safely reached Japan.

The following Customs Notice to Mariners, referring to a bank to southward of south point of Sharp Peak Island, has been issued from the Shanghai Coast Inspector's Office:—"Notice is hereby given that a bank of small extent, with 8 feet of water on it at low water of spring tides, exists about 2½ cables S. ½ W. from the south point of Sharp Peak Island. To avoid this bank vessels entering the Min River should, after crossing the Inner Bar, bring the south end of West Brother just open of the south end of East Brother, and keep them so until Woga Point and High Sharp Peak are in line. These latter two marks kept in line on a N.W. course will lead into the deep water to the southward of Woga Hall."

The *Foochow Echo* learns that the sunken rock in Samsah Bay, upon which the German Flagship *Kaiser* struck in November last, will shortly be marked by a red and black chequered 6-foot sun-buoy without cage.

The Assistant Grand Secretary and President of War, Kang Yi, has been appointed Imperial High Commissioner charged with the special mission of investigating certain matters in Kiangsu. Says a Shanghai contemporary:—"It will be remembered that Kang Yi is the most bigoted of conservatives and has shown himself to be the most bloodthirsty of the Empress Dowager's supporters. It was on this man's advice that the six young Reformers were made martyrs for the cause of Progress without trial or any form of investigation, although the Grand Council had convened at the Great Judgment-hall of the Board of Punishments for this purpose. Had Kang Yi had his own way the streets of Peking would have overflowed with the blood of the rising generation of China's best families, immediately after the fatal *coup d'état* of September last. That any moderation was shown during the period following that reign of terror was due solely to the firm stand made by Kang Yi's superior officer, Jung Lu, Grand Secretary and Generalissimo of the Armies of the North, who counselled the Empress Dowager to show mercy in order to allay the frantic terror of the people at a time when each man in Peking was suspicious of his neighbour. Jung Lu's moderation was not owing to the fact that he hated Reform less, but because he is prudent by nature and he saw that excesses would urge the excited people into rebellion."

In a later issue the *N.-C. Daily News* said:—"We learn from a reliable source that the main reason for the visit of investigation of Kang Yi to this province is because of a severe denunciatory memorial against Viceroy Liu K'un-yi and eight of his Taotais by Yu Haien, the present Governor of Shanlung. It is also stated that there were twenty-three charges of misconduct made against either Viceroy Liu or his eight Taotais. At the same time, however, we are told that even if all the 23 charges in question be proved against Viceroy Liu he is too powerful and necessary to the dynasty to be removed at the present moment, and the only sufferers will be the unlucky Taotais in question, one of whom, we believe, is the lately removed Shanghai Taotai, Tsai."

Shanghai is rejoicing in the appearance on its musical platforms of a young Russian violinist of exceptional powers, Prof. Domcheff. So gifted is he that even the sober-minded *North China Daily News* breaks away from its traditional passionless calm and indulges in poetical

imagery to describe the Professor's playing. It says:—"Before half a dozen bars of the opening number had been played, the amateurs and professionals of Shanghai knew the style of the man who had come amongst them. Every bar that followed did but heighten and confirm the initial promise, and to an enthusiastic recall at the completion of the *Concerto*, the Professor replied with a sparkling little *Scherzo*. In his hands the powers of the violin are legion. At his command it storms and shrieks, it ralls, it groans. Then suddenly its mood changes and peals of rippling laughter are followed by sweet little melodies, sometimes with quaint little accompaniments, sometimes unadorned by naught but their own simplicity. There is a solo—at times it might have come from flute or fife, so sweet and mellow are its notes; then follows a duet, which in turn bursts in a chorus, as though an orchestra had taken up its abode inside the instrument. Every note in the gamut of human passion answers the magician's call. To him it is the easiest of all things to "rejoice with them that rejoice and weep with them that weep." Very pretty, indeed.

M. Rocher, the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai, is taking active steps to prevent the further spread of disease among the silk worms of Kiang-si and Chékang. In a letter to the Viceroy of the former province, he says:—

In France forty years ago the Pasteur system checked disease in a few years and saved that nation's silk industry from utter ruin. In China it will do the same. What it is now proposed to do is firstly, to study the extent of the disease, and secondly to teach Chinese breeders how to select healthy eggs. The Chékang and Kiangsu Provinces are equally affected and equally interested in arresting the disease; therefore, in devising remedial measures, joint assistance and joint action are necessary. My proposal is as follows: that a nursery be established in the most convenient part of Kiangsu, and one in Chékang, each station to be under the direct charge of one foreign assistant and both stations to be under a foreign director, whose duty it shall be to direct studies. Expensive buildings need not be erected. Temples in suitable localities would—with slight alterations—answer the purpose. It is estimated that in three years' time the number of pupils trained, and native breeders educated, would suffice to enable native growers to go on by themselves. What is now required is that each Province should guarantee for three years the sum of Tls. 6,000, and if this support is promised the Commissioner will then move the Inspector-General to assist also, and appoint the necessary men. It is a case of "help yourself and God will help you." Before the Inspector-General and the Viceroy will again consent to act and assist, the Provinces must first of all show their willingness and readiness to deal with the matter in an earnest spirit. The reports that the Commissioner has received this year from the various merchants engaged in the trade are very bad, and it is because he loses his train for the Silk Industry of these two Provinces that he now makes this earnest appeal.

The following telegraphic advices from Peking were received in Shanghai on May 27:—"Special edicts, under the seal of the Empress Dowager, have been issued to the Viceroy and Governors of the Liangkang and Min Che provinces to put all the military forces under their jurisdiction on a war footing by the end of May, owing to the menacing and threatening attitude of Germany and Italy in Chinese waters. The Chinese forces are, however, ordered to be on the defensive, until the aggressors shall have struck the first blow, when permission is given to the high military officials to take what active steps they may, under the circumstances, see fit. Perfect freedom is given to the Viceroy and Governors of the province named to dispose of their forces as they deem best when hostilities begin." Commenting on the above, the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—"In spite of repeated requests of the Tsungli Yamen to the German Legation to withdraw the German troops now quartered at Jüchiao, Shanlung, the latter persistently refuse to do so, giving as a reason that they must remain there until the Tientsin-Chinkiang Railway line shall have been built, in order to be at hand should opposition be shown by the malcontents of the province to prevent

the construction of the road. Another excuse, it is reported, is that the Germans will remain at Jihchao until the spheres of influence of the various Powers in China shall have been settled upon.

At the newly opened port of Wuchow a very strong feeling against foreigners, more especially against Christians, is being propagated by the *literati*. A placard was posted on the walls of that city on the 10th inst., in which, after a long tirade against foreigners and Christians, who are described as "the Devils," it is laid down that these evil persons must be killed without mercy, and the writer then goes on to advocate wholesale massacre of all foreigners. It ends in this wise:—"The hearts of Chinese are as hard as iron and stone. Foreign devils already know it. We have already arranged a good plan to massacre you all and will not let you escape. Now we carefully tell you because we would prefer not to murder you all, but if you fail to take this warning there will be no opportunity for repentance when the massacre begins. A timely warning. The mandarins and all classes of the people of Wuchow have issued this notice."

The *China Gazette* is "informed by an excellent authority that a provisional agreement has been arrived at between the British and German Governments respecting Wei-hai-wei, under which (if it is carried out) the new British Naval station in North-China may be handed over to Germany in two years time in return for certain important services and concessions by Germany to Great Britain in South Africa. We give the report with reserve, but it is too important to withhold." Unfortunately the reputation of the *China Gazette* as a manufacturer of "bunders" depreciates the value of this item of news, though the Wei-hai-wei correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* also mentions it.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Admiral Dewey arrived at Hongkong on May 23rd, on the flagship *Olympia*.

Mr. Jas. Troup, late British Consul General at Yokohama, has a retiring allowance of £777 15s. 7d. allotted to him in this year's estimates.

The City of New York has appropriated the sum of a quarter of a million of dollars (gold) to cover the cost of the Dewey celebration on the Admiral's return to that city.

The electric cars, says the local paper, are running with more or less regularity in Seoul. Koreans at first enjoyed the novelty and we are informed that one man rode and rode until he had used up two dollars. Fancy Seoul being ahead of Tokyo!

Ti Kan, a Chinaman, charged T. W. Genierez and S. W. Francis, Cingalese subjects of the Queen, in H.B.M. Court for Japan, with assaulting him on the 26th ult. Three interpreters, Chinese, Japanese, and Cingalese, were engaged to explain the affair to the Acting Assistant Judge, but in the end the case was dismissed.

The Strawberry Fete at the Bluff Gardens on Saturday afternoon, in aid of the funds of the Ladies' International Reading Room, was a most gratifying success. The weather was genial though cool, and the youngsters, who were present in troops, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A sum of yen 334.95 was realized.

The *Shanghai Mercury* notes a report current among the Chinese that Reuters' agent at Peking has offered the Taung-li Yamen to undertake the transmission of all official and foreign cablegrams for the Chinese Government. It is expected that this will shortly be sanctioned. The monthly grant in return for these services has not yet been made public.

At a vestry meeting the other day a Mr. Jacobs accused the vicar of having written a letter in which he stated that a devil had been in the parish for a year or more. "Who is the devil

in the parish? that's what I want to know," thundered the irate Mr. Jacobs. The vicar is reported to have said, very quietly, "You know." And then there were cries of "Jimmy Jacobs." The proceedings concluded, says the report, by the vicar pronouncing a blessing.

A young man named Kiriha Inosuke, aged 19, till lately residing with his uncle at Todamachi, Yokohama, was turned out of the house recently owing to his dissolute conduct. Thinking his aunt had been instrumental in his expulsion, he determined to take her life. At 8.30 p.m. on the 30th he visited the house with a dagger, and persuaded his aunt to walk outside. Arrived at a quiet place he attacked her with the dagger, and stabbed her in several places. The woman's shrieks, however, brought help, and the would-be murderer, who ran away, was arrested later.

The finding of the Court of Inquiry into the circumstances attending the stranding of the *Benlawers* was delivered on Saturday, says the *Nagasaki Press*. The captain, officers, and crew have been exonerated from all blame, and the Court finds that "the stranding was owing to the pilot miscalculating his distance from Otatishima when abeam of the light on the island and consequently not altering his course sufficiently to the westward, and that the miscalculation was partly due to the pilot having made an insufficient allowance for the strength of the tide, both when approaching and passing Otatishima, and for the consequent increase of the ordinary speed of the vessel over the ground from 10 to 11½ knots, which increase affected the position when abeam of Otatishima as calculated by four-point bearings."

The junk *Seitsu Maru* (70 koku) belonging to one Watanabe, Chiba prefecture, entered Yokohama harbour loaded with wood and charcoal on Sunday, and after discharging cargo anchored two *cho* from the Grand Hotel outside the break-water. About nine o'clock on Monday evening two men, one apparently 36 years old and the other 27, approached the vessel in a boat and climbed on board, waking the three sleeping *sendo*. The new comers, pretending to be detectives, told the crew to come with them for official investigation. This the sailors declined to do, and the two thieves thereupon threatened them with daggers. After binding the *sendos'* hands and gagging them they secured 42 yen 80 sen and rowed back toward Yatobashi. The matter was reported to the water police, who are engaged in a keen search; but as yet no arrest has been made.

Among the many sources of wealth now being opened up by the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway, the vast forests of Siberia, says the *Saturday Review*, are by no means the least important. They cover an area more than ten times the total area of Great Britain. The direction of the Siberian rivers, flowing into the Arctic Ocean, has hitherto precluded the possibility of exploiting this wealth of timber. In view of the extension of the railway, especially in the direction of the densely populated but treeless districts of China, the Russian Government has taken the matter seriously in hand. A complete administrative system has been established, and already three influential syndicates, two German and one Belgian, have been formed for the development of various wood and timber industries in Siberia. It is most regrettable that British manufacturers and capitalists abandon the field of enterprise in Russia's Asiatic Empire to German, Belgian, and French competitors. British interests there have hardly a consul to represent them.

What is the moral, asks the *Saturday Review*, of losses at sea due to reckless navigation? Who, if the whole truth were told, is responsible; the captain or the owner? Were the question asked at Lloyd's, the answer would be "The Owner." There may be no instructions to keep time at all risks, but the captain knows very well that if he loses time by con-

sulting caution, even reasonable caution, he will be known for worse. Promotion will not come his way, though he may be fortunate enough to keep the command he has. Such a sanction inevitably must prompt in a captain's mind—and not least in the most able—the wish which will produce the thought that the speed which he wants to make is not dangerous. To levy a fine on shipowners proportionate to the tonnage held to be lost by reckless navigation would be a remedy far more effective than the carrying of a superfluous passenger in the person of a Board of Trade official.

THE SALVATION ARMY IN JAPAN.

The following Salvation Army notes have been placed at our disposal:—The half-yearly Council of War will be held in Tokyo and Yokohama from Friday to Tuesday, June 2nd to 6th, when all the officers of the territory will be present. The series of meetings comprise both private and public gatherings, and much interest will naturally centre round the first Salvation Army officers' wedding in Japan. The ceremony will be conducted according to Salvation Army methods by Colonel Bailey in the Kudan Methodist Church, on Tuesday afternoon, June 6th. The happy man is Ensign Yamamoto, Editor of the Japanese *War Cry* (*Toki-no-Koe*), the bride being Miss Kie Sato.

The Yokohama portion of the series will include a Staff Council (private) and a public meeting in the Minatoza Theatre, Sumiyoshicho, on Saturday evening, June 3rd, at 7.30 p.m. This will practically be a repetition of the very successful "International Meeting" recently held in Tokyo. The officers will be dressed in costumes representing many of the countries where the Army is at work. There is much rejoicing in the ranks over the result of the recent "Self Denial Week," the total realized, 460 yen, being in excess of expectations. This is a great advance upon the amount raised last year—164 yen—and is evidence of the growing influence of the Army in Japan. It should be understood that this money principally came from Japanese, a very small proportion only being received from foreigners. The British Self-Denial Appeal reached the sum of £38,000, being an increase of £5,000 over last year. It is from the Self Denial Fund that the Army chiefly maintains those branches of its Missionary and other work that have not reached the "Self-supporting basis."

From June 1st the work of the Naval and Mercantile Home carried on at No. 187 will be removed to somewhat smaller premises at No. 123 in the same street. This move has been made necessary by the loss of most of what is known as the "Guarantee Boarding Business." At the time the Army bought from Mr. Kerman the lease and business of the Pacific Hotel at No. 187 it was the custom for American merchantmen to be discharged on arrival here under a guarantee from a boarding master. About 12 months ago, however, the Authorities at Washington issued instructions to the Consulates throughout the East to discontinue the practice, and henceforth the men will have to complete the round voyage. This, combined with an unusual absence of war vessels, has produced a heavy financial loss to the Salvation Army during the year of no less than 3,000 yen and it has been found advisable to surrender the lease and move into premises more suitable to the altered circumstances. The corner block of new houses just erected by Mr. P. Sarda in Honmura Road has therefore been secured. The house is in an excellent position, commanding a view of the Bridge leading to the "hundred steps." It is hoped that here the Army may continue its good work amongst the seamen who visit this port. During the 2 years of its existence the Home has supplied 61,693 meals and 14,223 beds, whilst 107 beachcombers and distressed men have been shipped out of the town.

The present position of the Salvation Army in Japan is 41 officers, 11 corps, 7 outposts, and 2 social institutions.

POSTAL INFORMATION.

The following Postal Information has been sent to us for publication by the General Post Office, Tokyo:—

FOREIGN MONEY ORDERS.

COUNTRIES OF EXCHANGE.

Universal Orders—Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Luxembourg, Roumania, Switzerland, German East Africa, German South West Africa, German New Guinea, Cameroons, Togo, German Post Offices at Apia, Samoa Islands; Constantinople, Turkey, Shanghai, Tientsin, Tsinan, China.

Under Special Arrangements—Great Britain, France, Italy, United States of America, Canada, Hongkong (including Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Ningpo, Macao, Shanghai, Swatow).

Through the intermediary of the British Post Office—Denmark, Egypt, Hawaii, Holland, Norway, Orange Free States, Portugal, Sweden, Transvaal, Tunis, Constantinople, Panama, Smyrna, Tangier, Iceland, Danish West Indies, Netherlands East Indies, British colonies, not mentioned above and below.

Through the intermediary of the Hongkong Post Office—Ceylon, India, New South Wales, New Zealand, North Borneo, Queensland, South Australia, Straits Settlements, Tasmania, Victoria, Burmah, Bangkok, Chingmai.

Through the intermediary of the Italian Post Office—Malta.

MAXIMUM AMOUNTS.

Universal Orders—3,000 francs. The amount is, however, limited at 500 francs for Bulgaria, Roumania, German New Guinea, and Samoa Islands.

Italy and its Through Orders—1,000 francs.
French Orders—250 francs.
Great Britain and its through orders—10 pounds.
U.S. Orders—100 dollars U.S. gold.
Canadian Orders—50 dollars U.S. gold.
Hongkong and its Through Orders—Issuing, 100 dollars silver, Payment 100 yen Japanese currency.

FEES.

Universal Orders—for the first 100 francs, 10 sen per 25 francs; beyond the first 100 francs, 16 sen per 50 francs.
French Orders—10 sen per 25 francs.
British and Through Orders—to 1 sen per 1 pound.
U.S. Orders—to 1 sen per 5 dollars.
Canadian Orders—do.
Hongkong and its Through Orders—10 sen per 10 dollars. For Straits Settlements only, 15 sen per the same amount.

REMARKS.

Delivery by express of cash, order, or advice may be executed in Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Switzerland, and Luxembourg, by paying in advance a fee of 12 sen.

Money Orders may be transmitted by Telegram to Germany, Austria-Hungary, Switzerland, and Luxembourg, for which the ordinary telegram fee must be paid in addition to the money order fees.

Foreign money orders are issued and paid at any Post Office in Japan, where domestic money order business is transacted. Telegraphic money orders are, however, managed at the main offices in Tokyo and Yokohama only.

FOREIGN MAILS.

RATES OF POSTAGE AND FEES.

Letters: per 15 grammes or fraction thereof, 10 sen. Post Cards: single, 4 sen; with paid answer, 8 sen. Printed matter: per 50 grammes or fraction thereof 2 sen. Commercial Papers: up to 250 grammes, 10 sen; each additional 50 grammes, 2 sen. Samples of Merchandise: up to 100 grammes, 4 sen; each additional 50 grammes, 2 sen.

Registration, 10 sen. Acknowledgment of Delivery of a Registered Article, 5 sen. The same fee will be charged for enquiry, made after posting, as to the disposal of a registered article.

LIMIT OF WEIGHT AND DIMENSIONS.

Printed Matter & Commercial Papers—Weight, 2 kilogrammes. Dimensions, 45 centimetres in any one direction. Packets in the form of a roll may, however, be 75 centimetres in length, and 10 centimetres in diameter.

Samples of Merchandise—weight, 350 grammes. Dimensions 30 centimetres in length, 20 centimetres in breadth, 10 centimetres in depth. Packets in the form of a roll, 30 centimetres in length, and 15 centimetres in diameter.

PROHIBITED ARTICLES.

Articles of a nature likely to soil or injure the correspondence; explosive, inflammable, or dangerous substances; animals or insects, living or dead, current coin, or articles liable to Customs duty; gold or silver bullion, precious stones, jewelry, or other articles of value.

REMARKS.

Mail matters for Amoy, Chefoo, Hangchow, Shanghai, Shashi, Soochow, and Tientsin, China, are governed by the domestic postage and conditions.

Articles, other than letters and post cards, must be prepaid, at least partly. Prepayment is compulsory to all non-Union countries. Commemorative Postage Stamps are not valid, if used for Foreign Mails. Correspondence may be delivered by Express in certain countries, by paying in advance a fee of 10 sen.

FOREIGN PARCELS.

PARCELS TO HONGKONG.

Countries of Exchange—Hongkong, Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Huihow, Macao, Malacca, Ningpo, Pakhoi, Peiang, Shanghai, Singapore, Swatow.

Limit of Weight and Dimensions—Weight, 5 lb. Dimensions, 2 feet in length and 1 foot in breadth and depth.

Rates of Postage—2 sen per each 50 grammes. Registration—Parcels for the above places may be registered on payment of a fee of 10 sen in addition to the ordinary postage rate. Receipts are given for registered parcels only.

PARCELS TO CANADA.

Limit of Weight and Dimensions—Weight, 7 lb. Dimensions, 2 feet in length and 1 foot both in breadth and depth.

Rates of Postage—40 sen per each 1 lb.

PARCELS TO GERMANY.

Limit of Weight and Dimensions—Weight, 5 kilogrammes. Dimensions, 60 centimetres in any one direction.

Rates of Postage—Yen 1.90 per each parcel. Acknowledgment of Delivery—5 sen in addition to the ordinary postage rate.

Remark—One Customs Declaration and one Despatch Note may be used for 3 parcels and under, provided they be from the same sender to the same addressee.

PARCELS TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Limit of Weight and Dimensions—Weight, 1 kwan 320 momme (11 lbs.). Dimensions, 2 feet in length and 6 feet in girth and length combined. Rates of Postage—Yen 0.88 up to 360 momme (3 lbs.); Yen 1.68, up to 845 momme (7 lbs.); Yen 2.48, up to 1 kwan 320 momme (11 lbs.).

Remarks:—A parcel must not contain another package addressed to a different person and place. Parcels may also be sent through the intermediary of the British Post Office to any country with which parcels are exchanged by the same office. Any article liable to Duty, which is not entered in the accompanying Customs Declaration, is liable to be confiscated at the British Customs.

PARCELS TO FRANCE.

Limit of Weight and Dimensions:—Weight 5 kilogrammes. Dimensions, 60 centimetres, in any one direction, and 25 cubic decimetres in bulk, except such a parcel as is in the form of a roll, containing umbrellas, sticks, &c.

Rates of Postage:—
Yen 1.80 per each parcel to France.
Yen 2.00 " " to Corsica.
Yen 2.00 " " to Algeria.

Acknowledgment of Delivery:—5 sen in addition to the ordinary postage rate.

Remarks:—One Customs Declaration and one Despatch Note may be used for 3 parcels and under, provided they be from the same sender to the same addressee.

Customs Declaration and Despatch Note should be filled up in French.

Parcels may also be taken to the principal countries in the world through the intermediary of the French Post Office.

Maximum weight of a parcel for Bulgaria, Spain, Greece, Paraguay, Persia, and Venezuela is up to 3 kilogrammes.

CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED.

ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

A FANCIAL DISCUSSION.

The 10th annual meeting of the Club Hotel Company, Limited, was held on Monday afternoon at the Hotel.—Mr. H. C. Litchfield presided, and there were also present Captain Weston, Messrs. J. Johnstone, H. C. Pigott, T. L. Brower, O. Ward, E. B. Jones, Leathier, W. R. Bennett, J. W. Hall, T. Batchelor, G. Booth, M. Russell, and C. H. Fearon (secretary).

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The CHAIRMAN read the report, which was as follows:—

Gentlemen, The Profit and Loss Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ended the 31st March, 1899, are now submitted to

you. The Gross Receipts for the past year were yen 71,815 36, including Rent and Transfer Fees. The profits of the Company have not equalled those of last year, a result in great measure accounted for by increased cost of provisions and necessities, and also to the diminution in the number of travellers through Japan. An interim Dividend of yen 4 per share was paid to Shareholders in November last, and, by appropriating for the purpose the sum of yen 3,200 placed to Reserve last year, a further Dividend of yen 3 per share may now be paid. Mr. George Syme Thomson having retired from the Board of Directors in consequence of his departure from Japan, there is a vacancy on the Board. Mr. Litchfield now retires in rotation, but is eligible for re-election.

BALANCE SHEET.—MARCH 31ST, 1899.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

DR.	Yen.
To Stores and Provisions	28,197 44
" Salaries and Wages	15,223 72
" General Expenses	7,903 90
" Firing and Lighting	5,630 91
" Washing	837 35
" Ground Rent	215 12
" Insurance	2,057 86
" Auditors' Fees	200 00
" Weighing Machine	372 75
" Interest	1,030 00
" Balance	10,146 21

71,815 36

Yen.

CR.	Yen.
By Gross Receipts	71,599 36
" Transfer Fees	36 00
" Rent	170 00

71,815 36

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

DR.	Yen.
Cash in hand	550 27
Cash H. and S. Bank	4,914 07
Property	191,633 56
Furniture	38,468 15
Insurance—Value of current Policies	1,515 36
Steam Launch	4,912 81
Stock	11,125 51
Sundry Debtors	3,519 04

256,639 00

Yen.

CR.	Yen.
Capital	185,000 00
Unclaimed Dividends	300 00
Reserve for Fluctuation of Property	30,000 00
Loan Account	30,000 00
Loan Interest	262 50
Sundry Creditors	3,735 27
Profit and Loss Account	7,441 23

256,639 00

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

DR.	Yen.
To Directors' Fees to 31st March, 1899.	640 00
" Dividend for 1/2 year ended 30th Sept.	7,400 00
" Balance of Y7,441.23 to be disposed as follows:—	
" Dividend of 3 per cent. for 1/2 year	Y5,550 00
" Amount carried forward	1,891 23

7,441 23

Yen.

CR.	Yen.
By Balance from 31st March, 1898	2,135 62
" Working Account	10,146 21
" Reserve for Equalisation of Dividends	3,200 00

15,481 23

15,481 23

C. H. FEARON,

Secretary.

I have compared the above accounts with the Books and Vouchers of the Company, and find the same to be in accordance therewith.

Cecil Guinness,

Auditor.

Yokohama, 30th May, 1899.

THE HOTEL'S AFFAIRS.

Mr. WARD said there was a debit balance of 30,000 yen, and he should like to know what that was.

The CHAIRMAN replied that that was a sum the directors found it necessary to raise to pay the expenses incurred in the completing of the new building in excess of the sum voted by the shareholders last year, and other amounts, and also in part-payment of extra expenses they were put to in consequence of the unfortunate fire in the adjoining building. He (the Chairman) was glad the question had been asked because it gave him

an opportunity of saying that this fire showed them that they were not fully insured. Some discussion had ensued with the Fire Insurance Companies, with the result that they had increased the insurance very considerably. The immediate result of the fire was that they had to make good part of the damage done to their property. As for the balance they would find that in last year's report there was a sum at debit to the company with their bankers and in consequence of representations made to them by the Bank they were compelled to repay that loan, and the only available means at the time was to raise money, which they did by a mortgage of the land of No. 5 Bund.

Mr. BENNETT said the stock account also showed a considerable increase. It was practically 4 as against 11.

The CHAIRMAN said that was owing to paying in a larger stock of wines in view of the new tariff. Part of that had of course been paid for by the loan. It was over the payment for these wines that the Hongkong Bank raised the question of the overdraft.

Mr. BENNETT also mentioned the new steam launch.

Mr. JOHNSTONE asked what was the item of 30,000 yen "reserve for fluctuation of property." Was that in cash?

Mr. PIGGOTT—No, Mr. Johnstone, it is not in cash, as you will see by the account here. In the valuation of property that amount stands over and above the share capital.

Mr. HALL—Should that sum be placed as a liability of the company? It makes the accounts look worse than they are.

Mr. BENNETT—It is a liability to the share holders, of course, just as the capital is a liability to the shareholders.

Mr. JOHNSTONE—I suppose it is simply the appreciation of the property.

ANOTHER SHAREHOLDER—The unearned increment.—(Laughter.)

Mr. PIGGOTT—Yes, the unearned increment, if you care to call it so.

Mr. PIGGOTT, calling attention to another point in the report, remarked that the directors simply stated that a dividend of 3 yen might be declared. They did not recommend it in the usual way. They left it to the meeting whether the dividend should be declared or not. It could be paid, but some shareholders, in face of the loan of 30,000 yen, might not think it wise to declare a dividend. The last six months had been very bad, and as the hotel year was rather awkwardly divided, so that one six months extended over the slack time and the other the busy time, the report looked worse than it really was. At present the hotel was doing very well indeed, and promised to do well during the next few months. It was not only the hotels that complained of the last year. The curio merchants were also grumbling; it was a general complaint.

Mr. BENNETT proposed that the dividend be paid and the accounts adopted. Seeing that the hotels property had appreciated he thought they were perfectly justified in doing so.

Mr. BOOTH seconded.

Mr. JOHNSTONE said he would not propose an amendment, but in view of the fact that they had a liability of 30,000 yen it was advisable to pay the dividend?

Mr. RUSSELL asked what was the interest on the loan?

The CHAIRMAN—Seven per cent.

Mr. RUSSELL—The same as the dividend we are paying.

Mr. PIGGOTT pointed out that seven per cent. was being paid only on the loan, while the dividend was on the whole capital. They were paying less interest on the loan than they had done on the overdraft. The Club Hotel was not the only hotel with a loan. There were other hotels doing a large business that had loans. He need not mention names.

Mr. BENNETT—And many companies too.

The motion was then put and carried *nem. con.*

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS—A COMIC OPERA SCENE.

The question of the election of directors was then discussed.

Mr. WARD proposed the Chairman, Capt. Weston, and Mr. Johnstone.

Mr. JOHNSTONE said he could not serve at present.

Mr. BENNETT said Mr. Syme Thompson was only going away for a short time, and as he was particularly conversant with the hotel's business he (the speaker) thought he might be re-elected.

Mr. PIGGOTT proposed Mr. Bennett in case the shareholders thought it necessary to have another director.

Mr. BENNETT said he could not find time to

devote the attention to the hotel's business that he felt was necessary, but he eventually agreed to serve until Mr. Thompson's return.

Mr. WARD proposed Capt. Weston's name.

Mr. JOHNSTONE seconded.

Mr. RUSSELL proposed Mr. E. B. S. Edwards.

Mr. WARD proposed that there should be seven directors.

Mr. BATCHELOR seconded.

Mr. BROWER proposed that the number should be restricted to five.

This was seconded.

Mr. WARD's motion was put first, and declared lost by five votes to six.

The CHAIRMAN, amid much merriment, then put Mr. Brower's motion, and it was carried by six to five.

Mr. BROWER then proposed that Mr. Thompson be elected.

Mr. PIGGOTT seconded.

Mr. RUSSELL proposed Captain Weston.

Captain WESTON declined to serve, but he objected to Mr. Thompson being proposed as a director. He thought it was a farce. Mr. Thompson might be dead, or might not return.

Mr. WARD said it struck him as a farce too.

Captain WESTON—He's a nice man enough, but he's not here, and may not be here again.

Mr. WARD—He may never be here again.

The proposer of Mr. Thompson, however, insisted on his name being included, and a ballot was taken, resulting as follows:—

	votes.
Mr. Bennett	14
Mr. Litchfield	13
Mr. Thompson	7
Mr. Edwards	6
Capt. Weston	1

The CHAIRMAN said according to that Messrs. Bennett, Litchfield, and Thompson were elected. The opposition party called for a scrutiny of the voting to find out whether the weight of shares as well as numbers was against Mr. Edwards.

A scrutiny, occupying some time, was accordingly taken, and was on the point of being concluded when Mr. JOHNSTONE rose, and asked the simple question, "Is Mr. Thompson eligible? Has he any shares in the company?"

No direct answer was returned, but Mr. PIGGOTT gave an exclamation of mingled amusement and consternation which was quite as eloquent as words. The fact had evidently escaped the notice of everyone.

After a pause there was a roar of laughter at the expense of the partisans of Mr. Thompson, and Mr. PIGGOTT then said, "We have had all this trouble for nothing."

Mr. BENNETT—That's what I call a waste of energy.—(Laughter.)

Mr. JONES caused some further amusement by taking the matter quite *au grand sérieux*, and asking who was responsible. He reproached the directors with not acquainting them with the fact.

Mr. BENNETT said Mr. Jones could see the list of shareholders as well as the directors.

Finally Messrs. Litchfield, Bennett, and Edwards were declared elected.

AUDITOR.

On the proposition of Mr. BROWER, seconded by Mr. LEATHER, Mr. Cecil Guinness was elected auditor. The meeting then terminated.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1892.

BY HOMER B. HULBERT, A.M.
CHAPTER VI.

ATTEMPTS TO SECURE AID FROM CHINA—DIVIDED COUNSELS IN NANKING—AN ARMY SENT—A DESPERATE ENVOY—GENERAL SOK SONG'S LOVE FOR KOREA—THE EMPEROR GIVES ORDERS FOR THE KING'S ENTERTAINMENT—GREAT KOREAN VICTORY IN THE SOUTH—JAPANESE ARMY OF REINFORCEMENT DEFEATED AND DESTROYED BY ADMIRAL YI SUN-SIN—GENERAL YI HONoured—THE BACK OF THE INVASION BROKEN—A VAIN-GLOIOUS CHINESE GENERAL SEVERELY BEATEN—THE MONKS BEGIN A HOLY WAR—A SHARP ANSWER—VARIOUS KOREAN FORCES—A NIGHT ADVENTURE—JAPANESE REVERSES IN THE SOUTH—CHINA AWAKENS—A GRAND CONFERENCE—A TRUCE—THE TIME EXPIRES—A CELEBRATED SOLDIER TRACKED DOWN—ATTEMPT TO RETAKE SOUL—BRAVE DEFENCE OF CHIN-JU—THE FIRST NORTH AND BOMB—VARIOUS KOREAN ATTEMPTS—KOREAN VICTORY IN HAM-GYUNG PROVINCE—ANOTHER IN THE SOUTH—JAPANESE CONFINED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO PYEONG YANG.

The efforts that Korea put forth before she obtained aid from China make an entertaining

story, and they show that China delayed it as long as possible and then complied, not so much because she wished to help Korea as because she desired to check the Japanese before they crossed the Ya-lu and began invading the fruitful plains of the Liao-tung peninsula. Before the Japanese ever landed in Korea the King had sent an envoy to Nanking telling the Emperor that an invasion was next to certain; and that envoy was still in Nanking. After the King's flight to the north he sent Min Mong nyong and Yi Duk hyung, as special envoys, to again ask aid. On the arrival of these men with their urgent request there was a great council of war in Nanking. Some of the leading generals said, "There is no need for China to help those wild people. Let them fight it out themselves." It would appear that the policy by which China disclaimed responsibility for Korea, when such responsibility involved sacrifice, is several centuries old. Other generals said, "No, that will not do. We must send troops and at least guard our own territory from invasion." But the Chinese General-in-chief, Sok Song, said, "We must, without fail, render Korea the assistance for which she asks. We must appropriate 2,000,000 cash for their maintenance." The upshot of it all was that General Nak Sang-ji took a small body of troops and marched eastward to the banks of Ya-lu where he went into camp without attempting to render the Koreans any assistance.

In the seventh moon the King sent another envoy to Nanking on the same errand, but with the same lack of success. Then the King called to him one of his most trusted officials and appointed him envoy to Nanking and said, "The salvation of the kingdom lies in your hands. Go to Nanking and leave no efforts untaken whereby the Emperor may be induced to help us." Charged with this important mission, this envoy, Ch'ong Gwi-sun, hastened to Nanking and, entering the enclosure of the war office, sat in the courtyard for seven days weeping; but the officials all turned a deaf ear to his entreaties, excepting the General-in-chief Sok Song. Indignant at the apathy of his colleagues and in spite of the fact that his duty as general-in-chief demanded his presence in Nanking, he arose and said, "If none of you gentlemen will go to the aid of Korea I will go myself." There were special and personal reasons for this man's interest in Korea. In years gone by a Korean merchant, while in Nanking, had met in an inn a beautiful slave girl, and upon inquiry had discovered that she was of noble family but had sold herself into slavery to obtain money wherewith to deliver her father from prison. The merchant was so touched by the sacrifice which she had made—for it meant the sacrifice of honour itself—that he gave all his patrimony and bought her and set her free. In after years she became the wife of this same General Sok Song, and thus it was that he was an ardent admirer of Korea and was determined to see to it that Korea received aid in her present extremity.

At this point the King sent a message to the prefect of Liao-tung saying, "The Japanese have come as far north as Pyeong-yang and I fear I shall have to cross the Ya-lu and take refuge in your district." This the prefect immediately reported to the Emperor, who answered, "If the King of Korea enters your district provide him with a fine house, give him food out of the imperial stores, each day four ounces of silver, a pig, a sheep, vermicelli, and rice. Give him also an escort of a hundred men and let twenty women be detailed to wait upon him."

We have now arrived at the threshold of the counter-invasion which was destined to be one of the main causes of the Japanese retreat, but before entering upon this narrative we must turn again to the south and witness some events which did far more to effect the withdrawal of the Japanese than the coming of the Chinese armies did.

The first of these was the utter defeat of a large body of Japanese who were scouring the province of Chul-la. Entering the town of Ich'i they were met by such a fierce attack on the part of Whang-jin, the prefect of Tong bak, that they turned back and, crossing the Ung-ch'i Mountain, entered the prefecture of Chun ju. Yi Bong-nam, the prefect of Na-ju, and Whang bak, a volunteer general, lay in ambush with a large body of volunteer troops and succeeded in driving the Japanese back, but the next day the invading host came fiercely to the attack and the Koreans had to give way. The Japanese in their exultation now thought they could go back to Ich'i and avenge themselves for their defeat there. General Kwun-myl and the prefect Whang-jin heard of this in time to fortify one of the mountain passes. The Japanese attacked in a desperate manner, creeping up the steep mountain sides on their hands and knees, shooting as they advanced. All day long the fight continued and the Japanese were utterly de-

feated. Their bodies were piled in heaps where they fell and the records say that the ground was covered with one crimson matting of leaves. This was one of the greatest land victories which the Koreans scored against the Japanese. Retreating to the valley with their dead the Japanese made two great heaps of bodies and buried them in trenches, marking the spot with rough monuments of wood. This was probably one of the bodies of troops for which the Japanese in Pyeongyang were waiting, before attempting the invasion of China.

But meanwhile events of far greater importance were transpiring further south, where Admiral Yi Sun-sin, with his wonderful "tortoise boat," was watching for Japanese fleets. It was in the eighth moon that his watchfulness was rewarded and he beheld on the eastern horizon a vast fleet of Japanese boats bringing a hundred thousand men to reinforce the army of invasion and enable it to push on into China.

Admiral Yi and his lieutenant Yi Ok-keui met this powerful fleet in a place called Kyong-naryang among the islands off the southern coast of Chul-la Province. The evident intention of the Japanese was to round the southwestern corner of the peninsula and sail up the west coast to Pyeongyang. At first the wily admiral made as if he would betake himself to flight and the Japanese by giving chase threw their own line into disorder. When opposite Han-san Island Admiral Yi suddenly turned his iron-clad about and rammed the nearest of his pursuers and then engaged the others either singly or by the score, for his craft was impervious to their weapons. His attending fleet followed and completed the work after he had disabled the enemy's boats. Seventy-one of the Japanese boats were sunk that day, and it is said the very sea was red. But soon a reinforcing fleet came up from Angol Harbour near Han-san, and the Admiral found that his day's work was not yet done. The attack straightway began and soon the Japanese were put in the same plight in which their comrades had been put. Many, seeing how impossible it was to make headway against this iron ship, beached their boats and fled by land; so on that same day forty-eight ships more were burned. The few that escaped during the fight sped eastward towards home. So ended, we may well believe, one of the great naval battles of the world. It may well be called the Salamis of Korea. It signed the death-warrant of the invasion. It frustrated the great motive of the invasion, the humbling of China; and thenceforth, although the war dragged through many a long year, it was carried on solely with a view to mitigating the disappointment of Hideyoshi—a disappointment that must have been as keen as his thirst for conquest was unquenchable.

When the King heard of these splendid achievements he heaped upon Admiral Yi all the honours in his gift, and even those who hated him for his successes were compelled to join in his praise. Konishi had heard that an army was coming to reinforce him, and he wrote an exultant letter to the King saying, "A hundred thousand men are coming to reinforce me. Where will you flee to then?" But ere this letter reached its destination there came the news of the crushing defeat in the south. The whole success of the invasion depended upon forming a junction between the army in Pyeongyang and this army of reinforcement, but Admiral Yi shattered the fleet and the last hope of the invaders perished.

And now at last China bestirred herself and sent General Cho Seung-hun with 5,000 troops across the Yalu into Korea. This was a man whose vanity was as great as his ignorance of the Japanese. He loudly boasted, "Now that I have come, no Japanese will be able to stand before me." Penetrating as far south as Ka-san he enquired whether the Japanese had fled from Pyeongyang, and, being answered in the negative, he exclaimed, "Heaven is indeed good to keep them there for me." Two of the Korean generals ventured to offer him some advice, saying that it was now the rainy season and the roads were very bad and that it might be well to wait until his army could move with greater ease and with better hopes of success. But he laughed and said, "I once took 3,000 men and put to flight 100,000 Mongols. I care no more for these Japanese than I do for mosquitoes or ants." And so his troops floundered in through the mud until they stood before Pyeongyang on the nineteenth of the eighth moon. And lo, the gates were wide open. The Chinese troops marched straight up through the town to the governor's residence, firing their guns and calling on the enemy to appear. But not a Japanese was to be seen. When the whole of the Chinese force had entered the city and the streets were full, the Japanese, who had lain hidden in the every house, poured a sudden and destructive fire into their ranks. The Chinese, huddled

together in small companies, were shot down like rabbits. General Sa Yu, the second in command of the Chinese, was killed, and the boastful General Cho Seung-hun mounted his horse and fled the city, followed by many of his soldiers as could extricate themselves. Rain began to fall and the roads were deep with mud. The Japanese followed the fugitives and the valley was strewn with the bodies of the slain. Out of 5,000 men who entered the city only two thousand escaped. General Cho fled two hundred li to An-ju before he stopped. He there gave out that as there had been much rain and the roads were heavy he was at a disadvantage in attacking, and when his second, General Sa Yu, fell he saw that nothing could be done, and so had ordered a retreat. But the Koreans only smiled, for they knew that a sixty mile ride over those roads by a Chinese general meant more than an ordinary retreat. And so he returned to Liautung, this valiant man, and, fearing punishment, averred that "We whipped the Japanese, but the Koreans turned against us and we had to fall back." The Chinese general Yang Sa-henn was sent to investigate this charge, but the King denied it and the truth was soon discovered.

And now a new element in this seething caldron of war rose to the surface. It was an independent movement on the part of the Buddhist monks throughout the country. Hyu Jung, known throughout the eight provinces as "The great teacher of So-san," was a man of great natural ability as well as of great learning. His pupils were numbered by the thousands and were found in every province. He called together two thousand of them and appeared before the King at Bui-ju and said, "We are of the common people, but we are all the King's servants, and two thousand of us have come to die for Your Majesty." The King was much pleased by this demonstration of loyalty and made Hyu Jung a Priest General, and told him to go into camp at Pophung Monastery. He did so and from that point sent out a call to all the monasteries in the land. In Chul-la Province was a warrior monk Ch'oe Yung, and at Diamond Mountain another named Yu Jung. These came with over a thousand followers and went into camp a few miles to the east of Pyeongyang. They had no intention of engaging in actual battle, but they acted as spies, took charge of the commissariat, and made themselves generally useful. During battle they stood behind the troops and shouted encouragement. Yu Jung, trusting to his priestly garb, went into Pyeongyang to see the Japanese generals. Being ushered into the presence of Konishi, the monk found himself surrounded by flashing weapons. But he was not in the least daunted, and looked about him with a smiling face. Konishi addressed him good-naturedly and asked, "What do you consider the greatest treasure in your land?" Without a moment's hesitation the monk answered "Your head," which piece of subtle flattery made the Japanese general laugh long and loud.

Besides these monks there were other movements of a loyal nature throughout the country. At Wha-san, in Chul-la Province, there was a little band of men under Ch'oe Gyoung, who whose banner represented a falcon in flight. Also in Ch'ung-ch'ung Province a celebrated scholar Cho Hön collected a large band of men, but his efforts were frustrated by the cowardice and jealousy of the governor of the province, who imprisoned the parents of many of his followers and so compelled them to desert.

Yi Wan-ik, the governor of Poyeung-an Province, and Yi Bin, one of the provincial generals, made a fortified camp at Sun-an, sixty li to the west of Poyeung. At the same time Generals Kim Eung-do and Pak Myung-hyun, with a force of 10,000 men, made a line of fortified camps along the west side of the town of Poyeung-yang. Kim Ok-ch'u with a naval force guarded the ford of the Ta-dong. These forces advanced simultaneously and attacked the Japanese, cutting off all stragglers. Suddenly the Japanese army made a sally from the city, and the Koreans were dispersed. When they again rendezvoused at their respective camps it was found that General Kim Eung-do and his troops were nowhere to be found. As it happened he was very near the wall of the town when the sortie occurred and he was cut off from retreat. But in the dusk of approaching night he was not discovered by the Japanese. A story is told of a curious adventure which he had that night. One of the Japanese generals in the town had found a beautiful dancing girl and had compelled her to share his quarters. On this evening she asked him to let her go to the wall and see if she could find some one who would carry a message to her brother. Permission was given, and she hastened to the wall and there called softly, "Where is my brother?" General

Kim, as we have seen, was immediately beneath the wall and he answered, "Who is it that calls?" "Will you not help me escape from the Japanese," she pleaded. He immediately consented to help her, and, taking his life in his hands, he speedily scaled the wall and accompanied her toward the Japanese general's quarters. Her captor was a terrible creature, so the story goes, who always slept sitting bolt upright at a table with his eyes wide open and holding a long sword in each hand. His face was fiery red. General Kim, conducted by the dancing girl, came upon him unawares and smote off his head at a stroke, but even after the head fell the terrible figure rose and hurled one of the swords with such tremendous force that it stuck fast in one of the house posts. The Korean general concealed the head beneath his garments and fled, with the girl at his heels. But now for the first time he seemed to become aware of the extreme hazard of his position and, fearing that he would not be able to get by the guard if accompanied by the girl, his gallantry suddenly forsook him and he turned and smote off her head as well. Thus unencumbered he succeeded in making his escape.

We must here digress again to describe the final conflict that put an end to Japanese advances in the province of Chul-la. A general, Cho Hön, in company with a monk warrior, Yung Gyu, advanced on the important town of Ch'ung-gu, then occupied by a strong Japanese garrison. They approached the west gate and stormed it with stones and arrows. In a short time the Japanese were compelled to retire and the Koreans began to swarm into the town, vowing to make a complete slaughter of the hated enemy; but at the moment a severe thunder shower arose and the darkness was intense. So General Cho recalled his troops and encamped outside the gate. That night the Japanese burned their dead and fled out of the north gate, and when General Cho led his troops into the city the next day he scored only an empty triumph. He desired to push forward to the place where the King had found refuge, and in that end he advanced as far north as On-yang in Ch'ung-ch'ung Province; but learning there that a strong body of Japanese had congregated at Yö-san in Chul-la Province, he turned back to attack them. He made an arrangement by letter with Kwun Ryul, the provincial general of Chul-la, to make a simultaneous attack upon the Japanese position from different sides. But when General Cho arrived before the Japanese camp with his little band of 700 men General Kwun was nowhere to be found. The Japanese laughed when they saw this little array and came on to the attack, but were each time driven back. At last the Koreans had spent all their arrows, it was late in the day, and they were fatigued and half-famished. General Cho, however, had no thought of retreat, and kept urging on his men. If he had at this crisis withdrawn his remaining soldiers the victory would virtually have been his, for the Japanese had lost many more men than he; but he was too stubborn to give an inch. The Japanese came on to a last grand charge. General Cho's aides advised him to withdraw, but he peremptorily refused. At last every weapon was gone and the men fought with their bare fists, falling where they stood. The slain of the Japanese outnumbered those of the Koreans, and although they were victorious their victory crippled them. It took the survivors four days to burn their dead, and when it was done they broke camp and went southward. The Japanese never regained the ground lost by this retreat and it was a sample of what must occur throughout the peninsula, since Admiral Yi had rendered reinforcement from Japan impossible.

We return now to the north, the real scene of war. In the ninth moon the Chinese general, Sim Yu-yung, whose name will figure largely in these annals from this point on, was sent from China to investigate the condition of affairs in Korea with a view to the sending of a large Chinese force, for by this time China had become alive to the interests at stake—namely, her own interests. This general crossed the Yalu and came southward by An-ju as far as Sun-an. From that point he sent a communication to the Japanese in Pyeongyang saying, "I have come by order of the Emperor of China to inquire what Korea has done to merit such treatment as this at your hands. You are trampling Korea under foot and we would know why." The Japanese general, Konishi, answered him by requesting that the Chinese general meet him at Kang-bok Mountain ten li north of Pyeongyang and have a conference with him. To this General Sim agreed, and, taking with him three followers, he repaired to the appointed place. Konishi, accompanied by Kuroda and Gensho, came to the rendezvous with a great array of soldiers and weapons. General Sim walked into their midst alone, having left his

horse outside the enclosure. He immediately addressed them as follows, "I brought with me a million soldiers and left them in camp beyond the Ya-lu. You, Gensho, are a monk. Why do you come to kill and destroy?" Gensho answered, "For many a year Japan has had no dealings with China. We asked from Korea a safe conduct for our envoy to Nanking, but it was refused, and we were compelled to come and take it by force. What cause have you to blame us for this?" To this General Sim replied, "If you wish to go to China to pay your respects to the Emperor there will be no difficulty at all. I can arrange it without the least trouble." Konishi said nothing but handed his sword to General Sim in token of amity and after they had conferred together for some time it was arranged that General Sim go to Nanking and represent that Japan wished to become a vassal of China. Fifty days was agreed upon for the general to make the trip to Nanking and return with the answer, and a truce was called for that time. A line was drawn round Pyeongyang ten li from the wall and the Japanese agreed to stay within that limit while the Koreans promised not to cross that line. General Sim was sent upon his way with every mark of esteem on the part of the Japanese, who accompanied him a short distance on the road.

The Japanese lived up to the terms of the truce, never crossing the line once, but the fifty days expired and still General Sim did not appear. They then informed the Koreans that in the twelfth moon their horses would "drink the waters of the Ya-lu."

During these fifty days of truce what was going on in other parts of the peninsula? Cho Ung, a soldier of Ch'ung ch'ung Province, was a man of marvellous skill. With a band of 500 men he succeeded so well in cutting off small foraging bands of Japanese that they were at their wits' end to get him put out of the way. One foggy day when the mist was so thick that one could not see his hand before his face the Japanese learned that this dreaded man was on the road. They followed him swiftly and silently and at last got an opportunity to shoot him in the back. He fell from his horse, but rose and fled on foot. But they soon overtook him and, having first cut his hands off, they despatched him.

The governor of Kyung-gui Province was Sim Du. He had found asylum in the town of Sangnyung, two hundred li north of Seoul. Having gotten together a considerable body of soldiers he formed the daring plan of wresting Seoul from the hands of the Japanese. For this purpose it was necessary that he should have accomplices in that city who should rise at the appointed time and join in the attack. Through treachery or otherwise the Japanese became aware of the plot and, sending a strong body of troops to Sangnyung, they seized the governor and put him to death.

General Dim S-min had charge of the defence of the walled town of Chin-ju, in Kyung-sung Province. The Japanese invested the town with a very large force. Within the garrison amounted to only three thousand men. These were placed on the walls in the most advantageous manner by General Kim who was specially skilled in the defence of a walled town. All the soldiers were strictly commanded not to fire a single shot until the Japanese were close up to the wall. They advanced in three divisions, 10,000 strong. A thousand of these were musketeers. The roar of the musketry was deafening, but the walls were as silent as if deserted. Not a man was to be seen. On the following day the assault began in earnest. The Japanese discarded the muskets and used fire arrows. Soon all the houses outside the wall were in ashes. General Kim went up into the south gate and there sat and listened to some flute playing with a view to making the Japanese think the defending force was so large as to make solicitude unnecessary. This made the Japanese very careful. They made elaborate preparations for the assault. Cutting down bamboos and pine trees they made ladders about eight feet wide and as high as the wall. They also prepared straw mats to protect their heads from missiles from above. But the defenders had also made careful preparations. They had bundles of straw with little packages of powder fastened in them, to cast down on the attacking party. Piles of stones and keftles of hot water were also in readiness. As the assault might take place at night, planks bristling with nails were thrown over the wall. This proved a wise precaution, for in fact the attack was made that very night. It raged fiercely for a time, but so many of the Japanese were lamed by the spikes in the planks and so many were burned by the bundles of straw that at last they had to withdraw, leaving heaps of dead behind. More than half the attacking force were killed and the rest beat a hasty retreat.

In the ninth moon General Pak Jin of Kyung-

sang Province took 10,000 soldiers and went to attack the walled town of Kyong-ju, which was held by the Japanese. It is said that he made use of a species of missile called "The Flying Thunder-bolt." It was projected from a kind of mortar made of bell metal and having a bore of some twelve or fourteen inches. The mortar was about eight feet long. The records say that this thing could project itself through the air for a distance of forty paces. It doubtless means that a projectile of some kind could be cast that distance from this mortar. The records go on to say that the "Flying Thunder-bolt" was thrown over the wall of the town and when the Japanese flocked around it to see what it might be it exploded with a terrific noise, killing twenty men or more instantly. This struck the Japanese dumb with terror and so worked upon their superstitious natures that they decamped in haste and evacuated the city. The inventor of this weapon was Yi Jang-sun, and it is said that the secret of its construction died with him. It appears that we have here the inventor of the mortar and bomb. The length of the gun compared with its calibre, the distance the projectile was carried with the poor powder then in use, and the explosion of the shell all point to this as being the first veritable mortar in use in the East, if not in the world. It is said that one of these mortars lies to-day in a storehouse in the fortress of Nam-han.

All through the country the people were rising and arming against the invaders. A list of their leaders will show how widespread was the movement. In the province of Chul-la were Generals Kim Ch'un-il, Ko G'ong-myung, and Ch'oe G'ung-whie; in Kyung-sung Province Generals Kwak Jan, Kwon Bung-do, Kim Myon, Ch'ong In-hong, Kim Ha, Nyn Wang-a, Yi Da-guei and Chang Sa-jin in Ch'ung-ch'ung Province Generals Cho Hoi, Yung Gyu (monk), Kim Hong-min, Yi San-gyun, Cho Dok-kong Cho Ung and Yi Bang; in Kyung-gui Province Generals U Sung-jun, Chong Suk-ha, Ch'oe Henl, Yi No, Yi San-whi, Nam On-gyung, Kim Tak, Yu Da-jun, Yi Jil, Hong Gy'e nam, and Wang Ok; in Ham-gyung Province Generals Ch'ong Nam-bu, and Ko G'ung-min; in Pyeong-an Province Generals Cho Hui-k and the monk Yu Jung. The country was filled with little bands of fifty or a hundred men; each and all were fighting separately. Perhaps it was better so, for it may have prevented jealousies and personal enmities that otherwise would have ruined the whole scheme.

Chong Mun-bu was the "Military inspector of the north," and it was his business to investigate annually the condition of things in the province of Ham-gyung and to superintend the annual fair on the border at Whae-yung in the tenth moon of each year. He was caught by the Japanese on the road and was held captive, but made his escape by night and found a place of hiding in the house of a certain sorcerer or fortune-teller in Yung-sung. After five days of flight he reached the town of Kyung-sung, where he found the leaders Ch'oe Baek-hun and Ch'oi Dal-wun at the house of a wealthy patron, Yi Bang-sun, who had given large sums of money to raise and equip soldiers. The common people entered into the plan and a force of 10,000 men, indifferently armed and drilled, was put into the field. This force surrounded the town of Kil-ju, where the Japanese were encamped, and after a desperate fight the Japanese were totally defeated, leaving 600 heads in the hands of the victors. A few days later a similar engagement took place with a like result, sixty more heads being taken.

And so it was throughout the country. The Japanese were being worn away by constant attrition; here a dozen, there a score, and yonder a hundred, until the army in Pyeongyang, by no means a large one, was practically all that was left of the Japanese in the peninsula.

Kwon Ryul, the governor of Chul-la Province, said to the provincial general, "If you will remain in Yi-hyun and guard the province I will take 20,000 men and move northward to the capital." He advanced as far as Sa-wun. The Japanese tried to draw him into a general engagement, but he avoided it and kept up a guerilla warfare, cutting off large numbers of stragglers from the Japanese camp. By this means he accomplished the important work of opening up a way to the north, which had been until now closed so that from now on messengers passed freely from the southern provinces to the King.

Travellers up country should always provide themselves with Liebig Company's Extract. It takes up little space and can always be relied on, but be sure it is the Company's signed J. v. Liebig in blue. Lord Roberts, Mr. H. M. Stanley, and Mr. Edward Whymper testify to its unequalled value.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, May 20th:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	...	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	...	14,742,508
Amount of convertible notes issued	...	167,571,648
Government deposits	...	33,471,981
General deposits	...	5,845,937
Exchange liability	...	41,470

Total ... 251,673,567

	Cr.	Yen.
Discount notes	...	27,152,386
Foreign discount notes	...	9,161,226
Loan to Government	...	22,000,000
General loans	...	42,790,769
Exchange liability	...	1,260,804
Government bonds	...	45,147,202
Property	...	1,849,035
Bullion and Specie	...	102,312,142

Total ... 251,673,567

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued... 166,540,380

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	...	98,525,384
Silver	...	—

Total ... 98,525,384

Securities:—

Government bonds	...	35,465,788
Government certificates	...	22,000,000
Government bills	...	7,377,838
Commercial notes	...	3,171,370

Total ... 68,014,996

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	...	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	455,889	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	162,067	—
Government deposits	393,397	—
General deposits	543,592	—

REVIVAL OF CONFUCIANISM IN KOREA.

The Korean Weekly Repository says the following edict has been issued at Seoul:—

Among all the nations of this world there is not one which does not follow the precepts of its honourable and venerated State Religion, for a State Religion comes into existence for the purpose of purifying the minds of men and bringing their actions under government. Why is it that the State Religion of our nation is not in high esteem and is fruitless? Is not our State Religion the cult of Confucius? Whang-chai and Yao-nin inherited the divine commands and rose to the highest pinnacle. Woo tong, Munum, and Chu kung were the heirs of complete and holy doctrines, and the divine precepts. Then came the Master (Confucius), the possessor of the secrets of the universe, who gathered together the teachings of the sages. And his precepts relate to father and son, king and country, husband and wife, elder and junior, friend and friend, and his writings were the books of Odes, History, Changes, Rites, and the Spring and Autumn Annals. The chief thoughts of these books are the illumination of virtue and the renewal of the people. They teach physics, philosophy, morals, psychology, cleanliness of person, order in family, administration of the nation, and the peace of the universe. A literature for all beings and myriads of generations to follow! Outside this religion there are no men and no nations, and all the kings and confucians of history were faithful to it, villains and traitors stood in mortal terror in their schemes.

Then follows a reference to the labours of the various Sages, after which the rise of the cult in Korea is introduced as follows:—

In the time of Kija the foundation was laid and in the time of the Samban it fell into disuse, for the customs of the people were unclean and the doctrine became extinguished.

How comes in the present times have abandoned that begun so long ago and daily fallen away from it, exercise themselves in it with lips

and ears only, but with their bodies and their hearts serve a literature of folly, darkening the only science which is real? Even the books of the State Religion are disappearing. If the odes are unsung the schools cannot hear. The holy writings lie abandoned on our desks; officials know only themselves, not the king; the sorrow of the literati in their inability to obtain office; and the waves of covetousness roll high to the very heavens, and every doctrine sweeps the earth; ceremony is in ruins and the precepts lie wounded, and change daily develops and villainous traitors follow in each other's foot-steps, finding a climax in the affair of year sub-mid (1895). Alas, is not this the disaster following the abandonment of the State Religion?

Reason dictates that administration should follow disturbance, and restoration should follow trouble. We have inherited the work of our ancestors and ascended the Throne of kings and saints, and through a hundred troubles and a thousand fears, our one thought has been to establish the State Religion. Our sad thought has been that we might be able to stem the flood and change its drift. The brilliant learning of the Crown Prince was early manifested, and daily his scholarship has advanced so that from now on we and the Crown Prince assume the chief supervision of the Confucian cult, and, illuminating the religion of Kija and Confucius, will bring to pass the will of our royal fathers.

Therefore, all ye officials with care announce this; follow the precepts of the religion and yourselves lead those beneath you. Exalt the rites and teachings, support the customs and achieve a reputation by your earnestness, and increase everywhere devotion to the rites many fold. Use the Confucian Temple College for the development of scholars and scholarship.

The decree ends up with a few general directions relative to the organization of the *Sen Shi* (Literati).

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

A FRENCH COLONIAL MAGNATE.

Saigon, May 27.

General Gallieni, Governor of Madagascar, has arrived in Paris. He was received at the station by various delegations.

A GREAT PAINTER'S DEATH.

Rosa Bonheur, the celebrated painter of animals, is dead.

SEÑOR CASTELAR DEAD.

Castelar is dead.

NEGOTIATION WITH FILIPINOS TO CEASE.

President MacKinley has given orders for ceasing the negotiations with the Filipinos.

HONOURS FOR GENERAL GALLIENI.

General Gallieni, Governor of Madagascar, will be entertained at dinner on Monday by the President of the Republic at the Palace of the Elysée, and will then proceed to the home of his family in the Department of Var.

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

The French Senate has passed the Budget, after having subjected it to various modifications which will necessitate its reconsideration by the Chamber of Deputies.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

CIVIL COURT IN FAVOUR OF REVISION.

Saigon, May 28.

The report of the President of the Civil Chamber of the Court of Cassation—written by M. Ballot-Beaupré—is in favour of revision of the Dreyfus case, and of its re-submission to the Council of War.

Saigon, May 29.

The majority of the French journals consider the revision of the Dreyfus case certain.

Saigon, May 30.

To-day M. Ballot-Beaupré, President of

the Civil Chamber, reads his report on the application for revision of the Dreyfus case. The interior of the *Palais de Justice* presents a very animated scene, but is all calm outside. Stringent measures have been adopted to preserve order.

Saigon, May 31.

First Telegram.—The President of the Civil Chamber of the Court of Cassation, M. Ballot-Beaupré, yesterday set forth the arguments of the partisans of revision in the Dreyfus affair; to-day he is setting forth those of its opponents. He affirms, in his soul and conscience, that the *borderneau* is the work of Esterhazy. This statement caused a prolonged sensation.

The Report of the Civil Chamber is in favour of revision, and of the re-arraignment of Dreyfus before a Court-martial.

M. Manau, Procurator-General, continued his address, demanding the revision of the Dreyfus case.

Second Telegram.—M. Manau, Procurator-General, has commenced his *réquisition*. He says that it was the *borderneau*, Esterhazy's work, that led to the condemnation of Dreyfus. The Court has risen.

M. DÉROULEDE ACQUITTED.

The Déroulède affair also comes up for trial in the Assize Court. The hall is crowded. Several of those present gave an ovation to M.M. Déroulède and Habert when they entered the Court. There has not been any incident.

In the Court of Cassation M.M. Déroulède and Habert declared that their intention was to overthrow the parliamentary system. The witnesses for the defense eulogised the accused. There has not been any demonstration, and few persons have had the curiosity to visit the precincts of the Court.

Third Telegram.—The examination of the witnesses in the Déroulède-Habert affair is concluded. Nothing unusual has occurred.

In the Assize Court the Procurator called for the condemnation of M.M. Déroulède and Habert.

Later.

The Assize Court has acquitted M.M. Déroulède and Habert.

[The charge against M. Déroulède is inciting the military to disobedience. The affair occurred on the day of the obsequies of the late President Faure. M. Déroulède, who is a member of the Chamber of Deputies, made an attempt to harangue a regiment of soldiers returning to barracks.—Ed. J. M.]

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

Saigon, June 1.

The French Budget has been definitively voted.

MAJOR MARCHAND.

At Toulon the Authorities gave a brilliant reception to Major Marchand, and the crowd accorded him an ovation.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

London, May 27.

A prominent Delegate at The Hague states that, according to the first exchange of views, the Conference is certain to effect something in connection with arbitration and the humanizing of war; but that it is unlikely to effect anything toward disarmament, beyond making

recommendations to the Governments represented.

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD REACHES ITALY.

London, May 29.

Sir Claude Macdonald, British Minister to China, has stopped in Italy to recuperate his health.

Both Sir Julian Pauncefote and M. Georges de Staal have introduced a proposal for a permanent tribunal for arbitration. The idea is making good progress.

THE PHILIPPINE SITUATION.

UNEASINESS AT WASHINGTON.

Uneasiness prevails at Washington, owing to the latest Manila news showing it to be impossible to establish American supremacy without more troops. This involves a fresh call for volunteers despite the unpopularity of the measure.

"THE TIMES" ANTI-RUSSIAN ADVICE.

The *Times*, reverting to Russian action at Peking, advises the British capitalists to ignore the Russian railway loan which M. de Witte, Russian Minister of Finance, is proposing to raise in London.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

London, May 29.

It is reported that the Judges of the Court of Cassation, sitting over the Dreyfus case, have pronounced in favour of revision and a new trial by Court-martial. The whole Court will undoubtedly endorse the report.

M. Ballot-Beaupré concluded his address to the Court of Cassation by stating that the new fact legally required for the revision was the discovery of two letters of Esterhazy, written on paper identical to that on which is written the *borderneau*. He finally asseverated that, on his honour and conscience, he has become convinced that Esterhazy wrote the *borderneau*; and that the honour of the Army does not require the detention of an innocent man at Devil's Island.

MILNER-KRUGER MEETING.

London, May 30.

Sir Alfred Milner has started for Bloemfontein to meet President Kruger. The political circles of the Cape are not sanguine over the success of the meeting.

PLAGUE IN ALEXANDRIA.

Eight cases of the plague are reported from Alexandria, involving four Europeans.

RUSSIAN RAILWAY LOAN.

The *Times'* St. Petersburg correspondent reports that negotiations have been commenced regarding the Russian railway loan to be raised in England to the extent of 4,500,000 roubles, which, it is believed, are intended as an experiment to test the market.

SUEZ CANAL RECEIPTS.

The report on the Suez Canal states that the receipts for 1898 reached eighty-eight million francs, the largest figures on record, and alludes to the increasing trade between America and Asia.

M. Basanpré, Court Reporter, in his report to the Court of Cassation, strongly insisted on the innocence of Dreyfus, and urged that evidence all pointed to Esterhazy's guilt. The trial has been adjourned.

MARCHAND AT TOULON.

Major Marchand has arrived in Toulon. The authorities and deputations received him with enthusiasm.

The address has caused an immense sensation. The anti-revisionists are dumb-founded and are declaring that Beaupré has been bribed.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION.

The final federation referendum in South-Australia stands, 66,000 for and 17,000 against.

DERBY BETTING.

The Derby betting on Tuesday stood at: 2 to 1 on Flying Fox; 5 to 1 against Holocaste; 100 to 8, Oppressor; 20 to 1, Damocles; 40 to 1, My Boy; 50 to 1, Desmond and Innocence; 66 to 1, Scintillant.

MILNER-KRÜGER MEETING.

London, June 1.

Sir Alfred Milner and President Krüger have arrived in Bloemfontein. Official receptions were held in their honour.

RUSSIAN RAILWAY LOAN.

The Russian railway loan amounting to £2,975,000 sterling has been issued in London.

MAJOR MARCHAND INTERVIEWED.

Major Marchand, being interviewed by the *Times'* correspondent, ridiculed the idea that he contemplated the rôle of Napoleon.

THE DERBY.

The result of the Derby was as follows:

- 1 Flying Fox
- 2 Damocles
- 3 Innocence

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS")

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Hongkong, May 22.

Aguineldo's Commissioners met the American Commissioners, when the latter presented a provisional plan for the Government of the Islands when the Filipinos lay down their arms. The President is to appoint a Governor-General, who will appoint the Cabinet. The President will appoint the Judges; and an American or Filipino Advisory Council will be elected by the Filipinos.

SERIOUS ALLEGATION AGAINST THE CANTON VICEROY.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Shanghai, May 19.

It has transpired at Peking that His Excellency Tan, the Viceroy of the two Kwang Provinces, has sent a secret memorial to the Throne in which he eulogises the patriotism and bravery of the Chinamen who attacked the British forces at Taipoh. He says they were filled with the most praiseworthy motives.

The British *Chargé d'Affaires* has addressed a diplomatic Note on the subject to the Tsung-li Yamen.

As yet, no satisfactory explanation of the Viceroy's duplicity has been vouchsafed by the Chinese Government.

(FROM THE "NICHU NICHU SHIMBUN.")

THE RUSSIAN RAILWAY DEMAND.

Peking, May 21.

It is rumoured that Russia will withdraw her demand for the Peking railway concession.

GERMAN MINISTER LEAVES PEKING.

Peking, June 1.

The German Minister and the Legation guards left for home at 11 to a.m. on June 1st.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

Soul, June 1.

Prince Henry is expected here at the middle of this month.

KOREAN DISTURBANCE.

Soul, June 1.

An official telegram from Chon-ju to the Korean Government says that mobs have risen at Ko-phu and surrounding places. They attacked Government offices and carried off weapons.

CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 422.

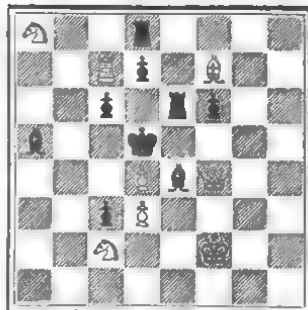
Second Prize Dreizüger-Turnier des Altonbladet.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1—K to R 8 | 1—K to B 3 |
| 2—B to K 8 ch | 2—K to Q 4 (must) |
| 3—Q to B 5 mate | 1—R takes Kt P |
| 2—Kt to B 7 ch | 2—K to B 3 |
| 3—B to Q 5 mate | if 2—K to Q 5 |
| 3—Kt to Kt 5 mate | 1—R takes B P |
| 2—B to Kt 8 | 2—K to B 3 |
| 3—Kt to Q 4 mate | if 2—Any other |
| 3—Q to Q Kt 7 mate | 1—Kt to B 5 |
| 2—Q takes B ch | 2—Kt to Kt 7 (must) |
| 3—Q takes Kt mate | 1—Kt to R 5 |
| 2—Kt takes P ch | 2—K to K 4 (must) |
| 3—P to B 4 mate | 1—Kt to B 6 |
| 2—Kt to Q 8 ch | 2—K to Q 5 (mu-t) |
| 3—Kt to B 6 mate | |
| etc., | etc. |

Correct solutions received from Veritas, East Anglia, W.D.C., and Voila.

PROBLEM No. 425.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 513.

A FINE DEFENCE.

The World's Champion played 30 games simultaneously at Cheltenham, England, winning 24, losing 2, and drawing 4. The following, taken from *The B. C. M.*, is one of the games he lost:—

ALLGAIR-THOROLD GAMBIT.

Notes by James Mason.

- | Lasker. | Col. E. Law. |
|---------------|---------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—P to K B 4 | 2—P takes P |
| 3—Kt to K B 3 | 3—P to E Kt 4 |
| 4—P to K R 4 | 4—P to Kt 5 |
| 5—Kt to Kt 5 | 5—P to K R 3 |
| 6—Kt takes P | 6—K takes Kt |
| 7—P to Q 4 | 7—P to Q 4 |
| 8—Kt to B 3 | 8—Kt to K B 3 |
| 9—B takes P | 9—P takes P |

..... Capture of the Pawn may be delayed, but up to and including move 10, on both sides, the opening may be accepted as a model of correctness, in this hazardous game.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 10—B to B 4 ch | 10—K to Kt 2 |
| 11—B to K 5 | |

Now, however, 11—Q to Q 2, with choice as to Castling, would yield a much more enduring attack. The early exchange of this Bishop is unfavourable; even assuming no further sacrifice of force involved.

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 12—Castles | 11—B to K 2 |
| 13—Q to K 2 | 12—Kt to Q B 3 |

If 13—Kt takes P or 13—Kt to Q 5, the reply might be the same, that is 13..... Kt takes B; and Black's superior force would about as easily assert itself. Anyhow, the attack fails, and the solid difference of the piece remains.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 14—P takes Kt | 13—Kt takes B |
| 15—K to R sq | 14—Q to Q 5 ch |
| 16—Kt takes P | 15—Q takes P |
| | 16—B to Q 3 |

..... Or 16..... Kt takes Kt; there would be no harm in 17—R to B 7 takes, etc. White could not seriously prolong the contest two pieces behind.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 17—Kt takes B | 17—Q takes Q |
| 18—B takes Q | 18—P takes Kt |
| 19—Q R to Q sq | 19—Kt to K 5! |
| 20—K to R 2 | 20—B to K 3 |
| 21—R to Q 4 | 21—P to Q 4 |
| 22—P to Q B 4 | 22—Kt to K B 3 |
| 23—P takes P | 23—Kt takes P |
| 24—B takes P | 24—Kt to K 6 |

With this Black makes further gain—wins as a matter of course. Here Lasker might have gracefully resigned.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 25—B takes P | 25—Kt takes B ch |
| 26—K to R 3 | 26—K R to K sq |
| 27—B to Q 5 | 27—R to K 2 |
| 28—R to Kt 4 ch | 28—K to R sq |
| 29—R to Kt 6 | 29—K to R 2 |
| 30—R to K B 6 | 30—R to K 6 ch |
| 31—K to Kt 4 | 31—Kt to Q 7 |
| 32—R to Q 6 | 32—Kt to R 5 |
| 33—R to Q 7 ch | 33—K to R sq |
| 34—R to K B 7 | 34—R to K sq |
| 35—K to R 5 | 35—Kt to Q 3 |
| 36—R to Q 7 | 36—K R to K 4 ch |
| 37—K to Kt 6 | 37—R takes B |

And White resigned.

GAME No. 514.

BLINDFOLD CHESS.

Pillsbury, the American Champion, is one of the best blindfold players in the world. A specimen of his brilliancy and far-sightedness is given in the following game.

PHILIDOR'S DEFENCE.

- | White—Pillsbury. | Black—Garner. |
|------------------|---------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1 P K 4 | 1 P R 5 |
| 2 Kt KB 3 | 2 Kt KB 3 |
| 3 P Q 4 | 3 P KB 4 |
| 4 QxP | 4 Kt B 3 |
| 5 Kt B 3 | 5 P KB 3 |
| 6 B K 3 | 6 P B 3 |
| 7 Castles (Q R) | 7 R Pch |
| 8 B KB 4 | 8 R R-q |
| 9 Q Q 2 | 9 Kt B 3 |
| 10 B Bch | 10 Kt Kt 6 ch |
| 11 P KR 4 | 11 R B 1 |
| | 12 Kt Kt 6 ch |
| | 13 Kt KB 4 |
| | 14 P KB 4 |
| | 15 Kt B 3 |
| | 16 P KB 3 |
| | 17 R Pch |
| | 18 R R-q |
| | 19 Kt B 3 |
| | 20 Kt Kt 6 ch |
| | 21 Kt Kt 6 ch |
| | 22 R B 1 |

NOTES.

- (a) If B takes R; 14—Kt to Kt 6 ch, P takes Kt, must; 15—P takes P, mate.
- (b) Startling, but perfectly sound. Think of a man seeing this and what follows, without seeing the board.
- (c) As good as he has, but nothing is good.
- (d) He can't escape mate.

MALAY CHESS.

Mr. Blum gives the *Singapore Free Press* some interesting notes on Malay chess. He says that the chief points of difference from our game are as follows: The Queen stands always on the right hand of the King. Consequently the board, even if the squares are coloured, can be placed either way, instead of as with us having always a white square to the right; and the White King faces the Black Queen, and vice versa, instead of the Kings and Queens facing each other as in European Chess. This alone is sufficient to throw out all preconceived notions as to the openings. But besides this, the King has certain privileges which he only possesses so long as he has not been checked or moved. It is consequently highly important in the opening not to allow the adversary to check, and what would be in our game a merely useless check and consequently generally waste of time becomes in this game an important manoeuvre. The opening has, therefore, to be, as a rule, on very cautious lines, that the King may not be exposed. The privileges which the unmoved and unchecked King possesses are that he may once move or take as a Knight, and may once move or take over two squares, whether a piece intervenes or not, but only in the direction of a Rook's move, not diagonally. Castling is effected in two moves, and is really not a special privilege as with us, but a consequence of the right of the King to move over two squares, although a piece intervenes. The Rook is moved up next the King, and the latter if unchecked can either at the next move or after other moves leap over the Rook to the square beyond.

Bishops, Knights and Rooks move in the same way as in the European game. So do the Pawns, and they have the right, as with us, of moving two squares on their first move, but there are curious modifications with regard to queening a Pawn. On reaching the eighth rank on the Rook's file the Pawn queens at once; on the Knight's file it has to move back one square diagonally before queening; on the Bishop's file it has to move back two squares and on the King's or Queen's

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Turnbull, Mr. G. R. Armstrong, Mr. Bickett, Miss A. K. Hamper, Miss E. M. Hamper, Mr. C. Dix, Mr. Daniel Blair, Mr. H. V. Sommers, Mr. W. Nicholson, Mr. C. Murray Bain, Dr. D. Knocker and native servant, Mr. Choy Nee, Mr. In Kong Yau, Mr. Chin Quan Mau, Mr. Chen Leo Chow, Mr. G. H. Pardon, Mr. A. Colton, Mr. P. Gill, Mr. W. H. Rice, Mr. F. Ceylan, and Mr. A. Connell, in cabin; 1 European, and 7 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. G. Tanaka, Mr. T. Sekiya, Dr. R. Fujisawa, Mr. W. B. Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. Musgrave, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson, Miss Blair, Mr. Ben, Mr. Munio, Mr. Ferrell, Mr. Brown, Mr. Hall, Mr. F. H. Boss, Master Boss, Mr. N. Yokoyama and family, and Mrs. Obara and children, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Y. Nakashima, Lieut. G. Mouri and wife, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Montegu, Mr. Oscar, Mr. M. Arakawa, and Mr. Y. Pan, in second class.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO NEW	AND WORK	PACIFIC	OTHER	TOTAL
		CANADA.	WEST.	COAST.	CITIES.	ACCS.
Hongkong	433	30	82	—	—	540
Shanghai	—	616	—	—	—	616
Kobe	921	1,610	569	—	—	3,100
Yokohama	2,403	2,302	1,700	—	—	7,407
Total	4,759	4,558	2,351	—	—	11,663

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL
				BALES.
Hongkong and Canton	186	—	—	186
Shanghai	—	—	—	—
Yokohama	146	—	—	146
Total	332	—	—	332

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	—
America	F. M. Co.	City of Peking	Su. June 4
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. June 5
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Holensollen	M. June 5
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. June 5
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. June 12
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. June 13
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. June 13
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. June 13
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	—	Th. June 13

- 2 to quarantine at Nagasaki.
 3 Left San Francisco on the 26th ult.
 3 Left Nagasaki on the 21st inst.
 4 Left Hongkong on the 21st ult.
 5 Left Shanghai on the 21st ult.
 6 Left San Francisco on the 26th ult.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	—
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. June 5
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	W. June 11
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. June 7
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. June 7
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Holensollen	F. June 9
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. June 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. June 12
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. June 12
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. June 13
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. June 13

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a good deal doing in gassed yarns, but grey shittings are lifeless. The market for fancy cottons and woollens continues quiet.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER PICUL.
Grey Shittings—8½, 38½, 34, 30 inches	2 60 to 2 90
Grey Shittings—9½, 34, 30, 28 inches	3 00 to 3 40
V. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 90 to 2 00
Indigo Shittings—24 yards, 32 inches	2 10 to 2 40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2 50 to 4 00
Cotton—Italians and Sultans Black, 52 inches	See Table
	PER YARD.
Flannels	10 40 to 0 60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0 32 to 0 50
Mousseline de Laine—Tape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0 16 to 0 35
Cloths—11½, 44 to 56 inches	0 50 to 0 65
Cloths—Pretents, 51 to 54 inches	0 75 to 0 85
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0 55 to 0 85
Blankets—Wool and Green, 3 to 5½ per lb	0 62 to 0 75
	PER PICUL.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 10 00

Victrola 1 lawn, 12 yards, 42½ inches	0 70 to 1 10
Turkey Red—20 to 30, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 00 to 2 20
Turkey Red—30 to 40, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	0 45 to 3 47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16½, Singles	\$37.00 to \$8 50
Nos. 28½, Singles	Normal
Nos. 32½, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 34, Doubles	40.00 to 41.00
Nos. 40, Doubles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 50, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 50, Plain	60.50 to 81.50
Nos. 100, Plain	102.00 to 103.00
Nos. 200, Gassed	77.00 to 80.00
Nos. 300, Gassed	90.00 to 93.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed	117.00 to 118.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	\$19.25 to 19.50
Indian Branch	18.25 to 18.50
Chinese	20.00 to 21.00

METALS.

The market is decidedly firm, and gradually following the rapid advances advised from home.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square 1 inch and upward	4.80 to 5.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.40 to 5.80
Sheet iron	5.80 to 6.20
Galvanized iron sheets	7.00 to 12.00
Wire Nails, assorted	7.00 to 7.25
tin Plates, per box	6.80 to 8.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	3.35 to 2.40
Blue Iron (8 to 12 inch)	6.25 to 6.50

KRAOSENK.

The market shows a somewhat better tone, and prices have an advancing tendency.

American	\$2.25 to 2 27
Russian	2.20 to 2 23
Langka	2.10

SUGAR.

The market is steady, with Formosas unchanged in value. More money is asked for Manila.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.85 to 5.70
Brown Manila	5.00 to 6.00
Brown Paiting	4.50 to 4 60
Brown Canto	4.50 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.40
White refined	7.95 to 9 60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A few few spring filatures (*Shinshu*) have been sold, but prices have not transpired. Advices state that the new crop is excellent, but no reliable estimate of the yield can be made.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Kata, Fine	—
Filatures—Kata, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 3, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 3, Coarse	—
Common—No. 1, Coarse	—
Re-reels—Kata	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakelao—Kata	—
Kakelao—No. 1	—
Kakelao—No. 2	—
Kakelao—No. 3	—

Nominal

WASTE SILK.

Little is moving in waste silk, and a stock of over 1 500 piculs is still on the market.

QUOTATIONS.

Hoshi—Filatures, Best	—
Hoshi—Filatures, Good	—
Hoshi—Oshu, Best	—
Hoshi—Oshu, Good	—
Hoshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Hoshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Hoshi—Bushi, Best	—
Hoshi—Bushi, Good	—
Hoshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Hoshi—Joan, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	—
Kibiso—Joan, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	—

Nominal

TEA.

A large business has been done at gradually declining prices. Finest and choicest grades are cheap, there being little demand for these descriptions. There is a large stock, chiefly of medium and lower grades.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	33 & upward
Choice	30 to 31
First	28 to 29
Second	26 to 27
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	18 to 19

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 1

No change from abroad and rates all steady locally.

Bank of Japan	100
— Bills on demand	100
— 3 months' sight	100
— 6 months' sight	100
— 12 months' sight	100
On Lyons—Private 3 months' sight	263 to 264
— American Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 3 months' sight	51 to 52
— German Bank—Bank sight	110
— Private 3 months' sight	114 to 115
— Hongkong—Bank sight	32 to 33
— Private 10 days' sight	42 to 43
— Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	75 to 76
— India—Bank sight	153 to 154
— Private 30 days' sight	156
— Silver (London)	18 to 19

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Urr's List.]

Yokohama, June 1.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations today:—Sales of H. & S. Banks at 304 per cent. premium, Sellers of National Banks at \$22. Sales of China Bonds at \$84. Buyers of Hongkong Bonds at \$12.50. Sales of H. & W. Ducks at 395 per cent. premium. Buyers of H. & K. Wharves at \$86. Sales of Douglas's at \$57. Sales of Indus-Chinas at \$70. Buyers of Panjium Mines at \$8.50. Sales of Raub Mines at \$60.50. Buyers of Hongkong Lands at \$84. Buyers of Union Insurance at \$230. Sales of China Traders at \$62. Sales of H. C. & M. Steamboats at \$20. and Sales of Straits Insurance at \$4.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Iron Works have sellers at yen 210. Japan Breweries changed hands today at yen 172.50. For delivery on 1st December, yen 180 has been booked and for delivery on 1st June, 1900, yen 200. Grand Hotels can be had at yen 227.50. Club Hotels are offering at yen 90. Oriental Hotels are steady at yen 125. Officers of Nagasaki Hotels are wanted. Breits are wanted at yen 9.50. North & Rares are in demand at yen 200. Langfeldts are on offer at yen 160. Steam Laundries can be had at yen 70. Japan Brewery Debitures are procurable at yen 108 and Y. U. Club at yen 107. Oriental Hotel Debitures are wanted at yen 108.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, I.d. \$50	820 S.
Japan Brewery Co. I.d. yen 50	872.50 S.
Grand Hotel, I.d. \$100	207.50 S.
Club Hotel, I.d. \$100	90 S.
Oriental Hotel, I.d. \$100	125 S.
Oriental Hotel, I.d. \$100	125 S.
Nagasaki Hotel I.d. yen 200	60 S.
North and Rares, I.d. \$100	200 S.
Breit & Co., I.d. \$100	9.50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., I.d. \$100	160 S.
Ullrich & Co., I.d. \$100	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co. Ltd. I.d. yen 50	70 S.
Japan Brewery Co. I.d. 1/2 Deb. \$100	207.50 S.
Kobe Club 6 1/2 Deb. \$50	50 S.
Yokohama United Club 7 1/2 Deb. \$100	125 S.
Breit & Co., I.d. 1/2 Deb. \$100	125 S.
Oriental Hotel, I.d. 1/2 Deb. \$100	125 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, I.d. 1/2 Deb. \$100	100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1 yen 3,200 equalization of dividends and yen 50,000 fluctuation of property at yen 17,770.80 at 1 yen 16,108.44; 4 yen 77,881.16 and yen 48,118.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.

N.H.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, S.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak R.—Enquiries.

Tokyo, June 1.

Redemption Loan Bonds	97.50
War Loan Bonds	97.50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	101.50
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 500	278.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 500	50.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 500	118.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	278.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	62.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	62.50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 500	101.50
Tokoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 50	27.50
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	75.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	65.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 30	65.50
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45	210.00
Kobe Railway, new—paid up yen 45	75.50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	65.50
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	55.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	65.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 35	46.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	99.50

Hokkaido Ferry R'w y, and same-paid up yen 50	50.00
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Hoseo Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Fuyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Nasao Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Hosuyatsu Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Itoya Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 50	50.00
Itoya Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Itoya Railway, new—paid up yen 50	50.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	50.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	50.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 50	50.00
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	50.00
Nippon Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	50.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 50	50.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 50	50.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 50	50.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 50	50.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	50.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	50.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	50.00
Tokyo Mercantile Exchange—paid up yen 50	50.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 50	50.00
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	50.00
Shimadzu Electric Light—paid up yen 50	50.00

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cut off and in below cut
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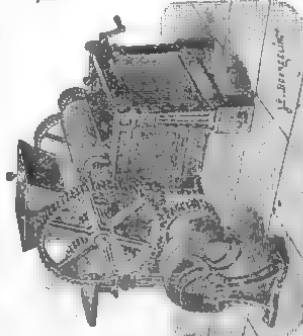
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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YOKOHAMA, MAY 27TH, 1899.

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[VOL. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	300
Russia and China	300
Yokohama Water Rates	300
The Cabinet and its Economy	300
Evangelization and Education	300
The Shanghai-Kwan Railway	301
Japanese Justice	301
Assassination of Marquis Daigo	301
A New System of Stenography for Japan	301
Street Improvement in Tokyo	301
Italy and China	301
Fight between Chinese and Japanese in Hawaii	301
"The London Letter"	301
Death of Baron Yasuda	301
"The Times" Correspondent in Tokyo	301
Mr. Yamada's Philosophy	301
Selected Relics of Japanese Art	301
Christianity and Buddhism	301
Seki-Chemulpo Railway	301
Policy of the Headquarters Staff	301
Import Duties	301
Notes on Current Events	301
A Scandal	301
Imports and Exports	301
Armaments and Diplomacy	301
Negishi Hospital	301
Leading Articles	301
French Trappists of Yezo	301
Count Okuma on China	301
Monthly Summary of Japanese Current Literature	301
Sendai News	301
The Drama	301
The Queen's Birthday	301
Yokohama Regatta	301
The Robbery at Meams. Herb's	301
Crickets	301
Chinese Affairs	301
News of the Week	301
Japanese Finance	301
Telegrams	301
Bank of Japan	301
Cheques	301
Latest Shipping	301
Latest Commercial	301

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAUCES QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 27TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

At 86, Yokohama, on May 24th, the wife of W. KARL VINCENT, of a Daughter.

MARRIAGE.

At No. 87, Bluff, on Monday, May 22nd, by the Rev. E. C. Irvine and in the presence of J. McLean Esq., U.S. Vice-Consul General, CORNELIA KIWA, third daughter of the late Dr. J. A. C. Geerts, of Yokohama, to FRANCIS S. MAYER of the *Japan Herald*.

DEATH.

On the 14th of April, at Kronach, Bavaria, FRAU HENRIETTE ENGERT, in her 87th year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Australians have beaten an All England Eleven by 172.

A JAPANESE Vice-Consulate has been opened at Masanpho, Korea.

DAWSON CITY, Klondyke, has been almost destroyed by fire, and much gold has been lost.

THE Harvard and Yale athletes are to visit England in July in compete with Oxford and Cambridge.

THE half-yearly sale of race ponies by Mr. John W. Hall took place on Thursday. Good prices were realised.

THE Queen's Birthday passed off very quietly in Yokohama. The British Minister (Sir E.

Satow) gave a garden party at the English Legation at Tokyo.

BARON YASUBA YASUKAZU died on the 23rd inst. He was formerly chief of the Hokkaido Administration.

M. P. UL DECHANEL, President of the Chamber of Deputies, has been elected a member of the French Academy.

"MAID MARION" won the first prize (Sir E. Satow's gift) in the sailing race for 39-raters on the Queen's Birthday.

A JAPANESE loan of ten million pounds sterling bearing four per cent. interest and at the price of 90, will be issued next week.

THE Czar has personally appointed a committee to consider the cessation of the transportation of political offenders to Siberia.

AMERICA has offered the Filipinos a government similar to that for the Cubans, having a military character, until the country gets settled.

SOME cases of bubonic plague have occurred at Alexandria, Iunaila, and at Zegazig. Drastic sanitary measures have been adopted.

A FORMOSAN despatch says that the number of cases of plague from the beginning of this year has reached 2,008, with 1,506 deaths.

THE *Kaisow*, bound for China, which got ashore near Lundy Island, has been floated and is now unloading at Barry (South Wales).

THE Yokohama Spring Regatta was held on Saturday in miserable weather. The English crew easily beat the Germans in the International four.

MANQUIS DAIGO was murdered on Tuesday evening by his nephew Mr. Daigo Kakutaro, who fired two shots of a revolver at him, also severely wounding Miss Kame Daigo.

ON Wednesday a Cabinet Council was held and attended by all the Ministers who were in the capital. Count Matsukata's budget proposals were the chief subject of discussion.

MR. YUGAWA, President of the Tokyo Post and Telegraph Office, and Councillor of the Department of Communications, was on the 20th inst. appointed a Councillor of the Foreign Department.

GRAND-BASSAM has been evacuated in consequence of an epidemic of yellow fever which prevails there. It is probable that the place will cease to be the capital of the French Ivory Coast.

H. I. M. THE EMPEROR is to visit the Central Military Preparatory School on the 29th inst., leaving the palace on 9.30 a.m. On the 31st he will proceed to the Rikugun Keiri Gakko, starting at 10 a.m.

MESSRS. DALLAS and Mungrave's Company have been giving performances every night, their repertoire including "The Sign of the Cross," "The Silver King," "Harbour Lights," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," &c.

A SCHEME for establishing a Higher Commercial School in Osaka is said to be in contemplation by the Department of Education. The Higher Commercial School in Tokyo is able to admit only a part of the candidates.

CONSUL NOZE TATSUO, of Tacoma, has been ordered in Korea. Mr. Otsu, chairman of the Central Tea Dealers' Guild, visited the Foreign Department on Wednesday and petitioned that Mr. Noze should be retained

at Tacoma in consideration of his able services in connection with the Canada tea affair.

THE Volkraad has considered President Kruger's franchise reforms. Its tone is unfavourable towards the proposals, as being too liberal, whereas the Uitlanders regard them as absurdly inadequate.

AT midnight, last Saturday, the American liner *Paris* struck the Manacles Rocks, the scene of the *Albatross* disaster in October last. Marvellous discipline prevailed and every one of the 780 aboard were saved, and also the mails.

THE President of the French Republic set out on May 22nd with the Prime Minister, M. Dupuy, the Minister of War, and the Minister of Commerce, for Dijon, where the monument erected to the memory of President Carnot was to be unveiled.

THE letter carriers of Paris went on general strike on May 19th, in consequence of a vote of the Senate rejecting an appropriation voted by the Chamber of Deputies for improving their emoluments. They resumed work during the morning. About thirty of them were dismissed or displaced.

SEVERAL bundles of mail matter were found the other day in a barn, belonging to a man living in Higashinokami village, Naka district, Wakayama Prefecture. They bear dates of June, July, and August, 1898, and are supposed to have been thrown away by a lazy letter carrier.

THE President of the French Republic, in a discourse pronounced by him at a banquet given by the Chamber of Commerce at Dijon on May 23rd exhorted the French Chambers of Commerce to defend the export commerce against competition which is increasing from day to day.

THE Peace Conference has assembled, and M. Georges de Staal, Russian Ambassador to England, has been elected President of the Conference. Various speeches were made, eulogising the magnanimous motives of the Czar and hoping that the generous scheme may be realised.

THE Queen's birthday was honoured throughout the world, the Colonial Governors observing the day with levees, banquets, and salutes. President McKinley cabled congratulations in the name of the American people. In the Transvaal, the Volkraad adjourned its sitting in show respect, and salutes were fired.

ON Monday evening, a picture peddler named Yamanaka Kihei (55), living in Fukuicho, Asakusa, attempted to murder his son, named Hashimatsu (27), and the latter's wife with a dagger. He afterwards committed suicide. It appears that the father carried on an illicit intrigue with the woman before her marriage to his son, and he was very jealous of the latter. The husband died, and the woman is reported to be in a precarious condition.

THE Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that Sir Alfred Milner, with the British Government's approval, had accepted the meeting with President Kruger at Bloemfontein on the 31st inst., with the view of settling all the pending difficulties and satisfying the demands of Uitlanders.

A SHIZUOKA man named Hattori last month obtained a cheque for one yen on the 35th National Bank. He altered the figure to 8,000 yen, and, coming up to Tokyo, cashed it at the Bank's branch office. The clerk, Fukuhara, who paid the cheque, the forgery of which could be easily detected, has been arrested as implicated in the crime. Four or five other arrests are expected.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Sober-minded people will not be at all surprised by the news received on Thursday from Peking, to the effect that no reliance is to be placed in the rumours recently circulated about the Russian Government's having demanded from China a concession for a railway from Newchwang to Peking. We ventured at the time to suggest that the story had no elements of probability, for if Russia entertained such a design yet failed to communicate it to the British Government at the time of making a convention with the latter, she would have stood convicted of plain *mala fides*; and if she conceived the design immediately after signing the convention, she would have been openly flouting England. It appeared necessary, therefore, to suspend judgment until the exact facts should become known; an attitude of reserve which is now justified, for the telegraph says that no demand was preferred by Russia, nor does she entertain any immediate intention of constructing such a railway. There is no smoke, however, without a fire. Count Muravieff admits that his Government has conveyed to the *Tsung-li Yamen* an expression of hope that should the necessity for a Liaotung-Peking railway arise in the future, China will give to the project her friendly consideration. What does that signify? We confess that after Count Muravieff's treatment of Sir Nicholas O'Connor, it is impossible to accept any of the Russian Minister's statements without the closest scrutiny. This courteous provision for future contingencies of a remotely hypothetical character is not a wonted trait of Russia's policy in dealing with Oriental countries. She usually says she wants at the moment of wanting it, and takes care to get it immediately. Tentative requests based on motives of pure friendship and relating only to shadowy possibilities still in the lap of the future, are not only a futile species of diplomacy, but also tend to defeat their own purpose by arousing public attention. That is not Russia's way. It is not the way of any resolute Power that knows its own mind. We are bound to say, therefore, that with all the disposition in the world to accept Mr. Muravieff's explanation in the fullest sense, we find that it leaves a great deal to be desired and we venture to predict that the world will see in this railway incident an unsuccessful *ballon d'essai*. However, it is our pleasant duty to welcome the St. Petersburg assurance as a fresh evidence of Russia's sincere wish to preserve a friendly understanding with Great Britain. All's well that ends well.

The *Nippon*, always attractively outspoken, believes that Russia had an understanding with the British Government before she advanced her latest claim about a railway to Peking, and that if England has lodged any protest, it is simply because she intends to make the incident a pretext for some demand of her own. In short, the two Powers do not intend to come into collision, and any third Power which sits waiting for the crash, is a fool for its pains. If Russia's scheme of a Peking railway is known to be opposed to the interests of Far-Eastern Asia, why should not Japan alone enter a protest on her own account? Why should she stand idly looking on? And even though the railway be not injurious to the interests of the Far East, it cer-

tainly means a great change of conditions. Therefore Japan ought to follow suit by demanding, for example, a concession for the Sôul-Wiju railway in Korea, or for a road in Fuhkien. What would there be wrong in such a step? "People speak of want of ability on the part of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, but it is the Prime Minister that wants ability. He remains sleeping in Kyoto, to the surprise of every-body."

Such are the *Nippon's* views. But it does not tell us what Japan would do if she obtained concessions for the Sôul-Wiju and the Fuhkien railways. Would she build them? Where could she find the money?

Some time ago that distinguished publicist, Mr. Shimada Saburo, wrote a long series of articles in the *Mainichi Shimbun* to prove that there is no natural antagonism between the interests of Russia and Japan in Eastern Asia, and that this country is more likely to find itself in collision with England or France than with the Northern Power. To comprehend the "true inwardness" of Mr. Shimada's essay it is necessary to remember that his advocacy of an *entente* with Russia has its prime motive, not in a desire to see the two countries friends so much as in a wish to bring about a reduction of Japan's armaments. The latter is Mr. Shimada's un-failing purpose, and he promotes it with great ability. Hence one need only consider his pro-Russian proposition a little more closely to perceive that he regards Russian aggression as the peril against which Japan's armaments are directed. If there were no Russian spectre there would be no scheme of armaments expansion. Accordingly, Mr. Shimada sets himself to exorcise the spectre. It is of interest to note that the *Nippon* taken the same view of Japan's armaments. It concludes that Japan's advance must be in a northerly direction. In the south her attitude is purely defensive. Hence her increase of armaments concern Russia chiefly. The *Nippon* is nothing if not outspoken. It does not trouble to use diplomatic euphemisms, or think of relying on the reader's power of inference.

YOKOHAMA WATER RATES.

It is stated by vernacular journals that, after the Revised Treaties go into operation, the water rate charged to foreigners in Yokohama will be reduced to the same figure as that imposed in the Japanese town. Under the present system, the foreign rate is assessed at five per cent. of the rental of a house. Thus a building whose rental value is 100 *yen* a month pays 5 *yen* annually for its water. But in the Japanese town the charge is by the family. A house pays one *yen* a month so long as its inmates do not exceed five. For every inmate over that number, an additional 18 *sen* per head has to be paid.

Of course the consequence of the change would be a considerable diminution in the total amount paid by the foreign community. Firms employing a large number of persons, however, would fare comparatively ill. A newspaper office, for example, with a staff of 25 persons, would have to pay 4.60 *yen* month. But even that would be less than the present rate.

THE CABINET AND ITS ENEMIES.

There are some indications that credence attaches to the latest rumour circulated in political circles—the rumour that the Opposition, abandoning their anti-Land-Tax tocsin, have determined to make the Cabinet's conduct of foreign affairs their point of attack. Their organs continue to fire broadsides of blank ammunition at Viscount Aoki. They have no substantial ground of complaint whatever. What troubles them is simply that nothing is happening. Of course their persistency will have some measure of success. A mob, if its gaze be directed long enough into the blue sky, can generally discover portents there.

But the other rumour—that the Liberals, disquieted by the contingency of having their own potential thunder stolen by their adversaries, have resolved to give the Cabinet its *coup-de-grace* through the foreign-policy joint of its armour—that rumour receives no confirmation. Its circumstantial relation by the *Mainichi Shimbun* is evidently a myth.

Probably in default of some more substantial topic of excitement, two or three of the Tokyo journals have constructed a remarkable story. The Progressists, they say, recognising the futility of attempting to make an effective war cry out of a decayed issue like the Land Tax, have turned their attention to foreign politics, and are organizing a grand campaign in that sphere. This has roused the Liberals also. They think that it will not do to leave their adversaries in possession of such a dangerous weapon, and they have determined to utilize it themselves. One journal professes to publish a verbatim account of the conversation that took place on this subject at a meeting of the Liberal leaders. Of course the statements put into the mouths of Mr. Hoshi Toru and his colleagues are imaginary. It would be waste of space to reproduce them. But their gist is that the time to upset the Cabinet has come; that the Foreign Office is the best point at which to apply the Liberal lever, and that, whatever Marquis Ito may say to the contrary, he will be willing enough to form a new Cabinet when seriously invited to do so. The whole story sounds like a purely mischievous effort to create a sensation. An aggressive foreign policy is about the most objectionable basis on which Marquis Ito could be invited to construct a Ministry.

EVANGELIZATION & EDUCATION.

There have lately appeared in the columns of a Tokyo contemporary several letters from the pen of an Anglo-Saxon writer, advocating the retirement of missionaries from the field of education, and their devotion to the work of evangelization uniquely. It is an interesting subject, and we should have been greatly pleased to read some lucid comparison of the facilities enjoyed by missionaries, and the faculties possessed by them, for propagating Christianity in this country. It has always seemed to us that this question narrows itself to an easily stated issue: are foreign missionaries competent to carry on evangelization in Japanese with any prospect of success proportionate to that which men of equal endowments might expect to achieve in an Occidental country. The

answer, we think, must be negative, for the simple reason that only a man born in Japan, and speaking the Japanese language from childhood can possibly hope to use that language eloquently and correctly for preaching purposes. The foreign missionary, as a rule, is full of earnestness, industry and zeal. He applies himself with unflagging diligence to acquire the Japanese tongue, and he succeeds, in a measure. But it is a measure which falls very far short of real proficiency. We have never met a Japanese honestly prepared to say that any foreigner not born and educated in Japan could preach, or speak publicly, in the Japanese language without perpetrating solecisms which deprive his words of all semblance of eloquence. The late Dr. Verbeck had remarkable facility, but he did not constitute an exception to the rule, nor is there a foreigner in Japan to-day, layman or priest, who constitutes an exception. Not one of them could stand up and lecture about ethics and morals in such a manner as to dignify the subject. What follows? Surely this, that until some native Japanese with all the qualities of a winner of hearts appears upon the scene, the work of evangelization must be carried on at a great disadvantage in Japan. Of course if the foreign missionaries chose to educate their sons here, and have them taught the Japanese language as Japanese boys are taught it, there would be a better chance of the need's being satisfied. But there are obvious difficulties in the way of that measure. Meanwhile the missionary himself is greatly crippled for purposes of evangelization, and it is probably because he feels conscious of the fact that he applies so much of his strength in the direction of education. Can there be any better or more rational way of exercising a wholesome moral influence than by instilling high principles into the minds of the young? Is not that a part of the Christian propagandist's duty just as much as the expounding of the gospel? There is no missionary school where secular teaching is the whole programme. The faith which the teachers earnestly profess and uniformly follow creates an atmosphere which the student unconsciously inhales; the example of their lives is an object lesson from which he can not fail to learn something beneficial, and even though he never becomes a professing Christian, he leaves the school a greatly better man than he would have been had these influences been excluded from his education. We believe, and it is the opinion of Japanese with whom we have spoken, that the educational work done by the missionary in Japan greatly furthers the cause of Christianity, or, at any rate, of Christian morality, and that it is sowing seeds which will by and by bear fruit very much richer than the tree of pure evangelization can produce.

THE SHAN-HAI-KWAN RAILWAY.

Telegrams published in Tokyo allege that the Shan-hai-kwan Railway—presumably the Tientsin-Shan-hai-kwan line—has barely escaped being appropriated by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, owing to the Directors' failure to pay up the interest on the railway's debt to the Bank. It is thought, however, that the removal of Cheung Yik from office will close the episode.

JAPANESE JUSTICE.

Yokohama can not always claim the credit of being original but occasionally it attains high distinction in that line. For example. A little more than a fortnight ago, the Japanese and foreign members of the British Inns of Court held their first annual meeting in Japan, and a number of speeches were delivered, many of them in the Japanese language. To translate these speeches into English, to have the translations verified and to collect the whole for publication was a matter of considerable labour, necessarily involving some delay; but ultimately the whole report was handed to the *Japan Times*, with a request that it would distribute proofs at as early a date as possible to the principal Yokohama newspapers. The *Japan Times* complied with the request. To the editor of this journal in Tokyo it sent slips on the night before its own publication, and they were doubtless forwarded to the other Yokohama journals at the same time. Of course that meant that the *Japan Times* was an issue ahead of its contemporaries, but it is a recognised privilege that the journal which first receives an item of news should be the first to publish it. Up to this point the story is very tame and commonplace, but here comes in the fine display of originality alluded to above. One of the Yokohama journals, on receiving the proofs of the report, commented on the fact thus:—

We have been favoured by the *Japan Times* with proofs of what appears this morning in its pages, but feel no inclination to reprint news so stale. Moreover, since the press is excluded from these gatherings of the Association, what guarantee is there as to the genuineness of reports furnished we know not by whom? Such tactics appear to us to be decidedly objectionable, and should be dealt with accordingly. If an exclusive privilege was given to the *Japan Times*,—a Japanese-owned and edited journal—of having a reporter present, or if a report was furnished to it only, such partial conduct we may be permitted to say, affords small prospect of that impartiality towards aliens which is promised to be exercised in the administration of Japanese courts, for it is to be remembered, that amongst those present were several Japanese lawyers who as well now or (sic) hereafter, will occupy the position of Judges on the Japanese bench, in whose proceedings whether as plaintiffs, defendants, or prisoners, aliens will necessarily be more or less interested.

When we speak of the very fresh originality of the above, we do not, as might be supposed, allude to the remarkable forecast contained in the last sentence about "Japanese lawyers who as well now or hereafter, will occupy the position of Judges on the Japanese Bench, in whose proceedings whether as plaintiffs, defendants, or prisoners, aliens will necessarily be more or less interested." It will not be altogether a novelty to find judges on the Japanese bench figuring as defendants or prisoners, but few of us would have had the courage to predict such a fate for the gentlemen whose after-dinner eloquence formed the subject of the report in question. Passing that by, however, the really striking novelty is the contention that to furnish a report in M.S. to one journal only, asking it to send printed slips to its local contemporaries, is, in the impartial, concise, and elegant language of the complaining journal, "conduct which affords small prospect of that impartiality towards aliens which is promised to be exercised in the administration of Japanese Courts." A large vista is opened up by this doctrine. Every body furnishing a piece

of intelligence to one journal, is bound, at the risk of being convicted of partiality, to prepare as many copies of the item as there are newspapers in Tokyo and Yokohama, and to forward one to each journal simultaneously. That is a splendid exposition of the rights of newspapers. It would work excellently in London, for example. Even in Tokyo, where there are a score and a half of dailies, the task of the distributor of news would assume formidable dimensions. Yokohama is already very long-suffering. Merchants, firms, companies and societies patiently go on, year after year, advertising in and subscribing to several newspapers which circulate among almost the same clientele, and whose columns, as a general rule, differ from each other only in the nature of their borrowings from European and American exchanges. The theory of the ordinary advertiser is that he wants to secure publicity for the thing advertised, but the theory in Yokohama, if we may judge from the practice, is that the prime purpose of advertisements is to support the journals in which they are published. Thus the newspaper, instead of being a useful and necessary medium, becomes a pensioner on the community's charity. That is a novelty in its line, but the latest doctrine is still more novel, namely, that a private person, or group of private persons, must not exercise the smallest discrimination among journals, but must regard them all as equally eligible media of publication. We should find such claims more amusing did they not threaten to convert journals into public nuisances instead of public servants.

ASSASSINATION OF MARQUIS DAIGO.

A very sad affair occurred in Tokyo on the evening of the 23rd instant, at 7 o'clock. It involved the death of Marquis Daigo and the wounding of his eldest daughter, Miss Kame. In 1874, the then representative of the family, Daigo Chiukoku, died without legitimate issue, and the succession was given to his younger brother, Daigo Chiukei, the late Marquis. By that arrangement an illegitimate son of Chiukoku, Daigo Kakutaro, found himself passed over, and the fact seems to have rankled perpetually in his breast, especially since, being a dissipated kind of person, he often incurred debts which his uncle showed reluctance to discharge. Such reluctance was indeed very natural, for the Daigo family is far from wealthy, and the appointment which the late Marquis held as Lord in Waiting of the Golden-Pheasant Chamber of the Palace constituted an important source of revenue to him. Mr. Daigo Kakutaro had always been on bad terms with his uncle, the Marquis, and they often engaged in vehement discussions on the subject of the family property. One of these discussions took place on Tuesday evening, and Kakutaro became so exasperated that he lost control of himself, seized a pistol, and shot the Marquis through the head. Death was instantaneous. Miss Kame, who tried to interfere in the cause of peace, was severely wounded by a second shot from the same pistol, but whether the weapon was aimed at her or whether she received the bullet accidentally in her attempt to save the life of the Marquis, remains to be ascertained. She is said to have been shot through the lungs, and her recovery is regarded as very doubtful.

A NEW SYSTEM OF STENOGRAPHY FOR JAPAN.

One of the most remarkable facts in connexion with the establishment of parliamentary institutions in Japan was that a staff of competent stenographers were found ready to report the proceedings verbatim from the very beginning. No official attempt had been made to encourage phonographic studies, but for years a number of earnest students had been working under circumstances of no small difficulty and discouragement, and when the time came they were prepared to do for Japan what no country had previously been able to accomplish, namely, to give her a verbatim record of her Diet's proceedings from the moment of its opening. It had been supposed by foreigners that great perplexity would attend the elaboration of a system of short-hand suited to the Japanese language, but the Japanese themselves did not shrink from the task, and that they succeeded fairly well has been proved by the practice of the past nine years. It would have been too much to expect, however, that anything like perfection would be attained at an initial attempt. Improvements were certain to be effected, and it is for the purpose of referring to what appears to be a greatly improved system that we write this note. Mr. Edward Gauntlett has just published a "Complete Exposition of a System of Phonetic Shorthand for the Japanese Language," devised by him after six years' labour. This exposition is by way of preliminary only. The book itself will appear about September next, the Japanese edition published by the Kyōbunkwan, the English by Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Yokohama. Mr. Gauntlett's system is an adaptation of Sir Isaac Pitman's. It introduces every feature of the latter, such as half-length and quadruple letters, initial and final circles, hooks and loops, &c., and with the exception of one rule no form seems to be used which is not found among Pitman's devices. But, although Pitman's excellent system is taken as a basis, the credit of adapting it to the Japanese language belongs entirely to Mr. Gauntlett, and the achievement is not to be under-estimated, for Mr. Gauntlett has succeeded in elaborating a method which is demonstrably far superior to that now in use among the Japanese. Thus, among the various devices for securing simplicity may be mentioned a rule by which such words as *kareru*, *kureru*, *torareru* and *shiraseru* can be represented by signs more simple than a small *i* without the dot. Again, there is a rule by which such expressions as *sō de arima sho*, *heredomo*, *hasanakereba*, *narimasenu*, &c., may be written as briefly as a small *n*, and that without the least danger of illegibility. Further words having *shi*, *ku* or *chi* for second or third syllables—as *katachi*, *moshi*, &c.—are obtained with remarkable ease, and we find that contractions for common phrases and words are logically formed so as to be easily remembered. Thus *sasa* stands for *sama-dama*, *inamo* for *itsu made mo*, and so on. Japanese syllables are shorter than English, and it is consequently difficult to make an exact comparison of the labour applying to the different stenographic systems; but, taking a passage of 300 syllables of English shorthand—reporting style—from the *Phonetic Journal*, we find that Pitman's system requires 334 pen movements, whereas the new Japanese system

needs only 301. The comparison becomes very striking, however, when it lies between Mr. Gauntlett's system and the systems already used in Japan. Thus the last passage of shorthand given in Waka-bayashi's Manual contains 404 pen movements, whereas the same words are represented in Mr. Gauntlett's manual by 243 movements, and the last piece in Minamoto's manual contains 293 movements, against 167 according to Gauntlett's method. These facts are sufficient to demonstrate the great advantages of the new system. We should think that it can not fail to prove an immense advantage to Japanese reporters.

STREET IMPROVEMENT IN TOKYO.

This heading must not be read as signifying the repair of the cruelly bad streets with which Tokyo is now afflicted, or even the introduction of some ordinarily scientific method of road-making. It refers solely to one of those colossal schemes which the citizens of the sleepy capital must long ago have learned to regard as belonging to the "dream-land Tokyo" traced in the air some 15 years ago by certain visionaries. Just two and a half years ago, a committee was appointed by the Municipality to compile a programme of street improvement, and it has now submitted its report. The first thing recommended is that the City should proceed to purchase land for the purposes of the programme. On that operation a sum of 20 million *yen* is to be expended, and a similar sum on removing the houses from the routes of the new or widened streets. Thereafter, road repairing would be undertaken to the extent of 950,000 *yen*; drainage to the extent of 920,000, bridge-building to the extent of 4 million *yen*; park-making to the extent of 3½ millions, and the construction of markets and crematoriums to the extent of 4½ millions. Against this total outlay of 53,870,000 *yen*, the Committee suggests a state grant of 20 millions; a city loan of 10 millions; rent from lands, markets and crematoriums, 8½ millions, and certain rates and charges making up the remainder. It is a 20 years' project, and if carried out, it would mean a great improvement in the dimensions and directions of the streets. But surely what Tokyo urgently needs is not wider roads or new roads but better roads? This building of magnificent castles in the air for people who are grovelling in mud and ruts, seems comically unpractical. Tokyo will presently be called the City of Empty Talk.

The Tokyo City Assembly has not carried out the ill-advised project recently attributed to it. Meeting on the afternoon of the 28th instant, it decided to postpone *sine die* the proposal for sending a committee to Europe and America to inspect municipal affairs in the principal Occidental cities. On the other hand, a sum of 3,600 *yen* for preparing a harbour-construction plan was voted *mem. con.*

There seems to be at length a prospect of that most protracted enterprise, the Tokyo Water Works, being completed. The new iron pipes have been completely laid in the Nihon-Bashi, Asakusa, and Kanda districts of the city, but elsewhere a great deal remains to be done. The Municipal Authorities are said to be pressing forward the work with the intention of get-

ting it completely finished by the end of this year. During the month of June all the rest of the pipes will arrive, it is expected. The work of laying them will probably be finished in the Kyōbashi district in June; in the Hongo and Fukagawa districts in July, and in the Shiba and Azabu districts in August.

ITALY AND CHINA.

It is difficult to credit the telegrams received from Peking with reference to Italy's attitude. She is said to be asking for mining and railway concessions in lieu of the San-mun lease, and her new Representative is reported to have been supplied with the materials for a very effective demonstration in the shape of five or six war-ships. But, if Italy is going to work in that manner, why was the Chevalier de Martino disavowed? If concessions for digging mines and constructing railways are now to be sought at the mouth of the cannon, M. de Martino did not then misrepresent the sentiment of his Government when he preferred an ultimatum about San-mun. It appears to us that Italy would be acting in a wiser and more dignified manner if she kept her war-ships out of sight in these matters. She is not going to resort to force. That is tolerably certain. She has no grievance calling for redress at China's hands, and she is far too civilized to think of using the sword to wrest from a friendly Power privileges of a purely money-making character. Besides, she has no right to ask for such privileges in her national character. She may instruct her Minister in Peking to support the proposals of an Italian syndicate or company asking for this or that special concession, but she is not entitled to demand that any commercial or industrial privilege should be granted to her *qua* Italy. We want some further particulars before forming a conclusion.

FIGHT BETWEEN CHINESE AND JAPANESE IN HAWAII.

News from Hawaii shows that the Japanese arrested in the sequel of the recent disturbance have been found guilty, with one exception. Of the 23 men apprehended, five have been convicted of manslaughter, 17 of combining to disturb the peace, and one has been acquitted for lack of evidence. The arrests were made indiscriminately at the time of the fracas, and it is consequently supposed that some of those seized had not actually taken part in the fight. On the other hand, some of those that did take part probably escaped. Three of the Chinese were killed and sixteen wounded, whereas only one Japanese suffered any injury. Public opinion was therefore on the side of the Chinese, and they, being, of course, much enraged, left no stone unturned to bring about a conviction. Japanese correspondents suggest that, under such circumstances, even the innocent could scarcely hope to escape, but impartial persons are not likely to endorse that idea. Mr. W. O. Smith, formerly Minister of Justice, conducted the case for the Chinese, and Mr. Robertson appeared for the defence, receiving a fee of \$1,500.

"THE LONDON LETTER."

The long-expected *London Letter* has made its appearance. It is conducted by Mr. Algeron Locker and Mr. Stafford Ransome, its politics are "Palmerstonian," and it has for special purpose the discussion of affairs relating to British subjects all the world over, not merely to those residing in the "tight little island." The contents of the first number are highly interesting, the style of the writing is attractive and forcible, the type is large and clear, and the general get up of the journal is thoroughly modern. Among its attractions is a pictorial "Gallery of Greater Britons." The first picture of the series is a beautiful engraving of Philip's celebrated painting, "Lord Palmerston addressing the House of Commons in 1860." If the succeeding pictures are of equal quality, it will be well worth while to collect the whole for ultimate binding together in an album.

In the opening number of the new weekly we find the first of a series of letters from "John Downright," under the heading "A Revised China." The writer, as his name suggests, advocates an uncompromising policy. He lays down the following postulates:—

1. The Chinese Administration is corrupt and rotten to the core, and is incapable of governing the country.
2. The only method of making China abide by her international contracts is force.
3. The Russians are in the process of absorbing Northern China, and, in measure as they do so, British influence at Peking suffers increasingly.
4. We do not see our way to stopping Russian aggression as far as land fighting is concerned.
5. We cannot make any compact with Russia which would be worth the paper it was written on.
6. There must come a day when Russian aggression will have made the influence of that country paramount with the Chinese Government unless steps are taken to counteract that influence.
7. Russian influence on China is pernicious in that it is neither of a civilizing nature nor embraces the "open door" policy.

On the basis of the above "John Downright" maintains that the only sound plan is to do away with Peking as a political centre, transfer the capital to Nanking, reduce the size of China by lopping off from it the provinces north of the Yellow River, and form a strategical and commercial alliance with America and Japan for the conservation of the reduced empire. The allies should then draw up a scheme for the reform of China, submit it to the Chinese Government, and, if the latter declined to accept it, the alternative would be to notify the world that the existing Chinese Government no longer had the recognition of the allies, to proceed forthwith to transfer the capital to Nanking, to organize a Government with progressive Chinese and with "a brand new Emperor, if necessary," to declare the new Government under the temporary protection and control of the allied Powers, to inform the world that the revised China consisted of the whole of the country bounded by the Yellow River on the north, the Tonquin-Burmese frontiers on the South, and Tibet on the west, and to hand over Korea to Japan, on the conditions that she should keep a sufficient territorial army there to protect it, and that she should maintain the open door. As for the portion of Northern China beyond the Yellow River, such of it as has not yet been absorbed by Russia should be considered a buffer State and left to the control of the existing authorities.

We content ourselves with giving the

outlines of this scheme, and with making one comment on it, that it would drive the Manchu Dynasty into the arms of Russia and would practically be an invitation to the latter to absorb the whole of the trans-Hwang-ho territory.

DEATH OF BARON YASUBA.

Baron Yasuba Yasukazu, who had been for some time under treatment in the Red Cross Hospital for heart disease, expired on the 23rd instant at 3.40 p.m. The deceased nobleman served for a long time as Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture, where he gained a high reputation for administrative ability. He was subsequently appointed Governor of Aichi, but soon resigned and entered the newly formed National Unionist Party. The year before last, when the Matsukata Cabinet was in power, Baron Yasuba served as Chief of the Hokkaido Administration, but when the Okuma Ministry came into office, he ceased to be Governor and became a member of the House of Peers. Just before his death, he was raised by the Sovereign to the First Class of the Third Official Grade, and received the First Class of the Sacred Treasure.

"THE TIMES" CORRESPONDENT IN TOKYO.

A Yokohama English journal contains an explicit statement to the effect that a letter on Japanese finance recently published by the *London Times* from its Tokyo correspondent was written under instructions from the Japanese Government. We are asked by *The Times'* correspondent to give this statement a most emphatic and unequivocal denial. Neither the Japanese Government, nor any member of the Japanese Government, had the remotest knowledge of the letter in question prior to Reuter's telegram announcing its appearance. The Yokohama journal had nothing except its own vague conjectures to guide it, yet, on the strength of such guidance, it did not hesitate to publish an unreserved statement of fact with the object of injuring this country's credit as far as possible in the eyes of foreign financiers.

MR. YAMADA'S PHILOSOPHY.

In a column of Sendai news published in this issue we refer to a lecture delivered by Mr. Yamada, of the Second High School, and quoted him as having commented on Shaka's declaration, "In the heaven above or the earth beneath, I alone am worthy of honour." On closer inquiry we find that Mr. Yamada's explanation of this somewhat startling declaration is that the *ware*, or *ego*, indicated by the founder of Buddhism is not the individual Shaka Muni, but a spiritualized and purified *ego*, which Shaka shares with all good men. Hence the words can not be construed as self-glorification. They are a glorification of the spiritual essence which pervades all things, and which, according to Buddhist pantheistic belief, is the principal element of the universe; in fact, the element upon which its very existence depends. Thus the *ego* of the universe is an entity composed of the spiritualized remnants of all the good men that have ever lived.

SELECTED RELICS OF JAPANESE ART.

A Buddhist Society, calling itself the *Nippon Bukkyo Shimbi Kyokai*, advertises an enterprise of considerable magnitude. It is the publication of an elaborate art album, containing photographs of the finest objects of art in the various Buddhist temples throughout the empire. It is to be a serial publication, 20 volumes in all, each volume containing 30 pictures, and one being issued every four months. It appears, therefore, that 80 months, or 6½ years, must elapse before the series is completed. The projectors promise that the specimens shall cover the whole period from Suiko to Tokugawa, and they claim that the best connoisseurs in Japan have been engaged to select and describe the objects represented. Each plate is to be accompanied by an explanatory note, setting forth the history, measurement, author, owner, date, and so on. Copies printed on paper are to be £1.11s. each, and those printed on silk, £3 each, but, by subscribing for the whole series, a single payment of £27 will procure the paper album, and a single payment of £53 the silk. Payments have to be made in advance, and it is promised that only 1,000 copies shall be printed. We further learn from the prospectus that the compilation of an elaborate history of art and religion is contemplated, and that it will appear as a supplement on the completion of the series.

This is a fine enterprise. We refer to it in detail with the hope of promoting its success, but we desire our readers to understand that we are entirely without knowledge of the promoters or the publishers. Moreover, we venture to hope that if a history of Japanese art and religion is really to be written, the task will be entrusted to people more familiar with English than the compilers of the prospectus appear to be. The temerity of the Japanese in the matter of publicly using foreign languages is astounding. Newspapers, magazines, prospectuses, circulars, and advertisements are perpetually published in a language professing to be English, but so disfigured by grammatical and syntactical solecisms as to render the writers ridiculous. Nothing of the kind happens in any other country, and we can not be surprised that foreigners, observing these rash essays, should be puzzled to determine whether the Japanese are singularly lacking in discernment, or exceptionally rich in self-confidence.

CHRISTIANITY AND BUDDHISM.

The notion is not new that one of Christianity's notable achievements in Japan has been to rouse Buddhism from its lethargy. That paradox was originally propounded in these columns, and has been frequently adopted by other writers. Buddhism's history in Japan is not creditable. It has been an open defier of the law, a political intriguer, a relayer on the sword rather than on the *sutras*, a stirrer up of strife and sedition. That it has also been a grand civilizing influence can not be denied, but, on the other hand, the civilization promoted by itself has always been fatal to its vitality. Under the Tokugawa Regents the favour enjoyed by it destroyed its morale. When Christianity came in the train of modern foreign intercourse it found the Buddhist

pleats sunk in idleness and self-indulgence, and it galvanized them into wholesome activity. It is interesting to find that the fact being recognised by the *Yiji Shimpō*, leads our contemporary to regret the decadence of Christianity in Japan. For the *Yiji* thinks that Christianity is decadent. Considering that, whereas large sums have been expended by the propagandists of the Nazarene's creed, and untiring labour has been devoted to the cause by sincere and able men, the results are insignificant; and considering also that the Government is disposed to differentiate fatally against missionary schools by denying to their scholars the privilege of exemption from conscription, the *Yiji* concludes that Christianity has suffered a serious check (*ichitonsa*), and foresees that, so soon as the vitalizing influence of the foreign faith's competition is withdrawn, Buddhism will sink into its former state of lethargy. Japan will then be in the eminently perilous condition of a nation that has lost its old canons of morality without getting anything in their place. We disagree with the *Yiji* in one respect. Christianity has not suffered any defeat. If it is to be excluded from the sphere of education, so also is Buddhism. On an equal footing of competition, we have not the slightest doubt about the victor.

It does not appear that the Buddhists who advocate State recognition of their faith are likely to obtain much support from the vernacular press. Every journal that has hitherto commented on the matter denounces the idea. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in a leading article, contends that the Constitution and the Treaties guarantee religious freedom, and since the Christian converts—whom our contemporary estimates at the very low figure of 120,000—enjoy such a right, they are entitled to just the same measure of protection and liable to just the same degree of supervision as any other religionists in the empire. If the principle advocated at the recent meeting in Kyoto were carried into practice, if Buddhism were made the State religion, it would become a political weapon, and its supporters would be in a position to exclude other creeds. Any politicians who enter into agreements with religionists, and make the exclusion of alien religions a political question, will be opposed by the *Nichi Nichi* to the bitter end.

SOUL-CHEMULPO RAILWAY.

The organization of the *Kejin* (Soul-Chemulpo) Railway Company—a partnership, not a joint stock, company—has now been completed. Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi seems to have been the principal promoter, and the head office is in his Kabuto-cho residence. The total capital is 2,525,000 *yen*, of which 1,800,000 *yen* represents the sum already advanced by the Specie Bank, and 725,000 *yen* is the working fund. The following gentlemen have put up 62,500 *yen* each:—Baron H. Iwasaki, Mr. S. Imamura, Mr. K. Okura, Mr. H. Nakamigawa, Mr. S. Uryu, Mr. Z. Yasuda, Mr. T. Masuda, Baron T. Mitsui, Mr. H. Shoda, and Mr. E. Shibusawa. The following have put up 20,000 *yen* each: Messrs. R. Hara, K. Otani, M. Mayejima, and J. Matsumoto. It would thus appear that the money advanced by the Specie Bank is to remain on loan.

POLICY OF THE HEAD QUARTER STAFF.

There is a curious article in the *Keisai Zasshi* about the policy of the Head Quarter Staff. We gather that the writer is induced to publish his views in consequence of the death of Viscount Kawakami. In short, he addresses himself to the new Chief of Staff. His general thesis is that the bases of the country's strategy are reprehensibly narrow and timid. For example, he claims that at the time of the construction of the Mito Railway, the Staff officers insisted on the piercing of a tunnel instead of the building of a viaduct, their contention being that the former can be rendered useless to an enemy much more easily than the latter. Such an argument is denounced by him as foully pusillanimous, for the chances of an enemy's penetrating to Mito are too remote to be seriously considered. Then again the original scheme of a Tokaido Railway was changed for an inland route in deference to strategical arguments, which were with difficulty overcome. In the third place, the Head-Quarter Staff opposes the opening of Tokyo harbour to foreign ships on the ground that the capital should not be brought within range of strange men-of-war, and opposes also the removal of the moats surrounding the city because they might prove useful defences. If ever the day comes to give practical thought to such contingencies, Tokyo will be past defence. Besides, if the Kannonaki forts are intended to prevent vessels from approaching Tokyo, they will equally serve to keep war-ships away from Yokohama, and the latter should therefore be closed. The *Keisai's* final criticism is the scheme of military expansion, which is condemned as the outcome of Russo-phobe unreason.

IMPORT DUTIES.

The Custom returns are not coming up to the estimates formed by the Government when compiling the Budget for the current year. The revenue put down in the Budget was 16 million *yen*, or an average of 1½ million *yen* per month. The actual figures for the first 3 months of the year were:—

	Total Imports. <i>yen</i> .	Duties Collected. <i>yen</i> .
January	13,810,918	586,758
February	10,584,696	511,775
March	16,529,115	845,763
April,.....	14,000,000 (approx.)	600,000 (approx.)

It is evident that, unless some marked change occurs, the total revenue collected will not exceed 10 million *yen*, and there will be a shortage of 6 millions. Of course, the effects of the large importations made at the close of last year in anticipation of the increased tariff has not yet worn off, but there is ground for uneasiness, none the less, as the *Hochi Shimbun* observes.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

From Tientsin the *Chiao Shimbun* has received a telegram, attributed to a trustworthy source, to the effect that the Emperor of China is dead. There have been so many false rumours in that sense that no credence can be placed in this latest edition.

A telegram dated at the Hague on the 18th instant says that the Legislature of

the Netherlands has endorsed the Administration's proposal that Japanese visiting the Netherlands India shall be treated exactly like Dutch subjects. An honourable decision. Holland's liberal action in this matter contrasts very favourably with the narrow policy of certain other civilized nations.

A telegram from the Japanese Consul in Shanghai speaks of the extension of the Settlement as virtually an accomplished fact. The Consuls of the various nationalities long ago preferred a request for an extension, and the Taotai submitted it, with his endorsement, to Peking, where it received the approval of the *Tsung-tsi Yamén*. On the 23rd instant, the Taotai issued a proclamation announcing the extension.

Intelligence from Lyons under date of April 20th says that the production of silk-worm's eggs in Europe is from 10 to 20 per cent. greater this year than it was last season, but that French sericulturists in districts injured by late frosts, apprehensive that the supply of mulberry leaves in the Italy would be deficient, reduced the quantity of eggs raised, or threw away the worms in many cases. It is added, however, that the business of sericulture is going on successfully in Italy and France.

Telegrams published in Tokyo announce that the Hyogo Bank suspended payment on the 23rd instant. The Hyogo Bank is one of the petty concerns that do not deserve the appellation they bear. It commenced business in January, 1889, with a total capital of 100,000 *yen* and a paid-up capital of 60,000. A bank with a working capital of six thousand pounds sterling is a novelty. The reason assigned for suspension is that the organization of the Bank wants re-modelling. Very likely. The sooner these Lilliputian banks pass out of existence the better.

We observe with some surprise that among all the Tokyo newspapers the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* alone publishes an article with reference to the Queen's Birthday and Her Majesty's attainment of her eightieth year. The *Nichi Nichi* takes for its theme "The English Queen-Empress' Eightieth Birthday;" speaks in glowing terms of the blessings that have attended Her Majesty's rule, as well as of the great prosperity enjoyed throughout her dominions, and prays for a prolonged continuance of her beneficent sway and for the constant increase of British greatness.

Prince Ranjitsinhji's wonderful prowess as a batsman has evidently given a great impetus to cricket in India. The Maharajah of Patiala engaged, some time ago, certain English professionals to teach the noble game to his people, and it is announced that a team from India will visit England next year. The team will include Dr. M. E. Pavri, who is expected to play for Kent this season; Mistri, who is said to be a better batsman than "Ranji;" and a formidable bowler, Rajagopalcharri. London journals are already beginning to speculate what name English crowds will give to this bowler. We imagine it will be "Go-it Paul."

It is stated that the autumn manoeuvres will take place this year in November, and that the place will be the Nasuno plains, near Utsunomiya. The

troops engaged will be divided into two armies, the southern and the northern. The former is to consist of the Imperial Guards and the First Division—in other words, the garrison of Tokyo; the latter, of the Second Division (Sendai) and the Eighth Division (Awamori). Lient-General Hasegawa is expected to take command of the southern army, but the commander of the northern army is not yet nominated. The Emperor will be present, as usual.

A garden party has come to be the orthodox method of celebrating Her Majesty's Birthday at the British Legation in Tokyo, and there was no departure from the custom this year, except that the routine of amusements was varied by dancing on the sword. Not many people, however, showed much zest for that pastime. The great majority preferred to stroll about, or watch the juggling and tumbling performances of a troupe of Japanese experts. Exquisite weather favoured the occasion, and the presence of H.M.S. *Victorious* band contributed to the national character of the celebration. Refreshments were served in a large tent, sufficiently spacious to accommodate the whole of the guests without any inconvenience.

Public attention is beginning to be attracted to the subsidy paid to the *Nippon Yusen Kaisha* on account of navigation in domestic waters. The subsidy is 880,000 yen, a figure obtained originally by taking ten per cent. of the Company's capital, which is an unusual, but not irrational, method of calculation. The term of the subsidy expires on the 31st of next March, and for that reason people are beginning to talk about it. There is apparently some disposition to contend that instead of granting a lump sum, the allowance should be made with reference to each of the Company's services. Certainly that would be the more natural method, provided that the total be not reduced. Eighty-eight thousand pounds for carrying the mails to all the principal ports in Japan is assuredly not a large rate of compensation, and it is impossible for the country to have a good mercantile marine if ship-owners are unable to look forward with any certainty to a continuance of the terms on which their services were organised originally.

A curious episode has just occurred in the journalistic world of Tokyo. On the 24th instant, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* published an article discussing Russia's new project of a railway to Peking, and predicting that this railway was destined to become one of the factors of China's overthrow. In the course of the article the Emperor of Russia was described as *musho muchi*, that is to say, "without brains and without ability." On the following day, the *Yomiuri* made a very full apology for this rudeness to a foreign potentate, as it certainly was bound to do. But it added an explanation of a somewhat surprising character. It declared that the fault lay with the type-setters, who had substituted the ideograph *mu* (無) for *sen* (全), thus converting the writer's expression "fully endowed with brains and ability" into "without brains and without ability." Composers have been known to play strange tricks out of malice, and had the *Yomiuri Shimbun's* explanation stopped there, there would have been nothing very remarkable in the incident.

But it went on to say that the mistake had escaped the proof-reader also. Such an *ensemble* of accidents constitutes a most singular episode of newspaper history.

Our readers are aware that a member of the staff of the *Nippon* recently visited Count Okuma, and in the course of an interesting interview the Count referred to the present Representative of the United States in Tokyo as endorsing the view that the Chinese empire is "all right;" that it possesses capacities and characteristics which render its disruption impossible, and that no Western Powers could hope to establish control over the teeming millions of the vast district. This remarkable utterance, having been translated into the columns of the *Japan Times*, induced the *Kokumin Shimbun* to approach Mr. Buck, with the result that his Excellency expressed much surprise at the opinion attributed to him. He could give no explanation except the hypothesis that his words had been erroneously interpreted. So far from declaring China to be "all right" he had suggested rather that she was all wrong, and that her condition inspired much uneasiness. As a mere matter of theory, we are not entitled to accept the *Kokumin's* version in preference to the *Nippon's*, but the former certainly sounds more credible than the latter.

A SCANDAL.

The *Yoroku Choho* and the *Chiao Shimbun* publish a scandalous story of the grossest character, the principal actor in which is a former Cabinet Minister who is also a prominent member of the Diet and was once his country's representatives at a foreign Court. We refrain, of course, from giving the particulars of the affair or the name of the gentleman concerned, and, indeed, if the tale rested on the authority of the *Yoroku* alone, it would not receive much credence. But the added testimony of the *Chiao* is not without significance. It will be interesting to see what steps are taken by the ex-Minister. If he suffers such a tale to pass without refutation or denial, the public can not choose but condemn him—that is to say, the foreign public, for there seems to practically no limit to the licence that the Japanese public allows to the press.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Sinister predictions have recently been based by certain vernacular newspapers on the excess of imports over exports since March last. For example, comparing the March and April returns, it is found that the exports of the principal staples declined as follows:—

	March.	April.
	Yen	Yen
Raw Silk	2,120,000	1,490,000
Habutaya	1,240,000	720,000
Cotton Yarn	2,890,000	1,960,000
Copper	1,100,000	920,000

The *Fiji Shimpō*, however, points out with much truth that the export trade is always comparatively small during the first half of the year. Even in 1892, when the exports for the whole year exceeded the imports by 10,770,000 yen, the imports showed an excess during May. It may therefore be reasonably expected that the second half of the year will redress the balance to some extent at all events.

ARMAMENTS AND DIPLOMACY.

"Is something striking to be done in foreign politics, or are the country's armaments to be reduced? One or the other of these two courses must be taken. The ostensible reason assigned for expanding the armaments was the inception of an active foreign policy. It was pre-empted that the tame submission made to the three Powers in the matter of Liaotung had been necessitated by insufficiency of armaments. It was further alleged that the same cause must be held responsible for Japan's inaction in the face of China's partition by foreign States. But we can not tell how the conditions of Western countries will have changed before Japan's armaments are complete. * * * To go on keeping a great force of men with the Colours, as is done to-day can not be a wise course. Is the battle to be joined forthwith, or is a minatory attitude to be assumed? Whatever is done should be done quickly. Otherwise the national resources will be exhausted." Such is the *Nippon's* way of thinking. It is a fine example of statesmanship!

NEGISHI HOSPITAL.

The year just closing has been one of the best in the history of this hospital, which was opened nine years ago by the Fojia Jisenkai (Japanese Women's Benevolent Society) especially for the benefit of poor women and children. The report—abbreviated—is as follows:—

In patients: free, 66; paying, 47	113
Out patients: free, 64; paying, 620	684
Number of patients visited in homes	257
Financial Statement.	
Expenses of Hospital	Yen. 1,195.24
Receipts:—	Yen.
Jisenkai Japanese Members	240 —
Jisenkai Foreign Members	56 —
Paying patients	473.38 —
Donation, Dr. Kelsey	425.86 —
	1,195.24 1,195.24

The hospital, though hampered by lack of funds and able to support but two beds for charity patients, is not in debt.

The Resident Physician, Miss Sudo, M.D., graduated two years ago from a Cincinnati Medical College. The Jisenkai were very fortunate in securing her for their hospital, and she has proven herself most worthy of their confidence. To her untiring efforts, and to the able and generous assistance of her associate, Miss Abe, M.D., and of Dr. Kelsey, the success of the past year, in spite of many difficulties and insufficient funds, is due.

Two false impressions have had to be corrected; one, that the hospital receives help from some Missionary Society. This it has not had from the very beginning, and has no expectation of receiving. The other wrong impression is that none but Christians could be admitted, which is, of course, utterly false, very few indeed of the whole number presenting themselves for treatment having any knowledge of Christianity.

Just now, six little sick children are to be added to the number of in-patients from Mr. Hongo's orphanage, where the children, owing to Mr. Hongo's serious illness, are so much in want of food and all necessities that some of them have fallen ill. These extra-charity patients will tax the Jisenkai resources, but it is a call of humanity that cannot be resisted.

In addition to this, the Jisenkai is doing all in its power to better the conditions of the children in the orphanage, who are not yet ill, but are in want of food, during Mr. Hongo's enforced absence.

C. VAN PETTEN.

Hon. Treas. Foreign Department.

May 16th, 1899.

FRENCH TRAPPISTS OF YEZO.

THERE have been reproduced in these columns from Japanese journals various paragraphs relating to religious communities settled in the neighbourhood of Hakodate. We learn now that these are French Trappist fathers and sisters, and that they have been established in Yezo for more than three years. A correspondent sends us the following information on the subject:—"The Trappist fathers and sisters of Yezo belong to the well-known order of Cistercians, or religionists of Cîteaux, founded in the 12th century in Normandy, and reformed in 1662 by the ABBÉ DE RANCÉ. They have been installed for nearly four years in the neighbourhood of Hakodate, with the cognisance and consent of the Japanese Authorities, who appreciate the excellent models they furnish and the good agricultural methods they teach to the people of the country. The monks and the sisters, whose monastery and convent are situated some miles apart, live in the same manner. They divide their time between prayer and farm work from which in accordance with their rules, they derive all their means of existence. Silence is imposed on them during several hours daily by the statutes of their order. The monks devote themselves to agriculture; the sisters occupy themselves with gardening operations, the cultivation of flowers, and dairy work. They make butter and cheese which will be appreciated by and by on Tokyo tables when the sisters have succeeded in obtaining a few more cows. The installation of these religionists in Japan has nothing mysterious about it, and the fables circulated about them prove the regrettable ignorance of the Japanese. It is to be desired that the foreign press should correct these absurdities, and above all that it should not echo them. There are to be found among the Trappist monks many men of birth and brilliant education, who formerly occupied a distinguished place in the world, and who remain distinguished under the white robe and the leather girdle they wear to-day. The Cistercians, like the Chartreux, have founded 'Trappes' throughout the whole world. They choose by preference the most insalubrious and least frequented lands—notably Algiers, the Campagna Romana, &c.—and by their efforts fertilise and transform them."

Our correspondent adds:—"Do you really think that the Roman Catholic Monasteries and Convents for men and women, which are spread all over the civilized and uncivilized world 'work iniquity which they will have to answer for by-and-by'? I must say I do not agree with you. In Yezo, where the Trappists have been established for several years (I wonder you did not know it) they have done and are doing a great deal of good. The French Minister visited them last

autumn, and speaks of them in the highest terms." To this question we return an emphatically negative answer. We do not believe that the Roman Catholic monasteries and convents which are spread all over the civilized and uncivilized world work iniquity which they will have to answer for by-and-by. Very far from it indeed. We believe, and we have often said in these columns, that nothing nobler, more heroic, or better calculated to elevate the moral tone of the human race can be found in the world, civilized or uncivilized, than the work of the Roman Catholic fathers and sisters. When we spoke of "iniquity which must be answered for by and by," we alluded to the enrollment of girls who have not yet emerged from their teens in the Trappist ranks. We have read DE RANCÉ'S *De la sainteté et des Devoirs de la Vie Monastique*, and we have read MABILLON'S reply, *Traité des Etudes Monastiques*, and between the two authorities we never could see any room for hesitation. MABILLON, representing the Benedictines, advocates a course of life which pre-supposes something like delirious exaltation on the part of its pursuers, but DE RANCÉ asks men and women to obey rules which revolt human intelligence and which can not be reconciled with any conception of a beneficent Creator. The protracted fasts, the total abstinence from many common edibles and potables, the laborious manual occupations, the hard beds, the severe asceticism, the obligation of almost perpetual silence, the terrible greeting, *memento mori*, the monks' vesper digging of their own graves, and their couches on the straw of their own coffins—all these things are shockingly unnatural. We are unable to regard them as anything but a form of insanity. Would DE RANCÉ have conceived such rules had not his reason been affected by sorrow for the death of the Duchess of ROHAN-MONTBAZON, and is it possible to contend that a system suggested by the hysteria of grief is in accord with the will of a benevolent Providence? Among the many mansions of Christianity the Trappist house may be fitted for some inmates. We have no business to doubt that many of the men and women who retire into this strange dwelling, find there not only peace of mind elsewhere denied to them, but also a sphere of high usefulness. Not for one instant, however, can we reconcile ourselves to the notion of allowing girls in their teens to become Trappists. The poor children can not possibly know what they are doing. To permit them to cast their lot permanently with the victims of despairing melancholia or religious dementia, is, in our opinion, a shocking cruelty. The age of martyrdom is past. We may still "bend with reverence before the martyr's tomb," but we can not approve the proceedings of those that encourage martyrdom.

COUNT OKUMA ON CHINA.

COUNT OKUMA has just delivered himself of some of those large breezy opinions for which he is famous. His theme is China. He does not believe for a moment that the integrity of the ancient empire is threatened. On the contrary, he thinks that if any Western Power attempted to obtain a dominant position there, the effort would involve a sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of lives, for the roots of the the Chinese tree strike deeply and strongly, nor must it be supposed that because the fruit is sometimes rotten, the trunk lacks vitality. The granting of industrial and mining concessions does not impart any shock to the stability of the empire. Neither can it be treated as England treated India, for the Chinese, as a race, are far superior to the people of India. They are homogeneous; they have a common history; they obey the same ethical rules; they read the same literature. To the Count such a nation, enormous in numbers and almost inexhaustibly resourceful, seems incapable of being compelled to bend its neck to any foreign yoke. Circumstances of real national peril would certainly create the man to deal with them. In a word, his faith in the individual Chinaman is large, and he finds nothing wanting except moral caloric to form the units into a strong whole. Japan, he concludes, is in a position to supply that caloric and she should make it her task to do so.

In all this there is a huge hypothesis. Every one of us acknowledges the capacities of the individual Chinaman. Every one of us admits that if, as a member of a nation, he displayed the qualities which distinguish him as a unit of the human race, the Chinese empire would be a permanently formidable entity. But that "if" is the whole trouble. Something has happened to the Chinaman. Some part of his national mechanism has dropped out or become paralysed. Can it be reasonably inferred from his precedents that he will rise superior to a great emergency? What does Count OKUMA mean by saying that circumstances have always created the man to deal with them in China? Did circumstances create a man to drive back the Mongol invasion in the 13th century? Did circumstances create a man to drive back the Tartar invasion in the seventeenth century? On the contrary, did not China remain for 107 years with her head under the Mongol heel, and has she not now remained for 255 years in a similar position towards the Tartars? We can find nothing in her history to prove that her people care one straw by whom they are ruled provided that they are left to wrestle peacefully with the hard task of living. If that excellent creative potentiality of circumstances referred to by Count OKUMA is ever to assert itself, surely ample incentive has been furnished

again and again during the past ten years. What are we to say of a nation that sat down tamely and resignedly after such a crushing defeat as China received from Japan in 1894-5? Are we still to believe in the virility of that nation? Are we still to believe that it can be roused to a mood of efficient self-defence? If Russia, France, and Germany had not interfered in 1895; if the Liaotung Peninsula and Southern Manchuria from the Gulf of Pechili to the bank of the Yalu had remained in Japan's possession, who doubts that the inhabitants of those broad regions would have peacefully submitted to her rule, and would have transferred their allegiance to her without a murmur? Why should not all Manchuria prove equally pliable in Russia's hands? Why should not Shantung acknowledge Germany's sway, or the Yangtze Valley England's? It is hard for any faith in China to survive such reflections as these. We have no doubt that Japan could re-vitalize her neighbour if her neighbour could be induced to submit to the process. But neither have we the smallest doubt that England, or Russia, could hold Chinese people in the hollow of her hand with very little exercise of those imperial thews that are the heritage of her race.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In the *Taiyō*, Dr. Katō Hiroyuki writes on family life and the bringing-up of children. He is of opinion that the Japanese home needs purifying. He says that it is quite useless to expect any change in the feelings of children as long as their parents set them such poor examples. There is a great deal of talk about home education, but very little is being done. Dr. Katō thinks that there is nothing to equal the quiet everyday influence of parents who are living moral lives and whose conversation is instructive. Without this the efforts of outsiders yield no good results. . . . Many of the books used in elementary schools, Dr. Katō thinks, are unsuitable. They err in the direction of over-minuteness. Some of them may be pronounced finical. The Mombushō seems to have adopted the policy of the Home Department in reference to the sale of medicines, which is to allow a medicine to be sold as long as it is not absolutely injurious. The only question the Department of Education has been wont to ask in reference to a proposed text book is, will it do harm? The result is the circulation of a large number of unsuitable books. The only harm that the book-examining bureau has had in contemplation has been moral harm. The idea of certain books being specially adapted to mental development among the pupils, and others consisting of a collection of facts that have no bearing on that development, or that are even calculated to retard it, seems to have never entered the heads of the men with whom rests the responsibility of deciding on text-books for Government schools. The things which are taught the children of the poor, who in a few years will be required to help their parents in manual work, are in many cases

most unsuitable and have the effect of making the children conceited, says Dr. Katō. The school life and teaching should all have one practical aim in view, the preparation of children's minds, and the furnishing them with knowledge for the life that they will have to lead after leaving school. If this were kept in view, the elementary and middle schools might help the parents of children in various ways, but, as things now are, the knowledge obtained at school is of little use at home; and hence certain parents seem settling down to the conviction that the effect of education is to make their children conceited, unpractical, and unmanageable. . . . Dr. Katō thinks that female education in Japan is departing too much from practical lines and deprecates all such movements as the founding of a Female University. The improvement of existing female schools is all that is needed, says Dr. Katō.

* * *
Some interesting observations on literary subjects by Kōda Rohan are published in the *Sekai-no-Nihon* (No. 7.), which we give in an epitomised form. One of the leading characteristics of the fiction of the present age is the almost total absence of romances of any length and the large number of novelettes that appear week after week. Asked why I don't write a long novel, I reply, it is quite impossible. The present age is one of constant transition. Every phase of Japanese life is undergoing change from year to year. Rapid sketches of shifting scenes are all that can be attempted. It is quite impossible for a writer to be sufficiently deeply impressed with situations or features that he knows will give place to others to-morrow to allow of his describing them at any great length. So varied are the experiments being tried, so many-sided is the new life that is being lived, that no generalisation which would be understood and appreciated by everybody is possible. In order to be understood the novelist has to adopt the style of the historian and give dates and places in a prosy manner. Is it because we are islanders that we live in a daily bustle that leaves no time for reflection? Even if long works were forthcoming, few would have the patience and the leisure to peruse them. . . . But our novelists are a class by themselves, with no occupation except that of occasional scribbling for the newspapers, and no connection of an instructive kind with the great world around them. There is certainly among us as a class a lack of the steadiness of work and seriousness of purpose required for the accomplishment of great tasks. . . . A great deal of uncalled for fuss is made by newspaper and magazine writers about the decline of literary taste and the dearth of good books. But in what country of the world does literature keep up a high standard of excellence for any length of time? Literature has its ups and downs; its bright and dark days. If the whole of the *Meiji* era be considered, neither the sale nor the writing of books affords any cause for discouragement. As to the sales during any two or three years, this is of no importance whatever, and is affected by numerous accidental causes.

Since the death of Ichiyō (Higuchi) the number of women who have made a name for themselves in literature is not enough to be counted on the fingers of one hand.

In modern times there has been no lady writer to compare with Ichiyō. In many things she resembled a man. When a woman gets to use her pen with ease, she has a sphere of her own. Her writing has a lightness of touch, a charm, a smoothness and finish about it that is not often equalled by men. But the fiction of most of the female writers of the day is rightly called *Gosha* (月謝) *Shōsetsu*, "Monthly Fee Fiction." It is confined to school life or the family life of school girls. Ichiyō was quite exceptional. She penetrated depths of poverty and suffering that are seldom explored, and her pictures are true to life. She was schooled by suffering and wrote of what she knew. No girls trained as are the students at the Nobles' Female School will ever become authoresses of any power or influence.

* * *
Last year a certain Mr. Ono Yentarō made an interesting archæological discovery at a place called Fukiage, near Edogasaki, Hitachi, a report of which appears in No. 156 of the *Tōkyō Jinrui Gakkai Zasshi* (Anthropological Society's Magazine), from which we cull the following particulars. At Fukiage, a place 5 or 6 *chō* distant from the town of Edogasaki, built close to the former course of the river Ono, a large shell mound was discovered by Mr. Ono. Its length was about 9 feet. It was covered with earth about 2½ ft. thick. The thickness of the shells was from 1 ft. 2 in. to 2 ft. Inside the mound were found human remains and the bones of birds, fish, deer, and wild-boar and some primitive earthenware vessels. The human remains discovered consist of the left side of a leg-bone, and the right side of a skull. According to the measurements made by Professor Torii, the leg-bone certainly belonged to a man of larger build than any Aino or Japanese of modern times. Professor Torii is of opinion that the bones of animals found in the mound and the earthenware utensils were undoubtedly placed there with certain bones that belonged to the dead men. The general theory in reference to these human bones is that at the time when they were buried the inhabitants of these islands were cannibals, and that the bones of all sorts found are the remains of their meals. The Fukiage discovery confirms this theory in many ways. The bones found are all approximately of the same length. The portion of the human leg-bone is 106 millimetres, one bone of the deer is 98 millimetres; another, a shin bone, is 99 millimetres. Two bones belonging to a wild boar measure 81 and 86 millimetres respectively. It looks, says Professor Torii, as though the length of the bones had been determined by the capacity of the cauldron in which the flesh that once covered them was cooked. The evidence would seem to show that, like many African tribes, the ancestors of the present race of Japanese favoured a mixed meat diet, and that they cooked human flesh and the flesh of other animals in the same cauldron. The great interest attached to the Fukiage discovery is that it confirms the theory supported by leading Japanese and foreign archaeologists in reference to the contents of the Omori shell-mounds. Shell-mounds have been discovered in Ono, Higo; in Nishi-kaizuka, Tōtōmi; in Kōsaku, Kokubunji, Yasaku and Nitona, Shimōsa; in Kuhiri, Sagami, and other places, and they have all contained the remains of animals, but there

have been no human remains; consequently they have thrown no light on the interesting inquiry as to the cannibalism of the early inhabitants of Japan.

The thorough examination of the mound and its contents has not yet been completed, but the discoveries already made are of great scientific value and are engaging the attention of experts.

The *Gwaikō Jihō*, in reviewing a "History of Modern Russia" by Mr. Urabe Hyakutarō, published by the Kaitakusha, Yazaemon-chō, Kyōbashi, Tōkyō, says that nothing is more important at the present time than the preparation of books bearing on foreign countries that describe things as they actually exist. The ignorance of foreign affairs manifested on every occasion is largely owing to the fact that the Japanese have no reliable sources of information to which to refer. Mr. Urabe's *Kinsei Russia-shi* is a book of the right kind, says the *Gwaikō Jihō*. It supplies the facts which it is important that we should know.

The Kaitakusha it is that issues the *Sekai-no-Nihon*. We are pleased to see that this office has drawn up for itself a publishing programme which includes a number of much-needed works. The subjects to be written up are thus given by the *Sekai-no-Nihon*. (1) "A History of Modern Russia" (already published). (2) "A History of Modern Thought." (3) "National Defence and Military Organisation." (4) "Economy in Japan." (5) "Reform of our Financial System." (6) "A History of the Government in the Meiji Era." (7) "Japanese Religion, Past and Present." (8) "Party Cabinets." (9) "Methods of Self-education." (10) "Education in a Constitutional Age." (11) "The Authority Bequeathed to man by Heaven." (12) Socialism."

The *Sekai-taiseiron*, by Mr. Watanabe Seihō, as its title indicates, deals with the prevailing spirit of the times. The author reaches some rather startling conclusions. He is evidently an ardent patriot, and is of opinion that all things point to the conspicuous part that Japan will play in the next century as the leader of nations. We are informed that Western civilisation is on the wane, that the white races are almost played out, that European nations have already shown signs of approaching disintegration and ruin. Japan is to be the saviour of the poor distressed world, and to win renown for the yellow races such as they have never hitherto had. This is Japan's glorious destiny, and Heaven has endowed her with all the qualities necessary to its fulfilment. A pleasant dream, no doubt!

Two important and highly valuable works have been published by Professor Tōdō Tōru, Public Procurator attached to the Supreme Court, on the laws of various countries bearing on religion and the connection of Church and State. The titles of the books are the *Shūkyō Hōron*, price 1 yen 25 sen, and the *Seikyō Yōron* (The leading principles connected with Government and Religion), price 1 yen 25 sen. The Nihon-hōritsugakkō issues both works. Dr. Tōdō has studied in Europe and has paid special attention to the methods of treating religion practised in Western countries. All practical men in Japan will certainly welcome treatises of this kind, which consist of a calm and

lucid statement of existing facts connected with the attitude of the chief Governments of the world in reference to religious belief and practices.

The degree of Doctor (博士), *Hakase* or *Hakushi*, has lately been conferred by the Department of Education on no less than 101 persons. Among these, three passed the University examination that entitles them to the degree; seven received the degree on account of original essays contributed; 51 were recommended for the degree by the Imperial University Council, and 29 were recommended by the President of the Imperial University.

The *Chūō Shimbun*, a short time ago, celebrated the publication of its 5000th number by an entertainment at which Marquis Ito was present. On that occasion the Marquis is reported to have spoken somewhat as follows:—Dr. Toyama, whom I perceive is present to-day, is undoubtedly a great scholar, but his scholarship is apt to betray him into indiscretions. He is led away too much by theories which it is not possible to put into practice under present circumstances. Frequently new ideas occur to me also, but I never venture to try and carry them out without a good deal of consideration as to the general effect they are likely to produce. But neither do I abandon them. I ponder over them alone and study them in the light of books that have been written to elucidate them. There is too much impetuosity in all departments of present Japanese life, specially among statesmen, political parties, and business men. There is too much anxiety to rush into enterprises without any idea of the energy and the resources that will be required to carry them to a successful issue. Men only think of to-day and take no thought for the morrow. Not long ago 5 or 6 young men came to see me at Oiso and asked my advice as to the course they should follow. I quoted largely from the "Analects" of Confucius, pointing out to them that the majority of the would-be young politicians of the day are on the wrong tack. They think that because they can argue and talk they are qualified to become leaders of men. They consider themselves geniuses and wonder how it is that people do not follow them, though they have not the most essential quality in a leader, perfect self-control. Men have much more to fear from their strong points than from their weak ones. Consciousness of their defects makes them careful in situations where these defects are likely to make themselves felt. But when in circumstances where it seems to them that they can rely solely on the qualities in which they excel, they are off their guard and commit great blunders. Our merits often prove to be more harmful to us than our demerits. . . . Chinese sentences as a literary composition have a wonderful charm—concise, full of striking antithesis, not a word out of place, and not a word more than is required. But when the thought expressed is examined there seems to be a total lack of logical sequence. But with Western literature, however unpolished be the style, there is a connected argument throughout that everyone can perceive. It is most desirable that we should endeavour to embody in our Japanese writing the excellencies of both styles, the beauty and conciseness of the Chinese with

the powerful logic of the West. Few young men of to-day have any conception of the difficulty I encountered as a youth in acquiring a knowledge of Dutch first and English afterwards. The dictionaries that we possessed at that time were for the most part useless. I first studied Dutch under Mr. Nobechi, the head of this Kōyōkan (the place where the meeting was held). Mr. Nobechi studied Dutch under Omura Masujiro.

Mr. Nobechi, who is over 70 years of age, was present on the occasion of the speech, and when subsequently reminded of the old days by the Marquis shed tears of joy.

There is no doubt much truth in the contention of the *Teikoku Bungaku*, in a recent article, that the old seat of literature has become the chief seat of commerce and industry, and that the northern capital, though behind the West in trade, has attracted to itself nearly all Japan's best writers. The industrial progress of Osaka during the past decade is, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*, quite remarkable. But neither in that city nor in Kyōto is there any native literary activity worthy of mention. The literary college of the Dōshisha failed years ago. Magazines have appeared in both cities at intervals, only to be discontinued after a few months or a few years. Literary men seem averse to settling in a region where the smoke of factory chimneys fills the air. The few stragglers that have found their way to western cities have not as a rule become permanent residents. Last year Messrs. Suiri and Riyō went to Kobe and started a magazine called the *Shinkō Bungaku*, which is doing well and is a first-class literary organ. But it is a case of one swallow not making a summer, and we are afraid, concludes the *Teikoku Bungaku*, that it is only too true that the west has settled down to the conviction that material progress is the chief desideratum of the present time.

In the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*, in a long series of articles, Mr. Fukuzawa has been championing women's rights and showing the injustice of the treatment that Japanese women have received for centuries. The standard of morals known as the *Onna Daigaku* Mr. Fukuzawa has torn to shreds. To follow any such teaching as that book contains at the present time would, in Mr. Fukuzawa's opinion, be fatal to all social progress. The *Onna Daigaku* teaches that subjection to man on all occasions is the chief duty of women. In some 20 articles published in the *Jiji*, each subject connected with the old female educational system has been discussed. But Mr. Fukuzawa has not been content simply to play the rôle of a destructionist. He has projected a new system of female education, to which he gives the name of the *Shin Onna Daigaku* (The New Great Learning for Women). It seems that Mr. Fukuzawa was engaged on the final revision of these articles when overtaken by the illness that brought him to death's door last year. They are the result of long years of study, combined with a knowledge of women derived from his own family circle and relations. It is stated by Mr. Fukuzawa Ichitarō that the principles elaborated in the *Shin Onna Daigaku*, which will be shortly published in book form, have been acted on in his father's house for a very long time, his father being most particular as

to the topics of conversation introduced, and the modes of behaviour adopted, by his children. It is considered by those who are best able to judge that this work of Mr. Fukuzawa's old age ranks high among his many numerous contributions to the cause of progress and reform.

At a general meeting of the Meiji Bijutsukai held last month it was stated that there are at present 318 members of the Society, 16 of whom are foreigners. There was an increase of 33 members last year. Among the speakers at the meeting was Mr. Koyama Shōtarō, the well-known artist, who is a most ardent advocate of the adoption of the European style of painting. He gave an interesting account of the study of western art in Japan, of which the following is a brief abstract: The history of our adoption of Western styles of painting may be conveniently traced back to four periods. (1) Between A.D. 1570 and 1590 a number of pictures on religious subjects were brought to Japan by the Portuguese. But the study of these pictures led to no results that we know of. (2) Between 1764 and 1788 the introduction of a number of foreign paintings by the Dutch led to the creation of new styles of art. There were no artists of any note in those days who did not owe much of their power to the study of western models. At that time artists were divided into two schools known as the 正傳派, Seiden-ha, and the 變成派, Hensei-ha, that is, those who favoured a strict transmission of foreign methods, and those who advocated modification of those methods. The study of foreign art during the latter part of the eighteenth century gave a wonderful impetus to Japanese art and inspired such men as Okyō, Bunchō, Kazan and Hokusai. (3) The next period worthy of special note was that between 1866 and 1863. At this time a large number of new works of art found their way to Japan, the result being the founding of two schools of painters known as the Gakuri-ha and the Jitchi-ha. The former advocated the study of the theory of foreign art, and were strongly represented in the Bakufu Kaisaiji; the latter contended that practice in painting in foreign style, under foreign instruction, if possible, was what was most needed; and this was found feasible in Yokohama, which became the centre of the practical school of artists. The last period dates from 1876, when the Kōbushō (Board of Works, abolished in 1885) established the Bijutsu Gakkō, in which foreign art was studied in a normal manner. From this time onward the term *Bijutsu* (Fine Art) came to be universally used and the interest in foreign painting increased year by year till, thanks to a movement set on foot by some self-interested Americans, there set in an anti-foreign current which for some time hindered the progress of the study of Western art. But as a school we have survived and are more prosperous to-day than ever.

At the end of the report read at the meeting a short account was given of the interesting address delivered by Mr. Felix Régamey on March 26th last at a meeting of the Chigaku Kyōkai, held at their office in Kōnya-chō, Kyōbashi, Tōkyō. M. Régamey came to Japan as a deputation from Paris for the purpose of studying the present condition of art in Japan. His subject on the occasion to which we refer

was, "The History of Fine Art in France and a Review of its present condition." But in the course of his lecture the accomplished artist alluded to the manner in which at various stages of its history French art had been affected by Japanese and Chinese art. This was the case during the reign of Louis XIV., when France learnt from the Portuguese and the Dutch what were the leading features of Japanese art. The popularity of those non-symmetrical sketches that during the reign of Louis XV. found their way to every part of France is well-known. They were all imitations of Far Eastern art. Then the Impressionist school of art, which finds so much favour in certain quarters, possesses many features in common with Japanese art and is indebted to Japanese and Chinese art for some of its excellencies. In Japan there is Impressionism of the very highest class—Impressionism that is founded on minute analysis of the objects represented. The lecturer produced a sketch from the pen of Kawabata and further illustrated his meaning. He added, however, that many Japanese artists of the Impressionist school neglected analysis of objects altogether, and hence the ideas they intended to represent were more obscure than was desirable. In order to convey an impression of the appearance of a window, it was not necessary to show in the sketch every pane of glass and every piece of wood, but on the other hand the artist must so far study the window as to know which of its parts are essential to its character and suggest the object-intended to be portrayed and which part can be omitted without fear of causing the object to be mistaken for something else.

The *Taiyō* comments at some length on oratory in the Diet and comes to the conclusion that it is on the decline. The two best speakers in the Diet, according to this authority, are Mr. Shimada Saburō and Mr. Inoue Kakugorō. Neither of these gentlemen have of late delivered speeches of any length. As things are at present, Japan stands alone as regards the number of bills passed without being properly discussed, says the *Taiyō*. The chief reason for this the *Taiyō* thinks is the amount of work that has to be got through in a short session. We have not space to quote all its figures, but as a specimen of the kind of thing that occurs we give those which concern the 13th session, which extended over 46 days only. The bills presented by the Government numbered 176. Of these 172 were discussed to a greater or less extent, 1 was withdrawn, and 3 were not brought forward. Then there were 45 private bills, 33 of which were discussed, 6 withdrawn, and 6 not brought forward. In addition to these there were 49 memorials, 38 of which were discussed, 1 withdrawn, and 10 not brought forward. If the whole of the bills and memorials be compared with the time at the disposal of the Diet, at least 3 subjects per hour had to be disposed of. It must be remembered that during its first session the Diet sat on an average 4 hours a day, but during its thirteenth it only averaged 2 hours a day. Under these circumstances to find time to listen to long speeches was impossible. Hence the constant cry of "The Closure! The Closure!" The remedy proposed by the *Taiyō* for what it considers to be an evil is the exercise of

greater care in the choice of chairmen of committees and the making it a practice for such members to make a lengthy report on the bill which has passed through committee.

Mr. Iwamoto Zenji has published a book of reminiscences of the late Count Katsu under the title of the 海舟餘瀝, *Kaishū-yoha** which makes very interesting reading, containing as it does many comments on recent events which show extraordinary insight. The book impresses one with the feeling that the Count was one of the most remarkable men of his day. His manners were often so singular that he does not seem to have been understood by many. Some of the peculiarities of his character are revealed by Mr. Iwamoto's narrative. We have only space for a few extracts. A missionary informed the Count that he had been praying for him, and that he (Count Katsu) had no doubt reached old age owing to God's protection and care. This theory did not satisfy the Count, and he observed that the probable explanation of his not being killed was that he had always been averse to killing anybody. Though he had worn a sword, it had, on occasions when he might have been tempted to use it, been firmly tied to the sheath.

On one occasion he was asked by the Tokugawa Shōgun to devote himself to the task of averting the ruin that impended and was promised a handsome reward in return. He grew very angry at the proposal. But this did not prevent its being repeated. So, in order to put an end to the affair, he informed the messenger that the only condition of his doing anything would be the transference of the whole of the Tokugawa estate to him without delay. This had the desired effect.

When young he had a great aversion to books. His study of literature commenced when he was confined to his house by Government order for 4 years. From that time onward he grew fond of reading, and, in addition to perusing the standard works of his own country, studied Dutch.

Before starting for the seat of war in China, a military officer called on him and remarked:—"I have come to say goodbye, as I never expect to see you again. I do not intend to return alive." "Don't talk such nonsense!" replied the Count. "What's the use in dying? In modern warfare most of the soldiers manage to escape. Getting killed is the exception. Hence it is that people object to the fuss made about rewarding those who return alive."

When war was proclaimed the Count was greatly surprised, and predicted that Japan would not be the country to reap permanent benefit from the struggle. This forecast was embodied in a Chinese verse which to a large extent has been verified by recent events. The lines are worth preserving.

朝 日 天 國
以 濟 軍 國
與 鷄 更 交
雪 林 無 兵
美 肉 名 日

* *Kaishū* is the *go*, or *nom de guerre*, of Count Katsu. *Yoha*, lit., "additional waves." The pseudonym of the Count being connected with the sea, the scraps of conversation collected by the

*Rinkoku hei wo majiyuru no hi,
Sono gun sara ni na nashi.
Awaremubeshi! Keirin no niku.
Saitte motte Ro Ei ni atô.*

- "When war is carried on in a neighbouring land,
- "There exists no adequate cause for such a war.†
- "To be pitied, indeed, is Korea; whose flesh
- "Will be rent and divided between Russia and England."

Thus it was plainly foreseen by Count Katsu that the chief outcome of the war would be the extension of European power in the Far East, and this is just what has happened.

SENDAI NEWS.

The even, and to some by no means unpleasant, monotony of country life has in the case of Sendai been broken into by several occurrences of local interest. On May 6th, the Baptist Girls' School gave a musical entertainment, at which the girls acquitted themselves well and furnished abundant proof of the careful training they have received from the indefatigable lady now in sole charge of the institution. On the 7th, the Second Higher School held its spring regatta near Shiogama. The rowing club connected with the school has many difficulties to contend with. The river Hirose, which is within a few hundred yards of the school buildings, is useless for boating. Consequently every time the members of the club wish to practise they have to go by train to Shiogama, which takes thirty minutes. It is only at certain times of the year that the water of the Matsushima gulf is calm enough to allow of practice for novices in the art of rowing. It not infrequently happens that a crew which sets out with the intention of getting a day's practice, arrives at Shiogama to find a heavy sea on in the centre of the gulf, and, after going to the expense of the railway journey, returns to Sendai disappointed. Owing to the treacherous nature of the water on which the boats have to race, the purchase of long narrow racing boats has been considered inadvisable. Safety was, naturally, deemed to be of greater importance than speed, and the result is the use of boats that are perfect tubs as regards shape and speed. In addition to these and other discouraging circumstances that could be mentioned, the weather on the 7th was very unpropitious. A small rain was falling in the early morning which hardly looked as if it would cease. It did cease, however, but the weather remained gloomy and chilly, which greatly reduced the number of spectators. With the exception of the teachers' race, the programme for the day was carried out amid such enthusiasm as the circumstances allowed.

On the evening of May 15th the other Protestant Mission School, the Miyagi Jogakko, gave a very interesting musical entertainment, which included quite a long operetta arranged for children's voices called "Laila." This was very tastefully rendered and reflected great credit on the foreign ladies who drilled the girls during the recitations which preceded the performance, and on the intelligence of the young actresses who thoroughly entered into the spirit of the piece.

An event of a very different kind is worthy of record. On the 17th, the birthday of Shaka Muni was celebrated in various parts of Japan. On that day, at the invitation of the Dôkôkai, a Buddhist Society connected with the Second

author are described as the lesser movements of water whose big waves have already displayed their beauty and power to the public.

† In the Count's opinion Japan had really no *casus belli*. This use of the character 名 is common in the Chinese classics.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

Higher School, the well-known veteran lecturer and scholar, Dr. Murakami, favoured Sendai with his presence, and before a select and an attentive audience, assembled in the Gôjôkan, made a speech which was characterised by verve, common sense, and appropriateness to the age to a degree that we venture to think is somewhat rare among Buddhist priests. A great deal is said nowadays about the pitiable state of Buddhism, about its impracticability, its ignorance of the conditions of success, its lack of a high ideal to hold up to a nation that is represented to be grovelling in the dust. After listening for a whole hour to Dr. Murakami's address, every sentence of which was intelligible, the present writer came away with the conviction that the Buddhists still have men in their ranks who for sublimity of ideas, steadfastness of purpose, insight into the hidden sources of human action, and all the various needs of the human soul are not surpassed by any of the leaders of other schools of thought. We can do no more than give a brief outline of the tenor of his address. To do justice to it even in the form of a summary would occupy more space than we have at our disposal. Dr. Murakami began by giving a very beautiful description of the life of Shaka Muni, specially laying stress on those particulars in which he differed from all other men. How the boy that was born to be an earthly king and was urged by his father to extend his sceptre over the whole of India, which at that time groaned under various forms of oppression, and anxiously looked for the appearance of an earthly deliverer, chose to turn his back on the world, to renounce all idea of establishing a temporal kingdom, and commenced to lay the foundations of an empire over men's souls that will continue to all time—is a story with which readers of "The Light of Asia" are quite familiar. Christ was born poor and lived poor all his days, but Shaka Muni was born rich and for the sake of humanity became poor. The most significant event of Shaka's life Dr. Murakami pronounced to be his fight with the Devil and the victory he obtained. We insert the word "Devil" as it was used by Dr. Murakami, but it is only right to mention that in a subsequent part of his speech Dr. Murakami sneered at the belief in a personal Devil, as Broad Churchmen and Congregationalists in England and America are apt to do in private conversation, if not in the pulpit. He said that the only evil one a man had to fear was the inferior half of his own personality. In each man there were two Souls, as it were, one inclined to good and the other to evil; that the second evil-loving Soul was one form of evil with which Shaka fought and with which all the best men in the world had never ceased to fight. The outer world doubtless was full of evil, even the brightest and best looking-things contained poisons that might work terrible havoc if not guarded against. But the heart evils were the subtlest and the most difficult to overcome. From moral subjects of this kind Dr. Murakami passed on to discuss ideals of life, and reached a plane which one could not but feel was the one occupied by the greatest men of all times. Among other things he pointed out to the numerous young men who were listening to him how mistaken is the notion that the men who have made great names in the world started in life with that intention. The greatest benefactors of the human race, said Dr. Murakami, have been men who were unconscious of their own greatness; who concerned themselves with the work that they set themselves to do and cared not a straw what men thought of that work. To have a fixed purpose in life, to carry out that purpose unwaveringly, never to ask and never to care whether any present or future reward will accrue from its execution—that is the true road to greatness. Dr. Murakami preached a number of wholesome doctrines to the young, showed young men how apt they are to become conceited and how essential to success is the humility that is based on consciousness of ignorance and deficiency. He condemned over eating and over-drinking—in fact, intemperance of all kinds.

Dr. Murakami is, we believe, over 60 years of age, and is very fragile in appearance, but is still full of energy and spirit and capable of getting through an enormous amount of work. While he was resting between the two discourses that he delivered, each lasting about an hour, Mr. Yamada Ikuji, who teaches German in the Second Higher School, made a speech, in which he declared himself to be a steadfast believer in Buddhism. He took for his text the words of Shaka, 天上天下唯我獨尊 *Tenjo, Tenka iga Dokuson*. "In the Heaven above and earth beneath I alone am worthy of honour"—a very difficult saying to justify, from whatever point of view regarded. Mr. Yamada, however, maintained that Shaka's life of abstinence and labour had abundantly established his right to consider himself as more worthy of honour than any other mortal man.

Next week Sendai is to celebrate by a festival of unprecedented grandeur, that is, according to Sendai notions of grandeur—the 300th anniversary of the founding of the place as the chief castle town of Date Masamune. According to our reckoning it was in the year 1600, two years after the death of Hideyoshi and the very year in which the great battle of Sekigahara was fought, and while in the prime of life, that Date determined to abandon Shirakawa and Yonezawa as seats of government and erect a castle on the heights that tower above the river Hirose. In those warlike times the step was a wise one. His castle became almost impregnable, and there grew up beneath it on the other side of the river a town which has since become one of the largest cities of the realm. It is said that some fifteen thousand *yen* is to be spent on the celebration, which commences on the 23rd and will last for three days. There is a talk of free tickets being given to press representatives and of special invitations being sent to great personages. The numerous *dashi* in course of preparation will absorb a good deal of the money that has been liberally subscribed towards the celebration. But in the matter of celebrations the Japanese are very conservative, and, while pronouncing the whole thing very *tsukuramu*, with a smile on the face and nonchalance in the heart, they put their hands into their pockets as often as required. What is said of truth is equally applicable to custom—"great is custom and she will prevail."

THE DRAMA.

"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

Messrs. Dallas and Musgrave's Company opened their season at the Public Hall, Yokohama, on May 20th, with a very excellent performance of Wilson Barrett's spectacular play, "The Sign of the Cross." The wretched rainy weather of Saturday, which culminated in a heavy shower just about the time when folks were thinking of leaving home for the theatre, doubtless deterred many from venturing, still for a first night in Yokohama the house was fairly well-filled and we feel confident that now the Company has demonstrated the excellence of the work they are prepared to place upon the local boards, the support of theatre-going Yokohama will be accorded in no stinted measure. And truly the enterprise shown in bringing such a large company of players to this out-of-the-way-corner of the Far East deserves recognition over and above that usually given here.

Many residents who have seen the play in London, with Wilson Barrett in the rôle of *Marcus Superbus*, were rather sceptical as to the result of bringing "The Sign of the Cross" within the narrow confines of the Public Hall stage. But most of these fears proved groundless. True the company looked rather cramped and cribbed in some of the acts, but throughout the evening masterly stage-management triumphed over limitations that would have daunted other men, and the result must be pronounced satisfactory in the extreme. The setting of the various scenes was very effective, the whole play being put on in

a manner that disarmed the most exacting critics.

The story of "The Sign of the Cross" has become familiar to most readers of the English press and a synopsis of the various scenes would therefore be a work of supererogation. There can be no doubt, however, that the players are superior to the play. Much of the writing is very cheap rant, but of course those that interpret the piece are not responsible for the words they have to utter. Mr. Henry Dallas as *Marcus Superbus*, the Prefect of Rome who was won to Christianity through love of *Mercia*, satisfied—and that very thoroughly—the ideals of the character. Quickly arousing the sympathy of the house, he held it in the end, when, in the dungeons of the Coliseum he elects to leave his lofty station, with all its glittering ambitions and heart-enticing possibilities, to die with *Mercia*, who has brought him to the knowledge of Him who came to earth as the Saviour of the world. Mr. Kenyon Musgrave *Tigellinus*, the ferocious Conciliator to *Nero*, made an excellent foil in the central figure: loving the things of darkness because they were dark—a monster in every thought, fit companion for the beast who wore the Imperial purple. *Nero* was splendidly played by Mr. J. B. Ferrell. He has fully realized the possibilities of the character and with true artistic appreciation steers clear of over-emphasis, the fault of many who have essayed it. *Nero*, it is acknowledged by all historians, was a maniac; a maniac possessed of all the diabolical cunning we associate with homicidal mania in its worst phases; he was also a poltroon, cowardly, yet fiendishly vindictive towards all falling within the shadow of his suspicions; inordinately vain, possessing no accomplishments, yet imagining himself a singer, an actor, an athlete of the first quality; cursed by the most bestial instincts, yet deeming himself a god—all these varied characteristics found portrayal in the masterly study presented by Mr. Ferrell, and he deserves our thanks. The only other male character that rose above the rack was that of *Gladius*, the wine-bibbing patrician, played by Mr. D. Munro, a favourite of other days in Yokohama. His conception of the part was deliciously humorous and relieved very pleasantly the oppressive sombreness of the overshadowing tragedy. Miss Madge Grey made a very lovable *Mercia*, throwing into the character all the austerity, tempered with sweet maidenly humanity, that was necessary for the realization of the author's ideal. But the part that aroused our sympathy most was that of *Berenis*, taken by Miss Barbara Fenn. She deserved a better fate than to have her love rejected, nay scorned, by such a man as *Marcus*. Her playing was very natural and deserves recognition for its true womanhood. Miss Bertha Hunter made an impressive *Poppa*; Miss Rosie Blair was a capital *Dacia*; and the *Stephanus* of Miss Fanny Stanley was meritorious. One word of thanks is also due to all who took part in the play for their capital enunciation. Residents have long reconciled themselves to the many defects of the Public Hall, but last evening, owing to the ability of the players, not one word was missed—a triumph of no mean order.

E. R. T. writes:—Journalists and novelists are very fond of posing as wearied and blasé themselves, and of assuming that the mass of humanity is also convinced of the hollowness of all things. To this delusion we owe the troops of cynical heroes and neurotic heroines with which fiction and the drama have lately been cursed. Nothing could be more false. The great heart of the public is as green as ever it was, and as ready to laugh over the stalest of pantomime jokes or to blubber honest tears over the most maudlin sentiment. Every author and dramatist who has kept this clearly in view, and written intelligently with a true appreciation of what the middle classes want, has succeeded greatly, and generally in inverse ratio to his artistic merits. Mr. George R. Sims, for example. People may laugh at his melodramas, but do they not draw? And does it not say a good deal for the freshness of heart

even of sedate business men when a piece of so little intrinsic merit as "The Sign of the Cross" can capture London by storm, and—what we think is quite as difficult—keep a Yokohama audience spell-bound for three hours? When we say little intrinsic merit we mean of course literary merit, for the piece is a triumph of stagecraft, written as it is by a man who knows the value of "situations," and can tell by instinct the exact proportions of horrors and comic business his audience will stand. But apart from its construction there is little in it. The sentiment is commonplace, and the dialogue, especially in the parts that are meant to be bright, is feeble in the extreme. *In quoque* is the ordinary form of retort. "Thou art mad, Marcus." "Nay, it is thou that art mad"—this is a typical specimen of the author's powers of repartee. But the piece is not an author's play. All depends on the actor, the scene painter, and the property man; and as Messrs Dallas and Musgrave's Company is an extremely strong one the success of the play was assured.

"THE HARBOUR LIGHTS."

Many years ago, so many, indeed, that the present critic hardly likes to give the full tally of them, a writer for one of the morning journals of London declared, after witnessing the initial performance of "The Harbour Lights" at the Adelphi, that "the great heart of England always and ever responds, in accents that will not be misunderstood, to the great ethical lessons laid down for its perusal by the author of this sterling play." Ah, well, the world has moved a little since those seemingly far-back days of the early eighties: the enthusiastic first-nighters who delighted to foregather at that home of "the legitimate" have sobered down a little bit in their estimates and realised that the great triumphs of their youth have a habit of assuming a different guise as the century totters to its close. For the moment the taste for strong yet tawdry melodrama of the Adelphi variety has apparently passed in England; the great middle classes have discovered that Mr. Henry Arthur Jones or Mr. Pinero, and eke the neurotic but exceedingly clever Oscar Wilde can delight them more, can satisfy their intellectual cravings—for even the most hardened have brains—better than the most melodramatic of the old "machinist" dramatists ever did. Yet there can be no gainsaying that such plays as "The Harbour Lights" still appeal to a very large portion of the play-going community. The cordial reception accorded to its revival at the Public Hall on Tuesday demonstrated that in Yokohama there reside a goodly number who delight in seeing Virtue triumph over Vice; Idyllic Love rise supreme over the machinations of Malignant Hate; and Virtuous Humanity, in the person of the light comedy man and his lass, succeed in obtaining the best of all possible good times in spite of the most unfavourable circumstances. The applause was loud and long at all the appropriate places—though occasionally a disconcerting laugh broke in where silence, or else a ringing cheer, had been anticipated by the playwright. Still, for all that, the house was well satisfied with the performance—and what more can possibly be desired?

Mr. Henry Dallas played the part of *Lieut. David Kingsley, R.N.*, in a manner that even William Terriss would have found worthy of approval; Mr. Kenyon Musgrave as *Nicholas Mortland* was the Adelphi Villain to the life—with such a malignant set of the eyebrows he could not help but take the villain's rôle; Mr. D. Munro was a capital *Tom Dossitor*, well worthy of the sprightly *Peggy Chudleigh* (Miss Fanny Stanley); while it goes without saying that *Capt. Hardy* Mr. J. B. Ferrell, *Lena Nelson* (Miss Barbara Fenn), and *Dora Vane* (Miss Madge Grey) were perfect in all that they had to do and say.

"THE SILVER KING."

The Dallas and Musgrave Company are maintaining the reputation they made on their opening night. Wednesday's performance of "The Silver King" was very acceptable, and

was received with satisfaction by a full house. All the principal players did well, and the little girl was especially taking.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

Why stage managers should still mount "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is a mystery. The events which gave interest to the play and the novel have lost all their vividness for the present generation. The book may have had literary merits entitling it to more than ephemeral existence. The dramatised version certainly never deserved a longer life than a May fly, for there is nothing in it at all above the commonplace of melodrama—hairbreadth escapes, rivers of floating ice, good prohibitionists and brutal slave owners, a dying child who dies most tediously, blood-bounds and revolvers, Yankee accent, slave sales, a comic lawyer, a knife fight, a flogging scene, death of an aged and religious negro of high respectability, &c. Of course Messrs. Dallas and Musgrave have brought the piece up (or down) in date. They have introduced quite a number of those musical efforts known as "coon songs" and "plantation solos," as the "Swanee River," "My old Kentucky Home," "I want yer, ma honey," and "The Cake Walk," which generally appear to have been written on the same principles as a Scotch dialect novel. The Kailyard sect has proved that humour merely consists in saying "Hoots, mon," calling "go" "gang," and speaking of "lads" and "lassies." The negro ditty writer has discovered that any song really too inane for consumption in English, or even in Cockney dialect, may yet do excellently well if translated into the supposed language of the plantation, and served up as the accompaniment of a "big boot dance." Messrs. Dallas and Musgrave's company did their best. Mr. Dallas was the extremely irritating man of peace, *Phineas Fletcher*, whose righteousness and good feeling pervades the play. Mr. D. Munro was a *Legree* as other *Legrees*, tall, truculent, and loud-voiced; Mr. T. Empson was *Uncle Tom*; Mr. Ferrell said at least 150 times "My name is Marks and I'm a lawyer," and, strange to say, made one laugh every time, which is a feat; Mr. Kenyon Musgrave was the runaway slave; Mr. Edwin Phillips *St. Clair*; Miss Rosie Blair an amusing *Topsy*, and Miss Musckett *Eva*. There was a large audience, who seemed to enjoy the sensations.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

There was no organised attempt in Yokohama to celebrate the Queen's Birthday, though the Settlement was pretty generally decorated with flags. Beyond the Yacht Club's sailing races and a cricket match at the Recreation Ground there were no public events.

SAILING RACES.

The Yokohama Yacht Club opened their season with races for 39 and 17 raters. The course for 39 raters was 10 miles, starting from an imaginary line between two flagboats opposite the French Hatoba, through the Harbour Entrance, around the Honmoku Lightship (S.), around the Honmoku Widow Buoy (S.), around the Honmoku Lightship (P.), and back through the Harbour Entrance. Finish across the starting line.

The start was at 2.45, the following taking part:—

	Rating.	Club Time.	Handicap.
		allows.	allows.
Mary	39		
Haiden	39		
		m.s.	m.s.
Maid Marion	36½	3 04	10 00
Tori	36	3 42	14 00
Spray	34	6 30	14 00
Wanderer	32½	8 46	18 00

The times at the start were as follows:—

	h.m.s.		h.m.s.
Mary	2 46 10	Tori	2 49 10
Haiden	2 47 00	Spray	2 53 10
Maid Marion	2 59 00	Wanderer	3 50 45

The Harbour was cleared at the following times:—

	h.m.s.		h.m.s.
Mary	3:11.45	Tori	3:19.40
Haiden	3:22.35	Spray	3:17.05
Maid Marion ..	3:13.05	Wanderer	3:18.50

The Lightship was reached as follows:—

	h.m.s.		h.m.s.
Mary	3:44.00	Tori	3:37.25
Haiden	3:51.15	Spray	3:51.05
Maid Marion ..	3:45.00	Wanderer	3:52.30

On the return journey the Lightship was passed as follows:—

	h.m.s.		h.m.s.
Mary	5:21.45	Tori	5:44.35
Haiden	5:45.40	Spray	5:55.22
Maid Marion ..	5:42.30	Wanderer	5:53.55

At the Harbour Entrance the times were:—

	h.m.s.		h.m.s.
Mary	5:46.45	Tori	6:13.06
Haiden	6:15.18	Spray	6:30.24
Maid Marion ..	5:48.33	Wanderer	6:30.20

The result was as follows:—

	Finish.	Club Time.	Corrected Time.
Mary	5:56.41	5:56.41	5:56.41
Haiden	6:28.58	6:28.58	6:28.58
Maid Marion ..	5:58.07	5:55.03	5:48.27
Tori	6:25.30	6:21.48	6:11.30
Spray	6:44.12	6:37.42	6:30.12
Wanderer	6:45.56	6:37.10	6:27.56

Maid Marion 1st prize and two record points. Mary 2nd prize and 1 record point.

The course for the 17 raters (6 miles) was as follows:—Start from an imaginary line between two flagboats opposite the French Hatuba, through the Harbour Entrance, around a flagboat off Mandarin Bluff (S.), around a flagboat off the middle of the Southern Breakwater (S.), around the flagboat off Mandarin Bluff (P.), back through the Harbour Entrance and finishing across the starting line.

The race resulted as follows:—

	Club Time	Rating, allowance.	Finish.	Corrected Club Time.
Coogee	17	—	5:19.33	5:19.33
Eclair	17	—	5:14.24	5:14.24
Wellings	17	—	5:26.13	5:26.13
Bonito	17	—	2:16.16	5:16.16
Devonia	16½	1.24	5:19.16	5:17.52

The first prize for the 39 raters was presented by Sir Ernest Satow, and was awarded on arbitrary handicap; the second was presented by the club, and was awarded on club time. The first prize for the 17 raters was presented by Sir Ernest Satow and the second by the club, both being awarded on club time.

There was scarcely any wind near the Harbour, and the times were therefore not good.

YOKOHAMA REGATTA.

The weather was unfortunately in its meanest mood on Saturday, and the Regatta suffered accordingly. It was a particularly exasperating day. An honest wet day, when it starts raining at 5 a.m. and continues with strict attention to business till the shades of eve, can be borne with philosophic calm—one knows exactly what to do. If one is lucky enough to possess clothes that any weather will spoil, he will not be beguiled into wearing them, but will slop cheerily along what are humorously called the roads of Yokohama in gales and a rain coat. And outdoor sports will be "off" if they possibly can be postponed. But a day like Saturday, opening fine, then indulging in a slight whimper as if out of temper with things in general, then clearing up, and finally closing in a dismal downpour, is enough to try the temper of the most urbane. There was rather a high sea, too, and in consequence the usual course had to be abandoned, and the races rowed inside the breakwater, the authorities having courteously given permission to that effect. The course was from opposite the light-house at the breakwater entrance to a spot east of the boathouse, and it was kept clear by dint of the efforts of the water police, whose good services in this direction were greatly appreciated. The racing was on the whole interesting, though the finishes were not as a rule close. On shore the performances of

the Town Band added to the general enjoyment, and as a large number of ladies had braved the elements, the function was not, in spite of the weather, a failure in its social aspect. The officials, under whose management the Regatta was admirably carried out, were as follow:—Mr. H. C. Litchfield, President and Judge; Mr. F. J. Hall, Captain; Mr. W. Sutter, Starter and Umpire; Mr. R. Hay, Time-keeper; Dr. Wheeler, Messrs. James Walter, E. P. S. Bent, Rev. R. C. Irvine, H. W. Fraser, Geo. Philip, J. MacArthur, W. Goddard, H. Rose, H. E. Hayward; G. C. Alcock, Hon. Treas. Mr. Levedag, Hon. Sec.

SENIOR DOUBLES SCULLS.—½ Mile.

	1.—"TERN."	lb.
Bow. S. H. Kuhn	145	
Str. W. M. Squire	149	
	2.—"PEARL."	lb.
Bow. H. A. Poole	162	
Str. E. Levedag	184	

Time, 5m. 49secs.

The boats kept close together nearly all the journey, Tern drew ahead, and won by three-quarters of a length. Bad steering, natural on a new course, was largely responsible for the Pearl's failure.

JUNIOR DOUBLES SCULLS.—½ Mile.

	1.—"TERN."	lb.
Bow. J. Abbey	114	
Str. E. Barfoot	125	
	2.—"PEARL."	lb.
Bow. J. E. Moss	128	
Str. D. Weed	133	

Time, 5m. 44½secs.

The boats kept well together for the first half mile, but Barfoot, rowing a quicker stroke than Weed, then drew ahead a length or so, and this advantage he more than maintained, coming in an easy winner by several lengths. Weed was suffering from a bad hand, in spite of which he rowed very pluckily.

INTERNATIONAL FOURS.—1 Mile.

Prizes presented by H. E. the German Minister and German residents.

	1.—"SEAMEW ENGLISH."	lb.
Bow. H. V. Irvine	147	
2. W. M. Squire	149	
3. H. E. Hayward	143	
Str. W. Goddard	121	
Cox. H. Gorman	119	
	2.—"DARTER GERMAN."	lb.
Bow. R. Bohlke	155	
2. F. Kluss	157	
3. E. Levedag	184	
Str. R. Boyes	171	
Cox. P. Kleinwort	139	

Time, 7m. 15secs.

The German crew had the inside berth. From the start the English crew, went away, Goddard setting a beautiful stroke. It was evident from the first which was the better crew, and with every stroke they crept away from the Germans, eventually winning by nearly 100 yards. The result was very popular, and the winning crew were given a frantic welcome on returning to the boathouse, the German crew receiving a smaller ovation on their making their appearance some minutes later.

JUNIOR PAIRS.—½ Mile.

	1.—"WIDGEON."	lb.
Bow. D. Weed	133	
Str. J. E. Moss	128	
Cox. W. M. Carst	129	
	2.—"MALLARD."	lb.
Bow. M. Sakamoto	120	
Str. L. M. Williams	143	
Cox. H. Gorman	119	

Time, 6m. 40secs.

The Mallard's crew were quite outclassed, and from the start the Widgeon led the way. Moss rowing a fine steady stroke, while the other boat rolled and laboured. By the time half the distance was finished the Widgeon was two or three of lengths ahead, and this had increased to six lengths by the finish.

SENIOR PAIRS (Ladies' Purse).—1 Mile.

	1.—"SCAUP."	lbs.
Bow. G. C. Alcock	154	
Str. J. J. M. Carst	167	
Cox. W. M. Carst	127	

	2.—"SCOTER."	lbs.
Bow. B. J. Jackson	173	
Str. E. Levedag	184	
Cox. W. Goddard	128	

Time, 8m. 19secs.

Carst got the best of the start, and went away with the lead rowing 33 to the minute, Levedag adopting much the same stroke but the lighter men showed superior form. At half distance the Scoter was leading by three or four lengths, and though a little later the Scoter seemed to be making up leeway Levedag failed to permanently improve his position, the Scaup coming in with seven or eight lengths to spare. The race was rowed in the rain.

JUNIOR FOURS.—½ Mile.

	1.—"PELICAN."	lb.
Bow. J. Abbey	114	
2. T. Herlihy	134	
3. E. Barfoot	125	
Str. D. Weed	133	
Cox. W. M. Carst	129	
	2.—"FLAMINGO."	lb.
Bow. A. G. Price	130	
2. O. S. Moss	124½	
3. J. A. Hayes	142	
Str. J. E. Moss	128	
Cox. W. Goddard	128	

Time, 5m. 47secs.

Moss got the best of the start, but Weed hung on to him, both rowing 34 to the minute. Weed then got a quarter of a length's lead, and though Moss stuck to his work the advantage was increased and the Pelican came in first by two or three lengths.

CLUB FOURS.—1 Mile.

	1.—"PELICAN."	lb.
Bow. L. M. Williams	143	
2. H. V. Irvine	147	
3. F. Kluss	157	
Str. H. E. Hayward	143	
Cox. C. V. Schmidt	127	
	2.—"DARTER."	lb.
Bow. E. H. Irvine	143	
2. O. Mahit	195	
3. J. J. M. Carst	167	
Str. H. A. Poole	162	
Cox. W. M. Carst	129	

Time, 7m. 23½s.

Poole got away, with Goddard close up, the latter, however, being replaced shortly after by Alcock. Kluss, No. 3 in the Pelican, broke his stretcher after the first few strokes, but in spite of this Hayward managed to pass Alcock and came on terms with Poole, eventually winning by half a length. Alcock's boat was close up as third. Goddard was quite out of it.

The Ladies Purse was presented by Miss Trippler, and the rest of the prizes by Mrs. Tegner.

THE ROBBERY AT MESSRS. HERB'S.

Yano Zensai was charged in the Chitose Saibansho the other day with stealing a number of curios from the sample room of Messrs. Herb & Co., No. 76, Settlement, some time ago, leaving a letter behind signed "Divine Fox Lad" in which he gave his reason for the theft. He was sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment with hard labour. Three others were sentenced to five and six years' imprisonment.

CRICKET.

PRESIDENT'S XI. v. CAPTAIN'S XXII.

Saturday was a miserable day for outdoor sports. Showers fell in the early morning and then the sky partially cleared; but as the day advanced the clouds again gathered and by half past three a heavy downpour set in that lasted well on into the late afternoon, to recommence again after sunset. The cricket match arranged

between teams headed respectively by the President and Captain had consequently to be abandoned after an hour or so of play. The score was:—

PRESIDENT'S XI.	
Lieut. Stahlknecht, b. Murdoch	10
Lieut. Hall, R.M.L.I., c. Kilby, b. Lias	31
E. B. Clarke, b. Murdoch	0
H. W. Kilby, c. Clarke, b. Lias	23
W. J. White, b. Philip	0
Lieut. Johnson, b. Lias	18
J. H. Bathgate, b. Lias	0
H. P. Smith, not out	16
C.M. Duff, not out	8
E. Powys	
C. Thwaites	
A. Scott	
E. H. Morse	
Lieut. Morlow	
J. Dodds	

Did not bat.

93

M.M.S. "VICTORIOUS" VERSUS Y.C. AND A.C.

The third match of the season—the return for the *Victorious*—was played on Tuesday afternoon. The Captain of the home eleven had the usual difficulty in getting his men together, although a goodly number had promised to play: eventually seven came on the field and the usual visitors lent another man, Sergeant May, and the game proceeded. The Club, going in first, made 123 for seven wickets, and then the *Victorious* went to bat and knocked up 130, though, taking wicket for wicket, the Club has the better record. Score:

THE CLUB.	
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. Johnson, b. Hall	3
Mr. A. Kingdon, b. Hall	38
Mr. J. Murdoch, b. Hall	0
Mr. P. B. Clarke, c. Hunt, b. Stahlknecht	42
Mr. C. M. Duff, b. Hall	20
Mr. R. C. K. Johnson, c. Leahy, b. Stahlknecht	9
Mr. G. Philip, b. Stahlknecht	4
Serjt. May, not out	0
Mr. C. Thwaites, did not bat	0
Mr. E. Fradgley, did not bat	0
Extras	7

Runs at fall of	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
wicket	7	15	80	99	119	123	123

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
	B. R. M. W.
Lieut. Stahlknecht	40 34 0 3
Lieut. Hall	67 40 2 4
Lieut. Hart	45 29 2 0
Mr. Gower	15 13 0 0

H.M.S. "VICTORIOUS."	
Lieut. Hall, R.M.L.I., b. Johnson	44
Lieut. Johnson, c. Walford, b. Murdoch	18
Mr. E. White, b. Kingdon	16
Mr. Gush, b. Johnson	8
Lieut. Mortan, b. Johnson	14
Lieut. Stahlknecht, l.b.w., b. Clarke	8
Mr. Hunt, b. Johnson	1
Mr. Leahy, b. Clarke	0
Lieut. Gouse, R.M.L.I., not out	7
Mr. Hodgson, c. Johnson, b. Clarke	4
Mr. Leveson-Gower, l.b.w., b. Johnson	1
Extras	9

Runs at fall	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
of wicket	24	61	85	88	105	110	115	115	129	130

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
	B. R. M. W. D.
Mr. P. B. Clarke	40 33 1 3 0
Mr. A. B. Walford	55 28 1 0 1
Mr. J. Murdoch	25 12 2 1 0
Mr. A. Kingdon	20 26 1 1 0

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY MATCH.

This match—an almost immemorial fixture in Yokohama—came off on Wednesday, but, unlike the experience of former years, did not attract many people. Players were late arriving and consequently it was twenty minutes past 11 before Duff managed to get the first men out to the wicket. The sides were captained by Mr. Duff and Mr. Stewart respectively. Stewart's side went in first, H. W. Kilby and W. J. White facing the bowling of Clarke and Murdoch. There was not much resistance, however, and by half-past twelve the whole side were out for 53 runs.

An adjournment was then made for tiffin—capitally put on by the Club Hotel,—and for the first time for ten years Mr. J. P. Mollison, President of the Club, was absent from the chair—sickness = home preventing. To Mr. Duff, therefore, fell the honour of proposing "The Queen," which was most loyally received. Resuming, play was kept up till 5.05 p.m., when stumps were drawn.

HON. SECRETARY'S XI.	
Mr. H. W. Kilby, st. Duff, b. Clarke	19
Mr. W. J. White, b. Fradgley	9
Lieut. Johnson, st. Kingdon, b. Clarke	12
Mr. K. F. Crawford, b. Fradgley	1
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Fradgley	0
Mr. G. Philip, l.b.w., b. Fradgley	1
Mr. H. A. Stewart, b. Clarke	0
Lieut. Leahy, b. Clarke	3
Mr. F. E. White, not out	1
Mr. E. V. D. Parr, b. Fradgley	5
Extras	1

Runs at fall of	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
wicket	22	39	40	40	41	42	45	47	52

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
	B. R. M. W.
Mr. P. B. Clarke	80 23 4 4
Mr. J. Murdoch	25 14 1 1
Mr. E. J. Fradgley	55 7 7 5

CAPTAIN'S XI.	
Mr. P. B. Clarke, l.b.w. b. Parr	4
Mr. J. Murdoch, b. Lias	0
Lieut. Hall b. Lias	22
Mr. A. Kingdon, not out	72
Mr. E. B. Clarke, b. Lias	12
Mr. W. Sutter, c. Parr, b. Lias	15
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. H. W. Kelly, b. Lias	9
Mr. G. J. Melhuish, b. Lias	9
Mr. E. G. Fradgley, b. Lias	0
Mr. E. Powys, b. Lias	13
Mr. A. Baston, b. H. Kilby	3
Extras	18

Runs at fall	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
of wicket	1	11	47	49	93	111	129	133	166	169

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
	B. R. M. W.
Mr. F. J. Lias	100 61 3 8
Mr. E. V. D. Parr	40 45 1 1
Lt. Johnson	30 26 1 0
Mr. H. A. Stewart	10 10 0 0

SECRETARY'S XI.—SECOND INNINGS.	
Mr. J. W. White, b. Kingdon	15
Lt. Johnson, c. Sutter, b. P. B. Clarke	14
Mr. F. J. Lias, c. Duff, b. Clarke	0
Mr. K. F. Crawford, b. Clarke	6
Lt. Leahy, b. Murdoch	25
Mr. E. V. D. Parr, c. Murdoch, b. Clarke	3
Mr. H. A. Stewart, not out	9
Mr. H. W. Kilby, c. Melhuish, b. Clarke	0
Extras	2

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
	B. R. M. W.
Mr. P. B. Clarke	65 39 1 5
Mr. G. J. Melhuish	30 15 1 0
Mr. A. Kingdon	20 13 0 1
Mr. J. Murdoch	10 5 0 1

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

The British barque *Fortisist*, Captain Gil-mour, 2,962 tons, which left New York on the 30th of October last, arrived at Woosung on May 18th with 129,000 cases, the largest quantity of oil ever brought in the Yangtze in one sailing-vessel. Another sailing-vessel and the steamer *Palatina* also arrived with oil, making a total amount of 344,000 cases in one day.

Summarising a recent Imperial Edict which has just been issued in China regarding the status of missionaries within that Empire, the *N. C. Daily News* says—"It is a very decided advance to see the Throne at Peking recognising the equality of the Bishops with Viceroys and Governors, Archdeacons with Provincial Treasurers, Judges, and Taotais, and what one correspondent, himself an English missionary, calls 'common or garden missionaries' with prefects, sub-prefects, and district magistrates; and authorising them to negotiate directly with

these officials in cases of trouble." Continuing our contemporary says:—"China is a land of surprises, and it is a surprise to find the Empress Dowager and her advisers agreeing to the issue of such a decree as this. The object, no doubt, is to relieve Peking from, and throw on the shoulder of the provincial authorities, the settlement of the missionary disputes and troubles which occupy so much and so constantly the Diplomatic Body and the Tsungli Yamén. How far the provincial authorities will approve of the decree in practice remains to be seen. They have often chafed in the past at the claims to official rank and dignity made by the representatives of the Roman Catholic Church; it will be interesting to see how they will tolerate being made to recognise these claims as confirmed by the Throne. That the decree will cause more friction than it will allay unless it is applied with the greatest suavity and forbearance, seems almost certain.

Says a Shanghai paper:—"The new Japanese steamer *Taiwan* steers so badly that she had to drop her anchor 38 times between Hankow and Ichang, and her hawsepipes were nearly worn out by the time she reached Ichang.

A Tientsin dispatch, printed in the *A. C. Daily News*, reports a serious fight between Mahomedans and Manchus in the city of Pao-tsing on the 15th ultimo, the outcome of a feud last year arising out of a trivial dispute between a Mahomedan and a Manchu of that city. Some twenty odd lives were lost last year during the dispute, which was temporarily stopped by the local authorities in December last, after much trouble owing to the weakness of the mandarins. On the 15th ultimo, however, some dozen or so Mahomedans ran against a like number of Manchus in the public thoroughfares, and, as neither side would give way, they came to blows again, each side being gradually augmented as the fighting progressed, until, when a large force of disciplined cavalry appeared on the scene, the combined forces of the combatants amounted to nearly a thousand men. All were armed with revolvers and swords, with half-a-dozen *jingals* a side, so when the military appeared to stop the battle nearly thirty of the fighters had been killed or drowned, the latter in their attempt to escape arrest having thrown themselves into the stream which ran a short distance from the battlefield. The local mandarins, as usual, were powerless to stop the fight at its inception, and had to send several miles away to a brigade of horse and foot for help. Had this military force not appeared the victors in the fight would have had the opportunity of sacking the city of Pao-tsing.

A local rising has occurred in Feng-lu, Kwangtung; from 4,000 to 5,000 men, mostly Chowchow men, having revolted against the authorities. Several villages outside the district have been plundered, and the rebels are only held in check by the village volunteers. On the 8th instant a battalion of troops sent from Canton arrived at Shanmei. They will reinforce a battalion already stationed there, and will shortly advance upon the insurgents' stronghold.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Prince Imperial is reported to have nearly recovered from his recent indisposition.

The American gunboat *Bennington* has gone into dock at Hongkong, having damaged herself somewhat by running on to a reef while chasing a filibustering vessel near Iloilo.

A case of cholera and one of dysentery are reported at Wakabacho, and at Todamachi, near Yokohama, respectively. The patients are receiving treatment in the Hospital for Contagious Diseases.

The case of the notorious Ochanomiden murderer Matsudaira was heard on the 16th in the 1st Section for Criminal Cases in the Court of Cassation. On the 19th, the Court

delivered judgment. It found no ground for appeal, and upheld the sentence of penal servitude for life given in the Miyagi Appeal Court.

H.M.S. *Brisk* left Hongkong for Wei-hai-wei on May 10th. As this was the third time that the *Brisk* essayed the voyage it was hoped by the *China Mail*, that she might gain her destination without accident. Once she had to return in consequence of an accident to the *Whiting*; she went out a second time and returned next afternoon, having been in collision with a junk. The junk was afterwards blown up.

A Malay fisherman came by his death in a strange way at Tanjong-Tokong (Penang) the other day. He was fishing in a boat when a skipjack or spear-fish, a foot and a quarter long or thereabouts, came skimming along the surface and dashed its sharp snout on his chest, right over the heart, inflicting a wound about the size of a ten cent. piece. The poor man gave one yell and immediately fell back. Death from loss of blood followed within a few minutes.

A strange accident happened at a village near Leicester on 7th April during an entertainment which was being given in a Board-school. One of the scenes in a dramatic piece was a fight between British and Chinese. The guns employed were old muzzle-loading weapons, and it was of course intended that only caps should be used. One of the guns, however, proved to contain an old charge of powder and sparrow-shot, which went off, and seven persons were injured. One unfortunate lad subsequently died, and another will probably lose the sight of both eyes.

The number of Japanese and foreign ships which entered and left Yokohama during April was as follows: Entering:—Japanese steamers 125 (135,816 tons) with 1726 passengers; Japanese sailing ships 4 (1,513 tons). Foreign steamers 36 (83,546 tons); foreign sailing ships 7 (12,097 tons); foreign warships 4 (43,600 tons). Leaving:—Japanese steamers 120 (127,969 tons) with 911 passengers; Japanese sailing ships 3 (1,338 tons). Foreign steamers 35 (79,546 tons); foreign sailing ships 1 (1,399 tons); foreign warships 3 (33,100 tons).

The death of Lieut. F. Sisson, of the First Nebraska, at Manila and the finding of his fiancée's photograph near his heart where the fatal bullet entered, is the final chapter in a pretty romance. The photograph is a likeness of Miss Anna Taylor, one of the belles of Columbus, Nebraska. The young girl is inconsolable and her grief is pathetic to witness. When the sweethearts parted Lieut. Sisson carried a circular photograph of the girl hung by a ribbon from his neck. He wore it under his vest and laughingly remarked that he would wear the photograph on the left side and if a bullet took his life from that direction it must first pass through the likeness of the girl he loved best.

The Anti-Semite manifestations in Algiers would be funny if they were not likely at any moment to turn to massacre. M. Max Régis has been arrested for a more than usually outrageous speech, and was captured in the abode of some luminary of the café concert. A meeting of protest against his arrest was organised but forbidden by the Prefect, and the partisans had no other way of showing displeasure than to meet an unlucky member of the Senate, M. Géroente, just arrived from France, and escort him to his destination with boots and hisses; the booters being led by the Mayor's deputy and a municipal councillor. The Anti-Jews are nothing if not thorough. The town council had voted by way of honorific to present to M. Marchand a "panoply" of native armour. It turned out however that the "panoply" could only be procured from a certain merchant who was not indeed a Jew but had friends among the Jews: and so the council renounced the panoply and decided on a bronze which they could order from an Anti-Jew trader.

JAPANESE FINANCE.

(FROM "THE TIMES.")

Tokyo, February 11.

More than a year ago a full statement of the condition of Japanese finance was published in *The Times*. The figures indicated a sound state of affairs, and showed that, since her war with China, Japan had begun to take fuller advantage of her opportunities and develop her resources with greater vigour, the resulting increase of expenditure was in no sense excessive or injudicious. Two of her main sources of revenue still offered large margins—the tax imposed upon *sake*, which occupies in Japan much the same position as that held by beer in England, and the land tax. The former amounted to only 4½d. per gallon, and the latter produced a revenue of only 3½ million pounds sterling, whereas a hundred years ago the same impost gave to the State an income of fully 20 millions, measured by modern standards of value. Many other sources of revenue were capable of considerable development, and, further, the amount of taxation per head of population was remarkably small, so that, on the whole, Japanese financiers ought to have had a very simple task. But since the publication of that statement things have not marched smoothly, and an impression now seems to prevail in Europe and America that Japan's economic condition is unsound. It is not difficult to trace the origin of that impression. By way of preface, a brief outline of salient facts will be necessary.

Japan's economic history in modern times may be divided into three epochs—the epoch of *fiat* currency, which lasted from 1871 to 1885; the epoch subsequent to the resumption of specie payments but prior to the war with China—namely, from 1887 to 1895; and the *post bellum* epoch, from 1896 to 1905. The first epoch need not occupy us here. The second, chronologically speaking, ought to commence in 1886, but 1887 is taken as its initial year, because the effects of the drastic measures adopted in emerging from the *fiat* currency had only then ceased to be factors of economic disturbance. During the eight years covered by this *ante-bellum* epoch, the normal revenue of the State rose from 1½ millions sterling to 9 millions, and the ordinary expenditure fluctuated between 7½ and 8½ millions. The rule, practically invariable, was an excess of revenue, and the net result of the eight years' working showed a total surplus of 7½ million pounds. Those were the halcyon days of Japanese finance. A nation of 40 millions of people, developing its trade and resources at an extraordinary rate, equipping itself with all the appliances of Western civilization, and managing its affairs at a cost of only 4s. a head, presented a rare specimen of economic healthfulness. The Diet, which met for the first time in 1891, had not to vote fresh supplies; its chief trouble was how to deal with the surplus. That ought to have been a simple question, seeing that a substantial increase of the Navy was among the universally acknowledged needs of the time. But the members of the House of Representatives had two pledges to fulfil; a pledge to themselves that they would drive the "Clan Statesmen" out of power, and a pledge to the electors that they would reduce the land tax. The so-called "Clan Statesmen" had governed the country with conspicuous ability for a quarter of a century. There was no reason for their removal except that others wanted their places. The land tax was a mere fraction of what it had been in feudal times. There was no reason for its reduction except that the agricultural class expected some recompense from the men whom they had returned to Parliament. A struggle ensued which did much to impair the national credit. The Government asked the Lower House to devote a portion of the surplus to naval increment. The House refused on the plea that the duty of spending public money could not be entrusted to the "Clan Statesmen"; could not be entrusted to the men under whose skillful management the surplus had accrued. At the same time, the House set itself to effect reductions of the State expenditures, in order to provide means for lowering the land tax, and, as a matter of course, this project was supported by insistent declarations that the farmers groaned under imposts which in reality they scarcely felt. Intervention by the Emperor induced the House to vote a part of the surplus for shipbuilding, and the war with China disposed of the remainder. The war had also the effect of enlarging the nation's financial horizon, so that the Diet consented to engage in schemes of armaments expansion and productive development which not merely put an end to all hope of reducing the land tax, but even necessitated the finding of new sources of revenue.

This brings us to the third epoch, the *post-bellum* period. Again omitting a year—the year (1895-96) immediately following the war—we have to consider the decade from 1896-97 to 1895-06, and perhaps the easiest way of arriving at a clear idea is to set down at once the normal revenue and the normal expenditure for each year of that period, according to present estimates:—

(A.)		
	Ordinary Revenue in Million Sterling.	Ordinary Expenditure in Millions Sterling.
1896-97.....	10 41	10 48
1897-98.....	12 14	11 05
1898-99.....	12 94	11 81
1899-1900.....	17 71	14 07
1900-01.....	19 09	13 81
1901-02.....	19 46	14 33
1902-03.....	19 95	14 55
1903-04.....	19 97	14 71
1904-05.....	19 98	14 73
1905-06.....	20 40	14 75
Total	172 95	134 29

This table shows surpluses aggregating 38 2-3 millions sterling in the decade. But it must be noted that the figures refer to ordinary incomes and outgoings only. In other words, they show the normal permanent financial incomes and outgoings, independently of the special and terminable enterprises upon which the State embarked after the war. Treating the latter similarly, we have this table:—

(B.)		
	Extraordinary Revenue in Millions Sterling.	Extraordinary Expenditure in Millions Sterling.
1896-97.....	9 9	9 8
1897-98.....	13 8	13 9
1898-99.....	7 8	10 4
1899-1900.....	4 9	8 5
1900-01.....	3 3	6 3
1901-02.....	2 8	4 9
1902-03.....	1 5	3 0
1903-04.....	0 6	1 6
1904-05.....	0 3	1 5
1905-06.....	0 3	1 3
Total	45 2	61 2

Here we have excesses aggregating 16 millions on the side of expenditures, so that the net result of the two tables is a surplus income of 22 2-3 millions, and we are in a position to say that, as a mere matter of account, the programme is sound.

At this point two questions naturally present themselves—first, may we confidently assume that, so far as can be now seen, Japan will commence the fiscal year 1906-07 with an accumulated surplus of 22 2-3 millions sterling, and with an annual revenue some five millions greater than her expenditure, or are there some other sources of expenditure which, though not yet actually operative, must be anticipated; secondly, what are the extraordinary revenues and the extraordinary expenditures shown in the above table (B)? The simplest plan will be to answer the latter question first.

The extraordinary expenditures for the decennial period divide themselves into two general headings—outlays on account of armaments expansion, and outlays on account of works directly or indirectly productive. According to the Government's original programme, a sum of 21½ millions sterling was to have been spent on naval increase and a sum of eight millions on military expansion. It has been found, however, that owing to appreciation of the prices of labour and commodities the contemplated works of fortification, barrack building, &c., will involve larger outlays than the first estimates, and the same factor has more or less disturbed the calculations relating to other enterprises. A close approximation to the practical facts is furnished by the following table:—

(C.)	
ARMAMENTS EXPANSION. (In millions sterling.)	
Navy	22
Army	10
—32—	
EXPENDITURES DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY PRODUCTIVE.—(In millions sterling.)	
Telephone expansion	1.5
Railway construction and improvement	12.0
Building and equipment of an iron foundry	2.0
Establishment of a system of tobacco monopoly	1.4
Riparian works	2.0
Harbour construction	0.8
Aids to banks	2.0
Educational works, surveys, various enterprises, &c.	7.5
—29.2—	
61.2	

We turn now to explain the sources of the extraordinary revenue, totalling 45.2 millions sterling, shown in Table B. These are:—

(D.)	Millions sterling.
Taken from the China indemnity ...	28.4
To be obtained by a domestic loan ...	13.5
Surplus revenue from <i>ante-bellum</i> period ...	1.3
Extraordinary annual revenue from various sources ...	2.1
	45.3

Reverting now to the first of the two questions propounded above—namely, whether expenditures other than those set down in the tables may be anticipated during the *post-bellum* period, the answer must be in the affirmative. One additional expenditure of half-a-million sterling annually will certainly be incurred from the year 1900-01 in connexion with the transfer of the provincial prisons to the control of the Central Government. At present the gaols, with few exceptions, are managed according to the system that prevailed in England prior to the Act of 1877. Their administration is in the hands of the local authorities, and the results are want of uniformity in carrying out legal penalties, and many serious defects in the buildings, and their equipment. The Government intends to introduce a project of law in the next session of the Diet for transferring prison charges from the local rates to the Exchequer; a reform which will add half a million annually to the latter's burdens. Another source of inevitable expenditure is Formosa. It was predicted in the last *résumé* of Japanese finance published by *The Times* that Formosa would probably cause a discrepancy in the Government's estimates of income and outlay for the *post-bellum* period, the expense of administering the island having been under-calculated. That forecast has proved correct. It is true that the finances of the new dominion are steadily improving. During the second year (1896-97) of its occupation the revenue collected was only £670,000, whereas it is expected to exceed £900,000 in 1899-1900. But that amount falls short of even the ordinary expenditures by £50,000, and when the military and naval outlays are added, as well as the cost of fortifications and of various necessary undertakings, the final result is that the expenditures exceed the revenue by £1,250,000. These figures will doubtless become more favourable by and by, but for the purpose of a financial estimate it seems safest to take them as they now present themselves. The Government is unwilling to tax Formosa in these early days on account of the troops, gendarmes, and ships stationed there, or the fortifications undertaken for Imperial purposes. The building of railways, the laying of roads, the construction of harbours, and so on will be separately treated. A loan of six million pounds is to be raised for those purposes, its expenditure being spread over years. But from 1900-01 there will be included in the burdens of the Exchequer a sum of 1½ million pounds on account of the island's regular yearly outlays. If we add to this sum the prison expenditures referred to above, as well as an annual appropriation of £50,000 which will be made from 1900-01 onwards to form a relief fund, the result is that the expenditures in tables A and B must be increased by 1.8 million pounds annually during the last six years of the *post-bellum* period, and thus the surplus of 22-2.3 millions there shown as accruing from the ten years' working is reduced to 11½ millions approximately.

Such is the Government's estimate. The project is to employ this surplus of 11½ million pounds for the purpose of repaying drafts made upon the China indemnity in connexion with the general accounts for the years 1896-97 to 1899-1900. The Government, in short, desires gradually to form an accumulation which shall be available in case of emergency.

May we then finally accept the above forecast, and look forward confidently to an accrued surplus of over 11 million pounds in 1906? Again the answer must be unfavourable. Two items of almost certain expenditure are still omitted from the official calculations. They are appropriations for the maintenance and repair of the navy and for the subsidizing of steamship services. Formosa, the maintenance of the navy, and grants in aid of navigation were all cited as probable factors of disturbance in the previous financial *résumé* published by *The Times*. Formosa has now been included in the accounts, but the other two items are still omitted. Allowing one million pounds for the navy and half a million for navigation subsidies, we have a total expenditure of 10½ millions on these accounts during the last six years of the *post-bellum* period, and our surplus of 11 millions practically disappears. To make these results

quite clear it will be well to recapitulate them arithmetically:—

	Millions sterling.
Annual revenue at close of <i>post-bellum</i> period (Table A) ...	20
Annual expenditures at same time:—	
Expenditure shown in Table A...	
Formosa (1.25), prisons (0.5), relief fund (0.05) ...	1.8
Maintenance of the navy ...	1.2
Subsidies to navigation ...	0.5
	18.2
Excess of revenue over expenditure...	1.8

It appears, therefore, that although there will probably be no accrued surplus, or, at any rate, only an insignificant amount, at the end of the *post-bellum* period, there will be a considerable excess of revenue—18 million yen is a very substantial sum in Japanese accounts—and that, too, on the very extreme supposition that Formosa continues to be as great a burden as ever to the Exchequer. Of course, unforeseen events may disturb this estimate, but it appears sound enough within the limits of any visible contingencies.

Confronted by these figures, one is perplexed to understand why an idea should have gained currency in Europe that Japanese finance is unsound. There are various explanations. The first is that, simple as the statements made above may seem, they have been obtained by analysing a mass of statistics published in the Japanese language, and, therefore, inaccessible to outsiders in general. Japanese financiers behave as though they were quite careless of foreign opinion. They know that the country has not sufficient capital to work out its industrial and commercial destiny unaided, and that recourse must ultimately be had to Western money markets. Yet they trust that some chance investigator will enlighten the Western world as to their economic condition. A second reason is that the people's contributions to the Exchequer have grown greatly since the war with China. A State which paid its way handsomely with eight millions sterling in 1894 requires 14 millions in 1899 for the same purpose. That is, of course, a startling fact—an increase of 75 per cent. in a period of five years—and it becomes even more striking when stated in terms of income, for, whereas the revenue was nine millions in 1894, it will be 18 millions in 1900. Comparison of these figures suggests an apprehension that the country may be overstraining its resources and embarking upon unjustifiable enterprises. To test the justice of such a fear we must make a slightly detailed but simple analysis, commencing with the departmental outlays:—

ORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

(In millions sterling.)

	1894-95.	1899-1900
Civil List ...	0.3	0.3
Foreign Office ...	0.075	0.225
Home Office ...	0.75	1.05
Finance Office ...	2.5	4.75
War Office ...	1.225	3.70
Naval ...	0.525	1.525
Justice ...	0.35	0.425
Education ...	0.10	0.325
Agriculture and Commerce ...	0.10	0.30
Communications ...	0.55	1.50
Total...	6.48	14.00

This table shows that the bulk of the increased expenditure appears in the sections of Finance, War, the Navy, and Communications, these four being responsible for 5.675 millions out of the total increment of 7.52 millions. In fact, the additional outlays on account of the other six departments of State amount to only 1.845 million pounds, which cannot be considered extravagant in a country so progressive as Japan. As to the increased expenditures of the Finance Department, they are easily understood when we observe that the service of the public debt now costs 3.13 millions annually, whereas it cost only two millions before the war, and that the department defrays all expenses in connexion with pensions and the collection of taxes. There are two points worth noticing in this context. The first is that Japan's total annual expenditure on account of pensions and rewards is only £413,000; the second, that the aggregate yearly cost of collecting all her taxes, including the Customs duties and the working of the tobacco monopoly, is only £379,000. It has to be noticed, also, that one million of the increase in the outlays of the Communications Department is for developing and improving the telegraphic service, a special and terminable expenditure which the Government has nevertheless thought fit to include in the ordinary outgoings of the department. With regard to the expenditures in the departments of War and the Navy, a large increment was, of course, inevitable in view of the

expansion of the services. The two departments now cost 5½ million pounds annually, whereas they cost only 1½ million before the war. This explanation conveys a sufficiently accurate idea of the growth of the ordinary outlays; the extraordinary have already been considered.

The revenue remains to be examined. Pursuing the plan hitherto followed, we have these figures:—

REVENUE DERIVED FROM DIRECT TAXES.		
(In millions sterling.)		
	1894.	1899.
Land Tax ...	3.900	4.650
Sake and Soy Tax ...	1.775	5.225
Income Tax ...	0.125	0.375
Registration & Stamp Tax ...	0.325	1.000
Business Tax ...	—	0.550
Twelve Minor Taxes ...	0.325	0.310
	{ 5 Minor Taxes. }	
Totals ...	6.450	12.110
	12.110	12.110
INDIRECT TAXES.		
Customs Dues ...	0.525	1.650
State Industries ...	1.275	3.700
Various ...	0.200	0.250
Totals ...	2.000	5.600
	5.600	5.600
Grand totals ...		17.710

It appears from the first of these two tables that the direct taxes have been virtually doubled during the past five years; a result which sounds formidable until we come to observe that more than 50 per cent. of the increase is borne by *sake*. The best judges are of opinion that the tax on *sake* is very little felt by the people, and that the rate might be greatly increased without inconvenience. It is now 7½d. per gallon. The land tax, it will be observed, has been increased from 3.99 millions to 4.65 millions, a difference of 0.75 millions pounds, or 7½ millions yen. This paltry addition of £750,000 is chiefly responsible for the discredit attaching to Japanese finance in the eyes of foreigners. It was shown in the last analysis published by *The Times* that the burden of the land tax is not even half of what it was 25 years ago, and that the revenue derived from it in feudal times, when the population was smaller, the area under cultivation less extensive, and the country not nearly so prosperous as it is to-day, quadrupled the revenue now obtained. That the tax might be greatly increased without entailing the least hardship is beyond all question. But there is the old romantic difficulty that the representatives of the rural districts, having entered Parliament under a pledge to their constituencies to insist on the reduction of this particular tax, cannot yet reconcile themselves to vote for its increase. The tax, if properly assessed, ought not to have the character of an agricultural impost. But its incidence at present is most unjust, urban lands being valued for the purposes of the levy at rates which are tactically small. Owing to this glaring defect, the land tax, instead of offering to Japanese financiers a unique opportunity to gradually establish the single-tax system, assumes the aspect of a burden imposed on the farming class alone to the exclusion of the mercantile and manufacturing community. It will easily be conjectured that political agitators have not failed to utilize these facts. Japanese parties have long been perplexed to find differentiating platforms, and the Progressives, under Count Okuma's astute leadership, snatched up this land-tax question eagerly and made it their principal plank so soon as their opponents, the Constitutionists, showed a disposition to abandon it. The Government's plan was to rely solely on *sake* and land for the necessary increments of revenue, a simple and sound programme. But the Constitutional party, though willing to vote for some increase of the land tax, felt bound to save its credit with the rural constituencies by cutting down the Government's proposals from one-and-a-half million to three-quarters of a million, and it consequently became necessary to find some minor sources of revenue by way of compensation for this reduction in the proposed yield of the land tax. The sum to be ultimately provided was a mere bagatelle—less than £600,000; but an apparently interminable dispute arose about the best means of obtaining it, and thus Japan presented to the world the spectacle of a country reduced to such financial straits that it could not make provision for an expenditure which in England would be covered twice over by an addition of a penny to the income-tax. The difficulty was, of course, purely political, not in any sense economical; but the effect on the national credit was equally bad, especially as the Government finally allowed itself to adopt the pernicious device of changing the

halfpenny post into a three-farthings rate in order to obtain an additional income of £200,000. In truth the essentially defective feature of Japan's finance is that she imposes nine petty taxes which, though vexatious to the people and costly to collect, produce a gross revenue of only two-and-a-quarter millions sterling.

Of course the chief doubt entertained by many people with regard to Japanese finance is whether her expenditures on account of armaments under her present programme do not exceed her economic ability. Perhaps the best evidence on that point is furnished by comparing the ratios that her various outlays bore to her aggregate expenditure before she embarked upon her new programme, with the ratios that they will bear to it after the programme is completed:—

Fiscal year.	Army.	Navy.	Armament.	Debt.	Administration.	Total.
1890-91	19.03	8.82	27.85	28.65	43.50	100
1905-06	20.67	11.22	31.48	27.74	40.78	100

In 1890 the strength of the army on a peace footing was 68,000 of all arms, and on a war footing, 247,000; and the navy comprised 34 vessels of all classes with a total displacement of 58,000 tons. In 1905 the peace strength of the army will be 140,000, and its war footing 530,000, and the navy will comprise 67 ships—including four line-of-battle ships from 12,000 to 15,000 tons, and six first-class armoured cruisers of 9,200 tons—with an aggregate displacement of 258,000 tons, supplemented by 11 torpedo-catchers and 115 torpedo-boats. These large increments of strength do not seem to be dearly purchased at an additional appropriation of 3½ per cent. of the aggregate expenditures.

The national debt amounts at present to 42 million pounds, in round numbers, the whole of which is domestic, with the exception of four millions, representing a sale of war bonds made by the Treasury to a British syndicate in the spring of 1898. Amortization goes on steadily year by year, so that the debt, even when increased as the above programme indicates, will never exceed 53 millions. It will reach its maximum in 1902 and will be completely discharged in 1933, according to present estimates. Concerning the burden of this debt and of taxation in Japan as compared with other countries, a clear idea may be obtained from the following table, based on the figures of the fiscal year 1899-1900, in Japan's case, and on those for 1898 in the cases of the other countries referred to:—

BURDEN PER HEAD OF POPULATION IN YEN, ANNUALLY.

	Admini- strative Ex- pendi- ture.	National Debt.
England &.....	9.914	14.962
France	9.091	12.215
Germany	6.420	5.445
Russia	4.021	9.350
United States	2.675	7.831
Italy	4.127	9.902
Spain	3.606	6.149
Holland	6.429	10.919
Belgium	3.183	13.171
Japan	2.467	1.999

In connexion with this part of the subject an important explanation is necessary. It has already been stated that, to carry out her *post-bellum* programme, Japan must raise loans to the extent of 25½ millions, namely, 13½ millions in the form of public undertakings bonds and 12 millions in the form of railway bonds. The original idea was to obtain this money in the domestic market. But that is now clearly seen to be impossible. Japanese capitalists can easily find investments far more profitable than five per cent. bonds, especially since the latter have ceased to be appreciating securities and show a tendency to depreciate only. Between April, 1896, and April, 1899, a total sum of 11 million pounds, in round numbers, should have been raised under the above system of loans, and bonds to the extent of five millions were actually issued. But only 1½ million worth were taken by the public. The Treasury itself had to buy in the remainder, using a part of the Chinese indemnity for the purpose. Briefly speaking, the Government during the past three years has been making drafts upon the indemnity to defray outlays which should have been covered with the proceeds of domestic loans. The drain upon the indemnity has not, however, been so great as this bold statement suggests, for the *post-bellum* works have not been carried out with the speed originally contemplated. Instead of spending 15½ millions between April, 1896, and April, 1898—the accounts for the year ending March 31, 1899, are, of course, still incomplete—the total outlay was only 10½ millions. Many factors combined to cause delay, but chief among them was the impossibility of procuring labour, expert as well as ordinary, in the required quantity without seriously disturbing

economic conditions. It is unnecessary, however, to enter into detailed explanations of these points. The broad facts are that the *post-bellum* undertakings have to be carried out, that money is not obtainable in the domestic market, as was originally planned, and that Japan has to go abroad for aid. So far as can be foreseen at present she will have to incur a foreign debt of about 24 million pounds during the next six years. In that interval conditions may change, and her bonds may once more find buyers at home, but no such prospect presents itself now. The Government has accordingly obtained the Diet's sanction to go abroad for money instead of seeking it at home, and has resolved to issue sterling bonds, with the conditions as to interest, redemption period, and so forth clearly printed on the face. The amount of the first issue is not yet fixed, but it ought to be about 10 millions in the programme is adhered to. The rate of interest is expected to be 4 per cent., and the Government will naturally try to obtain the loan in instalments so as to meet, without exceeding, the gradual requirements of the various works.

The question whether Japan has been betrayed into expenditures exceeding her economic capacity has been to some extent answered above, but a few words may be added. There are several other ways of looking at the problem. One of the first that suggests itself is to consider whether standards of value have not altered so as to call for some correction in the amount of the taxes now levied before comparing them with the taxes levied in former years. Thus, in the tables given above Japanese currency has been reduced to sterling uniformly at the present price of the yen, namely, 2s. approximately. But the yen was worth 3s. a few years ago, and unless its purchasing power in terms of commodities has remained unaltered it is plain that when the taxpayer is asked for a yen to-day the demand may seem much less formidable to him than it would have seemed ten years ago. Here are some figures which will help to elucidate that phase of the problem:—

	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Price of rice per <i>koku</i> in yen...	7.066	7.338	7.407	8.813
Average price of 49 staple commodities (excluding rice), taking 100 as the normal ...	100	106	108	117
Rate of interest	9.39	8.37	7.19	9.32
Price of 5 per cent. public securities (100 yen face value)	100.451	101.710	100.970	105.267

	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Price of rice per <i>koku</i> in yen...	8.880	9.534	11.891	15.647
Average price of 49 staple commodities (excluding rice), taking 100 as the normal ...	126	136	152	163
Rate of interest	9.69	9.29	10.21	11.39
Price of 5 per cent. public securities (100 yen face value)	99.690	100.336	97.950	93.950

These figures show that the yen of 1899 represents to the taxpayer a very much smaller amount of commodities and labour than the yen of 1891 represented, and that the value of the coin for purposes of State expenditure also has greatly, though not equally, diminished—not equally, because, while the price of labour has increased from 60 to 70 per cent. in the past years, the salaries of administrative officials have remained unaltered. Instead of saying, therefore, that the direct taxes aggregated 6½ millions sterling in 1891, whereas they aggregate 12 millions to-day, it would probably be more correct to set down 10 and 12 as the figures for comparison. Then, again, discussing the principal sources of direct taxation, we may note that the rate on tobacco is only 2½d. per lb.; the rate on *sake* 7½d. per gallon; and the rate on the land about 0.66 per cent. of the gross produce, whereas it was from 40 to 50 per cent. in feudal times—figures which do not suggest onerous burdens or anything like exhaustion of the most legitimate sources of revenue. Yet another method of considering the question is to examine statistics of the countries' recent economical pro-

gress. For that purpose the most convincing figures are those that tell the story of the last three years, during two of which the increased taxes have been levied:—

	1895.	1896.
Number of banks...	1,019	1,789
Capital of banks ...	12½ mil.	25½ mil.
Number of commercial industrial, &c., companies.....	2,104	5,280
Capital of companies ...	10½ mil.	38½ mil.
Mileage of railways open to traffic ...	2,290	3,289
Value of foreign trade...	26½ mil.	44½ mil.
Number of post-offices...	3,076	4,288
Number of mail matters	448,071,687	550,918,484
Number of telegraph stations ...	784	1,256
Length of telegraph lines in miles ...	30,330	47,895
Deposits (by private individuals) in banks ...	19 mil.	31 mil.
Cleaning-house returns (Tokyo and Osaka)...	36½ "	101½ "
Insurance (life and fire) —number of policy-holders ...	157,000	510,000
Amount of policies ...	4½ mil.	12 mil.
Paper currency ...	18½ "	18½ "
Gold coins and subsidiary silver coins in circulation ...	6½ "	9½ "
Specie reserve in Bank of Japan ...	8 "	9 "
Securities reserve in Bank of Japan ...	6½ "	5½ "

These figures do not appear to call for any comment. They show remarkably rapid and substantial economic development. There can be no doubt that a very short rice crop in 1897, and the consequent necessity of paying four millions sterling in 1898 for supplies of grain from abroad, helped to accentuate sharply and rapidly the depression which, under any circumstances, must have succeeded to the period of feverish speculation and inflated prices immediately following the victorious war with China. Nature came to the rescue with a splendid harvest in 1898, and already a much easier feeling begins to prevail. But two things are certain. The first is that the Japanese people, and above all, their Parliamentary representatives, have not yet reconciled themselves to the expenditures demanded by the empire's new rôle on the world's stage. The preparations for the coup that brought military *éclat* and high international status to the country had been carried on so quietly and inexpensively that the public took no note of their magnitude and did not foresee the responsibilities consequent upon their successful employment. The Japanese are no longer a merely interesting nation, with artistic instincts, quaint traditions, and an island home pretty and pleasant in many ways but so remote from the centres of political influence as to be unworthy of statesmen's consideration. They have become the leading Power of the East, and simultaneously with the development of strength which gives them the casting vote in any dispute involving Oriental interests, the source of European friction has been transferred from Constantinople to Peking, so that they find themselves standing, arms in hand, on the very verge of the arena where a world-moving struggle seems destined to take place. Whichever side they espouse when they step into the lists can scarcely fail of victory. But they have not risen morally to the station won by them materially. They waste their energies and their time over infinitesimally petty domestic disputes, political and personal, and they wrangle for weeks inside and outside the Diet over a new expenditure or an additional impost of a few thousands of pounds, thus crippling the energies of their statesmen and conveying to the world a very false impression of the country's financial condition. The second point is that Japan has been working too long with her own capital only. The supply is practically exhausted, and money has become so dear that innumerable opportunities for the profitable employment of moderately cheap capital remain necessarily unutilized.

Commenting on the foregoing, *The Times*, in its leading columns, says:—

The exhaustive survey of Japanese finance which we publish in another column from our Tokyo Correspondent should recall attention to a factor in the Far Eastern problem of which the importance is perhaps apt to be overlooked for the simple reason that the forces which it represents work so silently and steadily. Ever since the Japanese sword pricked the bubble of China's "latent power" the eyes of the world have been

fixed upon the struggle of international rivalries which, amidst the general disintegration of the Empire, has converted the Chinese capital into the cockpit of European diplomacy. From that struggle Japan has on the whole hitherto kept outwardly aloof, though there can be little doubt about the keen and vigilant interest with which she watches its vicissitudes. Disastrous as was the war to her immediate antagonist, Japan could hardly congratulate herself unreservedly upon its results. She was not only compelled to forego a considerable part of the fruits of her victories, but she has had the mortification of seeing them pass into the hands of a Power far more formidable than China. There is perhaps no more striking proof of the political maturity to which Japan has attained than the self-restraint she has exercised in circumstances so galling to the pride of a young and self-confident nation. In the very flush of victory she recognized the weak joints of her armour, and, instead of rashly taking up a challenge which, however unprovoked, she could not then afford to resent, she bowed to the inevitable, and, without wasting time on useless recriminations over the past, applied herself forthwith to the task of strengthening and completing her equipment. The future, she was resolved, should not again find her unequal to such emergencies as it might hold in reserve for her. It was no small task which her statesmen contemplated, but they had faith in the patriotism of the people. They prepared their plans without delay, but also without any feverish precipitancy, and then, equally without secrecy and without ostentation, they laid them before the Japanese Parliament. They told their fellow-countrymen frankly and fearlessly that, if Japan was to fulfil the part assigned to her, as every Japanese believes, by her traditions and position, it would be necessary for her not only to go on developing her natural resources, extending her trade, building up her industry, but also to place her naval and military forces on a level, and perhaps on more than a level, with those of other Powers claiming vital interests in the Far East. Heavy as were the sacrifices to which the Japanese Government asked the country to pledge itself, the burden was assumed without a murmur. There have been changes of Government since then and differences of opinion with regard to financial details, but no attempt has ever been made to modify the main features of the far-reaching programme to which Japan stands committed.

That programme, it will be seen from the careful and lucid array of figures in our Correspondent's article, was estimated to cost an "extraordinary expenditure" of over £61,000,000 for the ten years ending in 1906. It consisted of two parts—outlay on armaments and outlay on works directly or indirectly reproductive. The sum originally assigned to the first head was 29½ millions sterling, of which 21½ millions were allotted to the navy and eight millions to the army. Of the balance, 12 millions are for railways, two millions for riparian works, two millions for building an iron foundry, two millions for "aids to banks," and no less than 7½ millions for purposes comprehensively described as "educational works, surveys, various enterprises, &c." It was proposed to meet this extraordinary expenditure partly by taking a sum of over 28 millions from the China indemnity, partly by a domestic loan of 13 millions, and to a small extent from other "extraordinary" sources which were expected to bring up the total of the "extraordinary revenue" for the ten years to 45.2 millions sterling. The balance of 16 millions on the wrong side of the account was to be met out of the aggregate surpluses on the ordinary revenue and expenditure for the same period, which were estimated to reach 38 2/3 millions. The net result, therefore, of the two Budgets, ordinary and extraordinary, at the end of the ten years is an estimated surplus of 22 2/3 millions. Our Correspondent's figures do not show year by year how far the estimates of revenue and expenditure have been realized up to date. But they make it quite clear that the original figures will not be borne out by the results. The increased cost of labour and materials has already raised the estimated outlay on the Army from 8 to 10 millions, and it is obvious that this disturbing cause may continue to affect the calculations of the Japanese financiers in the future. Unexpected expenditure has become necessary in several directions. The Government are about to take over the prisons from the local authorities, at an estimated cost of £500,000 a year, and Formosa, as our Correspondent predicted, has proved a serious though decreasing drain, so that Ministers themselves do not seem now to talk of a balance of more than £11,000,000 in 1906. This sum they propose to devote to the formation of an emergency fund, which might presumably serve as a *Kriegskasse*, but our Correspondent gives

some reasons for doubting whether it will be forthcoming. No adequate appropriations, it appears, have been made for the maintenance and repair of the Navy or for subsidizing the steamship services supported by the Government. These two items, in our Correspondent's opinion, will practically swallow up the whole of the accrued surplus. In 1906 Japan, he calculates, will enjoy an excess of revenue of 1.8 millions sterling, but, if she desires to lay up money, she must raise it by other means.

In the meantime, if Japan is to go on with her programme, she must borrow a sum of £25,000,000, and borrow it in the foreign market. The original desire and intention of the Japanese financiers was to rely on domestic loans only. These, however, are no longer possible. Out of the £13,000,000 which might have been issued between April, 1896, and April, 1899, only £5,000,000 has been, in fact, issued, and of this amount only £1,250,000 was taken up by the public, the balance being bought in by the Treasury out of the Chinese indemnity. At first sight this episode does not look encouraging to the foreign investor, and there are other incidents in the recent financial history of the country which are believed to have inspired him with some doubt as to the stability of Japanese finance. Our Correspondent, who certainly shows no desire to speak unjustifiably smooth things to the Japanese, has no hesitation in declaring such doubts to be without solid foundation. It is true that expenditure has risen from eight millions in 1894 to 14 millions in 1899. It is true that the army and the navy now cost 5½ millions, as against 1½ million before the war, and that the direct taxes have been practically doubled within five years. It is true that the Opposition have offered a vigorous resistance to an increase of the land tax. Nevertheless our Correspondent affirms that Japan is more than able to repay any loan she can possibly require. The real reason why the Government cannot get the money it wants at home is the rapid commercial expansion of the country. Native capitalists who can readily get a high return in native industries will not lend to the Government at 5 per cent. The expenditure, though absolutely large, is small in proportion to the resources of the country. The taxes on *sahe* and on land are low and might readily be increased, and, though the Opposition are troublesome on the subject of the latter impost, they well know that it is about a fourth of what it was in feudal times. The statistics quoted by our Correspondent show how great has been the commercial and industrial expansion of Japan within the last few years. There are, of course, special risks attached to loans of the kind projected, but the chief obstacles to the success of a Japanese application to the European money markets seem to be those mentioned by our Correspondent—the reticence of her financiers, which contrasts strangely with the attitude of M. de Witte—and the reluctance of the Opposition and of a section of the people to face the necessary burden of an increase in the land tax.

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

LETTER CARRIERS' STRIKE.

Saigon, May 19.
The letter-carriers of Paris went on general strike this morning, in consequence of a vote of the Senate rejecting an appropriation voted by the Chamber of Deputies for improving their emoluments. It was decided that the letters should be distributed in the afternoon by soldiers requisitioned for the purpose.

Saigon, May 20.
The French Cabinet, questioned yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, declared that it considered the strike of letter-carriers inadmissible. The Chamber and the Senate endorsed the Government's view. The letter-carriers resumed work during the morning. About thirty of them were dismissed or displaced.

LITERARY HONOURS.

M. Paul Dechanel, President of the Chamber of Deputies, has been elected a member of the French Academy.

PEACE.

The Disarmament Conference has been

opened at the Hague. H.E. M. de Staal, Russian Ambassador, was chosen president by acclaim.

A CARNOT MEMORIAL.

Saigon, May 22.
The President of the French Republic has set out with the Prime Minister, M. Dupuy, the Minister of War, and the Minister of Commerce, for Dijon, where the monument erected to the memory of President Carnot is to be unveiled.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

The Councillors of the Court of Cassation are convoked for the 29th instant, for the revision of the Dreyfus affair.

FRENCH COMMERCE.

Saigon, May 23.
The President of the French Republic, in a discourse pronounced by him at a banquet given by the Chamber of Commerce at Dijon, exhorted the French Chambers of Commerce to defend the export commerce against competition which is increasing from day to day. The President and the Ministers were much applauded.

BUBONIC PLAGUE IN EGYPT.

Saigon, May 24.
Some cases of bubonic plague have occurred at Alexandria, Ismailia, and at Zagazig. Drastic sanitary measures have been adopted.

A STRICKEN FRENCH COLONY.

Saigon, May 24.
Grand-Bassam has been evacuated in consequence of an epidemic of yellow fever which prevails there. It is probable that the place will cease to be the capital of the French Ivory Coast.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

PEACE CONFERENCE OPENED.

London, May 19.
The Peace Conference has assembled, and M. Georges de Staal, Russian Ambassador to England, has been elected President of the Conference. Various speeches were made, eulogising the magnanimous motives of the Czar and hoping that the generous scheme may be realized.

TRANSVAAL TREASON AFFAIR.

The Transvaal plot in exciting universal derision.

London, May 20.
The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that Sir Alfred Milner, with the British Government's approval, had accepted the meeting with President Krüger at Bloemfontein on the 31st inst., with the view of settling all the pending difficulties and satisfying the demands of Uitlanders.

NORTHERN GOLD STATION ON FIRE.

London, May 22.
Dawson City, Klondyke, has been almost destroyed by fire, and much gold has been lost.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY ATHLETES TO VISIT ENGLAND.

The Harvard and Yale athletes are to visit England in July to compete with Oxford and Cambridge.

THE CZAR AND POLITICAL OFFENDERS.

The Czar has personally appointed a committee to consider the cessation of the transportation of political offenders to Siberia.

AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS IN BETTER LUCK.

The Australians beat an All England Eleven by 172.

AMERICAN OFFER TO THE FILIPINOS.

London, May 23.
America has offered the Filipinos a government similar to that for the Cubans, having a military character, until the country gets settled.

THE "PARIS" IN TROUBLE.

At midnight, last Saturday, the American liner *Paris* struck the Manacles Rocks, the scene of the *Mohegan* disaster in October last. Marvellous discipline prevailed and every one of the 780 aboard were saved, and also the mails.

HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY.

London, May 24.
The Queen's birthday was honoured throughout the world, the Colonial Governors observing the day with levees, banquets, and salutes.

President MacKinley cabled congratulations in the name of the American people. In the Transvaal, the Volksraad adjourned its sitting to show respect, and salutes were fired.

NEW JAPANESE LOAN.

A Japanese loan of ten million pounds sterling bearing four per cent. interest and at the price of 90, will be issued next week.

THE TRANSVAAL SITUATION.

The Volksraad has considered President Kruger's franchise reforms. Its tone is unfavourable towards the proposals, as being too liberal, whereas the Uitlanders regard them as absurdly inadequate.

A STEAMER ASHORE AND FLOATED.

London, May 25.
The *Kaisow* bound for China, which had got ashore near Lundy Island, has been floated and is now unloading at Barry (South Wales).

MAJOR MARCHAND.

Major Marchand and party have arrived at Suez aboard a French warship. The French delegation's welcome receptions have been countermanded.

CHINESE NEW WARSHIP.

The new Chinese cruiser *Hai-pien* has left Portsmouth for China.

(FROM MANILA PAPERS.)

ILLNESS OF PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

Washington, May 9.
For some time past President McKinley has been suffering severely from rheumatism and recently has become so much worse that the doctors have become uneasy as to his condition and have ordered him to visit the thermal springs of Arkansas to undergo a special course of treatment. President McKinley accordingly left for Arkansas yesterday where he will remain for a month.

(FROM THE "ASABI SHIMBUN") ITALY AND CHINA.

Peking, May 24.
The Italian Minister will shortly be escorted to Tientsin by six warships. It is possible that he will demand mining rights and a railway concession instead of Samson Bay.

SHANHAIKWAN RAILWAY.

Peking, May 24.
The Shanhaikwan Railway not having paid the past two months' interest on its loan, will, it is stated, be confiscated by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The matter will in all probability be compromised by the dismissal of Chang-yi from office.

MR. OMIWA.

S6ul, May 22.

The Korean Emperor has been pleased to confer upon Mr. Omiwa the decoration of the First Grade of the Second Rank. He is to start for home to-morrow.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, May 20th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,740,664
Amount of convertible notes issued	166,117,355
Government deposits	33,078,554
General deposits	5,302,305
Exchange liability	49,116
Total	249,288,085

Cr.	Yen.
Discount notes	25,036,657
Foreign discount notes	10,291,277
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	42,628,702
Exchange liability	781,149
Government bonds	45,149,788
Property	1,828,411
Bullion and Specie	101,572,099
Total	249,288,085

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—
Amount of convertible notes issued ... 166,555,636

Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	98,069,495
Silver	—
Total	98,069,495

Securities:—	
Government bonds	35,465,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	7,642,072
Commercial notes	3,378,281
Total	68,486,141

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	350,344	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	3,965,288	—
Government deposits	4,201,947	—
General deposits	—	1,247,904

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the CHIEF EDITOR.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 421.

BxP	Q Q5, ch!	R K7, mate
1. B Q5	PxQ, must	BxB, mate
.....	B Q2!!	

1. B K6	2. K B3 or K1 (K17) moves	3. Kt K14, mate
.....
1.	2. Any other B Bsq!!	3.

1. B K7	2. Any QxKP, ch	3. Mates as before
.....
1. Kt K6	2. KxQ, must	3. R Q5, mate
.....	QxRP, ch	.....

1. Kt B5	2. KixQ	3. Kt K14, mate
.....	B R6!	.....
1. R(K:8) moves	2. PxP	3. BxP, mate
.....

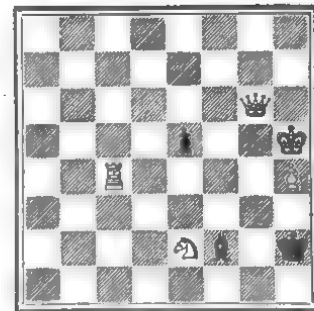
1.	2. Any other QxBP, ch	3. Kt B2, mate
.....
1. Kt B5	2. K K5, must	3. Kt B2, mate
.....	QxP(B1) ch	.....

1. PxP	2. K K5 must	3.
.....

1.	2.	3.
.....

Correct solutions received from East Anglia, and Veritas.

PROBLEM No. 424.
BY W. A. SHINKMAN.
BLACK.



WHITE.
White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 510.
THE INTERNATIONAL CABLE MATCH.
THIRD TABLE.
RUY LOPEZ.

White—Lawrence, England.	Black—Barry, U. S.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	26 KixP R R
2 Kt KB3	27 KixR R Kxq
3 B K15	28 K B-q K B2
4 Castles	29 Kt Kxbq R R3
5 K K-q	30 KxR B B3
6 KixP	31 P B4 K K2
7 B Q3	32 Kt B3 BK3
8 R Kt	33 K K2 K Q3
9 Kt B3	34 B B2 K B4
10 P QK13	35 K Q3 P Q R4
11 B K12	36 B Qsq P Q K4
12 R Ksq	37 P xP P xP
13 Q B3	38 K B2 P Q R3
14 R K2	39 P Q3 K R15
15 P K R3	40 K R2 P R6ch
16 Q R Ksq	41 K B2 K B4
17 Q R5	42 K Q2 B Q-q
18 Q B3	43 K R2 B R4
19 B K3	44 B B2 B Q4
20 BxKt	45 P K K14 K K15
21 Kt Q-q	46 KixP B K13
22 Kt R3	47 Kt B3 BxKich
23 P Q B4	48 Kx8 K B6
24 Kt B-q	49 B Q-q K K17
25 Q K13	50 K R2 KxRP
	Resigns

GAME No. 511.

The following chesskin played by Mr. J. M. Pellit, of the Athenaeum Club, Manchester, shows the danger of being too eager to walk off with your opponent's Queen.

White—Amateur.	Black—Mr. Pellit.
1-P to Q4	1-P to Q4
2-P to Q B4	2-P to R3
3-Kt to Q B3	3-Kt to K B3
4-B to K15	4-B to K15
5-P takes P	5-Q takes P
6-Kt to B3	6-Kt to K5
7-B to Q2	7-Kt takes B1
8-Kt takes Q	8-Kt takes Kt mate

GAME No. 512.

An interesting game lately played at St. Petersburg.—From "Schachmati Navaja."

RUY LOPEZ.

White—N. Maximow.	Black—S. J. R.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	9 Kt K4 Castles
2 Kt KB3	10 Kt(B3) K15 P KR3
3 B QK15	11 Q KR5 P Q4
4 Castles	12 Kt B6ch Kt PxKt
5 P Q4	13 QxRP P Kt1
6 BxKt	14 B P B K2
7 P xP	15 B B6 Bx8
8 Kt QB3	16 PxB Resigns

NOTES.

A pretty way of announcing the resignation of a game has been adopted by one of Janowski's opponents in America, says an exchange. After concluding his match with Showalter, the French master entered upon an engagement to play a series of 14 games with the strongest players of the Manhattan Club. His first opponent was Professor Louis Schmidt, the celebrated violinist. After 25 moves the professor hummed the Dead March from "Saul"

This is a nice little chess story; but musicians

might ask "who is Prof. Louis Schmidt?" we never heard of him.

Probably the longest game of chess ever known was that played between a man living in Australia and a friend in Newark, N. Y. Each move was made by letter, one player making use of the Europe and Suez canal route, and the other writing via the Pacific ocean and San Francisco. Five years elapsed before the game was drawn to a close.

A most valuable addition to Chess literature is "The Book of the Vienna International Tourney of 1898," published in German. It is a folio volume of 350 pages, edited by the editors of the *Wiener Schachzeitung*, F. R. Schach, Halpin, and Marco.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 19th May.—Shanghai via ports, 13th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 20th May.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 19th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 21st May.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 20th May, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Turbo, British Tank steamer, 2,639, Falck, 22nd May.—Batoum via ports, Kobe, 20th May, Oil, Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 22nd May.—Vancouver, B.C., 9th May, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 23rd May.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 21st May, Mails and General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,692, F. I. Sommer, 23rd May.—London via ports, Kobe, 22nd May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, C. L. Daniel, 23rd May.—London via ports, Kobe, 22nd May, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Alice A. Leigh, British ship, 2,817, J. A. Rookes, 23rd May.—New York, 25th Dec., Kerosane Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 24th May.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 6th May, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Bamberg, German steamer, 2,660, Mayer, 24th May.—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 17th May General.—C. Nies & Co.

Konigsberg, German steamer, 3,135, Christiansen, 25th May.—Hamburg via ports, Tientsin, 20th May, General.—C. Nies & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 25th May.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 24th May, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Tom O'Shanter, American ship, 1,433, Ballard, 20th May.—Hongkong, Ballant.—T. M. Latimer.

Ishang, British steamer, 1,250, Drury, 20th May.—Mojito, Ballant.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hector, British steamer, 3,005, John Barr, 21st May.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Piemonte (23), Italian Cruiser, 2,900, Captain Francesco Giuliani, 22nd May.—Shanghai via Inland Sea.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,881, R. Glegg, 22nd May.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 22nd May.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,677, G. E. P. Cook, 23rd May.—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 23rd May.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,800, M. Nishimura, 23rd May.—Vladivostok via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, Flaudin, 24th May.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 24th May.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,615, R. Swain, 24th May.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victorious (16), British battleship, 14,900, Captain A. Schomburg, 25th May.—Wai-lai-wai.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 26th May.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer **Doric**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. V. Hunter, Mr. W. A. Hadden, Miss Grace Davis, Mrs. Pfingst, Major Koe and valet, Miss H. M. Cook, Miss B. Nevin, Mr. E. Belidors, Mr. Jas. R. Morse, Mr. P. H. Heynolds, Mr. J. P. Macintosh and valet, Mr. Th. Bunge, Mr. A. Cabeldu, Mrs. Hunter, Miss M. W. Callaghan, Mr. F. L. Pfingst, Mr. J. J. Lallie and servant, Mrs. Koe and amah, Miss E. Koe, Miss G. M. Koe, Miss C. Andrews, Mr. J. Brown, Mr. M. Marshall, Mr. B. C. Howard, Captain Tomioka, and Mr. C. Tutelman, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. A. Martens, Dr. W. H. Curtis, Miss Ida M. Curtis, Mr. J. H. Glass, Captain Twiss, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Curtis and infant, Miss Helen M. Curtis, Major Brazier Creagh, and Mr. F. H. Brown, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Rohilla**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. Barbara, Master Barbara, Mr. J. Daniel, Mr. A. Hilson, Dr. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Tak Yu and 2 infants, Mr. W. Shakespere, Mr. W. H. Robinson, Mr. F. Karlett, Miss Palmer, Miss Lovell, Capt. Thompson, Mr. A. Jorami, Mr. P. Dewson, Mr. and Mrs. Kwong Man Wong, Miss O. Matsui, and Mrs. Borthwick, in cabin; 27 in steerage.

Per British steamer **Empress of China**, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. H. Bruhn, Miss S. Bailey, Mr. Henry Bietlich, Mr. Maximo Cortes, Mr. A. D. Cortes, Mr. G. Coates, Mr. H. De Gray, Count Giovanni, Mr. and Mrs. Graham and three children, Mr. E. B. Holmes, Miss Iwasaki, Mr. P. E. Jenks, Mr. T. Kato and servant, Madame Kato, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. McGrath, Mr. K. Oshima, Mrs. T. Oyama, Miss G. Raza, Mr. Sugawa, Miss T. J. D. Taylor and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Viviani, Mr. A. Duncan, Mr. T. E. Peters, and Mr. K. Fukushima, in cabin.

Per American steamer **Tacoma**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Giggis, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Jones, and Master Moore, in cabin; 91 Chinese, and 113 Japanese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **America Maru**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Rev. Wm. Horn, Mr. C. Sano, Mr. S. Fujita, Mrs. S. Bunnell, Mr. S. Horiya, Miss M. Carter, Mr. Matsuo, Mr. H. Morioka, Mr. F. Fujita, Mr. K. Inouye, Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Terry and infant, Mrs. M. Kingdon and maid, Mr. C. Mikuni, and Mr. Masuda, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. N. Bentz, and Mr. Jas. S. Lord, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Mosely, Mr. and Mrs. Choo Stuart, Mrs. M. Powley, Dr. B. Apple, Mrs. J. T. B. Comfort, Mr. E. H. Wilson, Mrs. L. J. Hopson, Dr. F. R. Harkinson, Mr. R. H. Little, Miss G. E. Comfort, Mr. Geo. E. Seybold, Mr. W. O. Rowe, and Dr. J. Sanger, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Empress of Japan**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. E. Green, Mr. H. Henderson, Mrs. J. T. Myers, Mrs. Godfrey, Miss Hedden, Mr. J. E. Thalman, Bishop McKim, Miss A. Sole, Mrs. L. Cameron, Mr. C. Decker, Mr. K. Klose, Mr. F. W. T. Saunders, Mr. C. J. A. Ting, Miss Officer, Col. T. Wood, Mr. Geo. Soley, Mr. and Mrs. Ossorio, Mr. R. Boyers, Mr. L. E. Baher, Dr. Knocker, Mr. Bohmzewicz, Mr. H. Nilson, Mr. A. Tink, Miss Raleigh, Rev. J. C. Chapell, Mr. G. Sale, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace, and Mr. B. Guggenheim, in cabin. In Transit:—Dr. and Mrs. F. O. Siedman, Mr. N. Hedberg, Mr. R. N. H. Gore Booth, Mr. G. C. C. Mooley, Mrs. Master and 2 daughters, Mr. L. Judell, Mr. A. S. Anton, Mr. and Mrs. Humphreys and 3 children, Mr. J. Jacques, Mr. W. G. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Green, Mr. Granville Sharp, Mr. Thirkell, Mr. J. I. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Sneathlage, Miss Leyenderker, Misses Clarke (2), Mr. and Mrs. Schumucker, Mr. A. Gaddum, Mr. R. L. Brum and valet, Mr. F. Hudham, Mr. R. MacGregor, Mr. H. Cornes, Mr. L. H. Wise, Mrs. L. H. Wise, child and governess, Miss E. Wise, Master S. Wise, Mr. C. L. S. Lafume, Mr. J. H. Hepworth, Mr. G. Toppe, Rev. and Mrs. Bryan and 5 children, Mr. and Mrs. Juan Campano, Mr. J. H. Simpson, Mr. T. Rennek, and Mr. A. S. Covil, in cabin; 32 in second class; 197 Chinese, and 173 Japanese, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer **Sashio Maru**, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. G. D. Pule, Mr. Mudge, Mrs. Neubert, Baron N. Nakashima, M.P., Inspector of Arms S. Sakamoto, I.J.N., and family, Mr. Y. Yezaki, Mr. K. Ishimaru, Mr. C. Matsumuro, Mr. Hu Wei Chi, Mr. Kwang Keo Wah, Mr. Nicolas Golonson, Mr. J. M. Fonseca, Mr. K. Inouye, and Mr. Shun, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Empress of China**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr. H. Blum, Mr. Chas. Gebbins and native servant, Mr. C. H. Bain, Mr. B. Strauss, Mr. A. Hansen, Mr. J. H. Lloyd, Mrs. H. Blum and native servant, Dr. C. Bach, Mr. E. Ross, Mr. Lindsay Brown, Mr. J. Ellerton, Mr. and Mrs. S. Coe, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Mayer, and Mr. T. Bunge, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Doric**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. H. E. Averill, Miss S. E. Ames, Mrs. J. B. Atherton, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur List, Mrs. M. D. Andrews and maid, Mr. F. W. Brambeer, Mrs. S. B. Blake, Mr. F. H. Brown, Mr. S. W. Bates, Mr. C. M. Cherry, Major B. Creagh, Mrs. Grace N. Cook, Miss Grace Cook, Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Curtis and infant, Miss Ida M. Curtis, Miss Melen M. Curtis, Major FitzGerald, Mr. G. A. Ferguson, Mrs. E. W. Fraser, Sir Theodore Fry, Miss M. E. Gilmore, Mr. J. H. Glass, Mr. H. Grimm, Mr. J. B. Gallet, Mr. Frank J. Grace, Mrs. M. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Jaques, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Keely, Mr. M. M. Kuhn, Miss Longueval, Mr. McGilway, Mrs. James R. Morse, Miss Morse, Mr. A. Mertens, Mr. T. Tanaka, Mr. G. G. Peters, Mr. S. Penrose, Mrs. Theo. Richards, Mrs. Hugh Rodman, Mrs. H. Stockbridge, Mr. W. A. Stowell, Mr. W. H. Stowell, Miss W. H. Stowell, Captain Twiss, Mrs. M. E. Tucker, Miss Tucker, Mrs. Van Voorhees, Mr. N. Watanabe, Mrs. M. A. Wightman, Mrs. W. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. White, Miss White, and Mrs. B. A. Walker, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Bingo Maru**, for London via ports:—Mrs. A. M. Jewell and 2 children, Mr. W. Williams, Mr. Walter E. Bracey, Mr. S. Suzuki, Mr. T. Shinohara, Miss E. Dunn, and Mr. T. Yamaguchi, in cabin.

Per French steamer **Laos**, for Marseilles via ports:—Count O. Orizoni, Com. M. Yamamoto, Mr. T. Kurochi, Mr. Nakajima, Mr. T. Oda, Mr. R. Deslongchamps, Mr. René Audré, Mr. H. Meraki, Dr. Gibson, Mr. W. S. Crow, Mrs. F. Fuller, Mrs. and Miss Wetting, Mrs. and Miss Poole, Mr. Poole, Mr. C. Eymard, Mr. E. Schapp, Mr. Yuen Tsu Chang, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Karl Tutemann, Prof. Junker, Mr. W. Friedlander, Mr. W. Goddard, Mr. Geo. Alcock, Mr. J. J. M. Carst, Mr. E. Levedag, Mr. H. V. Twine, Mr. H. E. Hayward, Mr. S. Schmid, Mr. Fritz Schmid, Mr. F. Dauchweits, Mr. R. Gysin, Mr. D. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Weyon, Mr. Tan Cheng Tuan and maid, Mr. Nakagawa, and Mr. Konishi, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **America Maru**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. J. V. C. Comfort, Miss Comfort, Mrs. M. Parley, Mr. Wm. Horn, Mr. W. O. Rowe, Mrs. L. J. Hopson, Dr. J. Sanger, Dr. F. R. Harkinson, Dr. B. Apple, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Stuart, Mr. Joseph S. Lord, Mr. F. Strahler, Mr. B. Roth, Mr. A. Cabeldu, Mr. A. B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Bentz, Mrs. Summers, Miss Summers, Miss E. Summers, Mrs. H. N. Lund, Miss Lund, Mr. E. H. Wilson, Mr. Geo. E. Seybold, Mr. W. E. Dodd, Mr. and Mrs. D. Wallace, Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Mosley, Mr. H. Bretschneider, Mr. F. A. Abenheim, and Mrs. A. Roth and child, in cabin.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	T. E. K.	Nippon Maru	M. May 29
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	Tu. May 30
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Su. June 4
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Roetta	M. June 5
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. June 5
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohensohn	W. June 7
America	C. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. June 12
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	M. June 12
Hongkong	C. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. June 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	Th. June 15

1 Left Shanghai on the 24th inst.

2 Left Nagasaki on the 25th inst.

3 Left San Francisco on the 26th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

To	Line	Steamer	Date
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	P. May 28
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. May 30
America	T. E. K.	Nippon Maru	W. May 31
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. May 31
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. June 5
Europe, via S'bal.	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	W. June 7
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. June 7
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohensohn	F. June 9
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. June 12
Hongkong	C. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. June 13
America	C. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. June 15

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business in dull for plain yarns this week, but in gassed yarns buyers are beginning to find out that they have to pay the equivalent of Manchester prices, and a fair business has taken place; shirtings are very dull, and there is very little doing in fancy cottons. Stocks of woollens are decreasing and in view of the short supplies from Australia dealers are beginning to come along.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½h, 38½ yds. 39 inches	PER PICUL.
Grey Shirtings—9h, 39 yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 2.90
T. Cloth—7h, 24 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.40
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 34 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Cotton—Italian and Saltoons Black,	2.50 to 4.00
32 inches	PER YARD.
	0.25 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

Flannels	PER YARD.
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.40 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards,	0.32 to 0.50
31 inches	
Cloths—Pique, 39 to 58 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 58 inches	0.20 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 to 58 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3½	0.55 to 0.85
per lb	
	0.62½ to 0.75
	PER PICUL.
Valvets—Black, 35 yards, 32 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Taws, 32 yards, 42½ inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Red—2 to 3 h, 24½ yards,	
30 inches	1.00 to 2.20
Turkey Red—3.5 to 4 h, 24½ yards,	
32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Singles	PER PICUL.
Nos. 28/32, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	48.00 to 44.00
Nos. 41, Doubles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 50, Plain	13.00 to 15.00
Nos. 280, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2,100, Plain	80.50 to 81.50
Nos. 2,100, Plain	100.00 to 105.00
Nos. 2,100, Gassed	72.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2,800, Gassed	91.00 to 93.00
Nos. 2,800, Gassed	117.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	PER PICUL.
Indian Branch	\$19.25 to 19.50
Chinese	18.25 to 18.50
	20.00 to 21.00

METALS.

The demand has died out for the present, prices showing a rise, and galvanised sheets are also moving. The market is in favour of holders and buyers are beginning to realise that they must raise their offers if any business is to be put through.

Round and square 1 inch and upward	PER PICUL.
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.30
Galvanised iron sheets	5.40 to 5.70
Wire Nails, assort	7.50 to 11.75
1½ Plates, per box	6.75 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	6.40 to 6.70
Iron Iron (½ to 1 inch)	2.40 to 2.10
	3.75 to 5.50

KRKROSENE.

A weakening demand as the hot weather approaches. Prices, however, are unchanged.

American	PER PICUL.
Russian	\$2.25
Langkat	2.20
	2.10

SUGAR.

Market steady, especially for Manila and Formosa kinds; prices are maintained and future prospects are bright.

Brown Taka	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	\$1.85 to 5.70
Brown Molasses	4.00 to 6.50
Brown Cane	4.50 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	5.00 to 6.80
White Refined	6.80 to 8.20
	7.90 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

During the past week nothing has been done, buyers waiting for the new crop. This is expected to be fully 20 per cent. above the out-turn of last year. The weather has been very favourable and hopes are high of an improvement in quality.

QUOTATIONS.

Phatures—Kata, Fine	PER PICUL.
Phatures—Kata, Coarse	\$1.85 to 5.70
Phatures—No. 1, Fine	4.00 to 6.50
Phatures—No. 1, Coarse	4.50 to 4.00
Phatures—No. 1½, Fine	5.00 to 6.80
Phatures—No. 1½, Coarse	6.80 to 8.20
Phatures—No. 2, Fine	7.90 to 9.20
Phatures—No. 2, Coarse	
Common—Coarse	
Re-fines—Kata	Nominal
Re-fines—No. 1	
Re-fines—No. 1½	
Re-fines—No. 2	
Re-fines—No. 3	
Kakelad—No. 1	
Kakelad—No. 1½	
Kakelad—No. 2	
Kakelad—No. 3	
Kakelad—No. 4	
Kakelad—No. 5	
Kakelad—No. 6	
Kakelad—No. 7	
Kakelad—No. 8	
Kakelad—No. 9	
Kakelad—No. 10	
Kakelad—No. 11	
Kakelad—No. 12	
Kakelad—No. 13	
Kakelad—No. 14	
Kakelad—No. 15	
Kakelad—No. 16	
Kakelad—No. 17	
Kakelad—No. 18	
Kakelad—No. 19	
Kakelad—No. 20	
Kakelad—No. 21	

WASTE SILK.

Little is moving in waste silk, and a stock of over 1,500 piculs is still on the market.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	
Noshi—Bushi, Best	
Noshi—Bushi, Good	
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	
Noshi—Oshu, Fair	
Noshi—Shimizu, Fair	
Noshi—Bushi, Fair	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	\$50 to 100
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	55 to 60
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 30

TEA.

Trade has been very brisk at a slight decline for lower grades. Producers declare that the crop will be smaller than large year; it certainly is not up to the standard of '98 quality, and prospects of business in the States are far from bright. The settlements have been about 70,003 piculs against 68,000 at corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	34 to 35
Choice	32 to 33
Finest	30 to 31
Fine	28 to 29
Good Medium	26 to 27
Medium	24 to 25
Good Common	—
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, May 25.

Silver from London ½ higher followed by an advance of ½ in sterling quotations from China has caused a decline for business on China, but otherwise rates for the mail per steamer *Empress of Japan* have been steady at quotations.

Bank T.T.	2/0½
Bills on demand	2/0½
4 months' sight	2/0½
Private 4 months' sight	2/1
6 months' sight	2/1½
On Lyons—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263 to 264
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
Private 4 months' sight	51½ to 52
On Germany—Bank sight	210
Private 4 months' sight	214 to 215
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3½ to 4 dis.
Private 10 days' sight	4½ to 5 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75½
Private 10 days' sight	76½ to 77
On India—Bank sight	153½
Private 30 days' sight	156
On Silver (London)	28½

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, May 25.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations:—Sales of H. & B. Banks at 296 per cent. premium, of National Banks at \$22.50, of China Fires at \$23, Hongkong Fires at \$32.50 and of Docks at 302 per cent. premium; Sellers of H. & K. Wharves at \$86; Sales of Douglasses at \$56.50, of Indo-Chinas at \$69, of Panjom Mines at \$8, Raub Mines at \$60.50, of Union Insurance at \$230, of China Traders at \$63 and of H. C. & M. Steamboats at \$29.25; Sellers of Straits Insurance at \$4.50; and buyers of Hongkong Lands at \$82.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Serai Kosai and Gunji Kosai Bonds have risen to yen 100.10.

Iron Works are procurable at yen 210. Japan Breweries changed hands at yen 165. Grand Hotels fetched yen 225. Club Hotels are obtainable at yen 90. Oriental Hotels have been sold at yen 122. Offers of Nagasaki Hotels are wanted. Briefts can be had at yen 9.50. North & Raes are in demand at yen 206. Langfeldts are unchanged at yen 160. Steam Laundries have been sold to-day at yen 70, at which rate there are buyers. Y. U. Club Debentures are offering at yen 108. In other Debenture stocks we have no changes to report.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50	220 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	yen 50	265 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	225 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	90 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	225 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (F&A)	\$100	225 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd.	yen 700	60 S.
North and Rae, Ltd.	\$100	200 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$100	950 S.

Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	\$100	260 S.
Hingo Gas Co., Ltd.	\$100	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.	yen 50	70 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	265 S.
Kobe Iron Works, Ltd.	\$100	265 S.
Yokohama United (Y&U)	\$100	265 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$100	265 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	265 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	265 S.
Reserve Fund—1 yen 3,100 equalisation of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property; 2 yen 17,770.30; 1 yen 16,208.44; 4 yen 77,882.16 and yen 48,228.05 at Cr. of Working Acc.		
N.M.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, S.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Enquiries.		

Tokyo, May 25.

Redemption Loan Bonds	100.00
War Loan Bonds	100.00
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	31.50
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 30	30.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	31.50
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	31.50
First National Bank—paid up yen 30	60.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 30	60.50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	100.50
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 100	100.50
Japan Railway—paid up yen 30	76.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 30	76.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 30	76.50
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45	75.00
Kobe Railway, new—paid up yen 45	75.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 45	75.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 30	75.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Hokkaido Colliery R.W. 7, and issue—paid up yen 30	75.00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Naris Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Nano Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Hokuryetsu Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 25	75.00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 30	75.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 30	75.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 30	75.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 30	75.00
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 30	75.00
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 30	75.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 30	75.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 30	75.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 30	75.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 30	75.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Mercantile Exchange—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 30	75.00
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 30	75.00
Japan Beer—aid up yen 30	75.00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 30	75.00
Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 30	75.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 30	75.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 30	75.00
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 30	75.00
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 30	75.00

a Ex-dividend.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMABASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.38, 9.10, 9.35, 10.05, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2.20, 3.10, 3.55, 4.30, 5.35, 6.15, 7.16, 8.13, 9.10, 10.40, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMABASHI—4.50, 5.45, 6.50, 7.25, 7.55, 8.30, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25, a.m.; 12.10, 1.40, 2.25, 3.10, 3.25, 4.45, 5.25, 6.30, 7.35, 8.20, 9.15, 10.10, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Leave.	Arrive.
Yokohama ... 6.50 a.m.	Kobe ... 10.47 a.m.
Yokohama ... 1.14 p.m.	Kobe ... 9.00 a.m.
Yokohama ... 6.30 p.m.	Kobe ... 11.19 a.m.
Yokohama ... 10.32 p.m.	Kobe ... 6.36 p.m.
Kobe ... 6.00 a.m.	Yokohama ... 10.05 a.m.
Kobe ... 12.05 p.m.	Yokohama ... 8.05 a.m.
Kobe ... 6.00 p.m.	Yokohama ... 10.50 a.m.
Kobe ... 10.00 p.m.	Yokohama ... 6.13 p.m.

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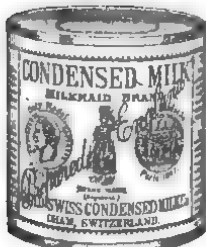
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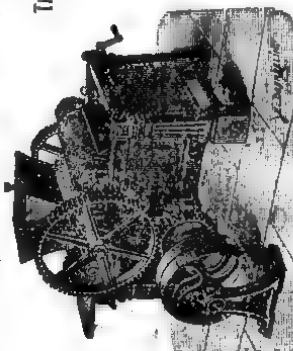
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No. 20.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, MAY 20TH, 1899.

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[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	485
The Imperial Visit	486
Japan's Foreign Policy	486
Fukushima-Yonezawa Railway	486
Franchise in Japan	487
The late Viscount Kawakami	487
The Criminal Class	487
Negotiations between China and Korea	487
China beginning to Awaken	487
Adulterated Wine	488
Tea	488
Hermit Foreign Community at Shikibetsu	488
Japanese Settlement at Amoy	488
New Chief of Staff	489
Formosa Affair	489
Criticism of Amateurs	489
Supply of Iron in Japan	489
Buddhists and Public Recognition	489
Iodine	489
Garden Party in Tokyo	489
Mr. Ralph Paget	489
Yokohama Custom House	489
Dog Poisoning	489
White Breaches	489
Tokyo and its Men of Gotham	489
Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks	489
Mr. Ka-cho Kentaro	489
Masonic	489
Military Expansion	489
Imperial Palace in Shinjuku	489
The Chinese in Yokohama	489
A Ladies' Peace Congress	489
Railway Accidents	489
Docking of Vessels	489
Female Recluses	489
Japanese in Australia	489
Mr. Yates's Picture	489
Progress in Hakone	489
Anarctic Research	489
Leading Articles:—	489
Russia in the Far East	489
Succession in Landed Estate in the Foreign Settlement	489
The "Asama"	489
Correspondence:—	489
The Best Hotel for "Tall Men"	489
The Rise of Prices in Japan	489
Criticism of Amateurs	489
A Dog Epidemic	489
The late Prof. K. Morita	489
Lake Kawaguchi	489
The Nagoya Yacht	489
The Bookshelf	489
Affairs in China	489
News of the Week	489
Inns of Court Association in Japan	489
Y. C. & A. C. Athletic Sports	489
The Japan Brewery Company, Limited	489
Telegrams	489
Bank of Japan	489
(Here)	489
Latest Shipping	489
Latest Commercial	489

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS ADVIENNE QUE POURRA?"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to name; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 20TH, 1899.

DEATH.

At 5 Hill, Kobe, on the 10th instant, Rev. HENRY HALCOMBE RHES, D.D., of Mount Holly, New Jersey, U.S.A., in his 71st year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE spring regatta of the Y.A.R.C. takes place this afternoon.

THE *Karagi Kan*, built by Cramps and armoured by Armstrongs, arrived at Yokosuka on Tuesday.

THE concert originally arranged to be given by the Junken Choral and Orchestral Societies has been abandoned.

THE Government is stated to have at last decided on the venue of the 6th National Exhibition. It is to be held in Osaka.

THE cricket season opened in Yokohama on

Wednesday with a match between the Club and a team from H.M.S. *Victorious*, the home side having the best of it.

MR. JAMES B. WHITEHEAD has arrived in Japan, and taken up the duties of Secretary at the British Legation in Tokyo.

MR. KANIKO KENTARO proceeds to America by the outgoing mail to receive the degree of LL.D. from Harvard University.

ON the 15th Marquis Ito arrived in Beppu, Oita Prefecture, and met with a cordial reception from both officials and the populace.

H.I.H. THE EMPRESS was pleased to contribute 47 yen to 47 patients at the Charity Hospital on the occasion of her visit on the 16th inst.

THE total number of cases of pest in Formosa from the beginning of this year up to the 14th inst. was 1,974, of which 1,479 proved fatal.

AN excursion train dashed into an express at Exeter, on the Philadelphia-Reading Railroad. In consequence, 34 were killed and 40 injured.

THE Fukushima Yonezawa mountain railway was opened with much *clat* on Monday in the presence of Viscount Yoshihara, Minister of Communications.

THE demolition of Christ Church and the parsonage at Yokohama began this week. The new Church will be built on the bluff, the land having been bought for yen 20,000.

ON Saturday evening, at the Public Hall, the well-known religious drama, "The Sign of the Cross," will be given for the first time in Japan by a large company of professional players.

THE *Asama Kan*, a sister ship to the *Yoshino*, arrived at Yokohama on Wednesday, 59 days from Newcastle, beating the previous record of a warship to the Far East by ten days.

THE high officials of the Department for Foreign Affairs met on Wednesday to consider various questions in connection with the abolition of foreign settlements and other matters.

THE eightieth birthday of Her Majesty Queen Victoria will be celebrated in Yokohama on Wednesday with a cricket match and two sailing races. In Tokyo the British Minister gives a garden party to his nationals.

THE Yokohama Yacht Club open their season on Her Majesty's eightieth birthday—Wednesday next—when the principal prizes will be two cups given by H.B.M.'s Minister for the 39 and 17 years.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR and Empress have graciously contributed yen 1,000 towards the funds for the relief of the sufferers from the great fire at Shiraimachi, Kamada district, Miyagi prefecture, on the 14th inst.

A BARRISTER named Ishimaki and eight other men living in Nagoya were, a few days ago, arrested under a warrant issued by the Gifu Local Court on suspicion of embezzling money entrusted to them by a wealthy man.

ON the 14th, at 2 p.m., a fire broke out at Fukuura village, Hagi District, Ishikawa Prefecture, destroying upwards of 200 houses, including the village office, the Post and Telegraph Office, and two Buddhist temples.

KOBAYASHI UMEKICHI and others living at

Kotobukichi, Yokohama, were arrested on Monday for stealing 1 lb. of salt of quinine (value 150 yen), while engaged in conveying goods to the German mail steamer *Hohenzollern*.

THE arrival of Major Marchand's mission in Paris is expected. Delegates of the Ministries of War, of the Navy, and of the Colonies are charged with the duty of receiving the mission at the station. Various receptions will follow.

AN assistant clerk named Sato Juso, aged 22, in the service of the Tokyo Post and Telegraph Office, was arrested on Sunday night. He fell in love with a woman in a house of ill-fame, and, being in want of money, had been stealing money-orders since December last.

A HORSE and an ox had a terrible combat on the road to Tennotani, Kobe, some days ago. They fought furiously for an hour; the ox's horns were broken, and the horse lost his hoofs. They were almost in a dying state when the owners separated them.

AN auditor named Takahashi Masayoshi (50), living in Kojimachi, committed suicide by stabbing himself with a knife near Kawasakimachi, Kanagawa Prefecture, a few days ago. He had recently been dismissed from his office in the Board of Audit.

ON the 16th, H.I.M. the Emperor received in audience the French Minister, M. Harmand, who presented a letter from the President of the French Republic, in which M. Loubet returned thanks for the Emperor's expression of kindness on the death of President Faure.

MR. ST. JOHN BRODRICK, Under Secretary to the Foreign Office, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that representations had been made to Russia relative to the refusal of the Russian Consul to recognize British land titles at Hankow, and that Russia had instructed its Consul to suspend any definite action.

A BUDDHIST living at Noda Village, Chiba Prefecture, dreamed the other night that he saw the spirit of Nichiren, who told him he could find old coins to the amount of 40,000 yen buried 12 feet below the ground near a certain temple. A number of neighbours who heard this are engaged in excavating nightly; but no money has been found as yet.

IN the Tokyo Marine Court judgment has been given on the effect that Messrs. John Francis Allen and P. Thomson, the Captain and chief officer of the N.Y.K. steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, are exonerated from blame for the fire which occurred on board the *Yamaguchi Maru* a few months ago.

THE wife and child of Mr. Shiratschi, chief paymaster of the warship *Isami Kan*, were seriously injured on the railway at Ofuna at 9.15 p.m. on Thursday. They fell between the carriages, and the wheels passed over them. They were attended by a European doctor from Yokohama, who happened to be a passenger in the train.

THE steamer *Fukushige Maru*, which had left Hakodate for Yokohama on the 10th, was caught by a gale about 12 miles off Kujukurigahama on the 19th, and high waves compelled the crew to throw 447 horse-loads of *hombu* (edible seaweed) and 500 boxes of manganese overboard. The ship arrived on Monday evening at Yokohama. The goods lost were consigned from Hakodate to Iida, shipping agent at Motobamacho.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT.

We should, of course, take care to lay before our readers translations of all articles published by vernacular newspapers with regard to the Emperor's visit to the Settlement on the 9th inst. had any such articles appeared. But, although the Tokyo journals contain minute accounts of the affair, and although their descriptions of the decorations and of the reception in general show great appreciation, they make no editorial comments, the *Kokumin Shimbu* alone excepted. The *Kokumin*, as our readers doubtless remember, alluded to the project before it had yet become an accomplished fact, and strongly applauded the sentiment of the foreign community. It now adds the conclusion that the interval separating foreigners and Japanese has been largely reduced, and expresses a hope that the *rapprochement* will continue without interruption. A suggestion is also offered that attention should be paid to the reason why this proceeding on the part of foreigners is so greatly appreciated by the Japanese. That reason, we gather, is that the action of the community is interpreted as an evidence of their sympathy with the dominant feeling of the Japanese nation, veneration and love for the Sovereign, and the *Kokumin* points out that the same sympathetic attitude, were it assumed in other matters, not themselves important, though their influence may be considerable, would materially promote smooth relations. Of course the homily cuts both ways, of which fact the *Kokumin* is cognisant. It invites its own nationals to treat the European and American residents as friends, not strangers, and to aid in making it possible for them to live as pleasantly and profitably under the sway of the Emperor of Japan as though they were in their own countries.

On the 12th instant Messrs. R. D. Robison and W. F. Mitchell proceeded to Tokyo to convey the thanks of the Yokohama community for the Emperor's visit to the Settlement on the preceding Tuesday. They were received at the Imperial Household Department by Viscount Tanaka, the Minister, who undertook to acquaint His Majesty with their coming and with the message they carried.

We observe, with great satisfaction, that the Emperor has signified his intention of conferring on Mr. R. D. Robison the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure. Such an act on the part of His Majesty would be heartily welcomed by this community. Of course, in foreign countries a duty such as that entrusted by the public to Mr. R. D. Robison on the 9th instant, the duty of presenting an address to the Sovereign on a very special occasion, would certainly be the means of obtaining some distinction for the gentleman thus honoured. But Japan, very naturally and properly, has her own rules in such matters, and we can not remember that any precedent has yet been placed on record. It does seem, however, that the auspicious event of last Tuesday would be most gracefully and happily rounded off by His Majesty's recognition of it in that manner. The community would be sharers in the honour, and would appreciate not only His Majesty's gracious intention, but also the thoughtful tact of the present Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Emperor has been pleased to transmit a pair of cloisonné enamel vases to Mr. J. C. Hall, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Kobe, and a pair of bronze vases to the French Consul, M. Lucy-Fossarieu. These gentlemen filled the posts of Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively, of the Committee appointed by the Kobe community last November to receive His Majesty on the occasion of the Imperial visit to the foreign Settlement. We take these facts from the *Nippon*.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLITICS.

It is pleasant to find a paper of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbu's* standing and acumen rebuking the wild writing that has recently appeared in certain vernacular journals on the subject of foreign policy. Reading between the lines of these sensational articles, it becomes quite apparent that they are penned for political purposes, and not under the impulse of any real concern for the empire's foreign affairs. Editors want to attack the Cabinet, and in the absence of any tangible material for constructing an indictment, they fall back upon the fact that the Foreign Office is not sending up any fire-works. It seems scarcely worth while to treat such complaints seriously. One can not suppose that any educated Japanese are sufficiently deficient of intelligence not to appreciate that the best evidence of successful foreign policy is the absence of all questions and complication. Therefore, when men grumble because nothing happens, they are evidently jesting about a serious subject, and had better be left to chuckle over their shallow wit to the top of their bent.

It is stated by Tokyo journals that the Szechow complication has been settled, the terms agreed to by the Chinese Government being, first, that those who aided and abetted the rioters should be punished with two months' confinement; secondly, that the ringleaders should have 500 blows of the bamboo and two months' rigorous imprisonment, as a minimum; thirdly, that the Taotai should issue a stringent proclamation enjoining the necessity of respecting the persons and property of foreigners, and fourthly that compensation to the extent of 368 yen should be paid to the Arai Company. This settlement is at all events conspicuous for the moderation of the pecuniary claim.

Our readers have doubtless noticed with thankfulness that a blessed calm reigns in the world of Japanese politics. It is a perplexing world, and anyone seeking to trace the actions and interactions of parties, and the dissolution and organization of factions, must have a clear insight and vast patience. Most of the political leaders are now touring the provinces, a wholesome proceeding, not dictated, however, solely by a desire of educating the constituencies, but partly prompted by the prospect of the elections which will take place next July and August for the Prefectural and City Assemblies. These elections will be a test of the relative popularity of the parties. The general opinion seems to be that the Progressists are under a cloud, and that they will remain so for a considerable time. There would be nothing either remarkable or regrettable in that.

The Progressists will have their day in due season, but unless the beaten party remains for a reasonable period below the surface, there can be no such thing as fairly stable Cabinets. Meanwhile it is to be observed that the Progressists have not such a dark prospect, after all. They have embraced a cause immemorably popular, the cause of reduced taxation, and the people's hearts will go out to them sooner or later. The really interesting question of the time, as we think, is the fate of the new party now in process of formation. Neither the Liberals nor the Progressists have a working majority in the House of Representatives. Hence a third party may become the arbiter of the situation by holding the balance of power. Of course it is for that reason that the projectors of the *Kokken-to* have entered the field.

FUKUSHIMA-YONEZAWA RAILWAY.

The railway from Fukushima to Yonezawa was opened on the 15th inst. The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce was present at the ceremony, and as a large number of guests had been invited, the train was a very long one, requiring two engines to draw it. There are no less than nineteen tunnels on the line. Everything passed off satisfactorily. Fukushima is a town connected with Tokyo—from which it is 166 miles distant—by the Japan Railway Company's line, and Yonezawa lies 31 miles westward of Fukushima. The distance between the two places is thus inconsiderable, but the difficulties of railway construction are very great. It is a mountainous district, and the road, which is a fine example of engineering skill, climbs to a height of 3,000 feet, is cut out of the sheer cliff at one place, and passes through three tunnels, the longest of them measuring 1,000 yards. Yonezawa is an important silk-producing centre. It is now brought within 12h. 26m. of Tokyo by rail, which includes a wait of 1½ hours at Fukushima. The return journey occupies only 11h. 32m., the delay at Fukushima being reduced to 33 minutes.

FRANCHISE IN JAPAN.

We find in the *Mainichi Shimbu* an interesting table compiled for the purpose of showing the proportion of franchise-holders that voted and of those that refrained from voting at general elections in Japan since the introduction of constitutional government. It is now nearly ten years since the first election and there have been six general elections in all. The figures stand thus:—

Date of Election.	Percentage of persons that voted.	Percentage of persons that refrained from voting.
July 1890.....	92 78	7 22
February 1892	91 56	8 44
March 1894.....	89 06	10 94
September 1894	85 20	14 80
March 1897.....	87 39	12 61
August 1897	79 35	20 65

Our contemporary infers that the franchise is not valued in Japan, and that men are consequently willing to sell their votes for a small consideration. We should be disposed to think, however, that, if the traffic in votes was at all considerable, very few electors would be found to stand aloof.

THE LATE VISCOUNT KAWAKAMI.

General Viscount Kawakami expired at 6.15 p.m. on the 11th instant. He had been apparently progressing favourably up to the 10th instant, but on the afternoon of that day he was again attacked by spasms, which recurred several times within the next 24 hours, and finally ended fatally. The loss of this highly talented officer will be a severe blow to the Japanese nation. He was in the prime of life and, under ordinary circumstances, should have been able to serve his country for many years longer. His great abilities found an unique opportunity in the War of 1894-5, and it was a common saying at that time that the campaigns in Korea, Manchuria, Liaotung, and Shantung were all mapped out by him in Tokyo, every detail being provided for with the prescience of genius. Yet, despite his possession of these high qualities, Viscount Kawakami was a conspicuously unassuming man. His friends in every rank of society were numerous.

The late Viscount Kawakami was only in his fifty-second year at the time of his death. Up to the fall of 1897, no suspicion existed that his heart was unsound, but certain symptoms which then presented themselves induced him to seek medical advice, and he learned that his tenure of life would probably be brief. According to the rules that govern ordinary careers, he should have been still a student when the great drama of the Restoration was acted. But already in 1864, when a lad of only 17, he had attained such scholastic distinction as to be appointed a school teacher, and in the following year he adopted the profession of arms. Promotion discovered merit very quickly in those days. At 27 Kawakami was in command of a battalion, and at 38 he attained the rank of Major-General and the post of Vice-Chief of the General Staff. Twice he visited Germany, not as a young student, but as an officer of matured judgment who knew how to profit by the useful lessons that country could teach, and had all the intelligence necessary to appreciate its extraordinary military mechanism. He returned to Japan a thorough believer in German tactics and strategy, and, what was more important, with such an insight into their principles as enabled him subsequently to apply them with unerring judgment. Curiously enough, he completed his preparatory education, if we may use the term, by a careful inspection of Korea, Southern Manchuria and Northern China in the very year before the war of 1894-5 broke out. Whether that tour of examination was suggested by prescience of coming events—a hypothesis not difficult to entertain when we remember the constant strain to which the relations between China and Japan were subjected at that epoch on account of Korean affairs—or whether he undertook the trip incidentally to his general acquisition of knowledge, there can be no doubt that the topographical information he acquired must have proved immensely valuable in his subsequent conduct of the war. For it was he that conducted the war in so far as concerned the planning of the campaigns, the organization of the forces destined to take part in them, and the collection and despatch of the necessary material. He devised and supervised that great work without leaving Hiroshima until the Head-Quarters were ad-

vanced to Port Arthur, an event which immediately preceded the final surrender of the Chinese at Wei-hai-wei and the conclusion of an armistice. It goes without saying that his brilliant services were fully rewarded. He received a Viscount's patent of nobility, was promoted to be full General, and obtained the appointment of Chief of the General Staff, honours which he was destined to enjoy for a very brief period only. A quiet, self-contained man, his general demeanour did not suggest the luminous judgment and invincible resolution that marked his direction of great operations, and to any one associating with him outside the range of his duties, he conveyed the impression of a modest, gentle and perfectly unaffected character. The loss of such a military genius is almost irreparable, and the question now on every one's lips is, who shall succeed him. We can not offer any conjecture. Before the occasion revealed General Kawakami, the public knew nothing of his great capacities. Possibly Japan has a worthy successor equally unsuspected.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the funeral of General Viscount Kawakami was a most imposing affair. It was attended by representatives of the Emperor, the Empress, the Prince Imperial, and the Imperial Princes; by all the military officers in Tokyo, and by many of the leading residents. In the van and in rear of the procession marched battalions of the Imperial Guards, and large bodies of troops were marshalled at intervals along the route from the residence of the deceased in Bancho to the Aoyama cemetery, a distance of about four miles. Nothing could exceed the perfection of the arrangements. Every conceivable detail seemed to have been thought out before-hand. The huge *cortège*, which required no little organization, began to move exactly at the appointed hour, and from that moment until the last volley was fired over the grave, not a semblance of disorder or of unforeseen delay was discernible. The military authorities have already given ample proofs of their organizing ability, yet it must be confessed that this funeral enhanced their credit. There was, of course, a magnificent display of floral tributes, but this and other details may be summed up in the statement that Tokyo has never seen a more impressive funeral during the *Meiji* era.

THE CRIMINAL CLASS.

"In February of 1898, the total number of persons confined in the jails throughout Japan was 74,000. In February of the present year, it was 72,000. Thus there has been a diminution of 2,000. The reasons of the decrease are these:—First, the procedure of the Courts was expedited, so that cases were disposed of more quickly; secondly, first offences of a minor character were dealt with by reprimands only; thirdly, prices having declined, the difficulty of obtaining a living became less acute. Such are said to have been the causes operative in the various prefectures." We translate these remarks from the *Kokumin Shimbu*. The third reason assigned by our contemporary surprises us somewhat. We should not ourselves have been disposed to say that any sensible depreciation of prices took place between February, 1898, and February, 1899, except in the case of rice.

NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND KOREA.

The special correspondent of the *Tokyo Asahi*, writing from Seoul under date of the 6th instant, says:—"The Chinese and Korean Plenipotentiaries had a conference on the 5th instant. The Chinese Plenipotentiary assumed an obdurate attitude towards the Korean's proposal that Chinese merchants should withdraw from Seoul, and showed no sign of consenting. He also changed, to some extent, the conciliatory tone hitherto adopted by him, and advanced an embarrassing proposition with regard to the payment of customs dues, to the great perplexity of his Korean colleague. He said that Korea had no fixed monetary standard, and that, her only current coins being the new nickel and bronze pieces and the old cash, they had undergone acute depreciation, so that at present they were quoted at a discount of from 20 to 25 per cent. for exchange against Japanese gold coins. He therefore asked that, in paying customs dues, Chinese merchants should be entitled to use Korean coins. The Korean Plenipotentiary had the assurance to reply that his country had already adopted the gold standard publicly, but was without the means of striking gold coins. If the proposal made by China were accepted, other countries would claim the same privilege, and heavy loss would result to Korea. Hitherto the customs dues had been received in Japanese gold coins or in silver coins, and it was impossible to endorse the change now suggested by the Chinese Plenipotentiary." The *Asahi's* correspondent adds that the Chinese Plenipotentiary adhered to his proposition, and that the discussion of this point is not likely to be speedily terminated.

CHINA BEGINNING TO AWAKE.

According to the *Official Gazette*, China has done the first wide-awake thing that stands to her credit for many a day. She has declared Sam-shao open to foreign trade. Sam-shao is the place towards which Germany was supposed to have turned longing eyes before she resolved to fix her gaze on Kiao-chow. It offers excellent facilities for a naval port and has other advantages of a distinctive character. Germany's intentions may have been entirely misinterpreted by a suspicious public, but Sam-shao is undoubtedly one of the tid-bits that would be likely to fall into the rapacious maw of the Occident if China attempted to guard it by her own strength alone. As an open port it is safe, provided that any traders see their account in going there—a proviso not particularly disquieting so long as there are British merchants in the world. It really seems as though China's only hope of retaining a semblance of imperial integrity lies in throwing open to foreign commerce her whole country, or, at least, all the important coastwise places. That would be a practical and efficient method of forcing the world to adopt the open-door policy. We are curious to know whether the Peking Government has acted by advice or by its own initiative in this matter of Sam-shao. If the latter, the thing is an evidence of most unexpected alertness. If the former, whence did the wholesome counsel emanate, Downing-street or Nagata-cho?

ADULTERATED WINE.

There has been much talk of late about the adulteration of Japanese sweet wine (*Kammi budoshu*). It was stated that an analysis made by the Authorities had shown deleterious adulteration in the case of six brands, but since the statement did not take an exhaustive form, the public were left in doubt as to whether the wines not mentioned were safe, the result being, of course, that sales were totally suspended, to the no small inconvenience and loss of manufacturers and middle-men. The Department of Home Affairs now publishes, in the *Official Gazette*, a report of further analyses made by the Sanitary Bureau, from which we learn that, in addition to the 6 varieties already denounced as deleteriously adulterated, 11 are found to be spurious (*ganso*). By the term "spurious" we understand that the juice of the grape has not been used in the manufacture of these liquors, but that they are compounded of various chemicals and coloured with aniline dyes. It is very singular, however, that the Sanitary Bureau, or perhaps we should say the Home Department, does not publish the exact particulars of the analyses. There is an air of lordly officialdom about this curt statement that "the following sweet wines, having been examined, are found to be spurious." One would imagine that the Bureau, or the Department, regarded the public as a collection of little children, unable to comprehend any technical explanation, and quite content to receive a word of instruction from autocratic and omniscient officialdom. Besides, although 17 brands of sweet wine have now been condemned, nothing is said about the remaining kinds—for we presume that there are still some others remaining. At all events, if the list of marks published by the Sanitary Bureau be exhaustive, so far as the wines now on sale are concerned, it may be taken for granted that wines with different marks will soon be in the market. It is scarcely likely that any of our readers indulge in these *Kammi Budoshu*. If they have done so hitherto, they will doubtless see the wisdom of refraining altogether in future. The brands now denounced are the *Yebisu*, the *Momotaro*, the *Queen*, the *Lion*, the *Hotel*, the *Pheasant*, the *Flying Dragon*, the *Stork*, the *Rose*, the *Stork and Rising Sun*, and the *Kintoki*. There will be a panic among the manufacturers of wines in Japan.

It appears there are no less than 70 different brands of Japanese sweet-wine. Out of these the Sanitary Bureau has examined 40, and found 17 adulterated. The brewers, however, are by no means satisfied with that result. It would be strange if they were, indeed, for those whose wines have not been examined must feel that, unless they obtain some official declaration as to the wholesomeness of their manufacture, they will suffer almost equally with the sellers of the deleterious stuff. It is to be presumed that they will take steps to have their manufactures analysed without delay, and that, in common with those whose wines have already successfully endured the tests employed by the Bureau, they will advertise the fact widely. But we gather that they have another source of dissatisfaction also. It is understood that, according to the Home Department's definition of the adulterated wines, they all be-

long to the class of "old wines," and consequently the non-adulterated must be included in the category of "newly manufactured" wines. On the other hand, these latter have been classed with "mixed sake" for purposes of taxation. The brewers declare that such a classification is unjust. They have been holding meetings and engaging counsel, and we shall not be surprised to find that, in default of any genuine source of excitement, this affair is gradually exaggerated to sensational dimensions.

TEA.

There appears to be pretty keen competition among the various shipping companies to secure the carriage of the tea now coming forward for transport to the States. On the 15th and 16th instant, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Northern Pacific Companies reduced their rate of freight to 1 sen per lb., but the Oriental stepped in with 0.75 sen. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the refined tea, now in the hands of foreign exporters, aggregates 1½ million lbs., so that large shipments must take place by the next steamers.

"A general feeling of depression existed recently in the tea market and prices fell by as much as from 5 to 7 yen a picul. Sellers consequently became very anxious, seeing that unless they met the market they would find themselves in an embarrassing position, advices having been received of the pending arrival of additional stocks from the country. On the other hand, the foreign firms having opened their firing godowns, were anxious to avoid any unnecessary delay, and began to buy briskly at reasonable prices. No. 22, a firm which habitually holds back (*hikaye gachi naru*) purchased 68,600 catties at from 22 to 28 yen; No. 3 (American) laid in 40,500 catties at prices ranging from 28 to 35; the Seicha Kaisha took 21,500 catties at 26 to 27 yen; and No. 211 bought 34,100 catties. These and other purchases brought the transactions on the forenoon of the 11th to a total of 217,500 catties. In the afternoon, No. 221 bought a parcel of 98,100 catties, some as cheap as 24 yen and some as dear as 40 yen; No. 143 took 22,000 catties; No. 210 bought 20,700 catties, and so on, the lowest price being 24 yen, and the highest, for first-class quality, 67 yen. The sales for the day (?) aggregated 430,100 catties, the largest record hitherto made for new tea. The heavy rain on the 12th entailed a suspension of business" (*Tokyo Asahi*).

"This year, owing perhaps to insufficiency of fertilizers, there has been a great deal of inferior tea grown. In the Yenshu districts picking is said to have been abandoned as there was no prospect of doing anything satisfactory with the bad leaf. An examination of the tea recently sent to Yokohama shows that the buds were defective, and the leaves have consequently curled badly, many of them remaining flat, so that the appearance is unsatisfactory. Moreover, the leaves are so deficient in oil that they go to dust if strongly manipulated. Satisfactory manufacture is thus impossible. Tea-growers from the country districts say, further, that there is a shortage of from 15 to 20 per cent. This year must therefore be considered a bad season for tea." (*Ibid*).

HERMIT FOREIGN COMMUNITY AT SHIRIBETSU.

Some time ago, vernacular journals of Tokyo published brief reference to a small community of foreigners said to be living at a place called Shiribetsu, opposite to Hakodate. It was conjectured that they were convicts escaped from Saghalien, and no one felt any particular interest in the matter. But investigation has shown, according to the *Asahi Shimbun*, that, so far from being convicts, they are religionists, who have chosen that remote spot as a hermitage. There are seven Frenchmen, four Dutchmen, one Italian, and one Canadian, thirteen in all. It appears that they live in the most frugal and industrious style. They have 4 horses and 6 oxen, but they never eat meat, their diet being purely vegetable. These animals serve for agricultural purposes only. Farming, indeed, is the chief pursuit of the colonists, and they have brought a large area of land under cultivation. They rise at 2 a.m.—so the statement runs—and employ themselves in whatever tasks their leader directs, obeying him implicitly. The Bible is their sole literature, with the exception of school books which they use for the education of 30 children, whom they teach in strict accordance with the curriculum prescribed by the Department of Education. At rare intervals two of their number visit Hakodate to make purchases or sales in connexion with their daily sustenance, and their lives are in all respects regulated by a code of the strictest discipline. They are said to have been residing at Shiribetsu for several years, but, if so, it is strange that the public hears of them now for the first time.

JAPANESE SETTLEMENT AT AMOY.

From time to time items of intelligence have been published about the delimitation of a site for a special Japanese settlement at Amoy. It was understood that the Peking Government had consented to the proposal, but owing to some unexplained cause, considerable delay occurred in giving effect to the agreement. It would now appear, from statements contained in Tokyo journals, that the procrastination has been due to the Taotai of Amoy, who pretended that the Consuls of Great Britain and the United States were opposed to the granting of a separate settlement. Inquiries having shown, however, that not the slightest objection of any kind had been raised by the Consuls, the Japanese Government instructed its Representative in Peking to approach the *Tsung-li Yamén* again on the subject, and it is stated that this remonstrance led to the despatch of stringent instructions, on the 12th instant, to the local authorities at Amoy in the sense of immediate compliance with Japan's wishes. The allotment of a site may therefore be regarded as an affair of the immediate future. But will the land be utilized? We have not heard that any practical advantage has been taken of the ports newly opened under the Shimonoseki Treaty, Shashih, Suchow and Hangchow—or, at all events, any advantage approximately commensurate with the expectations originally founded on these concessions.

NEW CHIEF OF STAFF.

Conjecture was very busy, of course, about the probable successor of the late Viscount Kawakami as Chief of Staff. Some journals were disposed to make political capital out of the question, and even to impart to it a sensational aspect. They said that the post of Chief of Staff is the most important office in the Administration, and they reach that conclusion by the following course of reasoning:—first, the influence of the military party is paramount in modern Japan, so that no Cabinet can be formed with any hope of lasting unless the leaders of that party, as Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Saigo, Viscount Katsura, and so on, give their approval and co-operation; secondly, the Chief of Staff is not only the head of the military party, but also an *imperium in imperio*, since he is virtually in a position to lay down the law to the Cabinet on all problems of armament; thirdly, for the latter reason it used formerly to be a rigid rule that only Princes of the Blood, who stand wholly aloof from politics, shall be appointed to the headship of staff; fourthly, since this great prize has been thrown open to persons who are not princes, it is keenly coveted by both the Satsuma and the Choshu men; and fifthly, the competition for it is not unlikely to dislocate the union of the elements now forming the Ministry. We quote these statements for the sake of the insight they afford into the trend of non-responsible opinion, but it is our own belief that the day has long passed when rivalry between Satsuma and Choshu constitutes a factor of probable disturbance in any circle. There is no difficulty in conceiving that a Chief of Staff who was also a keen politician might produce inconvenient complications. One of Viscount Kawakami's recommendations was that he took no part whatever in politics. But Japan, we imagine, has many non-political soldiers.

Field-Marshal Marquis Oyama succeeds the late General Viscount Kawakami as Chief of the General Staff. This appointment will probably involve a change of Assistant Chief also, Lieut.-General Terauchi replacing the present occupant of the post, Lieut.-General Baron Oseko. Lieut.-General Terauchi is now Inspector-General of Military Education.

FORMOSA AFFAIRS.

The winding up of the Formosa Railway Company's affairs appears to be causing some trouble. It can not be denied that the promoters of the Company made a persistent struggle to obtain funds, or that the Formosan Authorities gave them every facility. The term fixed for the commencement of operations was prolonged no less than five times. Apparently no probability of failure suggested itself at the outset, for a considerable sum was expended by the promoters—over three hundred thousand *yen*—on preliminary purchases and outlays which could have been avoided had the project looked at all problematical. The question now is, how is this outlay to be recouped? We read in the *Nippon* that the Company proposed to the Formosan Authorities to sell to them the various properties in the island which had been handed over to the Company without charge in consideration of its under-

taking the work. It is scarcely possible to believe that such a proposal was seriously made. At all events, if made it has not been entertained, and the only point now under consideration is whether the Formosa Government will take over *en bloc* all the articles purchased by the Company, or whether it will merely make selections. As to the source from which the Formosa Government itself is to derive the 35 million *yen* sanctioned by the Diet last session for railways, public works, harbour construction, and so forth, there is still considerable uncertainty, but a portion of the amount, at all events, will be furnished by the new Bank of Formosa.

The issue of shares of the new Bank of Formosa has been attended with unexpected results. Fifty thousand shares representing a face-value of five million *yen* make the whole of the Bank's scrip, but as ten thousand are taken by the Treasury and ten thousand by the Imperial Household Department, there were only thirty thousand to place upon the open market. The subscription period ended on the evening of the 13th instant, when it was found that the applications from Tokyo aggregated over fifty thousand shares, and the applications from Osaka, forty thousand. Reports are not yet to hand from Kiushiu, Shikoku, the Tohoku districts, and Formosa itself, but it is expected that the total will be about a hundred and forty thousand shares, or four and a half times the number offered for sale. Some surprise is expressed by vernacular journals that in the present depressed state of the money market such a keen demand for bank shares should arise, but we do not find the incident particularly remarkable. All Japanese banks enjoying a measure of State aid have hitherto proved very flourishing concerns, their shares rising, in a short time, to a high premium. The Formosan Bank will doubtless have a similar experience. Folks fortunate enough to obtain shares may confidently look forward to making a fine profit.

CRITICISM OF AMATEURS.

It seems advisable to say a word editorially about a letter signed "Amateur" which appears in our correspondence columns to-day. The writer refers, we understand, not to criticisms published by the *Japan Mail* in the regular routine of its journalistic functions, but to remarks made, in the case of the Yokohama stage, by a correspondent who objected to the character of the piece and the language put in the mouths of some of the actors by the playwright; and, in the case of Tokyo, by a contributor calling himself a "non-professional critic." Frankly speaking, the canons of criticism where amateurs are concerned—especially amateurs playing for charity—are among the most perplexing questions that present themselves for an editor's consideration. No where does the old adage apply more aptly than that "one man's meat is another man's poison." There are plenty of amateurs who want to be treated, not like tender flowers liable to be ruffled by the slightest breath of rough comment, but as persons of common sense and robust intelligence, who, when they consent to play in public for the sake of amusing the public, have an unequivocal wish to be told exactly how far they

have succeeded. Such amateurs are usually gifted with more than average histrionic abilities. They also understand perfectly well that whatever a newspaper may say, the audience will think its own thoughts and give currency to them in its own manner, and what they hope is that some journal will convey to them a fairly accurate reflection of the sentiment of the audience, instead of constructing its criticisms in rigid accord with polite conventionalisms which permit only praise and interdict all blame. There are others, however, who would be satisfied with our correspondent's rule, namely, praise where praise is possible; otherwise silence or some pleasant comment. It is a matter of opinion. After all, it seems to us a shallow and puny conception that any community should shut itself up in a tiny world of its own, and discuss the doings of its units with bated breath lest some over-tense nerves should be set vibrating too violently. Speaking as journalists, we confess that experience has taught us the value of discretion in these matters. We are conscious of some pusillanimity, but it would seem that the greatest happiness of the greatest number is secured by back-stroking and purring remarks, and within the limits of truth we endeavour to obey that principle. When, however, complaints are addressed to us with regard to the ethical tone of a piece chosen for representation, or when an evidently observant critic sends us a more or less frank statement of the impression produced on his mind by a certain performance, we conclude that the former has a right to be heard, and that the latter will be heard with pleasure by some at least of our readers. For the rest, we are unable to see that the limits of legitimate and courteous criticism—even where amateurs are concerned—were exceeded in the smallest degree by our recent contributor's review of the Tokyo performance, and we believe that were those who kindly took parts in the piece invited to state their opinions frankly, they would say that the publication of his comments had given them satisfaction rather than pain, and that they prefer discriminating criticism to banal panegyrics.

SUPPLY OF IRON IN JAPAN.

Now that it has been definitely decided to obtain from Hanyang in China the major part of the iron required at the new foundry in Chikuzen, the question of carriage assumes much importance. It is evident that had the ore of Iwate Prefecture been used, the vessels carrying it to Chikuzen must have made the return voyage in ballast, as a general rule, for there is no trade with Iwate that could supply cargoes. A slightly better prospect presents itself in the case of Hanyang, since the steamers that carry the ore to Chikuzen may possibly fill up with coal for Shanghai, or may find some other goods for Yangtze ports. Japanese papers speak of 25 voyages a year, and say that although the freight by foreign steamers would undoubtedly be cheap, it might be very difficult to induce them to work uniformly, and as the foundry must be kept supplied, the best plan will be to make arrangements for a regular service of vessels. There is talk of the Mitsui Company's undertaking the work.

BUDDHISTS & PUBLIC RECOGNITION.

The Buddhists of Japan are agitating for official recognition. On the 8th instant, many prominent representatives of the creed met at the Chion-in in Kyoto to celebrate the birthday of Shaka. It was not an assembly solely of religionists. Politicians also were present, among them being Messrs. Sasa Tomofusa and Hayakawa Riyosuke, well known members of the National Unionist Party. There was another famous coadjutor also, Mr. Okamoto Riunosuke. So far as we can remember, it was in the year 1880 that Mr.—then Major—Okamoto claimed a large share of public attention in the Takebashi affair. He headed a mutiny of the Artillery of the Guard, and one of the mutineers' escapades was to fire into the residence of Count—then Mr.—Okuma, who held the portfolio of Finance. Matters would have gone very ill with Major Okamoto had not a convenient access of lunacy interfered with the natural course of legal procedure. He became a gentleman at large instead of an inmate of a convict prison—we do not pretend to understand the exact process—and when the public next heard of him it was in connexion with the cruel assassination of the Queen of Korea. He acted a prominent part in that terrible drama, but nothing could be proved against him. If the Buddhists hope to benefit by his coöperation, they have peculiar views of men and things. However, they discussed the question of official recognition at their meeting, and finally formed an association calling itself the *Kōnin-kyō Kisei dōmei-kai*, or union to bring about official recognition for the faith. In other words, they want to have Buddhism made the State religion of Japan. We can not suppose that these agitators are secret enemies of the creed they profess, but surely their conduct is thoroughly inimical to its best interests.

IODINE.

There is quite a long story in Tokyo journals about the trade in iodine. The gist of the tale is this:—Owing to the fact that the imported article rose in price from 3.25 yen to 4.25 yen per lb. last year, the Japanese product obtained command of the home market. A combination was then formed by two Japanese dealers, Messrs. Okuwa and Torii, with a foreign firm in Yokohama, No. 89, and by offering special terms, this union soon succeeded in directing all the domestic custom to Yokohama. The dealers who were thus left out in the cold bore their discomfiture for a time, but ultimately held a meeting in Tokyo, and decided, not only to compete with the combination even though iodine had to be sold at a loss of 60 or 70 sen per lb., but also to boycott all dealers doing business with the Yokohama union. There is nothing very remarkable in the incident. We admire the enterprise of Messrs. Okuwa, Torii, and No. 89, but we do not equally admire the methods of their Tokyo rivals. The moral is—not a new moral by any means—that Japan ought to be a great country for "trusts." The people show a tendency to combine and a degree of *vim* in combination that might be turned to very profitable account at the expense of the general public. We hope it will not.

GARDEN PARTY IN TOKYO.

A very delightful garden party was given in the Naito-Shinjuku park, Tokyo, on the 13th instant. The invitations were issued in the names of Mr. Sonoda Kokichii, the well-known banker, Professor Kikuchi, President of the Imperial University, Baron Sannomiya, Marquis Nabeshima and Marquis Hachisuka; but it was understood that the affair had been undertaken conjointly by the Japanese members of the London Japan Society, and by some other Japanese who had either been educated or resided in England, and that the occasion of the *réunion* was the presence in Tokyo of Mr. A. Diosy, Honorary Secretary and one of the most active promoters of that Society. Many of our readers are doubtless familiar with the Shinjuku Park, commonly known as the Shinjuku Botanical Gardens, but for the benefit of those who do not know, we may say that the place is the former *yashiki* of the Naito family; that it covers an area of over 200 acres; that it includes all kinds of scenery, from the lake-and-shrubbery style of the Japanese garden proper, to rustic landscapes and flower pastures; that it is furnished with extensive hot-houses where a variety of rare exotics are cultivated; and that it contains a sericultural establishment which enjoys the direct patronage of Her Majesty the Empress. Saturday was perfect as to weather, and the park looked most attractive in all the lustiness of spring foliage. About two hundred guests were present, the foreign element consisting entirely of Anglo-Saxons. The Imperial Band played an excellent selection of music, and refreshments were served in the large Japanese pavilion which stands in the eastern section of the grounds.

MR. RALPH PAGET.

Mr. R. Paget, Second Secretary of the British Legation, left Tokyo by the 6.20 train on Monday morning for Kobe, where he took steamer for his new post in Cairo. Owing to the very early hour, only a few people assembled at the station to bid him farewell, but he bears with him the very best wishes of many fast friends whom he made during his six years' service in the Japanese capital. Mr. Paget found himself in charge of the British Legation at a very difficult time—the war between China and Japan—and there can be no second opinion that upon all with whom he had to do during that period, he produced an impression of excellent judgment and wise tact. His success in the Service ought to be assured, and, if Tokyo should again become the scene of his duties, he may count on a warm welcome from all nationalities there.

YOKOHAMA CUSTOM HOUSE.

It is stated that the Authorities have it in contemplation to greatly enlarge the accommodation at the Yokohama Customs, and also to connect the premises by rail with the station on the Tokyo-Kyoto line. For the latter purpose, a considerable reclamation of the foreshore will be necessary, the intention being to carry the connecting line over the reclaimed land so as not to interfere with existing street arrangements. The total cost of the projected works is said to be 6½ million yen, and the expenditure will be spread over a period of 5 years.

DOG POISONING.

With reference to a letter which we publish elsewhere over the signature of a "Tsukiji Resident," the following paragraph from the *Yomiuri Shimbun* is worth translating:—"We have already related that several dogs died suddenly in the Foreign Settlement in Tsukiji. We now learn that the dogs belonged to the Spanish Minister. His Excellency is very fond of dogs, and does not grudge a thousand yen for a good one. He keeps a number, and on the night of 13-14th ten of them died suddenly. The Minister, much astonished, caused inquiries to be made, and, having discovered clear proof that a certain foreigner had poisoned the dogs, His Excellency forwarded a complaint to the Kyobashi Police, who had the bodies of the dogs examined by a veterinary surgeon. The latter declared that, beyond all doubt, death had been caused by poison, but, as to the nature of the poison employed, further tests will have to be applied.

It would appear from this account, that the Spanish Minister keeps quite a pack of dogs, since ten constitute only a part of his kennel. We presume that M. de la Barrera has had the misfortune to lose a dog, and perhaps the *Yomiuri's* quaint story will at least afford him the consolation of a laugh. Concerning the general question of using poison, however, there is much to be said. Our own experience of Tokyo residents is that many of them recognise no responsibility whatever with regard to their dogs. They allow them to roam about day and night at will. We know gardens that are invaded every night by from six to a dozen galloping, yelping, growling hounds, often rendering sleep impossible, and always doing great injury. What redress has a man against such an intolerable nuisance? If he is a moderately good neighbour, he will not think of laying poison in his grounds. But has he not a right to expect that his neighbours in turn will consider his comfort and his property a little? Doubtless the Tsukiji resident who has been the author of this recent trouble, put down the poison in his own garden having been driven almost to desperation by nocturnal visitors. We imagine that he would be allowed to do so by English law, though the police regulations of Tokyo do not, it is said, permit anything of the kind. There ought undoubtedly to be a rule—a strictly enforced rule—compelling every one that keeps a dog in a city to tie it up, or otherwise confine it, at night.

The dog-poisoning affair at Tsukiji continues to be the talk of the town. Quite a number of dogs were destroyed, seven or eight we believe, and almost without exception they were pets which their owners valued highly. Such a wholesale act of brutality is singular. No excuse can be offered on the score of accident, for, if seven or eight dogs were poisoned, it is obvious that proportionately large quantities of poison must have been used. The rational supposition is that some individual with highly strung nerves, finding his rest broken night after night by canine excursions and alarms, became vindictively angry, and set about the work of destruction with determination to make it as thorough as possible. If he had any idea of the kind of animals he was about to kill, he must be a most heartless person, and social ostracism is the small-

est punishment that should be meted out to him. There is talk of a *betto's* having absconded since the affair, but that is a mere rumour. People ought not to allow their dogs to roam about at night. That is certain. Last night, for example, a pet mallard in a garden in Nagatacho was nearly worried to death by a stray dog. A few incidents of that kind would justify serious retaliation, but arrangement on such a scale as to kill half a score of dogs which are known to be pets, exceed any reasonable limits of self-defence.

WHITE BREECHES.

Three centuries ago, when tobacco began to be smoked in Japan, the members of a band of roistering blades who called themselves the "Leather Breeches," gave some trouble by using the monster pipes of that era as weapons of offence. Certain students in Tokyo appear to be adopting that ancient precedent. They wear white *hakama*, a habit which has obtained for them the name of *Biyakko-tai* (white trousers), and they have obtained considerable notoriety by their unruly pranks. They belong to a school called the *Kogyoku-sha*—i.e., "jewel-polishing institution"—(Japanese terms are nothing if not picturesque)—a place where lads are prepared for naval cadetships. Apparently the "white trousers" are the day-scholars, and there exists between them and the boarders an enmity which is apparently inevitable under such circumstances. On the 9th instant the two parties had a war of words, and the "White Trousers," having been worsted in the argument, retired in high dudgeon, and subsequently challenged the boarders to settle the matter by an appeal to muscles. Such are the broad facts: we omit details. About 40 of the lads came together that night in Shiba Park, and had it out. The "White Trousers" fled defeated, and some of them took refuge with the police, so, of course, the event found its way into the press and has evoked some solemn writing. We should say that the boys who sought the protection of the police had better abandon their idea of studying for the Navy. That is not their proper calling.

TOKYO AND ITS MEN OF GOTHAM.

The eminently sapient members of the Tokyo City Assembly have voted for the second reading of a bill which provides that a sum of 28,000 *yen* shall be appropriated to defray the expenses of three "inspectors," who are to visit the 23 principal cities of Europe and America for the purpose of ascertaining the best features of Occidental Municipal Government in matters of sanitation, drainage, lighting, policing, sewerage, water supply, communications, and administration and so forth, the whole tour from start to finish being compressed within a space of eight months. Allowing three months for travelling, these lightning inspectors will have an average of 6½ days in each city. Unless they already possessed an uniquely profound knowledge of municipal affairs and all the problems connected with them, the trip would be a monstrous absurdity, and if they do possess such qualifications, there is not the smallest occasion for them to go junketting round the world in search of information.

PATENTS, DESIGNS, AND TRADE MARKS.

The *Official Gazette* of the 15th instant contains an Imperial Ordinance relating to the fees payable in connection with applications for the registration of patents, designs, and trade marks. As the subject has practical interest for foreign merchants, we append a translation:—

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 105.

Art. I.—With reference to Patents, Designs, or Trade-Marks, persons presenting any of the following documents will be required to pay the fees hereunder set forth:—

1. Application for a Patent 5 *yen* per copy.
 2. Supplementary Application for a Patent 3 do
 3. Application for altering a Specification of a Patent 5 do
 4. Application for dividing a Specification of a Patent 5 do
 5. Application for registering a Design 1 do
 6. Application for registering a Trade-Mark 3 do
 7. Application for registering a Label 3 do
 8. Application for registering succession to a Trade-Mark 2 do
 9. Application for renewed examination 3 do
 10. Application for a reprint 12 do
 11. Application for a copy of a document 10 *sen* per page of 13 lines with 25 characters to a line—parts of a page being charged as a whole page.
- In the case of documents in an European language, the charge will be 10 *sen* per page of 100 words, any fraction of 100 words being counted as a full page.
12. Application for copying a drawing. Charge to be fixed by the Chief of the Patents Bureau, at not less than 30 *sen* and not more than 30 *yen* per picture.
 13. Application for leave to inspect the Register 10 *sen* per application.
 14. Report relating to articles sent to an exhibition or associated show 10 *sen* per copy.

Art. II.—Fees should be paid with revenue stamps.

The above Ordinance shall become operative from the 1st of the 7th month of the 32nd year of Meiji (July 1st, 1899.)

MR. KANEKO KENTARO.

It appears that the Faculty of Harvard University expressed their intention, more than two years ago, of conferring on Mr. Kaneko Kentaro the degree of LL.D. Owing, however, to the pressure of his official duties, first as Vice-Minister and afterwards as Minister of State, Mr. Kaneko was unable to proceed to the States to receive the honour. Finding himself now comparatively at leisure, he is about to make the voyage—starting on the 26th instant—and will afterwards proceed to Europe for the purpose of conducting some investigations in connexion with his present duties as director of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

MASONIC.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Yokohama Lodge, No. 1092, E.C., held at the Masonic Temple on Wednesday evening, Wor. Bro. Edward Flint Kilby was inducted into the office of Deputy District Grand Master of Japan (English Constitution). The oath was administered by Wor. Bro. V. R. Bowden, D.G. Reg., and afterwards congratulations were extended, on behalf of various Masonic bodies in Japan, by Wor. Bro. V. R. Bowden, Wor. Bro. A. Bellamy Brown, Wor. Bro. E. C. Fox, Wor. Bro. H. W. Lea, Wor. Bro. Rev. E. C. Irwine, Bro. J. Buiss, etc.

MILITARY EXPANSION.

Viscount Miura has published, over his own signature, a long article, denouncing the *post-bellum* scheme of military expansion as excessive. He claims that the plan was based on German and French precedents, which are quite inapplicable to Japan's case, France and Germany being governed in these matters by special considerations which have no validity for Japan. It is sometimes contended that when the Siberian Railway is finished, Russia will be in a position to place a large force in Eastern Asia, for which conjuncture Japan must be prepared. Viscount Miura denies the correctness of the forecast. Thirty or forty thousand men appear to him to be the largest army that Russia can look forward to employing in this quarter of the globe. Thus he fails to see what use Japan can hope to make of the huge establishment she is now preparing. Six divisions are ample in his opinion; twelve are more than twice too many. Further, he has long been in favour of reducing the time of service with the colours. It is now three years. He thinks it might safely be reduced to two, or even one, if the whole time were devoted to military training. A great part of it is now wasted on matters which are of no use to a soldier. Among such matters the Viscount dwells particularly on the menial duties that have to be performed by men serving as officers' body servants. We refer to these arguments because of the source from which they emanate, but it is not likely that competent military authorities will endorse the Viscount's idea of reducing the time of service with the colours.

IMPERIAL PALACE IN SHIZUOKA.

There is to be another detached Palace. The site is Shizuoka. The town assembly of that place recently appointed a committee to make the necessary investigations, and the Committee's report is said to have been sent in on the 8th instant, reaching the Imperial Household Department on the 9th. The price of a site and the cost of removing the houses that now stand on it, are estimated at 45,514 *yen*. Preparations to vacate the land are already being made by those residing there. The principal buildings that now stand on the site belong to the journal *Mingyū Shimbun* of Shizuoka, and the work of removing them has commenced. The people expressed their desire to move their residences without any expense to the Household Department, but their proposition was not entertained. There appears to be evident need for some kind of palace in Shizuoka, as the Emperor often stops there *en route* for the south.

THE CHINESE IN YOKOHAMA.

A measure of interest attaches to statistics published by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, showing that out of 2,143 Chinese residents of Yokohama—1,666 men and 477 women—the contingent from Kwangtung numbers 1,690; that from Chekiang, 253; that from Kiangsu, 105, and that from Fukkien, 61. Thus 2,109 out of the 2,143 are Southern Chinese. The *Kokumin* justly remarks that these figures explain the community's partiality for Kang Yu-wei and his cause.

A LADIES' PEACE CONGRESS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has discovered another stick wherewith to beat Viscount Aoki. It says that, on the 12th instant, at a garden party given by Prince and Princess Mori at their Takanawa residence, the Minister of Foreign Affairs was surrounded and vehemently attacked by a number of ladies. The reason of the fair assailants' onset was this:—When it became known that the Czar's proposal for a peace conference would certainly mature, the ladies of England, Germany, America, France, Holland, and 13 other countries, conceived the idea of forming an association under the presidency of the Queen of the Netherlands for the purpose of promoting the objects of the conference. The ladies of Japan were asked to join, or resolved of their own initiative to join, making one of the Imperial Princesses their President. They addressed themselves to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, but His Excellency treated their request very coolly, the result being that they seized the occasion of his presence at the garden party to call him over the coals. Unfortunate Viscount Aoki! If he incurs the wrath of the fair sex his career will be troublous.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

The accidents on Japanese railways during the year ended March 31st 1897, are tabulated as follows in recently published Reports, collated by the *Yoroku Choko*:—

Government Lines,		
	killed.	wounded.
Tokaido	136	87
Shin-Yetsu	8	3
Osaka	1	0
Hokuriku	3	4
Totals	148	94
Private Railways,		
	killed.	wounded.
Nippon	115	68
Sanyo	66	66
Kobe	5	1
Kinshu	18	30
Totals	204	165

Comparing these figures with the mileage of the lines, we obtain the following results:—

Government lines, 660 miles—
148 killed; 94 wounded; namely, 22 killed and 14 wounded per 100 miles.

Private lines, 1,340 miles—
204 killed; 165 wounded; namely, 15 killed and 12 wounded per 100 miles.

It would appear from these figures that the advantage is on the side of the private lines in respect of management and control.

DOCKING OF VESSELS.

The following Notification has been published by the Naval Department:—

In consideration of the fact that docking facilities did not fully exist in private hands, it has hitherto been the custom at the Naval Dock yard to undertake the repairs of vessels not belonging to the Navy. But as docks and slips have now been provided in sufficient quantity by private enterprise, it is considered that no necessity exists any longer for opening the official dock-yards to outside vessels. Hereafter, therefore, only ships belonging to the Imperial Navy will be docked or repaired at the Naval yards. Provided that this rule shall not apply in case of maritime disaster, or temporary peril, or to cases which can not be dealt with at private establishments.

FEMALE RECLUSSES.

The story of the colony of religionists at Ishibetsu is capped by one of a community of female recluses at a place called Yunakawa, about 7 miles from Hakodate and 17 from the site occupied by the Ishibetsu people. The women are said to number about twenty. They occupy a large wooden building, painted white and closely resembling the edifice at Shiribeshi. A matron of some fifty years presides, and her instructions are implicitly obeyed. The women are all young, ranging from 16 to 27, and some of them are described as very beautiful by a correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpō*, who has had an opportunity of seeing them. The building stands in a farm of some 250 acres, which is registered in the name of a Mr. Asaka. But the women do not engage in any agricultural work. They spend most of their time indoors, reading the Bible, and they appear to observe the same strict rule of silence as that followed by the Ishibetsu colonists. It is strange to read of such things at the close of the nineteenth century. We wonder who the matron of fifty is, or who the people are that have connived with her to work this iniquity. They will have to answer for it by and by.

JAPANESE IN AUSTRALIA.

A number of instances of Japanese immigrants being prevented from landing are reported from Australia. At Thursday Island sixteen who had gone thither in the *Futami Maru* were turned back on the 17th of April. The passports described them as "commercial emigrants," but the local authorities concluded that they were ordinary labourers. A similar fate subsequently befel thirty-nine who arrived by the *Yazata Maru*, and, out of fifteen who attempted to land at Brisbane, thirteen were turned back. Incidents of this nature have long been foreseen, but they are not the less unpleasant. It is evident that if the Australians are determined to adopt an illiberal policy, the wisest course for the Japanese Authorities is to exercise such supervision as shall save unfortunate labourers from the expense and disappointment of making a fruitless journey.

MR. YATES'S PICTURES.

Mr. Fred. Yates, the portrait painter, who was in Japan last year, and who did some admirable likenesses of various prominent residents in Tokyo and Yokohama, is evidently not a man of one talent. His exhibition of oil colours and crayon studies at Kell's Building proves that he has great, if not equal, powers as a landscape artist. There are a large number of oil paintings, and several very handsome studies in black and white, the latter being perhaps the most pleasing of all the exhibits. They are really beautiful. The oil colours chiefly depict scenery and life in Japan; there are a few Chinese sketches, and one or two of California and Hawaii. The Japanese pictures are extremely good, and will form pleasant reminders of charming spots and pretty nooks in different parts of Holiday Japan—Chuzenji, Kamakura, Nikko, &c. Mr. Yates has well caught the characteristic spirit and the special atmosphere of Japanese scenery, and in his smallest sketches the work of a true artist can be recognized.

PROGRESS IN HAKONE.

Tourists in the Hakone district know well the strait and narrow way which leads from Miyanoshita to Hakone. It is called, by a bold stretch of imagination, a road, but a road in the ordinary and civilised sense it certainly is not. In fine weather it is a mixture of huge stones and loose sand; in wet weather it is an alternation of slippery rocks and treacherous quagmire. *Jinrikisha* are out of the question; and when it is not rainy most sensible people prefer to walk. When it is wet, the only means of locomotion is a *kago*, and a *kago*, to a European of ordinary length of leg, is one of the most uncomfortable contrivances conceivable. In order to obviate this inconvenience the proprietors of the Mikaway Hotel, Kowakidani, the Matsuzakaya Hotel, Ashinoyu, and other establishments contemplate the construction of a proper road which will permit of *jirishika* traffic. The route has been surveyed by the Kanagawa authorities, and the promoters are appealing for subscriptions to Japanese and foreign visitors. The names of subscribers will be inscribed on boards to be put up at the entrances of the hotels—not, we suppose, without the permission of the donors, for many persons of average modesty will hardly appreciate such publicity. Provided nothing is done to mar the picturesqueness of the scenery between Miyanoshita and the heights above, the scheme appears worthy of encouragement.

ANARCTIC RESEARCH.

Sir Clements Markham had a pleasant surprise for the members of the Royal Geographical Society at their meeting recently. The munificent gift of £25,000 which he announced as having been made by Mr. L. W. Longstaff puts an end to anxiety as to the cost of the proposed British Antarctic Expedition. The scheme had not hitherto been supported as liberally as the promoters had anticipated, and there was some little reason to fear that funds might not be forthcoming in sufficient amount. Mr. Longstaff's example can hardly fail, however, to give an impetus to further donations, and the President of the Royal Geographical Society looks forward with confidence to the success of the undertaking. It would have been matter for much regret had it been otherwise. England cannot willingly allow herself to be anticipated by Germany in the exploration of the Southern Polar regions, as she might have been but for Mr. Longstaff's public spirit and generosity. The projected undertaking is one which peculiarly appeals to the adventurous instincts of our race. There are laurels to be won in the field of Antarctic discovery which would be sought in vain in the now familiar regions of the Far North. It is a common-place to remark that little is known of the South Pole and its surrounding waters and lands, but few have realised how absolute is our ignorance. A well-directed and well equipped expedition is certain not only to add to our knowledge of geography, but to bring to light new facts of interest in natural science. There may, for anything we know, be new varieties of the human race to be discovered, but whether that be so or not, it may be safely assumed that new species of animals and plants remain to be studied and described. We shall probably also learn something fresh about ocean currents and magnetic phenomena. In any event science has much to hope for from the investigations of the competent observers who will be attached to the expedition. That prospect is a sufficient justification for the expense and labour, and even the personal risk which will be incurred. One thing to be remembered is that the Antarctic Continent is as big as the Continent of Europe, and may have many secrets in store for us.—*The Globe*.

RUSSIA IN THE FAR EAST.

THERE is not much comment as yet in vernacular newspapers about the intelligence that Russia has asked the Chinese Government for a concession to build a railway from Manchuria to Peking, or about the singular addendum that the line is to start from Newchwang, and thus come into direct competition with the Newchwang-Shanhaikwan road for which a concession has already been obtained by a British syndicate. Few persons will be disposed to credit the latter part of the programme, for Russia, in her recent Convention with England, is understood to have pledged herself not to interfere with the Newchwang-Shanhaikwan line, and the building of a directly competing road would be interference of a most unequivocal character. That is quite improbable. For the rest, there is no valid reason why Russia should not extend her Manchurian railway system to Peking. Of course, we all know what it means. There is not the faintest probability that Russia will relinquish her grip of any territory through which she has constructed railways. Manchuria is already hers, and if she stretches out an iron arm to Peking, the future of the Chinese capital can be foretold with certainty. A nation never breaks away from precedents until the hour of its downfall arrives. The precedent of permanent retreat does not yet exist in Russia's history. She has occasionally been compelled by *force majeure* to step back for a moment, but the lost ground has invariably been recovered. Who is going to make her step back from Manchuria, even temporarily?

We may refer in this context to a long series of articles written by Mr. SHIMADA SABURO in the *Mainichi Shimbun* with the object of showing that there is no essential clashing of Japanese and Russian interests; that the Japanese have been looking at Russia through British spectacles, and that they ought to lay aside their prejudice and strike their hands into those of the Great Northern Power. Mr. Shimada is an eminent publicist. His opinions always command and deserve attention. They are the opinions of a practising, not merely a professing Christian. Unfortunately there never has been a time in the world's history when Christianity was at such a discount in the intercourse of nations as it is at present. It would be very delightful if Mr. SHIMADA's utopian principles could be generally adopted as rules of conduct; if statesmen would found their policies on righteousness, take the maintenance of peace for guiding star, and make commercial and industrial development their aim. Is Russia a conspicuous disciple of that creed? Did she think of righteousness when she tore up the Treaty of Paris, or when she drove Japan out of Liaotung in order to

occupy it herself? Did she set her heart on the maintenance of peace when she began to mass troops and build fortifications at Port Arthur? Did she take commercial expansion for her aim when she declined to open Tientsin to foreign trade? Russia fulfils her destiny. We do not blame her. But Mr. SHIMADA SABURO's estimate of her attitude towards Japan is impossible to endorse. He believes that there is no reason why Japan should regard Russia's expansion with uneasiness, and he thinks it much more likely that there will be commercial competition and grave clashing of interests between Japan and England, or America, or France, or Germany than between Japan and Russia. We confine ourselves to Great Britain, and as between Japan and Great Britain and Japan and Russia, we entirely endorse Mr. SHIMADA's view. There will be no trade rivalry between Japan and Russia in the Far East for the very simple reason that Russia will not allow it. Does Mr. SHIMADA imagine that Japan will have free access to the markets of Manchuria when the Manchus are Russian subjects? Does he think that Japanese cottons, for example, will be allowed to compete on even terms with Russian in Manchuria when the Russian spinning mills now in contemplation shall have been established there? Wherever England rules, there freedom of trade will be found, but no one can say the same of Russia. Does Mr. SHIMADA imagine, also, that the Korean peninsula is to be permanently excluded from Russia's Manchurian possessions? Perhaps he would be content to see Japan thrust out of Korea. Indeed we infer as much from his assertion that Japan's sphere of action lies in southern, rather than in northern, districts. He will not get his countrymen to follow him in that view. To us it appears that he hopes to stay the vast tide of Russian aggression with a mop of worn-out platitudes.

SUCCESSION TO LANDED ESTATE IN THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENT.

WE are sorry to find ourselves charged with having penned "a paragraph of reckless statements and gratuitous abuse" because we quoted certain provisions of Japanese law which proved that the *Japan Herald* was mistaken in its allegations about succession to landed estate in the Foreign Settlements. It need scarcely be observed that, in noticing our contemporary's assertions, we had no controversial intention whatever, our sole purpose being to prevent the spread of impressions which seemed calculated to create needless uneasiness in the minds of foreigners. For that reason also we now recur to the subject.

The propositions originally formulated by our contemporary were embodied in these words:—

Very possibly, one round-about effect of the Law of Succession is that the succession in land even in the Settlements will be governed by Japanese law, so that such land can not be freely disposed of by will, and so that wills affecting it must be executed with a minute observance of all the requisites specified in the Civil Code."

There are several points here suggested. The first is that the Japanese law of succession will apply to land in the Foreign Settlements. The second is that, in consequence of the application of Japanese laws, such land can not be freely disposed of by will. The third is that the provisions of the Japanese Code as to wills are intricate and troublesome.

Concerning the first of these points, we quoted an Article of Japanese Law which declares that "the existence and the effect of a will are governed by the law of the nationality to which the testator belongs at the time of making the will." It is therefore absolutely certain, as a general rule, that the Japanese law of succession will not apply to lands in the Foreign Settlements. The *Japan Herald* declines, however, to be satisfied. It quotes the following provision:—

When the law of the nationality of the person concerned is to govern, and according to its provisions the Japanese law is to govern, the latter governs.

That is to say, where British law, for example, delegates certain functions to Japanese law, Japanese law agrees to discharge them. That is what the *Japan Herald* calls "a round-about effect of the Japanese Law of Succession." We can not suppose that such a contention is advanced seriously. Japanese law lays down for Japanese law courts this rule that, with respect to a will made by a foreigner, they shall interpret it and give effect to it in accordance with the law of the testator's nationality, unless the latter law provides that Japanese Codes must be applied. Thereupon the *Japan Herald* wants to know "whether it is not the law of every country that all rights in relation to land abroad are determined by the law of the country where the land is situate." This, it says, "removes the question entirely out of the plane on which the *Mail* has been travelling." Certainly it does. We were travelling in the plane defined by our contemporary's explicit assertion that it was discussing "one round-about effect of the Japanese Law of Succession." It now shifts its ground to the effect of foreign laws of succession, and then complacently accuses us of having been travelling in the wrong plane! Among the laws of the numerous countries of the world, there may be some that declare themselves inapplicable to the disposal of property owned by their nationals in a foreign country. We are not acquainted with any such laws. But if they exist, then the complaint of the *Japan Herald* lies at their door, not at the door of the Japanese Code.

We come now to the second point, namely, that, in consequence of the ap-

plication of Japanese laws, the land held by foreigners in the Settlements can not be freely disposed of. To that we replied, first, that the right of freely disposing of such land is secured by treaty, since the Conventional form of title deed conveys the land to the foreign holder, "his heirs and assigns"; secondly, that the law of Japan, as already explained, does not apply; and thirdly, that even if it did apply, it would not in any way interfere with a testator's freedom of disposition. To this the *Japan Herald* replies by quoting an article of Japanese law which says that "a testator may dispose of the whole or a part of his property by a universal or singular title, provided that he must not contravene the provisions of law relating to legal portions." On these words which it italicizes the *Japan Herald* bases its rejoinder that "as the law of legal portions determines the succession of one-third to one-half of the estate it can hardly be said that the testator is free to do as he likes with his property." Now the law of legal portions is a part of the family law of Japan. Does the *Japan Herald* really imagine that Japanese family law has any relation to foreigners living in Japan as foreigners? It can not possibly entertain such a silly supposition.

Finally, we come to the suggestion that the provisions of the Japanese Civil Code as to wills are intricate and troublesome. Our contemporary now declares that it never intended to suggest anything of the kind. We need not, then, discuss the matter further than to say that when an apparent complaint is made about the probable necessity of having to execute a document "with a minute observance of all requisites specified" in a Code, ordinary minds can not avoid the inference that an intricate and troublesome process is referred to.

We now observe that the *Japan Herald* disclaims any "business to interpret the laws of Japan;" that it denies having "ventured any opinion of its own on the subject of land succession," and that it explains that it merely gave currency to something which "had been mentioned as a possibility." It appears then that the whole basis of our contemporary's original article was a passing rumour which it neither endorsed nor denied. Very frequently the retailer of a *canard* clings to it with much greater tenacity than the original manufacturer. That appears to be the case in this instance.

THE "ASAMA."

The first-class cruiser *Asama* reached Yokosuka at 8.30 a.m. on the 17th instant. The displacement of the *Asama* is 9,906 tons, and her speed is 21½ knots. She was ordered in England in July, 1897, so that her construction and voyage out have occupied 22½ months. The *Asama* is one of a group of four sister ships included in the *post bellum* programme, the others being the *Yakumo*, the *Asuma*, and the *Tokiyama*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BEST HOTEL FOR TALL MEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am informed by an advertisement on the cover of the "Kobe Directory," that the Oriental Hotel, of that city, makes "Special Arrangements for Lengthened Visitors"; and I write to ask if the hotels in Tokyo, Yokohama and Nagasaki are not lacking in enterprise for not making similar arrangements for that particular class of guest. If similar accommodations for travellers of that kind can not be found elsewhere, my friends and myself will certainly spend all our time in Kobe, and the other places will lose the benefit of our extended and extensive custom. This seems to be another instance in which Kobe has gotten ahead of Yokohama; but you may yet be able to stir up sufficient local pride to supply this great lack in the accommodation of even the "Grand."

Most respectfully yours, GOLIATH.

THE RISE OF PRICES IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Observing that in your issue of Friday last, you have endorsed the remarks of an evening contemporary by quoting a paragraph from the *North China Daily News* on the increase of prices in Japan acting detrimentally on the influx of summer tourists from China and elsewhere, kindly allow me space to point out that it is hardly fair to throw the whole blame of the altered state of hotel charges and other rises in price upon the Japanese inn-keepers. The journal in question, when quoting the paragraph above-named, remarks, "the short sighted and grasping policy of Japanese inn-keepers in bringing its own punishment," and again "the inn-keepers of that simple paradise (Japan) have banded themselves together to fleece the visitors," etc.

Without making myself the champion of "Japanese inn-keepers" as a class, permit me to point out that they have only moved with the tide that has been steadily rising in Japan for the last five years.

When the writer came to Japan 10 years ago, the charge for a room and meals per day at the Grand Hotel was \$4 and by special arrangement \$3.50 per single person. The Club Hotel was something lower. I heard of people getting accommodation as low as even \$2.50 for a term. Now I believe the Grand Hotel charges are from \$7 to \$10 per day, and all other hotels in proportion, but they are not accused of having "banded together to fleece the visitor," because all sensible people are aware that such an increase in price is unavoidable owing to the great political and commercial changes that have materially altered the cost of living. Then why blame the Japanese inn-keepers for following suit, and throw all the blame on them?

Another point to which I would draw your attention is, that it is a comparatively small section of visitors from China, Singapore, and the Straits Settlements, who, purposing to summer in Japan, avail themselves of the houses of Japanese innkeepers, with the exception of the Fuji-ya Hotel at Miyashita, which being run on the lines of the Grand Hotel, cannot be said to fall under the category of *Japanese inns*. The visitors alluded to by yourself and your evening contemporary, either stay at one of the three hotels on the Bund, or, if having their families with them, either rent a furnished house on the Bluff from the proprietor who vacates it for his own or his hired country house, or else go into the country and rent a Japanese house for themselves—or if they do not, they have the choice of all these three alternatives to save them from the necessity of falling into the "grasping hands" of the "Japanese inn-keeper"—and the latter can be left to fight out the question of increased prices with customers of his own nationality.

I am Sir, yours,

FAIR-PLAY TO BOTH SIDES.

May 13th.

CRITICISM OF AMATEURS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The function of the critic of amateur theatrical entertainments,—so it seems to me,—is praise where praise can be given, and, otherwise, only some pleasant comment or silence. The ladies and gentlemen who take part in amateur performances, as a rule, do so only after urgent request. Many of them have no ambition to make such public appearances; most of them have but little self-conceit, and nearly all of them play their parts for "the sake of sweet charity" and to add some little pleasure to the life of their immediate communities. In an isolated foreign community like that of Yokohama or Tokyo these facts are especially true. I hold it to be not fair, consequently, that public criticism of our different amateur actors should either invidiously discriminate or condemn. Particularly, I think that some criticisms that have been made in the columns of the *Mail* concerning both the recent amateur dramatic representations, given in Yokohama and in Tokyo, were altogether out of place. And if amateur work is to be treated here as though it were the paid services of professionals, it will not be long before our ladies and gentlemen will refuse to subject themselves to the unwelcome notoriety. Their self-sacrificing work, continued over weeks of preparation, is not "business," nor is it proper material for exacting judgment before the public.

Then as to plays chosen for presentation. The array of plays ranged between the insipid "parlour farces" and "the standard drama" is comparatively small. The former are too trivial for our stages, and the amateur's relation to his or her character is too personal to allow of action in most of the latter, in which, too often, crime, passion and other uncongenial motives dominate. We may not be over-exacting to the choice made. Surely, all things considered, *On 'Change* was a good play. At least so thinks one who took no part in either of the plays last given, but who has a quick sympathy for every one who is an

AMATEUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Judging by what has appeared in your paper since the remarks of "An unprofessional critic" on our humble efforts to make "On 'Change'" at least pleasing to our audience, it would seem that some kind friends have been saying something on my behalf, *re* his remarks regarding myself, as I am the only one whom he ruthlessly cuts to pieces without extenuating circumstances. Whilst feeling grateful for these unasked-for kindnesses, let me assure them that I do "not feel offended" at any of the remarks made; on the contrary, rather flattered, as, though undoubtedly my study of the part was wrong, yet Herr von Moser's *De Haas* still appears to me exactly the individual our critic was so offended with, as the treatment meted out to him, *De Haas*, could never have been intended for the drawing-room as which is apparently more to the critic's taste. After all, to quote your editorial, "the audience will think its own thoughts and give currency to them in its own manner," and if we may hope that your journal conveyed a fairly accurate reflection of their sentiments, we ought all to be more than satisfied and console ourselves with the thought that, after all, our unprofessional critic is but one individual.

Yours,

A. R. PATTISON.

A DOG EPIDEMIC.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In to-day's issue of the *Japan Times* there is a report of "strange cases of a dog epidemic." As one of the many *Taukiji* residents whose valuable dogs have met with an untimely death, I beg to call your attention, and that of the public and authorities, through the columns of your paper, to the fact that there can be no doubt that the deaths of the numerous dogs on the nights of the 12th and 13th inst., were due

to poisoning and not to an epidemic. There is no epidemic which kills a healthy dog in 3 minutes, and the opinion of an expert who witnessed the death of one animal is that the symptoms were those of strychnine poisoning. As the promiscuous scattering of poison is not only dangerous in exposing people to the risk of half poisoned dogs running about, but is a direct violation of the rights and property of other people, it is to be hoped that the police will take more active steps by investigating the drug-shops in the vicinity of Tsukiji, to discover the person or persons who have lately bought poison to so large an extent, and make them answerable for their uncalled for and arbitrary acts.

I remain yours, etc.,

A TSUKIJI RESIDENT.

Tokyo, 17th May, 1899.

THE LATE PROF. K. MORITA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the Monthly Summary of the Religious Press that appeared in the *Japan Weekly Mail* for May 6th I notice the following statement about the late Professor K. Morita. "He returned to the Dōshisha as a teacher in the Divinity College, but later severed his connection with that college, and devoted himself to teaching literature and philosophy and laboured to establish a special Literary and Philosophical Department connected with the Institution to which he had given his best days. He was engaged in making arrangements for the carrying out of this scheme when he was overtaken by the illness which carried him off at the early age of 42." Someone made a mistake, or was misinformed, upon three points in the above quoted statement. First, Prof. Morita did not resign his connection with the Theological School but was one of its professors up to his death. Second, he did not engage in any scheme to establish a special Literary and Philosophical Department, but was merely the Dean of the College as distinguished from the Middle School. Third, he did not devote himself to teaching literature in any of the Departments of the Dōshisha, but found his hands full with classes in his special studies of Philosophy, Psychology, Ethics, and Logic till he was obliged to give up all teaching on account of illness.

Respectfully yours, C. M. CADY.
Kyoto, May 17th, 1899.

LAKE KAWAGUCHI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—On account of absence from Japan proper, it was only to-day that I read your issue of April 24th, and found my attention drawn to a paragraph headed "Lakes and Forests," treating of a proposal to drain Lake Kawaguchi.

I wish to indorse every word of your correspondent's communication protesting against this. To drain that most beautiful lake would be an act of vandalism as great as to drain Loch Katrine or Loch Lomond, for should a Walter Scott ever arise in Japan, it will be made known to the world that the whole district at the base of Fuji-san, directly on the opposite side from Hakone, is the Trossachs of Japan.

Besides this I believe, as your correspondent indicates, that the inhabitants are more likely to suffer than to gain, and not only this, but the whole Koshu plain is likely to suffer, for I believe that a great part of their irrigation water reaches there by being forced through a porous stratum under the pressure head of Kawaguchi Lake. The Kōfu people should most strongly protest. Again, I believe that your correspondent is right in stating that the sole benefit will come to a few speculators should the work be carried out, though I certainly do not have any idea as to whether the sum may be two thousand yen, or what it may be. Unless this disgraceful project can be stopped, my only consolation will be a pretty strong opinion that the speculators will find the work they undertake a good

deal more arduous than they think, and that they may even fail altogether.

It is also most true that "the deforestation that goes on in the Government woods is woful." I have written in your columns of this before. It is a case of stealing done in the most open and barefaced way, and, even as stealing, done with what would look like malice aforethought. It has been almost enough to make me weep to see the villagers in the district cutting down some one particular tree that has been to me for years a feature of the landscape—a tree that I have used in taking a photograph, just because it completed the composition of a landscape, perhaps beautiful even without it. To see the whole scenery change visibly from year to year is more than sad. If this sort of thing goes on, the photographs of Mr. Ogawa, Mr. Kajima, and myself will soon be almost all that is left of the "Lake District" of Japan. The last time I was at Shōji, I could not even find the places from which I had taken photographs some years before, so completely was the landscape changed.

It is most curious, in the case of such lovers of the beautiful in nature as the Japanese, that there should be found a district where the sense is so totally wanting as it is in that referred to.

It being pointed out to some of the inhabitants that the cutting down of a great pine tree over-hanging the water from the top of a high rock would spoil a splendid landscape, the people did not seem in the least capable of grasping the idea. To them it was only that the tree would fall into the water and could easily be floated over to the village.

Kindly insert this and believe me,

Yours, &c.,

W. K. BURTON.

Yokohama, May 11th, 1899.

THE NAGOYA YOROIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I enclose a paper which may be of considerable interest to Foreign Residents in Japan, and may do something towards reassuring them in regard to the spirit in which the laws will be interpreted.

This *Yoro-in* at Nagoya was one of the fruits of the earthquake of 1891, and the Rev. J. Cooper Robinson, still resident in Nagoya, collected the money for it and has administered the Institution ever since.

A couple of years ago, he found a man looking round the premises and apparently appraising them, and on enquiry it proved that he was a creditor of one of the two Japanese in whose names the property stood. The question therefore, to the trial of which we have all, I suppose, been looking forward, viz: "Is property, held in a Japanese name for a foreigner, a part of the estate of the Japanese, if he become insolvent," was raised in its simplest form. The Court of First Instance and now the Court of Appeal also have decided the question on principles of *equity*, and the man who endeavoured to take the property for the payment of his own debts is not only cast in his suit with costs, but is disfranchised, if not in prison. An appeal to the Japanese Court in Tokyo is possible, but the time for making it has almost expired.

The Judgment of the Nagoya Court of Appeal, of which I enclose a copy, will explain itself, but one or two further remarks on the case may be of interest.

1. This case has little bearing on instances in which foreigners may, perhaps, be holding property in Japanese names for their own private benefit, but it is important to Institutions and Trusts.

2. Nagoya has the reputation of being a peculiarly anti-foreign and anti-Christian place, but the feeling of indignation at a Japanese trying to divert to his own purposes foreign money contributed for the benefit of Japanese sufferers was very strong, and one of the leading lawyers of the city gave his services gratuitously to the defence of the Institution.

3. The judgment is of all the greater value because it seems clear that the documents in the case had not those clauses in them which

are now usual, making clear the nature of the purpose for which the money was contributed. The Court relied upon evidence that the Japanese "owner" paid no interest on the money he had nominally borrowed for the purchase of the land, and for building; that he was not required to insure it as security for repayment; that the building had been from the first and is still used for a *Yoro-in*, according to what was known from the first to be the expressed intention of those who provided the money.

The Court appears thus to have recognized that this must in equity be regarded as what we should call a trust, though trusts as such are not acknowledged by Japanese law, and though in this case the character of the trust seems not to have been stated in the documents. It is clear that such a decision is very much on the line of those decisions in favour of "trusts" and "uses" out of which "equitable" jurisdiction grew up in England 500 or 600 years ago.

Perhaps, I may be allowed to add that, though costs were given, the Rev. J. Cooper Robinson would find himself from \$150 to \$200 out of pocket by the case which he has won for all who are interested in Charitable Institutions held on such tenures. As he has also had all the worry and trouble, others as well as myself will probably wish to take a share in relieving him from pecuniary loss. He does not know that I am writing this, but even without his leave I would venture to receive and transmit anything sent to me on this account, and to acknowledge it in your columns.

WILLIAM AWDRY, Bishop,

St. Andrew's House, Shiba.

Tokyo, May 3rd, 1899.

TRANSLATION OF THE DOCUMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE.

Judgment has been given in the Nagoya Appeal Court in the case of Uyeda Fusanju, a *heimin* domiciled at No. 36a, Kami Mayetsu-cho, Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, appellant, and Yamazaki Tomokichi, a *heimin* temporarily lodging at No. 141, Koku-cho, Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture; Kakeya Jinsaku, a *shisoku* temporarily lodging at No. 15, Yoko Daikwan-cho, Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture; Yamazaki Kotaro, No. 163, Takejima-cho, of the same city and prefecture; and Hamashima Tabei, No. 77, Kami Nagoya, Kinjo village, West Kasugai district, Aichi Prefecture, respondents. Mr. Miyuki Junzo was for the appellants and Messrs. Minobe Teiryō and Arai Takichi for the respondents.

The appeal was from the judgment of the Nagoya District Court with regard to the recognition of co-ownership of immovable property by the parties involved, and an application for the alteration of the names of owners registered. The judgment of the Appeal Court is as follows:—

The appeal is rejected and the costs of proceeding shall be borne by the appellants.

The representative of the appellant insists that the original judgment should be rejected in its entirety, and that a fresh judgment should be given against the respondent, whereas the representative of the latter urges the rejection of the appeal on the ground that it is in no way justifiable, and requests a judgment throwing the costs of proceedings on the appellants. The facts stated by both parties are precisely the same as in the original case.

The case makes it necessary to ascertain whether the property in dispute should be recognised as the joint property of the appellants as registered in their name, or as the property of the members of a corporation called the *Yoro-in* (Asylum for the Aged.) Witness Hashimoto Takachi, at the first trial, stated that when he sold the lot No. 2 (the land in dispute) at Yokedaikwancho to Ito Sukeaki and Uyeda Tsunagoro (appellants) on the 28th July in the 25th year of Meiji, he was informed of the land being used for the support of aged persons, and that the "Asylum for the Aged" actually stood on the land in question. Another witness, Ono Tatsukichi, deposed that when he contracted for the buildings (now the subject of litigation) constructed on a portion of lot No. 2 at Yoko Daikwancho, he was required to erect a convenience adjoining the ground floor, as aged men were to be kept in the buildings. According to the statements of sub-witness (*sankō-jin*) Ito Sukeaki, although lot No. 2 at Yoko Daikwancho and the buildings thereon were retained as a property owned by himself and Uyeda Tsunagoro (appellants), the same in reality belonged to the *Yoro-in*, and in order to prevent the registered

owners from being tempted to any dishonest schemes in future, the whole property was, by way of precaution, held under the guise of being mortgaged to Iwasaki and others. Iwasaki himself made the same depositions as the sub-witness above referred to. These statements are not only perfectly free from doubt, but are also confirmed by Exhibits Nos. 3, 4, and 5 presented by the representative of the appellants to show the original circumstances connected with the matter in dispute. Exhibit 3 represents a document concerning the purchase of the land which now forms the subject of dispute; Exhibit 4 is a mortgage in which the land in question was pledged, and finally Exhibit 5 is a copy of another document for obtaining a loan on the security of the buildings in dispute. The most striking features of these documents are (1) the uniformity as to amount of purchase price as indicated in Exhibits 3 and the mortgage; (2) the exemption of interest on loans specified in Exhibits 4 and 5; and (3) the repudiation of liability to pay the debts mentioned in the respective documents, in the event of the properties under security being destroyed by fire or natural calamity. These special forms of contract are seldom to be found in the case of ordinary loans, and as the statements made by witnesses and sub-witnesses are consistent with them the statements in question are all the more worthy of credence. Moreover, if the properties in dispute had really been held as properties co-owned by the appellants, the document specified in Exhibit 3 should have remained in the hands of the appellants, whereas it was actually and in fact held by the respondents. Although the representative of the appellants has alleged that one of the co-owners, in conspiracy with the respondents, delivered the document to the latter, there is no evidence whatever to bear out that statement, and there is no alternative but to recognise the respondents as the legitimate owners. Therefore, with reference to the statements and the documents presented by the appellants, as well as the facts bearing upon the question at issue, the properties in dispute are to be recognised as belonging conjointly to the members of the association called the *Yoroin*.

In determining whether the respondents are really the members of the said association or not, it is to be remarked that, although the representative of the appellants insists that the respondents are not to be included in the membership, yet as the allegation is only supported by pointing to the names of the original promoters of the institution, it does not furnish data for ascertaining who are the actual members of the association.

Taking into consideration depositions made by sub-witness Ito Sukeaki at the first trial as to the five respondents being the actual members of the aforesaid institution, and also the fact of the document (Exhibit 3 A) being actually held by the five defendants and presented by them to the Appeal Court, there is sufficient evidence to recognise them as members of the *Yoroin*, and a decision is hereby given in the sense of the judgment above pronounced.

Civil Department of the Nagoya Appeal Court.
Chief Judge Murakami Ho.
Judge Yamada Toyosaku.
Judge Ushiyama Matsuzo.
Judge Fuwa Seikei.
Judge Kawashima Taizo.

The above has been copied from the original document of the Court.

This 7th day of April in the 32nd year of *Meiji*.
Sugiyama Choko.
Clerk of the Nagoya Appeal Court.

THE BOOKSHELF.

A Practical Introduction to the Study of Japanese Writing, by BASIL HALL CHAMBERLAIN, Emeritus Professor of Japanese and Philology in the Imperial University of Tokyo. London: SAMSON LOW, MARSTON, & Co., Ltd. Yokohama: KELLY & WALSH, Limited.

This public is already indebted to Mr. Chamberlain for an enormous amount of scholarly work. His grammars, his "Things Japanese," his translation of the *Kojiki*, and other contributions to the Asiatic Society of Japan, to say nothing of the share he has taken in the compilation of Murray's Guide, are too well known and too highly valued to need mention in these columns. In possession of that learned leisure and that freedom from the multifarious distractions which harass many other sinologists, he has been able to undertake and to carry to a successful issue a work of great difficulty and

requiring the most delicate handling. The *Bunji no Shirube*, the Japanese title of Mr. Chamberlain's "Introduction to the Study of Japanese Writing," exceeds all our expectations. We knew that anything coming from Mr. Chamberlain's pen would be scholarly and highly valuable to the student of the Japanese language, but we did not expect such a combination of art and thorough scholarship as we possess in the large, handsome volume that lies before us. So tastefully is the book got up that we shall not be at all surprised to hear of its being purchased for its artistic beauty alone by persons who have no intention of studying Japanese modes of writing. The pages of exquisitely printed Chinese characters, each occupying its own square, cannot but prove a feast to the eye of the artist wherever the volume may find its way. The printing of the whole work reflects high credit on the Shueisha, and will doubtless prove to them the best possible form of advertisement.

The *Bunji no Shirube* is divided into twelve sections, the titles of which are as follow:— "Sect. I. Introductory Remarks. Sect. II. On Some Grammatical Peculiarities of the Written Language. Sect. III. Preliminary Exercises in the Hiragana Syllabary. Sect. IV. Four Hundred of the Commonest Chinese Characters arranged as Writing Lessons with Reading Exercises attached. Sect. V. On the Structure of the Chinese Characters. Sect. VI. A Tale of the Good Old Days. Sect. VII. More about the Kana. Sect. VIII. Proper Names. Sect. IX. Advertisements and Newspaper Clippings. Sect. X. Easy Pieces by Contemporary Authors. Sect. XI. Odds and Ends. Sect. XII. The Epistolary Style. There is a Postscript, an Index of Chinese Characters, arranged under their radicals, and an Appendix, the whole work covering 482 quarto pages. To give some idea of the quality of the paper used, *en passant*, we may state that with a comparatively light cover the *Bunji no Shirube* weighs 5½ lbs.

In his introductory chapter Mr. Chamberlain dismisses as quite untenable the notion that the reign of the Chinese ideographs is near its close. He sees no sign whatever of any change in the method of writing followed by the nation. The adoption of *Roman* is out of the question and even the substitution of *Kana* for the Chinese characters, though advocated by a few writers, is regarded as undesirable by the bulk of the people. The Chinese character holds its own, despite all other changes. "Not only every popular book, every important newspaper, every official notification, but every private receipt, every estimate, every letter, even every post-card sent by your cook or boy to his people at home, every written document of every kind connected with the life and work of the whole people of Japan, individually and collectively, has the Chinese character as its basis." Writing on the same subject in the Postscript, Mr. Chamberlain says:—"Herein, too, we may perceive the underlying reason of the apparent paradox that the Europeanisation of Japan has so flooded the language with Chinese terms that, whereas forty years ago most official proclamations were fairly intelligible even to illiterate peasants, those of the present day can scarcely be understood save by persons well-versed in Chinese. We have here no instance of foolish affectation or pomposity; it is simply the effect of a natural preference for clear terms wherewith to express manifold and delicately shaded thought, such as a complicated social state inevitably produces. And this it is that rivets the Chinese written character on the Japanese nation,—the Chinese character being, under those local circumstances which history has produced, the only available instrument for the expression of exact thought. Therefore we may conclude that future efforts to abolish its use will prove as fruitless as similar efforts in the past. A nation does not give up exact thinking to please Utopian 'reformers.' If, *per impossibile*, we can imagine the Chinese character discarded even for a day, we must imagine at the same time a sudden stoppage of the wheels of government, law, business, mental

activity of every sort; for the Chinese character is the Japanese language for all purposes demanding exactness. 'True 'tis pity; pity 'tis true.' This view is, it seems to us quite incontrovertible. After a quarter of a century's study of the ideographs we have come to the conclusion that there is no language equal to Chinese in the power of expressing *multum in parvo*. Certain Western philologists have recognised this. Max Muller, for instance, says of Chinese:—"Every shade of thought that finds expression in the highly-finished and nicely balanced system of Greek tenses, moods, and particles can be expressed, and has been expressed, in that infant language by words that have neither prefix nor suffix, no terminations to indicate number, case, tense, mood, or person." (Essay on the Stratification of Language.) For nomenclature what language is to be compared to Chinese? The names given to things, institutions, processes, and corporations in this country are at once the delight and the despair of the translator. In numerous instances he puzzles his brains in vain to find a powerful equivalent in another language. Some people maintain that it is the wonderful adaptability of the Chinese for nomenclature that is responsible for the extreme, and, to us, unnecessary, minuteness with which everything in the country is denominated. Many names as names seem to us to be quite untranslatable. We can give their meaning, but can find no equivalents in a European tongue. In some cases of course the things referred to do not exist with us. But it far more frequently happens that though the things exist we have never thought of giving them names, our languages not lending themselves to the formation of striking nomenclature in the way the Chinese does. To take only one instance among hundreds. Supposing a Cricket Club is represented by a cricket team, and after the said team has played in a match the Club decides to entertain the team at dinner. If the team won the match the dinner might be called "A congratulatory dinner," or something of the sort, and perhaps in case of defeat it might be called "A consolation dinner," but the Japanese possess a term for such an entertainment in which, with perfect taste, the question of success or failure is alike excluded. The 慰勞會, *irokai* is an entertainment held for the purpose of acknowledging services rendered. It would, we think, be quite impossible to find any English term that would equal the Chinese in terseness and expressiveness in this case, as in so many others. We must not pursue the subject further. We endorse every word of what Mr. Chamberlain says about the accuracy of the Chinese language, and we believe that this accuracy of expression is a training for the youthful mind that is highly valuable. Every separate shade of thought has its written symbol and is not easily confused with other shades.

But we must hasten on and give a sketch of the method pursued by Mr. Chamberlain in his interesting work. In order to determine which characters occur most frequently in Japanese literature Mr. Chamberlain made minute inquiries at Tōkyō printing offices. We will state the results of his inquiry in his own words:—"Enquiry at Tōkyō printing-offices showed the maximum number of characters employed in this country to be 9,500; but of these, over 3,000 are extremely rare, serving the needs of such writers only as affect archaic and poetic diction. The number kept on hand in all the usual varieties of size and 'face' is 6,100; but this again must be regarded as a maximum, an abundantly liberal limit stretched so far only by precaution. . . . Scholars carry over 4,000 characters in their heads, the general public about 3,000. One thousand characters, which the experience of forty years has proved to recur with special frequency, are kept by the type foundries in larger quantities than the rest; but a few additional hundreds on the boundary line run them hard in the race, and some 800 or 900 more form a useful acquisition. This gives a reduced total of about 2,350 common characters with which students must familiarise them-

selves. . . . Just these 2,350 indispensable characters are here brought before their notice, with explanations thrown in occasionally to ease the drudgery of memorising."

Each new character is numbered, and after being explained fully is given in large black type as a part of the writing lesson which follows the reading lesson. Notwithstanding the expense and trouble involved, Mr. Chamberlain has printed words or half-words derived from the Chinese and purely Japanese words in different type throughout the whole volume. The native Japanese is printed in italics, the Chinese in small capitals; thus *ichi* *two* *hiite*, *ju* *two* *shiru*.

After a careful perusal of the whole work we have come to the conclusion that the author has carried out his purpose with great fidelity and that the practical objects of the book have never been lost sight of. The signs which meet the eye of every passer-by in all parts of Japan Mr. Chamberlain has transcribed and explained. The notices to be seen in Post Offices, Railway Stations and Police Stations; the commonest forms of advertisement appearing in the daily papers; funeral notices, invitations, and the like are all presented to the eye in their strictly native form without a single alteration or omission of any kind beyond being printed in clearer type and on better paper than one is accustomed to see. His Chapter on Proper Names, one of the most useful in the book, deals with names that occur in the newspapers and elsewhere every day. The "Newspaper Clippings" were extracted from last year's daily newspapers and the topics discussed in these quotations are of considerable interest. The Epistolary forms given are those which are most familiar to students of the language. Thus the idea of supplying the information which is indispensable to any one who aims at obtaining a fair acquaintance with the written language has been kept in view in every chapter.

But in addition to this a large number of purely theoretical questions are discussed in a scholarly manner. Whether the reader agrees with the theories defended by Mr. Chamberlain or not, he cannot but admire the careful manner in which he has gone into these theories and the clearness with which he states his own views. There are parts of the book where the author may seem to some readers to be hypercritical, where Mr. Chamberlain does not quite carry out the advice he gives the student on p. 375:—"Time will be saved and the speediest progress made by simply accepting the various readings each in its context. Above all, nothing can be gained by argument:—The language is highly irregular and arbitrary, and must be accepted as such."

There is one part of the book in which it seems to us comment is carried altogether beyond proper limits, and Mr. Chamberlain passes from the region of scholarship and enters the thorny ground of theology and psychology. As a rule Mr. Chamberlain does not think it worth his while to draw any attention to the nature of the views expressed by the writers whom he quotes, allowing even the boastful words of Mr. Taguchi Ukichi on p. 303 ("whether it be in medicine, in architecture, in shipbuilding, in railways, in mining, in telegraphy, in manufactures of every sort, our country possesses scholars and engineers capable of excelling those of Europe and America") to pass unnoticed. This is as it should be. For the object of the book is not to give the author's views as to what opinions are right or wrong, but to help the student to understand the language by means of which the opinions are expressed. But after quoting Mr. Fukuzawa and Dr. Katō Hiroyuki, Mr. Chamberlain thinks it necessary to warn his readers against the pernicious tendency of their opinions, somewhat in the style of a minister of the Gospel; and, in the former case, adds comments on the darkness of the Meiji age, which, we venture to think, are altogether out of place in a Chinese Reader. Of Mr. Fukuzawa, Mr. Chamberlain says:—"His thought is shallow, his philosophy a crude materialism with a veneer

of utilitarian morality and amiable optimism. The essay here fairly typifies his views." This is then made the text of a little sermon as follows:—"But—and this is a consideration worth pondering—it typifies the views of the overwhelming majority of educated Japanese at the present day. If such be the doctrines of the leaders, what will be the practice of the led when these doctrines shall have filtered down to the base of the social edifice, and shall have washed away what small fragments remain of the old Confucian ethics? The present Japanese epoch styles itself, *Meiji*, 'enlightened peacefulness.' But if the light that is in it be darkness, how great is that darkness!" Why were these remarks inserted? Whether the closing sentences of the passage do or do not answer that question we leave readers to determine. "Nevertheless, if we view the matter properly, these considerations in no way unfit such books for the use of European students. On the contrary, and even assuming that most of those employing the present work will be missionaries,* surely it must be advantageous to them to make acquaintance at once with the genuine mental attitude of the people among whom their life is spent." Of Dr. Katō, Mr. Chamberlain says, "Though he is a highly cultured and most amiable man, all his work (so far as least as we are acquainted with it) has a profoundly demoralising tendency. It is materialistic to the core."—The materialism quite naively expressed, as in the Japanese way.

As we passed from the scholarly pages of the earlier part of the work to the perusal of such outbursts as these it seemed to us though the author must have changed. But at this juncture the Japanese saying 異心同體 (*ishin-dōtai*) came to our rescue. "Different in soul, though the same in body." Commenting on this saying on p. 317, Mr. Chamberlain says, "Though each man has but one body, which of us but does not feel in himself two souls? Sometimes they pull in different directions; sometimes, as here, one persuades the other." These comments, then, were the work of the "second soul." We don't agree with the "second soul's" conclusions in reference to Messrs. Fukuzawa and Katō and the tendency of their writings. After twenty years of study of both writers we have no hesitation in saying that they are grossly misrepresented by Mr. Chamberlain. But it would be quite out of place to go into details on the subject here. The two gentlemen referred to are agnostics, but not materialists. An English Member of Parliament, writing in the *Spectator* on March 11th last, says, "Vast numbers—in my belief, the great majority—both of men of action and of men of thought are agnostics." So that the crime of Messrs. Katō and Fukuzawa is committed by millions of highly cultured men in Europe. The terrible darkness of the Japanese Meiji era depicted by Mr. Chamberlain has been voluntarily entered by leading minds in the very centres of the world's highest civilisation!

It is with no wish to pick a hole in a really splendid work or to lessen its influence in any way, that we have penned the above. We consider it a duty, as one of the most ardent admirers of Mr. Chamberlain's methods, thoroughness, and usual impartiality, to draw attention to what all unprejudiced minds must consider to be a defect in a very small portion of a lengthy and highly technical work.

In conclusion, we would say that in our opinion the main difficulties of the Japanese written language may be conquered by means of Mr. Chamberlain's new method of study in half the time required hitherto, when each learner has dabbled here and there as fancy dictated and has ended by learning a number of almost useless characters and failed to memorise ideographs needed every day. We consider it one of the cheapest books on the Japanese language that has been published. It is at once a Reader, a Grammar, and a Small Dictionary. As a lexicon it is superior

* The italics are ours.—(WRITER OF THE REVIEW.)

to those in ordinary use, as the explanations given are fuller. Minute comments on the translations given would occupy more space than we have at our disposal. Suffice it to say that the *Moji no Shirube* is thoroughly reliable throughout and a perfect god-send to all those who essay the task of mastering one of the most difficult languages of the world. If, as some maintain, genius consists in the power of taking infinite pains, Mr. Chamberlain has certainly earned the right to the title.

Anerostes, the Gaul, by EDGAR MAURICE SMITH; London, Unwin's Colonial Library.

THIS is one of the successes of last autumn's publishing season. It is rightly described as a fragment of the second Punic War, and it deals with the first few days that Hannibal spent on the soil of Italy after his famous passage of the Alps. The book is dedicated to Sir William Dawson, whom the author addresses as a distinguished scholar and scientist, and we think there can be little doubt that the patron was as pleased with the story as is the present reviewer. Replete with antiquarian detail, the story yet moves along brightly and at times becomes intensely, nay breathlessly, interesting in its vivid descriptions of hand-to-hand fighting and gladiatorial combats. Of course the silver thread of love is soon woven into the narrative, adding to the charm, but the reader we fancy will be disappointed at the abruptness of the close. Perhaps Mr. Smith has a sequel; if so we will look forward to its appearance with eager anticipation.

Off the High Road, the Story of a Summer, by ELEANOR C. PRICE; London, MacMillan & Co.; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

A HEALTHY story in every way, though the motif be a trifle fantastic, *Off the High Road* is a book that many persons will read with a good deal of pleasure. The author has built up the fabric of her tale in tolerably good English and reproduces the charms of country life in many passages of pleasing distinction. She quickly arouses sympathy for her heroine and her heroine's friends, and thus realises the chief aim of the novelist. But the critic must not be too exacting, for taking as the book undoubtedly is, it has some faults that temporarily disappoint.

The River of Pearls, by René de Pont-Jest; London, Macqueen's Colonial Library; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd. M. René de Pont-Jest was evidently writing for the delectation of the boulevard when he sat down and composed the *River of Pearls*, or the *Red Spider*, a Chinese romance. The story deals with Canton, the Pearl River, Whampoa, and Hongkong, and mainly concerns the love affairs of an atrocious villain, Tchou, the Red Spider, and the vengeance he wreaked on an unhappy damsel Lion Siou, or, as the French author prefers to call her, Saule Brodé (Embroidered Willow). Incidentally there are introduced many interesting details of pirate life on the waters of the Pearl River, of the pirate refuges at Lintin and other islands near Macao, and above all some truly blood-curdling descriptions of Chinese torturers, their practices, and the judicial methods adopted for extracting confessions. But, as we said above, this story is meant for home consumption, and the local colour has, we suppose, be of the most lurid hue that the literary palette can produce.

It is curious, however, considering the faithfulness of some parts of the narrative, to observe that the author invariably speaks of pinstrea as being the current coin of the trading communities in the Far East; that the *lingua franca* of the same district is known as Macastre; that, in regard to Hongkong, "if it were not for the wretched fishermen and for some native officials whose palanquins are to be seen on the course among the correctest turn-outs, Hongkong might well be taken for the Isle of Wight. There is the same comfortable and elegant mode of life; the same expense upon horses brought out from home at a high price; the same sort of club life—that is to say, the same races and the same bets; the rich European

merchants of Canton have almost all country houses in Hongkong." But then we must remember that the author leads us to infer that the date of the story is fixed somewhere in the early decades of the Colony's existence—in the days of the opium clippers and the Lintin pirates. After wading through the sanguinary chapters of the book we re-echo with the author the philosophic sentiment he uses as a postscript: "By what mysterious Cause did a drop of water, that was meant to give birth to flowers, make rivers of blood to flow? It was Fate that ordered it."

There are some capital illustrations by M. Félix Regamey, which reproduce more faithfully than the narrative the actualities of Chinese life.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

It is reported from Peking, says a Shanghai contemporary, that the four Army Corps under Generals Sung Ch'ing, Nieh Sze-ch'eng, Yuan Shih-k'ai, and Tung Fu-shiang have received orders from their Generalissimo, the Grand Secretary Jung Lu, to be ready to assemble at the Southern Hunting Park by the 20th of May, for combined military drills and a grand inspection by the Empress Dowager and the Emperor.

The *N.-C. Daily News* has been favoured with the following notes regarding the Tientsin-Chinkiang Railway:—It appears that the Tsung-li Yamén obtained the permission of the Empress Dowager on the 6th of January last to give the construction of that railway to a British syndicate, and Sir Claude Macdonald was accordingly notified to that effect. A telegram was then sent by Sir Claude to an Englishman (said to be a Lord) named Charles (? Sir Charles Ross), and this person, representing the British Syndicate, arrived at Shanghai from England on the 19th of March last, and went up at once to Peking, where he still remains. The Tsung-li Yamén then proposed to appoint Chang Yen-mao to be the Chinese Co-President of the Railway, but this was objected to by Sir Claude, and Dr. Yung Wing was appointed instead. Dr. Yung Wing was at once sent for by H.E. Wang Wen-shao, Director General of the Bureau of Mines and Railways, to go to Peking, and he (Yung Wing) is there now. The same paper's informant strenuously insists that Germany will have absolutely no control over any portion of the railway. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank will finance the road.

Mr. R. D. Denness, of the Chinese Eastern Railway Company's steamer *Ningooie*, has evidently met with a watery grave while on a voyage from Moji to Shanghai. He joined the vessel, we learn from a Shanghai journal, at Port Arthur on the 27th ult., and on the 3rd inst. went off duty and took to his cabin. The steamer left Moji on the 5th, and deceased was seen the following evening on deck by both the Chief Officer and the steward. On the Sunday morning, about breakfast time, his absence was noticed and on the same being reported to Capt. Freeman a diligent search was immediately instituted and every part of the vessel was visited, but no signs of the missing man were discovered. The Captain then took charge of the man's effects, and on arriving in Shanghai reported the case to the English and Russian Consulates. Deceased was over 55 years of age, and was a well-known marine engineer on the China coast.

The arrival at Shanghai of the steamer *Trigonia* with a cargo of petroleum fuel, causes the *N.-C. Daily News* to remark that it will probably prove of the utmost importance to that already smoke-laden city. This fuel has been tried there with great success already; when its benefits are more fully appreciated there will be doubtless an enormous demand for it. Its principal merit is that, properly consumed, it is smokeless; that weight for weight it is about the same price as the best Japanese coal at present prices, and gives two-thirds more heat. Its other advantages are that it is more easily hand-

led, requires fewer hands at the furnaces, and leaves no residue. The Cotton Mill and Silk Filature Companies have evidently taken the subject in hand, for the Soochow Cotton Mill has already one of its boilers fitted with oil-using furnaces and will soon have the remainder similarly adjusted; and a number of others likewise interested are making arrangements for the conversion of their plant. Messrs. S. C. Farham and Co. are building a steam launch for the Agents (Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.) which is also designed for oil consumption.

Says the *China Gazette*:—The Shanghai public will learn with regret that a telegram has been received from Taku containing the sad intelligence that Mr. R. Lawrie-Smith, the well known furniture dealer of this port, had been drowned at Taku. Only a few hours before his wife received a telegram from him saying he was returning to Shanghai by the *Hsinfung* from a highly successful business trip to Tientsin, Weihaiwei, and Peking. No particulars are given of how the fatality occurred, and it is assumed that he fell into the river while going aboard in the dark and was carried under in the strong current. The body has been recovered, and we believe an inquest will be held, when we shall doubtless get full particulars. The greatest sympathy is felt with his widow and child in their sad bereavement.

It is currently reported in Shanghai that Mr. Justice Wilkinson, who at present presides over H.M.'s Court in Japan, will be allowed to remain here until all outstanding litigation in which British subjects are concerned is closed. Judge Wilkinson will then, in all probability, go home on leave, and on his return to the East will relieve Sir N. J. Hannen, as Chief Justice of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court for China, Sir Nicholas being very anxious to retire from active service.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Sub-Lieut. Charles Edward Lloyd Thomas has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in Her Majesty's Navy, to date from April 1st, 1899.

Charles Emil Leopold, convicted of fraud last December, left Yokohama for Hongkong in charge of jailer Roberts, by the P. & O. steamer *Rosella* on Wednesday morning. He will serve the rest of his term at Victoria Gaol.

Vice-Admiral Alexieff, who from 1894 to 1897 was Admiral of H.I.R.M. Pacific Squadron, has been appointed Supreme Governor of Kuan-lung Peninsula and Commander-in-Chief of all the Oriental Ports under H.I.R.M. survey.

The eightieth birthday of Her Majesty the Queen will be celebrated on the calendar anniversary of Her Majesty's birth—May 24th. More than ordinary importance is attached to this year's anniversary, which marks the completion of four-score years, and some special celebration is contemplated.

The local agent of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, & China writes:—It is with extreme regret that we have to inform you that we have received a telegram from London advising the death on the 12th instant of the Chief Manager of our Bank, Mr. Thomas Forrest.

The carpenter of the ship *Hahnemann*, named J. C. Hudson, died suddenly on Tuesday night. The doctor who was summoned declined to give a medical certificate, and the body was lauded early on Wednesday afternoon for a post-mortem examination to decide whether an inquest is necessary or not.

On Tuesday morning a young woman named Wakabayashi Tatsu (21), daughter of a pawn-broker, of Honmoku, near Yokohama, attempted self destruction by drinking a quantity of poison. Her numerous love affairs have been a source of trouble to her parents, and she determined on death on account of

being unable to live with her last lover, named Sugiura Kyozauro, a blacksmith.

Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, G.C.M.G., was elected president of the China Association at the annual general meeting of members held on 5th April. Mr. W. Keewick, M.P., was elected chairman, and Sir Alfred Dent, vice-chairman of the committee, and Mr. R. S. Gundry honorary secretary for the ensuing year.

On Sunday morning a Chinese gentleman who had just come down Camp Hill lost control of his bicycle while rounding the corner near the French Consulate, and dashed into the chains which fence the roadway from the sea. Both bicycle and rider were thrown into the Creek, but the man was not much damaged, though the bicycle was.

The 2nd class cruiser *Kasagi*, built at Philadelphia, which left Singapore on the 7th, arrived at Yokosuka at 10 a.m. on the 16th. The warship went to England to be fitted with guns and machinery, and sustained damages on the Tyne by coming in contact with a bridge. Her displacement is 4,980 tons her speed, 22½ knots, her length 400 feet, and her beam 48 feet 9 inches. She is a sister ship of the *Chitose*.

Mr. J. L. Mayers died in Hongkong on Sunday, May 7th, from the effects of the wounds inflicted on him by the fall of the *Charleston's* whale boat as he was passing under it on his launch. He was acting as agent of Pabst Beer in Hongkong at the time and had gone alongside the cruiser in a launch to collect some bills. He leaves a widow who is well known in Yokohama and San Francisco.

On Monday morning, while some bricklayers were working on a scaffolding at the new Club building, the scaffold collapsed, and the men, with a pile of bricks, fell to the ground. One man was picked up insensible, another was severely cut about the face, and the third was also injured. They were sent to hospital at Noge-yama. The scaffold was only secured by straw ropes.

On Saturday, at the Yokohama Chihō Saibanho, a verdict of acquittal was given in the case brought against the coolies, Yoshida Kintaro and Kobayashi Ushitaro, charged with stealing 8 tons of English coal belonging to R. Isaacs and Bro., 195 Settlement, Yokohama, while engaged in conveying it to the English warship *Barfleur*. Hayashi Matsutaro, charged with buying the stolen coal from them, was also acquitted. The Court found the evidence insufficient to establish guilt.

The Vienna *Politische Correspondenz* refers, "in guarded language," to reports about a secret alliance between Japan and China against all the European Powers. "As a consequence of this understanding, all European instructors will shortly be dismissed from the Chinese Army. It is well known that Li Hsueh-chang supports the plan of an alliance with Japan, and that a strong party in the latter country advocates an alliance with China with the object of excluding all Europeans from Eastern Asia." What extraordinary ideas enter the heads of Continental journalists.

Mr. J. A. McDonald, Purser of the North Pacific Steamship *Menmouthshire*, on arrival on Monday morning, reported:—On our way here from Kobe we passed a large quantity of wreckage between Omaezaki and Rock Island, also a life-buoy, but could not make out the name. Part of the wreckage was a large deck house attached to something similar to a hull."

The *Kobe Herald* reports that the *City of Rio de Janeiro*, which arrived at Kobe on Saturday, May 13th, at 9.30 a.m., when off Omaezaki on May 12th, picked up the crew of six men from the wreckage of a Japanese schooner, the *Moanho Maru*, bound from Matoya to Tokyo.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* understands that an endeavour is being made to get up evidence with a view to Spain's demanding a

land indemnity from China on account of the Viceroy permitting the American steamer *Abby* to leave Canton with arms known to be for insurgents and landed at Batangas in September last, the vessel being afterwards captured by Admiral Dewey.

Captain Aitken, of the steamer *Carlisle City*, and his third engineer visited the steamer *Goodwin* on Tuesday night, and left for their own ship at a pretty late hour. They got into the *Goodwin's* boat, but, owing to the strong wind and the loss of an oar, could not reach the *Carlisle City* and drifted about the harbour. They shouted for help, and the *Monmouthshire* lowered a boat, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Gibbs taking the oars. The *Monmouthshire's* boat, however, had not proceeded far when a rowlock broke, and they also were rendered helpless. Eventually they were swept by the sea on to the breakwater, where the boat was smashed. They scrambled on to the breakwater with some difficulty, and soon after found the other boat's crew also, who had been obliged to leave their boat. They were then towing it alongside the breakwater, but the waves did so much damage that they were at length obliged to abandon it. The party eventually reached the red lighthouse, where they passed the night comfortably enough, being received very hospitably by the lighthouse keepers.

Details of the fire at Shiraiishi, Katsuta-gori, Miyagi Prefecture, are to hand. About 1 o'clock a.m. flames broke out at a pile of fire-wood under the roof of a house occupied by one Saito, at Shimmachi. Fanned by the north-easterly wind, the spread of the fire was wonderfully rapid, and the whole town was involved in flames in spite of the strenuous efforts of both police authorities and firemen. It was not until 7.30 that the fire was mastered, after destroying 868 houses. Two persons were burned to death, and 70 or 80 seriously or slightly injured. The cause is supposed to be incendiary. Some days ago, when a fire occurred at the neighbouring village of Fukaya, some Shiraiishi firemen boasted that no fire occurred in Shiraiishi owing to the caution of the authorities, but the Fukaya firemen declared that there would one day be a conflagration which would reduce the town of Shiraiishi to ashes. Two or three days before the Shiraiishi fire, all the streams flowing through the village from Fukaya dried up, their courses having been diverted. It is supposed the Fukaya people are responsible, but no arrests have been made.—*Asahi*.

Yokohama police should pay some attention to the *Hatoba jinrikisha* man. His importunity, particularly when bluejackets are concerned, is a perfect pest, and is probably the cause of many of the disturbances which occasionally take place. On Tuesday afternoon there was a loud, indistinct, murmur of many voices in Main-street—the kind of dull roar, only squared or cubed, that serves to indicate popular unrest and incipient revolution in historical pieces on the stage. The noise was sufficiently penetrating to reach the occupants of inner offices, and a general rush was made to the windows facing the street. And this was what was seen. Half-a-dozen bluejackets from the Italian cruiser had landed at the *Hatoba*, and had had the audacity to insist on walking instead of throwing themselves into *jinrikisha*. This was too much for the *kurumaya*. They rose as one man, and pursued the unhappy sailors till they were half-way down Main-street, gathering reinforcements from every stand. The Italians—good-natured and inoffensive-looking fellows—bore the nuisance patiently till they were completely surrounded, and the whole street was blocked up with the vehicles. The *jinrikisha* men absolutely declined to let them move further, seized them by the arms and the flaps of their jackets, and vociferated as only coolies can. Finally the tars weakly gave way, jumped into the vehicles, and went off, probably in an altogether different direction from that they had mapped out for themselves. The police were either nowhere near, or prudently kept themselves out of the affair.

INNS OF COURT ASSOCIATION IN JAPAN.

ANNUAL DINNER.

The first annual dinner of this Association was held at the Hotel Metropole, Tokyo, on April 27, when amongst the members and guests who assembled were the following:—Viscount Nagao (President), H.E. Mr. Kiyoura (Minister of Justice), Sir E. M. Satow, K.C.M.G. (British Minister), Mr. Herod (U. S. Chargé d'Affaires), Rear-Admiral Fitzgerald, Baron Nambu (President of the Dai-Shin-In), Mr. Montague Kikwood (Legal Adviser to the Judicial Department), Judge Haruki (President of the Tokyo Appeal Court), Judge Mayeda (President of the Tokyo Court of First Instance), Mr. H. A. C. Bonar (H. B. M.'s Consul, Yokohama), Mr. Isobe (President of the Tokyo Bar Association), Count Hino, Viscount Inaba, and Messrs. Miyoshi, Masujima, H. J. Terry, Okumura, G. S. Scidmore, Kikuchi, Shimidzu, Mochizuki, N. W. MacIvor, Akiyama, H. G. Parlett, and others. Mr. Justice Wilkinson, Mr. Lowder, Mr. Litchfield, and Mr. Wallford were amongst the members who were unavoidably prevented from being present.

At the conclusion of dinner and after duly honouring the healths of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and of Her Majesty the Queen of England, proposed respectively by Sir E. Satow and Viscount Nagao, Sir E. Satow proposed the toast of

THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN JAPAN.

SIR ERNEST, after referring briefly to the origin of the Roman and English legal systems, said that under the régime formerly existing in this country there were no written laws, and no definite distinction between legislative, administrative, and judicial functions. In civil cases the authorities tried to induce the parties to come to an arrangement as to the matters in dispute, which formed the basis of the judgment delivered, while in criminal matters the object was to obtain from the accused an admission of guilt, which he had to sign, and then sentence was pronounced. As soon as the Imperial Government was re-established in 1868, one of the first things done was to create a department of justice, and to frame codes. As in any state the protection of life was the first condition of national existence, a criminal code was the first to be taken in hand, then followed the civil and commercial codes in course of time. As a result of the labour spent on perfecting the system of the administration of justice, the Treaty Powers had agreed to their subjects coming under the jurisdiction of the courts that had been created. Hitherto, the interest of foreigners in the Japanese legal system had been of a limited character, but their concern with it would now be greatly multiplied, and the revised treaties were a proof of the confidence entertained by foreign governments that the administration of justice in this country would be marked by impartiality and equitable principles. He had great pleasure, therefore, in proposing the toast entrusted to him, coupling with it the name of H.E. Mr. Kiyoura, who first as Vice-Minister and then as Minister of Justice had taken so large a share in its organization.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE REPLIES.

His Excellency Mr. KIYOURA, the Minister of Justice, replying in Japanese, said:—Mr. Chairman, Your Excellency and Gentlemen—I am heartily pleased to have the pleasure of meeting you at this gathering to-night, where are assembled gentlemen of note both Japanese and foreign, whom we esteem with great affection. Especially is it the case with His Excellency the British Minister who has favoured us with his valuable ideas regarding the future of the judicial administration of this country. I have to thank him for the honour he has thus done to the Imperial Government and more particularly the judicial administration. Japan has, since its opening to foreign intercourse, encouraged by the guidance of Western nations, and following the fundamental principles of civilized influences, reformed her laws and institutions, and she has attained the degree of progress which you find to-day. The revision of the treaties has been concluded with the concurrence of the treaty Powers, agreeably to the cherished wishes of the Japanese nation, and their enforcement is well nigh at hand. The system of foreign settlements has so far presented an appearance resembling a great barrier supported by moats and fortifications, and we have always regretted that this state of things was an obstacle in the way of intimate intercourse between Japanese and foreigners. But the conditions under the new treaties will be like a good smooth broad way, where you find it easy to walk. It will bring forth closer friendship and more

activity in commerce, thereby promoting social progress and the advancement of civilization. We must not forget to express our gratitude to foreign professors and gentlemen for their services in having contributed directly and indirectly to the progress this country has attained. This is significantly the case with Sir Ernest Satow. He understands Japan and her people by his long residence as a diplomatic officer in the capital of the Empire, and he has at all times rendered great assistance in promoting friendly intercourse between the Japanese and foreign nations, to say nothing of benefits conferred by him in his personal relations with our people. Again, Mr. Bonar and his predecessors stationed in Yokohama, the most important port in Japan, have promoted the settlement of legal affairs relating to Japanese and British subjects without any friction. I avail myself of the present opportunity for thanking the two gentlemen for their respective good offices. With the object of marching along the unceasing course of civilized progress of the present day, the Imperial Government has endeavoured, without resting, to perfect both the executive and judicial machinery of the country. Different codes of laws have been provided or revised. Various existing ordinances and ministerial regulations have been devised for the purpose of giving full protection to the life and property of the different nationals who are to come under Japanese jurisdiction. Special attention has been directed to the reform of the judicial system, knowing that considerable difference may arise, according to the condition of its organization and working, affecting most closely its efficiency in protecting private interests. For instance, great changes have been introduced in the machinery and personnel of the law courts. Rules and instructions have been newly issued. I trust, therefore, nothing has been left undone which may tend to promote the due protection of private rights and to facilitate judicial administration. We have recently despatched some carefully selected judicial officers to report upon the conduct of judicial business in Europe and America. As I personally observed during my recent official inspection of the different districts at Osaka, Kobe, and Nagoya, the changes effected in the personnel of the law officers, by appointing those imbued with newer knowledge, have had favourable effect in producing more activity and facility in the despatch of judicial business. The average number has been reduced of persons under arrest awaiting trials, and the average time of detention has been shortened. There have been more cases of bail granted than before. Further, the Imperial Government is not yet satisfied with what has so far been achieved, and it is still engaged in the investigation of any and every reform which may be found essential to be provided in proportion to the advancement of civilization. Whatever reforms have so far been effected in the criminal law and procedure, in the law of civil procedure, in the law of the organization of the law courts, and many other measures, do not exhaust the full extent of its aim, and further improvements will be pushed on still hereafter, the law revision committee working as hard as before in the consideration of these measures. Of these laws, the law of criminal procedure, which has the most important bearing upon the protection of personal freedom, has already been revised in part, and the remainder is under revision by the committee. The views brought forward by gentlemen versed in the laws of England and the United States, more particularly the members of the Tokyo Bar Association, with reference to the question of holding preliminary examinations in public and of admitting counsel at preliminary examinations, will receive due consideration at the hands of the Imperial Government, and that system will be adopted, in so far as it is thought fit, taking into consideration the existing circumstances of the country. In closing I should not hesitate to thank the gentlemen of English law societies, in the interests of progress in legal ideas and judicial reforms of Japan, for the different views they have presented to the public from time to time, and which have contributed both directly and indirectly to the development of the judicial administration. I hope that they will continue in the future to give us the benefit of their observations.

The toast proposed by his Excellency was responded to by Mr. Bonar, who concluded by proposing

THE JAPANESE BENCH AND BAR.

MR. H. A. C. BONAR:—Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies and Gentlemen:—I am placed in a somewhat difficult position as a member of the Inns of Court Association in responding to the toast, "The Foreign Gentlemen engaged in the Administration of Justice," for I have to reply for a number of my colleagues who are entrusted, under the conditions of consular jurisdiction, with

the administration of various systems not based on English law, the cult of which is partly the object of this Association. Whatever the systems that have been administered by my colleagues, I feel certain that they have been administered with ability and to the satisfaction of the nationals whom they represent. But I must say something more of a system to which I have the honour to belong, but for which, as one of its administrators, it is somewhat difficult for me to express. Judge Wilkinson has on a former occasion told you how the English system of legal procedure pursues the fairest and best of all existing ways to do right, and I believe and trust that the administration of that procedure in this country, whether by Judges or Consuls, has fully succeeded in doing right. If this success has been attained it is in a great measure due to the ease with which English law can be administered by more or less experienced persons, so long as certain principles are observed. In his instructions, Sir Edmund Hornby, the first Judge of the British Court for China and Japan, said to the Consuls that the "most they could be expected to know was where to find the law." All of you acquainted with English Law will appreciate the difficulty of "finding the law;" and many of you, I hope, have reason to know that "finding the law" for your clients is not at all an unprofitable occupation. We have here a friend and guest who has come a long way to exercise his particular skill in successfully discovering what he seeks. But a successor of Sir Edmund Hornby, Sir Richard Reunie, in much more encouraging to Consuls, and the secret of successful administration of English Law—and here I quote his words—is that "Law and Reasons are seldom at variance, and that a judgment based on broad common sense is rarely at issue with best and highest principles of English Law," in other words common sense and the Common English Law are one and the same thing. With the abolition, then, of Consular jurisdiction, it would have been satisfactory to see a system of Law adopted in this country which is easy of administration, and the main principles of which are never at variance with reason. The difficulty of "finding" this Law is perhaps the only objection that can be urged against English Law, and in opposition to that, the codified Laws of Japan, as they now exist, are perhaps entitled to admiration. But the spirit in which the Law is applied is everything; and while we sympathize fully with the difficulty that Japanese Judges may find in the application of a particular article of the Codes to a particular set of circumstances, we trust and hope that the very first principle they will attempt to apply is that of common sense. Left out in the cold as it has been, English Law will nevertheless be an inexhaustible source on which the Judges of Japan can draw for information and inspiration in all matters that are likely to come before them. Late as it may seem, some Judges and Public Prosecutors have have recently been despatched by the Imperial Japanese Government to America, England, France, and Germany for purposes of investigation. Each one on his return will have a particular tale to tell, but whatever the experiences of these gentlemen may be, we trust that the result of their mission, whether based solely on English methods or not, will affect the Criminal Procedure of Japan to this extent, namely, that an accused person, foreign or Japanese, may, like in the English Courts, within 24 hours of his being taken into custody, be brought before the examining Judge; that the examination, so far as is consistent with the public welfare, may be held publicly; and that, if committed for trial, the accused person will still be held innocent until proved guilty. With such a system in view and relying on the assurances given just now by His Excellency the Minister of Justice, that as far as feasible all possible improvements in that direction will be made by the Imperial Japanese Government, the "Foreign gentlemen administering justice in Japan" will not so regretfully relinquish their judicial duties, and foreigners will soon forget the advantages of that consular jurisdiction which is so soon to die an honourable death. With apologies for my lengthy response, I now propose the health of those gentlemen of the Japanese Bench and Bar, to whom, after the encouraging utterances of the Minister of Justice, we may confidently look for a liberal dispensation of Law, Justice, and Common Sense. I couple this toast with the names of Judge Mayeda and Mr. Miyoshi, "The Japanese Bench and Bar."

JUDGE MAYEDA REPLIES.

JUDGE MAYEDA (speaking in Japanese):—Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies and Gentlemen:—I feel honoured by being one of the guests at this honourable assembly this evening. I do so all the more, because I count this occasion as one of the events to be remembered in my life, enabling me as it does to place my views before the present gathering. Looking back at old times, it was

never imagined in those days, just after the last Revolution, that anyone should engage in conversation concerning the past and future of this country in such a party as the present. The change of circumstances brought about by the march of civilization has caused the treaty powers to recognize the progress attained by this country, and to consent to the revision of the treaties and the abolition of extra-territoriality. This fact is not only gratifying to the Japanese nation of the present generation, but it is also an event which should be significantly recorded in Japanese history. It should be remembered by the Japanese nation without forgetting our obligation to the treaty powers. We should particularly thank Great Britain for the assistance rendered by her both directly and indirectly towards the progress of Japan, and for being the first nation to do us the honour of revising the treaties. The long cherished wishes of the Japanese nation for the revision of the treaties were not for the mere vain glory of standing on an equal footing with foreign nations, but were inspired by the desire of discharging the trust and confidence thus placed in her, and of consummating the work of the new treaties by securing their smooth working. Their operation is now close at hand. To-day not only the government but also the people of Japan are hard at work in preparing to meet the necessities of the new régime so that nothing shall be omitted to improve upon existing conditions, and so as to obviate the inconvenience to foreigners. Has not this been just proved by the speech of His Excellency the Minister of Justice? Both the revised codes as passed by the Imperial Diet and other arrangements which will hereafter be introduced, will, I am convinced, obviate any inconvenience to foreigners after the operation of the new treaties. It is not, however, unreasonable that foreigners, whose languages and customs are so totally different from those of the Japanese, should feel some anxiety at having to entrust their rights of life, property, and reputation to Japanese protection, and that they may have some fear of the Japanese courts which are to be the guardians of their rights. I will, therefore, say a few words to explain the present condition of the Japanese courts. I have been told that foreigners who do not fully understand the customs and institutions of Japan have suspected that the independence of the Japanese judiciary might be merely theoretical. It is true that more than ten years ago, previous to the promulgation of the Japanese Constitution, judges were placed in the strange position of having to follow entirely the wishes of the executive in deciding certain matters. This order of things was, however, changed with the grant of the Constitution, and the passing of the laws relating to the constitution of the law courts by which the judges were secured in an independent position, so as to discharge their duties in the name of His Majesty the Emperor within the limits of law, and even the Minister of State for Justice is to-day powerless to say a word touching their decisions. Sufficient safeguards have been provided with reference to their appointment and dismissal, so that there is no fear for them in exercising their functions independently. The judges of to-day know fully well that there is no distinction to be made between natives and foreigners in the application of the laws, and this principle is strictly adhered to. That this is the case well, I am confident, be recognized by those of you who are engaged in the practice of the law. Nevertheless, whether the application of the law is in accordance with the spirit of legislation, and consequently inflicts the objects of protecting private rights or not, depends upon those who are the administrators of the laws. This consideration has for years occupied the attention of the Minister of Justice, and as the result of it those now occupying the bench may on the whole be said to be properly qualified. Of the judges in the Tokyo Appeal Court district more than half have passed through a special course in the study of law by the aid of foreign languages. There are to out of 22 judges in the local courts, 17 out of 28 judges in the district court, 18 out of 30 judges in the Appeal Court, and 16 out of 27 judges in the Supreme Court, who have studied either in the Japanese University or at colleges abroad. I am particularly pleased to tell you, gentlemen of this Association, that the majority of these judges understand English, the language of your Association. Even those who do not understand foreign languages are not, I do not hesitate to say, behind the others in their knowledge and experience of law and practice. Although I am not able to speak in the same way of the Judges sitting in the courts situated elsewhere than in the Tokyo Appeal Court district, those whose seats are in Osaka, Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, Hakodate, and other important localities, have been carefully selected, and there is no reason for anxiety

on the part of foreigners as to the fitness of these gentlemen to discharge their duties with satisfaction. Some people may be apprehensive on account of the difference in language. Such fear will, however, be unnecessary, as court interpreters will be carefully selected by examination, to say nothing of the fact of many of the judges themselves being versed in foreign languages. Some anxiety may be felt as to obtaining bail and other forms of release from arrest. These matters are duly looked after in accordance with law, being outside of the reach of the executive authorities, as will no doubt be admitted by the gentlemen present to-night. While it is beyond the powers of the judges to step out of the proper scope of the laws, and to make any discrimination between natives and foreigners, you may depend upon it that the judges will, so far as it lies within their discretion, leave nothing undone which may assist foreigners in the exercise of their rights, or the recovery of their claims. I should myself desire above all other things not to wound the mutual feelings of Japanese and foreigners. It is of frequent occurrence between those differing in language and customs that misunderstandings arise; a thing done with an intention of showing respect may be construed as an insult, or the expression of a wish to be friendly might happen to be taken quite the other way, as it often happens in daily life. When I was studying in Europe, what I felt unpleasant or troublesome at the beginning of my sojourn afterwards turned out to be nothing of the kind, as I discovered only after gaining more acquaintance with the manners and customs of the place. This an experience which I have often cited as a warning to my countrymen who go abroad. A drop of water multiplied may float a ship of several thousand tons. A slight conflict of sentiment may, if repeated, be the cause of irreparable injury. I should, therefore, wish most earnestly that both Japanese and foreigners should exert themselves to cultivate intimate intercourse, and acquaint themselves with the languages and manners of each other, so as to prevent misunderstandings and to secure the smooth working of the new treaties. I am convinced that an association like yours will be a most useful medium of promoting my wishes, and I hope your example will be followed by my countrymen, so as to facilitate closer intercourse between natives and foreigners. I wish, gentlemen, the future prosperity of your Association.

MR. MIYOSHI RESPONDS.

Mr. MIYOSHI (speaking in Japanese):—I feel it a great honour this evening to meet you gentlemen interested in the jurisprudence of English Law, and to be invited as the guest of Vice-count Nagaoka, your esteemed chairman. At the same time, as I say a few words of thanks for your guests, I wish to review what has been done by English lawyers in the interests of law and legal practice in this country, and to express my hopes for the future. In the feudal days, when the power of the Daimyo and Samurai was supreme, the rights of life, property, and liberty had no existence for the common people. Their protection was an impossibility. Since the revolution, the advancement of ideas and knowledge new to the Japanese has helped the progress of this country, which has made such remarkable strides in civilization, and the conditions thus produced make on a man like myself, born under the old régime, the impression of having been transported into a new world. While it is generally true that the professions and learned men of all western nations have helped Japan in leading her to reform her laws and institutions, the laurels of assisting the practical application of advanced legal principles in the Japanese administration of justice belong to English lawyers. They have been the leaders of law reforms in this country. The foreign lawyers who practiced at the Japanese Bar in its early days were English barristers only, such as Mr. Ness, Mr. Kirkwood, Mr. Lowder, and others, and of no other nationality. Those Japanese who took to the practice of law from the first period of their career were men like Mr. Iho Takahashi, Mr. Masujima, and others, all educated in English law. Therefore, I say it is the English lawyers who have mainly contributed to the real improvement of the Japanese law courts. Again, we owe to Great Britain her good will, it being the first nation to consent to the revision of the treaties. The cause of it lies, I am sure, in the fact that English lawyers appreciated the actual condition of our courts. Japanese legal ideas have made some progress, yet it is more with reference to public laws. The value of private rights and personal liberty is yet very little understood. The laws relating to the protection of these rights are still far from being perfect. Is not the non-admission of counsel at the preliminary examination of a criminal charge a very significant example of it? I should, therefore,

any that there is a vast field for legal amelioration left yet in this country. May we hope that the authorities may be broad-minded and take special care to fully consider public opinion and that they may avail themselves of the co-operation of lawyers, both judges and advocates, for the advancement of the judicial progress of the country. For such purposes, you gentlemen who are English lawyers will set good and beneficial examples by your efforts toward the consummation of great reforms in the judicial administration of this country. The toast of

"THE ASSOCIATION"

was replied to in English by Viscount NAGAOKA, the President. Your Excellencies and Gentlemen—I thank you for the favourable reception you have given to the toast just proposed by Mr. Miyoshi, and I feel proud of the honour that has been conferred upon me by coupling my name with it. This Association takes its name from the four Inns of Court, which are the sole surviving constituent bodies of a great legal university which once existed in England. In the charter under the Great Seal granted by James I. to the two societies of the Temple, they are described as "two out of those four colleges the most famous in all Europe." Mr. G. Pitt Lewis, Q.C., says that this University was the cradle of English Law, and that its history is the story of English Law from its infancy. It is not my purpose to occupy your time with the story of the origin, growth, and decline of this great legal university; but still, following Mr. Pitt Lewis, it may be stated briefly that it was formed of those societies or associations, known as Sergeants' Inns, where dwell together those who were alone capable of being judges; the Inns of Court, which comprised advocates in the Courts; who had not arrived at the degree of sergeants; and also the more advanced apprentices; and the Inns of Chancery, where dwell the "clerks of Chancery," and junior students of the law. These societies dwell in hostels or Inns, and down to the beginning of the 13th century their members were mostly ecclesiastics, but the prohibition of the clergy from practising in the secular courts, in the year 1207, made the establishment of an English School of Law an imperative necessity. In the years 1290-1292, Edward I. issued a royal proclamation, ordering "students apt and loyal" to be brought from the provinces to learn English Law; and it was probably about the end of the 13th or the beginning of the 14th century that the Inns of Court came into existence, though their origin is somewhat obscure. The Sergeants' Inns and the Inns of Chancery have now ceased to exist; and the four Inns of Court are the sole remaining colleges of the Great Legal University. They discharge the duty of educating students for the law through the medium of the "Council of Legal Education," and it was under the auspices of these Inns that every member of the Association, of which I have the honour to be the first President, received this education and became qualified for the degree of Barrister, the attainment of which is in itself proof that its possessor has had a liberal education, and is a passport to learned societies in all parts of the world. And though the Inns of Court are the only portals through which this status can be obtained, and though no one has any right either to be admitted as a student, or to be called to the bar, it is a privilege which is never withheld from any person, of whatsoever nationality he may be, who is properly introduced, and who has observed the conditions. The result of this liberal policy has been that a knowledge of English Law, comparable in extent only with that of Roman Law, has been spread all over the world; and that in nations once hostile to the admission of foreign influences, Western ideas are now readily welcomed, and English law has probably become as large a factor in the future history and civilization of the world as is English commerce. It is not surprising, therefore, that subjects of His Imperial Majesty, who like myself have enjoyed the benefit of the education which is afforded by the Inns of Court, and who have been called to the English Bar, should entertain a feeling of very sincere gratitude for the favours we have received, and should be enthusiastic in our desire to extol the advantages of a system from which we have derived so much profit. I fear I have somewhat trespassed upon your patience; but I have thought it right on this, our first grand night, that I should give a brief explanation why the Inns of Court Association, in whose prosperity you take so kindly an interest, came to be established in the capital city of Japan; and I join with you in the hope that its influence may expand. One of the means we employ to that end is to ask our friends to dine with us at least once a year; and I am heartily glad to see how well and how

readily our invitations have been responded to on this occasion, and to welcome you in the name of our Association. The members of the Association will now join me in drinking to the health of our guests, coupled with the names of Mr. Kikuchi and Mr. MacIvor.

The spokesmen for the guests of the evening were Mr. N. W. MacIvor, formerly U.S. Consul-General at Yokohama, and Mr. Kikuchi, formerly Secretary to Count Yamada, Minister of Justice, and now one of the leading members of the Tokyo Bar.

MR. MACIVOR.

Mr. MacIvor, after a few opening sentiments on behalf of the guests, and apologizing for cutting his remarks short on account of the lateness of the hour, spoke as follows:—I see from the sentiments expressed by speakers who have preceded me that the attention of all seems to be turned to the effect of the change of jurisdiction provided for by treaties which will come into force at an early date. It is possible that you may wish to have the views of your guests on this all important question. I am very sorry that I cannot speak with authority for my large constituency (furnishing as it does the best evidence of the hospitality of your Association in the fact that we outnumber our hosts), since I have been unable to consult them all, but, speaking for myself, I would say that I do not believe that the results of the jurisdictional change will be as great as those on either side of the discussion seem to apprehend. I am satisfied that, though there may be uncertainties to be met with at first, the whole question will be worked out on practical lines which will protect the admitted rights of those of us who form the foreign section of the communities; my reason for this confidence is that the question has so far been one of theory productive of sentimental discussion and criticism which has not always been fair or well considered on either side; it has been handled by the diplomats, statesmen, legislators, and the Press, who have each in their respective spheres done what lay in their power to call attention to all important conditions raised by the change, and they have done their work well, but their work has been confined to the realm of theory. The matter is soon to assume a more practical form; we are never so much interested in the form of a law as we are in the application that is being made of that law to facts and to conditions. The application of the laws under changed conditions will soon fall upon the shoulders of the members of the Bench and Bar of the Empire. These gentlemen belong to a profession which does not permit one to become a man of one idea, since he is daily called upon to hear and act upon the cares and misfortunes of his fellows in all the varied walks and conditions of life. If, then, they cannot be men of one idea, it is reasonably safe to conclude that they will not be narrow men, but must become, in the application of the legal system, broad-minded practical men of affairs. Then when we remember that the Bench and Bar of Japan have in large measure received their legal incentives from the great body of principles known as Anglo-Saxon law, which has furnished the substructure of two of the greatest Governmental systems of the world, and that their efforts to assimilate these principles to local conditions will be encouraged and directed by such a broad-minded and fair-minded man as His Excellency the Minister of Justice, who sits with us to-night, we may be reasonably certain that justice will ultimately rule in the practical application of the new system. I do not mean to say that the new system is a perfect one; I can see some things in it that I should like to see changed, but it is a human system and no such claim perfection for itself. Then, it is an untried system and awaits its practical application to disclose imperfections that none of us see now. I believe that in the hands of a practical class of men such as those must be who compose the Bench and Bar of the Empire, these imperfections will gradually disappear and the system will adjust itself to local conditions and the demands of public justice and right. We sympathize with you, gentlemen, who will undertake this responsibility and assure you that we of the foreign communities, and possibly the governments that stand behind us, will watch with the deepest and most friendly interest for the results that will follow upon your taking charge of the practical handling and application of the new system.

MR. KIKUCHI.

Mr. Kikuchi (speaking in English)—You will not induct me for speaking disparagingly of your Inns of Court, when I say that somehow in my mind they have always been inseparably associated with dinner-eating. This peculiar attribute of your honourable Society seems to have a long history behind it, and, tested by the famous theory of evolution, it must be considered as the

fittest, *i.e.*, one best calculated for the welfare and prosperity of the venerable institution. It is a happy augury for your own Association that you started and kept it up with dinner-eating. None of your guests ever had a chance to get even a peep at any of the traditional convivialities of your mother society. But to-night we have been, through your kindness, permitted for the first time in our life not only to be present at, but actually to participate in, a similar entertainment held by your own Association. Naturally we deem it a great honour and privilege on our part, and there is no manner of doubt that all of us have gladly done full justice to and most gratefully and heartily enjoyed your sumptuous dinner. As for myself, however, I must beg your pardon to make a slight qualification of the statement I have just offered. All your dishes have been so many delicacies and all your wines excellent. But something has materially interfered with my hearty enjoyment of those delicacies and excellences. It was not the wearing of a stiff shirt and a swallow-tail, to neither of which I take a very special liking, but it was the grave sense of an approaching office which I was to have the honour to perform and which I am now performing. Now, apart from dinners, your Inns of Court are certainly an institution sufficiently unique in their character. They are the nurseries of your legal luminaries. They alone send forth all your judges, able and learned; it is from them alone that all your counsel of varied talents come. They may be fitly called the *de facto* fountain of British justice. Sir, this is no small virtue indeed, for British administration of justice is freely admitted on all hands to be the fairest and purest, and therefore, the best in the world. But I will not presume to dilate further upon the subject with which all of you are far more familiar than myself. It may not be amiss, however, to allude to some of the beneficial effects and influences which the venerable institution has, through its members, produced, and may yet produce, upon our country. During the early stages of our post-Restoration judicial history, most of the rudimentary ideas concerning practical dispensation of justice were thrust into our heads by English lawyers, perhaps with some assistance from their American cousins. I am not quite sure whether the earliest advisers to the Judicial Department were Englishmen or Americans, though I know that the latest is one of your fellow members present here to-night,—Mr. Kinkwood. But there is not the slightest doubt that those foreign lawyers who made our court-rooms ring with their learned arguments were almost all your brothers. In those days they were not particularly solicitous to follow up our rules of practice—and these were not many surely—but they made themselves quite at home in our courts, pursuing there the course of procedure which they were accustomed to take in their own tribunals. Many a time they startled and bewildered—I will not say teased—our judges with strange motions and other novel practices. But that was exactly the way in which our courts imbibed many of the modern forms of procedure, not to say of principles of substantive laws. In this connection, I should not fail to mention one at least of your Japanese members who, though he has left the Bar for politics, laboured then as a practitioner as well as in other capacities to introduce some of the sound rules of the English law into our own. I allude to Mr. Hoshi Toru. Several of your members who are here to-night may yet be able to recall vividly the scenes of those by-gone days and perhaps have in store many interesting personal reminiscences which they could relate. How their patience must have been taxed in conducting their cases through our courts, I can well imagine. But I should be sorry, indeed, if those gentlemen would gauge our courts of to-day and what is going on there with their memories of the former times as their standard. It may be worth while to spend an odd hour or two some day in taking a general survey of our moot rooms for the sake of curiosity, if for nothing else. They will not fail to observe some marked changes that have come over various phases of our judicial proceedings. It will not be exactly right to attribute all those improvements directly to their efforts and influences of the early days, but they will find some satisfaction in reflecting that their Japanese brothers have carefully and zealously husbanded the seeds they sowed in the past and have otherwise been prominent factors in bringing about the results referred to this evening. Let us turn for a moment to what your Japanese members have been doing since. In the Law Department of the Tokyo Imperial University, your Society is represented by the professor of the oldest standing, Professor Hadzumi, and two others, one of whom is an out and out advocate of English law. Speaking of legal education, some of you will remember a law insti-

tute once known as the English Law School, whose alumni now number more than two thousand. One of its founders, and for many years its most active and energetic promoter, belongs to your Society. I need hardly say I refer to Mr. Masujima. Of all the Courts in Japan, the one at Yokohama was the first to break up the old sluggish way of conducting judicial business and introduced instead the fresh atmosphere of modern practice. The then President of that Court, Mr. Okamura, is a member of your Association. If you come to codification of laws, you will recognize your fellow members taking a leading and prominent part in it. I need hardly remind you of the fact that you can count among you some of the ablest and most successful members of the Tokyo Bar. It will not be fitting to push my case further and resort to further evidence to prove all the results that have been brought about by the various members of your Society and Association. I remarked before that considerable progress had been made in the transaction of our judicial business. I should not be understood, however, to say that it approaches anything like perfection. On the other hand, I am one of those who believe that much is still left undone, and that there is still great room for improvement. As you are well aware, we have now codes of law, the criminal as well as civil, the substantive as well as the adjective. They are all made after Western models and substantially embody rules and principles common to civilized nations. Having taken a hand myself in the compilation of some of them, I shall not be expected to speak ill of them, even if you would allow me to. At the same time, we should remember that codes are but a form of legislation and legislations, however good in their ways, do not necessarily make the administration of justice what it ought to be. Egypt and Bulgaria may boast of excellent codes, but we are not to infer that therefore their administration of laws is also perfect. In fact, good laws badly administered are far worse than bad laws well handled. I am far from intimating that our administration of justice is not good. I simply mean to say that there is no necessary connection between the character of legislation and that of administration of law, and we should not sit contented because we have turned out so many codes. That there is much room for amelioration in the department of criminal justice, for instance, is a point upon which the opinions of the Bench and the Bar are practically unanimous. Now where shall we turn our attention to find a guiding light in the path towards realizing our aspiration? I do not hesitate to say, I am not afraid to express my conviction that we should look for it in England. No part of the English judicial system presents so marked a contrast to those of Continental Europe as its criminal justice. The enviable fame England has earned for her administration of justice is due largely, if not mainly, to her superiority in that respect. I have the authority of the greatest French thinkers for my remark. When the general public in this country comes to a similar conviction, an association like your own cannot fail to exercise a beneficial influence and assistance. I am not one of those who believe that the operation of our Revised Treaties will work wonders or miracles among our people, nor am I of those who believe in the impracticability of their operation. When they have been put into force, the dissatisfaction, if any at all, of the foreign residents may, perhaps, appear in the form of complaints about our criminal justice. Mere grumbles cannot be listened to, of course. To gain attention, complaints must be formulated and remedies should be suggested, if not pointed out. Under such circumstances, work might very naturally fall upon the members of your Association. I do not know whether your association, as such, will take any action in matters of such nature, but its individual members may have occasion to render valuable assistance in some way or other towards the future betterment of our judicial administration. I trust, however, you will not understand me as insinuating that you should extend your helping hands to such sanguine schemes as would convert our prisons into so many comfortable homes and their cells into drawing rooms. I shall not detain you longer, but before sitting down I should not omit to tender you our sincere thanks for your kindness and our best wishes for the prosperity of your Association and the good health of its members. And I must not forget also to express my earnest hope that, should I ever be given a similar honour again, I may be invited in fee simple, *i.e.*, without any condition or encumbrance whatsoever, so that I shall be able to enjoy without any deduction and to my heart's content all the delicacies and excellencies of your table.

P. C. & A. C. ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The spring sports of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club were held on Saturday, and were very largely attended, the gathering proving a great success both from a social and sporting point of view. The sport was especially good. In the putting the shot Onderdonk beat his record by five inches; in the hurdle race Dyer created a new record of 17½ secs, half a second better than the old; in the pole jump E. W. Kilby beat A. J. Smith's record of nine feet by two inches, and in the long jump Dyer tied J. Eyton's record of 20 feet. 4½ inches. The management was good, and there were no long waits between the events, while the performances of the *Barfleur's* band helped to relieve the proceedings of all monotony. The following were the officials:—Messrs. Jas. Dodds, J. P. Mollison, and H. A. Stewart, Judges; Mr. D. H. Blake, Clerk of the Course; Mr. E. I. Dyer, Starter; Mr. H. Gunn and Mr. E. Mendelson, Timekeepers; Mr. J. P. Mollison, President; Mr. C. M. Duff, Vice-President and Captain; Mr. F. E. White, Hon. Treas.; Messrs. D. H. Blake, E. I. Dyer, F. J. Lias, E. Mendelson, and Thos. Forrest, Committee; and Mr. H. A. Stewart, Hon. Sec.

Following are details of the events:—

100 YARDS FLAT RACE Handicap.—First prize broker's cup.

1ST HEAT.			
C. E. Libeaud ...	2 Yards	...	1
F. H. Hall ...	Scratch	...	2
E. G. Fradgley ...	3 yards	...	0
Time, 11½ secs.			

2ND HEAT.			
J. E. Drummond ...	Scratch	...	1
G. C. Alcock ...	Scratch	...	2
E. W. Kilby ...	3 yards	...	0
M. Mendelson ...	3 yards	...	0
Time, 11½ secs.			

FINAL.			
Drummond ...	...	...	1
Libeaud ...	...	...	2
Alcock ...	...	...	3
Hall ...	...	...	0
Time, 11½			

Libeaud, who is a new arrival, ran capably, and promises to maintain the family reputation.

HIGH JUMP.—Handicap.—Club Record 5 ft. 6 in., 1897. H. K. A. Onderdonk, First prize, "Tea" Cup.

H. K. A. Onderdonk ...	Scratch	...	1
J. F. Drummond ...	1 inch	...	2
L. W. Eyton ...	2 inches	...	0

Eyton only managed to negotiate a height of 4 ft. 10 inches; Drummond dropped out at 5 feet 5 in. Onderdonk accomplished one inch more, but failed to beat his own record.

QUARTER-MILE FLAT RACE (One Lap.—Handicap.—(Club Members). Club Record, 55½ sec., Nov., 1892. J. Eyton, Jr. First prize, "Professional" Cup.

J. F. Drummond ...	Scratch	...	1
M. Mendelson ...	5 yards	...	2
H. S. Goddard ...	Scratch	...	0
E. E. Fradgley ...	5 yards	...	0
Time 56 secs.			

Drummond won by several yards.

PUTTING THE SHOT.—Handicap.—Club Record, 36 ft. 2 in., May, 1898. H. K. A. Onderdonk, First prize, "Merchants" Cup.

H. K. A. Onderdonk ...	Scratch	...	1
J. M. Scott ...	4 feet	...	2
L. E. McChesney ...	4 feet	...	3

Onderdonk's put was 35 feet 6 in., Scott's being 28 feet 2 in., and McChesney's 28 feet, 1 in. Onderdonk made a special effort, apart from the contest, to beat his previous best, and did so by five inches.

HURDLE RACE, 220 YARDS, 10 3 FT. 6 IN. FLIGHTS.—Handicap.—Club Record, 18 sec., April, 1878, A. H. Dare (over 3 ft. 3 in. hurdles.) First prize, "Insurance" Cup.

J. F. Drummond ...	15 Yards and one hurdle removed...	1
H. K. A. Onderdonk ...	15 Yards and one hurdle removed...	2
E. I. Dyer ...	Scratch	3
S. H. Kuhn ...	20 Yards and one hurdle removed...	4
Time, 17 secs.		

Drummond passed Onderdonk on the fifth hurdle, and won by six or seven yards, Dyer dead-heating with Onderdonk for second place. Drummond's time was 17 secs., but he did not run the whole distance; Dyer, the scratch man, ran the course in 17½ secs., ½ sec. better than Dare's previous record.

50 YARDS FLAT RACE.—Handicap.—First prize "Steamship" Cup.

G. C. Alcock ...	Scratch	...	1
M. Mendelson ...	1 Yard	...	2
Time, 6 secs.			

POLE JUMP.—Handicap.—Club Record 9 ft. 6 in., April, 1878, A. J. Smith. First prize, Club prize.

E. W. Kilby ...	3 inches	...	1
E. Powys, Jr. ...	3 inches	...	2
H. K. A. Onderdonk ...	Scratch	...	3
H. S. Goddard ...	Scratch	...	0

Goddard failed to clear 9 ft. Powys cleared 9 ft. 6 in., and Kilby 9 ft. 2 in.

HALF-MILE FLAT RACE (Two Laps).—Handicap.—Club Record, 2 min. 9 sec., May, 1876, A. H. Dare. First prize, presented by "The Union Assurance Society."

E. H. Jellicoe ...	Scratch	...	1
F. G. Fradgley ...	15 yards	...	2
C. E. Libeaud ...	5 yards	...	3
A. W. S. Austen ...	20 yards	...	0
H. W. Kilby ...	20 yards	...	0
Time, 2.11½.			

Fradgley led for the first lap, closely followed by Jellicoe, but half-way through the second lap Jellicoe passed him and finished an easy first.

"NAVY" QUARTER-MILE FLAT RACE (One Lap).—Scratch.—First prize, Club prize.

J. White ...	...	...	1
Bell ...	...	...	2
Phillips ...	...	...	0
Collier ...	...	...	0
Harvey ...	...	...	0
Scriven ...	...	...	0
Time, 59 secs.			

LONG JUMP.—Handicap.—Club Record, 20 ft. 4½ in., Nov. 1891, J. Eyton. First prize, "Bankers'" Prize.

E. I. Dyer ...	Scratch	...	1
E. G. Fradgley ...	1 Foot	...	2
E. W. Kilby ...	6 inches	...	0
H. K. A. Onderdonk ...	3 inches	...	0

Dyer tied the record with a jump of 20 feet 4½ in. Fradgley made an actual jump of 17 feet 11 inches which, without his handicap, entitled him to second place. Kilby jumped 17 feet 10 in. and Onderdonk 17 feet 9½ inches.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.—Handicap.—Club Record 106 yards, 2 ft. 11 in., Nov., 1891, E. B. S. Edwards. First prize, Silk Men's Prize.

H. R. Barnard ...	5 yards	...	1
D. H. Cameron ...	Scratch	...	2
H. S. Goddard ...	Scratch	...	3
E. H. Irvine ...	15 yards	...	0
D. H. Blake ...	5 "	...	0
B. F. Joline ...	5 "	...	0

Barnard won, his throw being 105 yards 1 foot. Cameron's was 99 yards 1 foot.

ONE MILE FLAT RACE (Four Laps).—Handicap.—Club Record, 4 min. 45 sec., May, 1876, A. H. Dare. First prize, "Dare Challenge" Cup.

H. A. Poole ...	60 yards	...	1
E. W. Kilby ...	Scratch	...	2
E. H. Jellicoe ...	Scratch	...	3
E. G. Fradgley ...	50 yards	...	0
H. W. Kilby ...	40 yards	...	0
Time, 4 min. 55½ secs.			

Poole ran splendidly, and finished with several yards to spare. The winner's time was for the actual distance run; E. W. Kilby's time was 4 min. 57½ secs.

At the close the prizes were presented to the winners by Mrs. Flint-Kilby.

THE JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Report and Accounts showing the working of the old Company for the year ended the 31st March, 1899, and the position of the new Company on the 1st April, 1899.

The Directors have the pleasure to present herewith the accounts which have been prepared by the liquidators of the old Company, for the business year ended the 31st March, 1899.

The sales over the past year were fairly satisfactory, and there is reason to expect a marked in-

crease during that now commenced, the sales for April being considerably in excess of those ever recorded for the same month of the year, and the improvement in storage room and bottling capacity enabling the company to meet the demand for their beer more adequately than has been possible during the last two summers. The *Kim Beer* placed on the market has become very popular.

The price of wages, materials, and coal were very high during some part of the year; but in coal and in several other items a considerable reduction has already taken place.

The working account for the year shows a profit of \$96,307.35, which added to the sum of \$14,172.20 brought to forward from the previous year, makes the total net profits \$110,479.55. Deducting from this \$23,625.00 for the interim dividend of 15 per cent. and part bonus to Chief Brewer paid in October, 1898, a balance is left of \$86,854.55 which has been paid over to the new company, and will be disposed of as follows:—

To payment of \$15.00 per share on 1,500 old Shares in the old Company (making a total for the year of 30 per cent.) \$22,500.00
To Depreciation on Buildings and Machinery 10,000.00
To Auditors' Fees and Bonus to Staff, including a special Bonus to Chief Brewer on retirement 6,126.50
Carried forward..... 48,228.05

The difference between dollars and yen on the instalments of the 6,000 new shares in the old Company, interest on such instalments, and the other extraordinary costs occasioned by the issue of new Capital and by the carrying out of the Reconstruction Scheme have, in so far as paid, been met out of the Reserve Fund, such being deemed a proper course.

The new Company was registered in Hongkong on the 8th of April, with the same Directors as were on the Board of the old Company, namely Messrs. James Dodds, J. D. Hutchinson, W. R. Bennett, T. B. Glover, R. S. James, and H. Baehr. As soon as the register of Shareholders permits, a general meeting will be called.

By order of the Board of Directors,
JAMES STEWART, Secretary.
Yokohama, 1st May, 1899.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1899.

DR. LIABILITIES.
To 1,500 Shares at \$100 each, fully paid up..... \$150,000.00
To 6,000 Shares at \$50 each..... \$300,000.00
Less amount not yet paid up..... 650.00
To 900 Debentures at \$100 each..... 209,350.00
To Reserve Fund 90,000.00
To R-sources \$110,000.00
Less approx. Interest and difference between Yen and Dollars on New Capital Instalments, & Reconstruction Expenses 32,117.84
To Bills Payable 77,882.16
To Sundry Creditors..... 37,772.00
To Balance of Profit and Loss Account 71,979.48
86,854.55

CR. ASSETS.
By Landed Property and Buildings thereon..... \$124,050.20
By Machinery in operation..... 51,716.62
„ Plant, Casks and Vats, Coking and other Machinery 58,093.61
By Working Stores, Mah, Hops, Stock of Beer and Bottles 274,804.59
By Office and other Furniture 1,278.57
„ Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Account 1,501.45
By Mitsui Bussan Kaisha 5,151.58
„ Cash and Petty Cash 772.17
„ Coal Stock 65.00
By Fire Insurance Policies Current 1,367.14
By Brewery Extension 162,039.20
By Remittances to Hamburg &c New Brewery Plant 75,465.03
By Sundry Debtors 57,443.03
813,838.19

WORKING ACCOUNT.
1899, 31st March. **DR.**
To Interest \$ 6,051.46
„ Coal 19,829.15
„ Ground Rent 436.32

„ Fire Insurance..... 3,161.65
„ Salaries and Wages 36,600.29
„ Charges, etc. 23,132.86
„ Wear and Tear 6,448.06
„ Discounts, Commission and Advertising 92,601.46
„ Directors' Fees 1,500.00
„ Balance to Profit and Loss Account 96,307.35

1899, 31st March. **CR.**
By Profit on Brewing Account \$284,608.60
„ Waste Grains 1,370.00
\$286,068.60

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.
DR.—31st March, 1899.
To November 1898 Interim Dividend, 15 per cent \$ 22,500.00
To Brewer's Bonus on ditto 1,125.00
To Balance 86,854.55
\$110,479.55

CR.—31st March, 1899.
By Balance from year 1897/8 \$ 14,172.20
By Working Account profit for year 1898/9 96,307.35
\$110,479.55

JAS. DODDS, } Liquidators.
JAMES STEWART, }
Counter-signed: JAMES STEWART, Secretary.
We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the Books, Vouchers and Securities in the possession of the Company and find them to be correct.
R. S. SCHWAB, } Auditors.
F. J. HALL, }

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE "AFFAIRE."

Saigon, May 13.
Major Guignet has been put on the retired list for having communicated to a newspaper some letters which passed between the Ministers of War and Foreign Affairs with reference to the Paléologue incident.

Saigon, May 14.
M. Viviani (Radical Socialist deputy) questioned the French Cabinet on the subject of the affair of Major Guignet. M. Krantz, Minister of War, replied that Major Guignet had acknowledged that he had caused to be transmitted to the *Petit-Journal* the letters published. M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, recalled the incident which had occurred between Major Guignet and M. Paléologue (of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) before the Court of Cassation on the subject of the despatch of Panizzardi (Military Attaché of the Italian Embassy). Major Guignet had finally been obliged to recognise that the translation remitted in 1894 to the Minister of War by the Minister of Foreign Affairs was exact. The Chamber received this last statement with cheers.

An order of the day declaring confidence in the Government was adopted by 389 votes to 64.

ANGLO-FRENCH CONVENTION.

The Chamber then approved, by show of hands, after a short discussion, the Anglo-French Convention relating to the Nile and the Niger.

ITALIAN CABINET.

Saigon, May 15.
The Italian Cabinet has been reconstructed under the presidency of General Pelloux.

DISORDER IN SPAIN.

A state of siege has been established at Valladolid in consequence of disturbances which took place between the students and the military.

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

Saigon, May 16.
The French Senate is diligently discussing the Budget.

THE BELGIAN COAL STRIKE.

The strike of coal-miners in Belgium has terminated.

THE MARCHAND MISSION.

The arrival of Major Marchand's mission in Paris is expected. Delegates of the Ministries of War, of the Navy, and of the Colonies are charged with the duty of receiving the mission at the station. Various receptions will follow.

THE FRENCH AND CHINA.

A Chinese Imperial Decree of April recognises the Catholic Religion throughout the whole of China; accords a grade to every missionary; and confirms the French protectorate.

DEATH OF A LITTERATEUR.

The French man of letters, critic, and journalist, M. Francisque Sarcey, is dead.

ENGLISHMEN IN THE TRANSVAAL.

Saigon, May 18.
Seven Englishmen have been arrested at Johannesburg for plotting against the Transvaal.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE TRANSVAAL SITUATION.

London, May 12.
Anxiety at Johannesburg has been allayed, owing to the report that Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of Cape Colony, and President Krüger are to meet at Bloemfontein.

London, May 15.
Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of the Cape Colony, and President Krüger are to meet at Bloemfontein at the end of the month.

London, May 17.
A sensation has been caused in South Africa and London by the news that seven former British officers have been arrested at Johannesburg, charged with inciting treason and enrollment of men for the purposes of rebellion, and that they have been conveyed to a gaol at Pretoria, where they have been visited by the British Agent.

CRISIS IN THE ENGLISH CHURCH.

London, May 12.
The Church Discipline Bill has been rejected by 310 votes against 156, and the Government amendment adopted.

CRICKET SEASON BEGUN.

The first match between Australians and the South of England team ended in a draw.

London, May 15.
The Essex team has beaten the Australians by 126.

BRITISH LAND TITLES AT HANKOW.

London, May 13.
Mr. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary to the Foreign Office, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that representations had been made to Russia relative to the refusal of the Russian Consul to recognize British land titles at Hankow, and that Russia had instructed its Consul to suspend any definite action.

BOUNTY-FED SUGAR.

The Right Hon. C. T. Ritchie, President of the Board of Trade, replying to a deputation of sugar refiners favouring agreement with Powers willing to penalize bounty-fed sugars, said that he and Lord

Salisbury had no objection to countervailing duties, but that before proposing them they must be certain that the country was with them, as was the case in India.

FRENCH CHAMBER APPROVES CONVENTION.

London, May 15.

The French Chamber of Deputies has approved the African Convention with Great Britain.

BRITISH BUDGET.

The Budget was passed through the Committee.

A RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

An excursion train dashed into an express at Exeter, on the Philadelphia-Reading Railroad. In consequence 34 were killed and 40 injured.

RUSSIA'S NEW DEMAND ON CHINA.

London, May 16.

Mr. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, speaking in the House of Commons, said that, until full facts regarding Russia's demand to connect the Manchurian railway system direct with Peking are laid before the Government, he cannot make any pronouncement thereon.

The *Times* says in a leader that the Russian demand directly tends to frustrate the object of the recent agreement, namely the avoidance of all cause of conflict, that British trade in China rests on British power and prestige, and that both are seriously endangered by the Russian action.

ALLEGED TREASON AT JOHANNESBURG.

London, May 18.

It has since transpired that the Transvaal prisoners are civilian nobodies. They have been remanded for a fortnight on the capital charge of enrolling men, intending to arm them at Natal and return at a given signal to seize Johannesburg.

The British Agent called on President Krüger and expressed his regret as to the occurrence, when everything pointed toward a friendly understanding.

President Krüger, in reply, hoped that the affair would not interfere with his meeting Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of the Cape Colony.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

NEW RUSSIAN DEMAND.

Peking, May 12, 2 p.m.

The Russian Minister called at the Tsungli Yamen on the 10th, and demanded a concession for the construction of a railway to Peking through Shanghai-kwan from a convenient starting point in Manchuria.

Peking, May 16.

The starting point of the railway line, a concession for the construction of which Russia has demanded of the Tsung-li Yamen, is Newchwang.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN")

DISTURBANCE AT KOWLOON.

Shanghai, May 16.

Renewed disturbances have occurred in the Hinterland of Kowloon. Over 100 soldiers and three gunboats were despatched from Hongkong. The Volunteers are also on guard.

(FROM THE "CHIN MAIL.")

AGUINALDO SUING FOR PEACE.

Manila, May 4.

President Aguinaldo's envoys have made a second visit to the American lines, and after a conference asked Major-General Otis to grant an armistice.

To this application, General Otis once more replied in the negative, and the insurgent envoys have returned to Apalit.

The Spanish commissioners, who went to Dagupan to endeavour to arrange for the release of the Spanish prisoners held by the insurgents, were not allowed to hold any communication with the shore, armed rebels assembling on the beach to prevent their landing.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, May 13th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,760,784
Amount of convertible notes issued	167,483,142
Government deposits	28,876,637
General deposits	6,550,269
Exchange liability	86,762

Total 247,757,594

Cr.	Yen.
Discount notes	25,644,931
Foreign discount notes	11,868,013
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	38,663,414
Exchange liability	1,119,452
Government bonds	45,149,788
Property	1,829,494
Bullion and Specie	101,482,500

Total 247,757,594

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued ... 167,091,452

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	97,719,151
Silver	—

Total 97,719,151

Securities:—

Government bonds	35,465,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	8,558,363
Commercial notes	3,348,150

Total 69,372,301

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess issue	—	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	33,300	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	4,200,272
Government deposits	—	4,075,115
General deposits	—	3,668,098

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. May 20
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. May 20
Canada, etc.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of China	M. May 20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	Th. May 25
America	T. E. K.	America Maru	Th. May 25
Hongkong	T. E. K.	Nippon Maru	M. May 25
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	—	Tu. May 26
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Su. June 4
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. June 5
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. June 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. June 22

- 1 Left Nagasaki on the 17th inst.
- 2 Left Nagasaki on the 17th inst.
- 3 Left Vancouver on the 9th inst.
- 4 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.
- 5 Left San Francisco on the 6th inst.
- 6 Left San Francisco on the 16th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of China	M. May 20
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu. May 23
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Laos	W. May 24
Shanghai	N. V. K.	Kobe Maru	W. May 24
Hongkong	T. E. K.	America Maru	F. May 26
Canada, etc.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	F. May 26
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. May 27
America	T. E. K.	Nippon Maru	W. May 27
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. June 1
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. June 2
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. June 7
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. June 23

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 420.

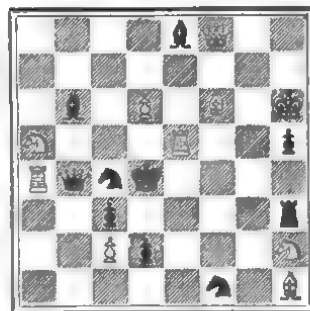
WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to R4
2—Q to QKt sq mate
Correct solutions received from East Anglia, W.D.C., and *vis*.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W.D.C.—Have returned answer.
EAST ANGLIA.—Problem 421, send full solution! Yours contains only two minor variations, which is not sufficient.

PROBLEM No. 423.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 507.

THE INTERNATIONAL CABLE MATCH.

SECOND TABLE.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Showalter, U. S. Black—Atkins, England.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	1 K4	23 Q Kt3	P R3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	24 P KR4	P B4
3 B Kt5	P QB3	25 P KtP	B Px KtP
4 B R4	P Q3	26 P xP	P xP
5 P B3	P Kt3	27 Q B2	R B4
6 P Q4	B Q2	28 K Q4	R KB3
7 Castles	B Kt2	29 R Q5	KR QB3
8 P xP	Kt xP	30 B Kt5	B B2
9 Kt xKt	B xKt	31 R Q2	B K4
10 P KB4	B Kt2	32 K Q4	B Kt5
11 B K3	Kt K4	33 P K3	B K4
12 Kt Q2	P QKt4	34 K Kt2	Q B3
13 B QB2	K QB3	35 R Q7	B Kt5
14 Kt B3	Q K2	36 Q Q2	Q K4
15 Q Q2	QR Q4	37 R QBch	K Kt2
16 QR Kt5	B K3	38 B KB2	R xR
17 P QK3	P B3	39 Q xR	B Q3
18 P B5	B B2	40 Q Q7	R K3
19 Q B2	Castles	41 P QK4	B B4
20 Q R4	B K4	42 P xP	B xP
21 Kt Q4	Kt xKt	43 R Q5	Q Kt7
22 P xKt	P Kt4	44 R xB	Q xB

And White announces a mate in 7 moves.

GAME No. 508.

One of 26 games played simultaneously at the Manhattan Chess Club, New York.

WHITE—Steinitz. BLACK—Amateur.

1—P to K4	1—P to K4
2—P to QB3	2—P to Q3
3—P to Q4	3—B to Q2
4—B to QB4	4—Kt to KB3
5—Q to Kt3	5—Q to K2
6—Q takes Kt P	6—B to B3
7—Q to B8 ch	7—Q to Q4
8—B takes P ch	8—K to K2
9—Q to K6 mate	

GAME No. 509.

A consultation game, in which three of the best players in Moscow were pitted against Lasker, who won in an exceedingly brilliant and original manner in 19 moves, as appended. The *London Mail*, to which paper we are indebted for this game, says the play will justly cause a sensation throughout the chess world.

LASKER V. MESSRS. FALK, BOFARKOW, AND BLUMENFELD.

WHITE—The Allies. BLACK—Lasker.

(Q P Opening).

1—P to Q4	1—P to Q4
2—P to QB4	2—P to K4

This move, when played a move earlier, constitutes the Charlick Counter Gambit, which probably suggested the text move. Mr. Marshall, a young player of New York, recently won a game with it from the French champion M. Janowski.

3-Q P takes P

3-P to Q 5

This is somewhat analogous to Black 3-P to K 5 in the Falkbeer-Lederer defence to the King's Gambit.

4-P to K 3

4-Kt to K B 3 was the correct play.

5-B to Q 2

4-B to Q Kt 5 ch

A surprising and pretty continuation.

6-Q to R 4 ch

5-P takes P 1

Of course, it is fairly obvious that if White had played 6-B takes B at once, then Black by P takes P ch, 7-K to K 2, P takes Kt (becoming a Knight, ch) 8-R takes Kt, B to Kt 5 ch wins the Queen. The move played seemed a safe course to win a piece, but it soon led the allies into difficulties.

7-B takes B

6-Kt to B 3

8-Kt to K 2

7-Q to R 5!

P to Kt 3 seems stronger, though Black would recover at least the piece by P takes P ch, followed by Q to Q 5 ch.

9-B to Q 4

8-Q takes P ch 1

10-Q Kt to B 3

9-B to Kt 5

11-B to Q 6

10-Castles ch

* There is nothing better.

12-P to K 6

11-P takes B

13-K to B 4

12-P takes P

14-P to Kt 4

13-Kt to B 3

15-P to Kt 5

14-P to Q 4

16-P takes P

15-Kt to K 4

17-Q to B 2

16-Kt takes P

18-Kt to Q 4

17-Kt to Kt 5

19-Kt takes Q

18-Kt takes Q

19-R to Q 7

The masterplay of the champion forms a valuable study.

And White resigns.

NOTES.

Cambridge proved greatly superior to Oxford this year, winning by 5½ to 1½ in their annual match.

Pillsbury, in his exhibition-tour, found Chess-players everywhere. "In towns where it would not be expected that Chess would have many votaries, there has been no difficulty in arranging simultaneous exhibitions with twenty or thirty boards, . . . with crowds of interested onlookers. In the cities it has not been possible to accommodate the crowds comfortably."

Janowski and Showalter have played three matches: the first was won by Janowski, and the other two, of five and seven games, by Showalter. They have now agreed to play a contest of ten games up for \$1,000 a side, the match to come off in the autumn.

A telegraph match between Seattle and San Francisco, which has been pending for about two years was to come off this month.

M. Loubet, the President of the French Republic, has informed a committee of the International Chess Congress in Paris that he would be pleased to present several Sevres vases, valued at 5,000 francs, as special prizes for the international chess tournament to be contested in Paris.

Some time ago we published a list of the Chess-champions of the world. In this list the name of the champion of champions—Paul Morphy—does not appear. While Morphy was undoubtedly the greatest player of his time, yet he never was the Champion of the World. While he vanished Prof. Anderssen, he did not play a match with him or with any one for championship honours.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 12th May.—Kobe, 10th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 12th May.—Yokkaichi, 11th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 12th May.—Shanghai via ports, 6th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Goodwin, British steamer, 2,832, Gordon, 12th May.—Cardiff via Singapore, Cardiff Coal.—Mitsui & Co.

Shantung, British steamer, 1,835, H. C. D. Frampton, 23rd May.—San Diego via Honolulu, 16th April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 13th May.—Portland, Oregon, 23rd April, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, T. Aitken, 14th May.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 12th May, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 14th May.—Otaru via ports, 9th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 14th May.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 13th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

The Hahnemann, British ship, 1,937, Robert Brown, 14th May.—New York, 24th November, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, Nishimura, 15th May.—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 13th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 15th May.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 13th May, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 718, K. Soyeda, 15th May.—Yokkaichi, 14th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jehang, British steamer, 1,350, Darby, 16th May.—Taiwanfoo, 9th May, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 16th May.—Yokkaichi, 15th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 16th May.—Otaru via ports, 11th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Olsen, 17th May.—Kobe, 15th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, Flandin, 17th May.—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 16th May, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Victorious (16), British battleship, 14,900, Captain A. Schomberg, 17th May.—Yokosuka, 17th May.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 17th May.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 29th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 17th May.—Kobe, 16th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 18th May.—Newchwang, Beans and Bean Cake.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 18th May.—Kobe, 17th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Woltersdorff, 12th May.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachf.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 12th May.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 12th May.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Arakawa, 13th May.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 13th May.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Vortigern, British steamer, 1,982, J. Fairweather, 13th May.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Barfleur (14), British battleship, 10,500, Capt. Hon. Stanley C. J. Colville, 13th May.—Kobe and Nagasaki.

Shanshi, British steamer, 1,350, Carnochan, 14th May.—Mojito, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,595, M. Hamada, 14th May.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dunraggan, British barque, 1,477, W. P. Honeyman, 14th May.—Astoria, Oregon, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Yashima Kan (38), Japanese battleship, 12,517, Capt. Uchida, 14th May.—Yokosuka.

Matsushima Kan (40), Japanese cruiser, 4,278, Captain Endo, 14th May.—Yokosuka.

Itsukushima Kan (33), Japanese cruiser, 4,278, Captain M. Hashimoto, 14th May.—Yokosuka.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 14th May.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 15th May.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 15th May.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 15th May.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sibiria, German steamer, 2,367, Hildebrandt, 16th May.—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports and Saigon, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Shantung, British steamer, 1,835, H. C. D. Frampton, 16th May.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. H. Watkins, 17th May.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Yeosu, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chellaw, 17th May.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Laomene, British ship, 1,644, Hughes, 17th May.—Port Angeles, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 17th May.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 17th May.—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, S. Nishimura, 17th May.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 17th May.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 17th May.—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 18th May.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 18th May.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. Higo, 18th May.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, T. Aitken, 18th May.—San Diego via Honolulu and San Francisco, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Bathgate, Mr. Yamashita, Mr. C. Turner, Mr. A. Taske, Mr. Vockoff, Mr. Wang Tai Sien, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dinsay, Mrs. F. Bolton, Mr. G. D. Pali, Mr. G. Grenad, Mrs. Sokolavar, and Mr. Shanghai, in cabin; Mr. Li Yung, Mr. Harding, Mr. Kwang Yuen Haug, Mr. and Mrs. Bond, and Mr. Murray, in second class; 46 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Thwaites, Mr. Elerton, and Mr. G. Blundell, in cabin. For Portland:—Mrs. Hochappel, and Master Hochappel, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Laos*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Lem and servant, Mr. Pacheco, Mr. Denand, Mr. Cabaiacelin, Mr. G. Syrodis, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Mr. Walberg, Mr. Clouzet, Mr. J. Dettenov, Mr. J. M. Futer, Mr. and Mrs. Dettor Wilfred, daughter and son, Mr. de Malherbe, Mr. and Mrs. Bell Irving, Mr. Neu, Mr. Empson, Mrs. Belter and amah, Mr. Irving and boy, Mr. J. E. Brown, Mr. Ronsai, Mr. J. J. Hernandez, Mr. B. Hernandez, Mrs. and Miss Wehring, Mr. and Mrs. Cae, Mr. Gielen, Mr. Schwob, Mr. Handmacker, Mrs. Donnerberg, and Mr. Cove, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. U. Odin, Hon. C. Morita Vicuna, Mrs. M. Vicuna, Miss Paz Vicuna, Miss Carmen Vicuna, Miss H. Vicuna, Master Carlos Vicuna, Miss Francisco, Mr. Geo. R. Carter and wife and maid, Mr. T. Rinaldo and wife, Rev. C. K. Cummings, Mrs. C. K. Cummings and child, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mrs. B. C. Howard, Miss Howard, Miss Gladys Howard, Mr. W. S. Cawbach, Mrs. H. N. Lund, Miss Lund, Mr. W. E. Dodd, Mr. H. A. Strong and wife, and Mrs. H. L. Achilles, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. F. B. Abentheim, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. T. Fairhurst, Miss Ella E. Glover, Rev. J. W. Lowe, Mrs. J. W. Lowe and infant, Mr. L. R. Rosenthal, Mrs. L. Rosenthal and infant, Dr. John Fyter, and Mrs. John Fyter, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. L. R. Tuttle, Com. S. M. Ackley, and Mr. O. M. Gehlsen, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. L. Lazarus, Mr. E. Kellmann, Judge H. S. Wilkinson, Mr. H. G. Parlett, Mr. All. Woolley, Ober-Lieut. Meuncke, Miss L. C. Ogden, Mr. T. Rose, Mr. Otto Hille, Mr. R. Makita, Mr. Noel, and Mr. A. Kew, in cabin; 1 Chinese, 1 European, and 1 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Elsie Adair, Mr. F. R. App, Mr. Wm. Ashmore, Mrs. Ashmore, Mr. Eugene Bates, Mr. H. R. Bosman, Mrs. G. M. Brady, Master Brady, Mr. B. Blumenthal, Miss David Calmen, Miss Laila R. Carr, Mr. E. C. Clarke, Mr. D. Currie, Lieut. Cago Continho, Lord Compton, Mr. J. P. Cottam, Mr. C. E. Button, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Dewey, Miss L. Eizeld, Mrs. R. E. Ewan, Miss Ewan, Mr. F. Funk, Mrs. H. Gribble, Mr. M. Grote, Mr. Richard Hencock, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Hower, Mr. Hicks, Mr. G. Haflner, Mr. O. von der Hyde, Miss Hicks, Mr. H. Jones, Mr. A. Janssen, Mrs. Janssen, Mr. A. E. Kaeser, Mr. and Mrs. L. Kristensen, Miss Kristensen, Master Kristensen, Prof. Dr. Kouth, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lake, Mr. T. M. Little, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Marks, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Marshall, Master Marshall, Mr. J. C. McCall, Mr. H. S. Magor, Mrs. McKibben, Master V. M. MacKibben, Mr. S. Magnus, Mrs. Magnus, Mr. Noble, Mr. B. F. Norris, Mrs. Norris, Miss Norris, Mr. Alex. Pavlov, Chargé d'Affaires et Consul General de Russie à Seoul, Mr. W. F. Patton, Miss H. Patton, Miss Emily Parker, Master Parsons, Mr. G. B. Pettengill, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. B. Parsons, Miss Parsons, Mr. A. B. Paul, Mrs. Paul, Mrs. Reed, Mr. and Mrs. H. Sherman, Miss C. Serana, Mr. R. L. Scott, Mr. E. Z. Simmons, Mrs. Simmons, Mr. T. Shibata, Mr. S. Stover, Mr. Richard Thurn, Sir Richard Uduy, Lady Uduy, Col. and Mrs. von Winning, Mr. S. Waniwrek, Mr. and Mrs. A. Woorisky, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Winters, Mr. T. Yamaba, and Mr. C. Yamashita, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. Martin, Miss K. Martin, Mr. E. V. Palgrave, Mr. G. C. Taylor, M.B., Mr. Sinclair, Mr. J. Adamson, Mr. L. D. Abraham, and Mr. L. Bobsien, in cabin; 7 Chinese, 2 children and infant, and 3 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Fava*, for London via ports:—Mr. John S. Silveston, Mr. James Marshall, Mr. John S. Neale, and Miss Messer, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. G. D. Pole, Mr. Mudge, Mrs. Neubert, Baron N. Nakashima, M.P., Inspector of Arms S. Sakemoto, I.J.N., and family, Mr. Y. Yezaki, Mr. K. Ishimaru, Mr. C. Matsumuro, Mr. Hu Wei Chi, Mr. Kwang Kwo Wah, Mr. Nicolas Goloubson, Mr. J. M. Fouseca, Mr. K. Inouye, and Mr. Shun, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Young, Mrs. S. L. Bee, Mr. F. A. Marshall, Mr. F. W. Hoine, Mr. H. Sykes Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. R. Carter, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Strong, Mrs. H. L. Achilles, Mr. A. S. Handmacher, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mr. T. Fairhurst, Miss Ella E. Glover, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Lowe and infant, Mr. and Mrs. L. Rosenthal and infant, Dr. and Mrs. John Fryer, Mr. L. R. Tuttle, Com. L. M. Ackley, and Mr. O. M. Gehlsen, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Hohenzollern*:—

	RAW. Option	WASTE. Austria Italy Option
Olivier, de Langenhagen & Co.	4	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	47
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	—	36
		62

Total—4 bales Raw Silk; 145 bales Waste Silk.

Following are silk shippers per P. M. steamer *China*, for San Francisco, May 13:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	20
Herbert Dent & Co.	6
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	10
Kiito Shokwai	9
Doshinsha	4
Total	49

Following were silk shippers per P. & O. steamer *Rosetta*, for Europe, May 17:—

	Bales.
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	15
Olivier, de Langenhagen & Co.	8
Total	23

Waste silk, 113 bales.

Following were silk shippers per N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshin Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., May 17:—

Bavie & Co. 95

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been some business in "gassed" yarns, and prices have a rising tendency; while grey shirtings also show some movement. Fancy cottons and woollens, however, are dull.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½h, 38½ yds. 39 inches	\$8.50 to 9.00
Grey Shirtings—9h, 31½ yds. 45 inches	5.00 to 5.40
T. Cloth—7h, 24 yds. 34 inches	1.00 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yds. 14 inches	3.00 to 3.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds. 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Saltines Black, 52 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	\$0.40 to 0.60
Italians Cloth, 30 yards, 42-5 inches	0.38 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.35
Cloths—Pilot's, 54 ½ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 51 ½ 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 54 ½ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5½ per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 28 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victorians 1 lawn, 12 yards, 42-5 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 2.80
Turkey Reds—3.0 to 4.0, 24½ yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.50
Nos. 18/24, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	80.50 to 81.50
Nos. 2/100, Plain	100.00 to 103.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	72.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	91.00 to 93.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	117.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	\$19.25 to 19.50
Indian Branch	18.75 to 18.90
Chinese	20.00 to 21.00

METALS.

There has been some business in bar iron and galvanised sheets, and also some small transactions in iron sheets.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.00 to 5.10
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.70
Galvanised iron sheets	10.50 to 11.75
Wire Nails, assorted	6.75 to 7.00
Iron Plates, per box	6.40 to 6.70
Pig Iron, No. 3	8.00 to 8.10
Hoops Iron (½ to 1 inch)	5.75 to 5.90

KEROSENE.

The market is weak; quotations unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
American	\$1.25
Russian	3.50
Langkat	8.10

SUGAR.

The market is steady, and prices have an upward tendency.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Taka	\$1.85 to 5.70
Brown Manila	4.80 to 5.30
Brown Triniting	4.50 to 4.90
Brown Canto	5.00 to 6.80
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 8.20
White refined	7.90 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been no business and prices are nominal. The new crop is expected to prove satisfactory.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Flatures—Extra, Fine	—
Flatures—Extra, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 1, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 2, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 3, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 3, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 4, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 4, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 5, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 5, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 6, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 6, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 7, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 7, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 8, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 8, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 9, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 9, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 10, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 10, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 11, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 11, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 12, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 12, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 13, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 13, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 14, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 14, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 15, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 15, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 16, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 16, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 17, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 17, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 18, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 18, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 19, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 19, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 20, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 20, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 21, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 21, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 22, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 22, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 23, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 23, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 24, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 24, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 25, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 25, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 26, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 26, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 27, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 27, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 28, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 28, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 29, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 29, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 30, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 30, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 31, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 31, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 32, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 32, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 33, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 33, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 34, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 34, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 35, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 35, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 36, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 36, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 37, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 37, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 38, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 38, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 39, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 39, Coarse	—
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Flatures—No. 40, Coarse	—
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Flatures—No. 41, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 42, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 42, Coarse	—
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Flatures—No. 43, Coarse	—
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Flatures—No. 63, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 64, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 64, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 65, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 65, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 66, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 66, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 67, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 67, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 68, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 68, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 69, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 69, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 70, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 70, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 71, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 71, Coarse	—
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Flatures—No. 87, Coarse	—
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Flatures—No. 88, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 89, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 89, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 90, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 90, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 91, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 91, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 92, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 92, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 93, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 93, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 94, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 94, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 95, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 95, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 96, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 96, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 97, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 97, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 98, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 98, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 99, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 99, Coarse	—
Flatures—No. 100, Fine	—
Flatures—No. 100, Coarse	—

WASTE SILK.

Prices firm for the few remaining lots of good quality. The stock is estimated at 1,700 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Flatures, Best	—
Noshi—Flatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Flatures, Best	\$90 to 100
Kibiso—Flatures, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 30

TEA.

A large business has been transacted at prices about 10 per cent. lower for the better grades than last year. Medium qualities, for which there is most demand, show little decline. The quality is not so good as last year. Settlements are larger than at the corresponding date of 1898.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	34 to 35
Choice	32 to 33
First	30 to 31
Second	28 to 29
Good Medium	26 to 27
Medium	24 to 25
Good Common	—
Common	—

[Messrs. Bissat & Urr's List.]

Yokohama, May 18.
Hongkong wires us the following quotations:—Sellers of H. & S. Banks at 296 per cent. premium, Sellers of National Banks at 222, Buyers of China Fires at 282, Buyers of Hongkong Fires at 310, Buyers of H. & W. Ducks at 360 per cent. premium, Sellers of H. & K. Wharfs at 286, Buyers of Douglasses at 256, Sellers of Indochinas at 268, Sales of Panjoni Mines at 28, Sales of Raub Mines at 250.50, Hongkong Lands Buyers at 281, Buyers of Union Insurance 225, Buyers of China Traders at 261, Sellers of Straits Insurance at 24.50, and Buyers of H. C. & M. Steamboats at 229.25.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Iron Works have sellers at yen 210. Japan Breweries changed hands at yen 155. Grand Hotels are steady at yen 225. Club Hotels can be had at yen 90. Oriental Hotels are strong at yen 122.50. Bretts are offering at yen 9.50. North & Raes are wanted at yen 200. Langfeldts are unchanged at yen 160. Steam Landries are quoted at yen 65. In other Debenture stocks we have no changes to report.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.</

X **RARE FRENCH & ENGLISH WORKS.** X
 Curios, Facetia, Illustrations, &c.
 Very valuable private collection.
 Catalogue 1/-, postage paid.
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26 ins.

ATKINSON'S EAU DE COLOGNE

THE FINEST ENGLISH MAKE.
 More Fragrant; More Lasting; and
 very much more refreshing
 than all others.

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 AND BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

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 Of all Dealers & of the Manufacturers—

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 should possess a
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Hands and Hair Produced by

Cuticura SOAP

The most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery. The only preventive of pimples, blackheads, red, rough, and oily skin, red, rough hands with itching palms and shapeless nails, dry, thin, and falling hair, and simple baby blemishes, because the only preventive of inflammation and clogging of the PORES.

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Put this signature in blue on every jar.

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SIGNATURE

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IN BLUE INK
DIAGONALLY ACROSS THE
OUTSIDE WRAPPER

of every Bottle of the

ORIGINAL WORCESTERSHIRE

Sold Wholesale by the Proprietors,
Worcester;
Crosse & Blackwell, Ltd., London;
and Export Oilmen generally.

RETAIL EVERYWHERE.

SAUCE.

46na.

May 8th, 1898.

UNTOUCHED BY HAND.

MELLIN'S FOOD

For INFANTS and INVALIDS.

When prepared is similar to Breast Milk.

MELLIN'S FOOD WORKS, PECKHAM, LONDON, ENGLAND.

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April 15th, 1899.

Ideal Milk



Enriched 20 per
cent. with Cream.

STERILIZED—
NOT SWEETENED.

A Perfect Substitute
for Fresh Milk.

Superior
in quality to
every other
brand of
Unsweetened
Milk.

DINNEFORDS

The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach,
Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations,
Bilious Affections.



MAGNESIA

Sold Throughout the World.

N.B.—ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Physician's Cure
for Gout, Rheumatic
Gout and Gravel; the
safest and most gentle
Medicine for Infants,
Children, Delicate Fe-
males, and the Sick-
ness of Pregnancy.

February 25th 1899. 52na.

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Non-freezing & Ordinary Hydrants
and Street Washers.
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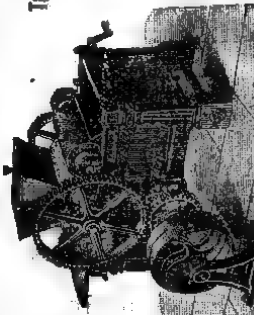
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CONTENTS.

Summary of News	451
Political Notes	452
Armaments and Foreign Policy	453
A Sensational Telegram	454
Dishonest String of "Habutaye"	455
Educational Problems	456
Bank of Formosa	457
Meeting of Bankers	458
Wool	459
Sugamo Prison Affair	460
Succession to Landed Estate in Foreign Settlements	461
Emigration to Korea	462
Operation of the New Commercial Code	463
Currency in Korea	464
Imperial Visit to Yokohama	465
Hibiya Park	466
Lake Kawaguchi	467
A Commercial Difficulty	468
Cotton Spinning	469
Japanese Claret	470
Japanese Ladies' Customs	471
Japanese Prospecting for Coal in China	472
Vicount Kawakami	473
Adulterated Silk Fabrics	474
Departure of Lieutenant Mellick	475
The Industrial Bank	476
Japan Fishing Enterprise in Korea	477
Leading Articles:—	
The Emperor's Visit to Yokohama	478
Japanese Views of the Anglo-Russian Entente	479
The Judiciary	480
Osaka Bank	481
Exchanges	482
Russians and Japanese in Nagasaki	483
Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society	484
Chamber Concert	485
Printers' Errors	486
Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club	487
Bank of Japan	488
News of the Week	489
Notes from China	490
New Laws of Japan	491
The Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1900	492
Telegrams	493
China	494
Latest Shipping	495
Latest Commercial	496

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE PUESSA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 13TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

At Herne Hill, London, on May 4th, the wife of THOS. W. McLEATH, Yokohama, of a Son.

DEATH.

At Holloway, London, on March 30th, Mrs. ELIZABETH CONDER, widow of the late Josiah Conder, aged seventy-two. (Intelligence received by mail of May 6th).

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS will visit the Tokyo Charity Hospital on the 16th.

THE EMPEROR had a magnificent reception in Yokohama on Tuesday when he drove through the Settlement on his way to the races.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR is said to be particularly pleased with the reception accorded him on Tuesday by the foreign community.

FINE weather favoured the spring race meeting:

the sport was good, and the general result excellent.

THE decorations in Yokohama, more particularly the Bund, were the best ever seen in this town.

THE Prince Imperial will pay a visit to the standing squadron, now lying at Yokosuka, on the 15th.

MR. KATO, Minister to Great Britain, is stated to have left Vancouver on the 28th ultimo for home.

THE Italian Cabinet has resigned, fearing that the Chamber will demand the recall of the Squadron from China.

THE pony Aberdeen, that did so well at the Hongkong races last February, won every race it entered at Yokohama.

THE amalgamation of the 130th National Bank, Osaka, and the Nishijin Bank, Kyoto, will shortly be carried out.

THE Russian journals say that the Anglo-Russian arrangement proves that England can no longer claim the lion's share in China.

THE last Chamber Concert of the Junker Quartette party took place on Thursday at the Public Hall and attracted a large audience.

LIEUT. M. MEINCKE, military attaché to the German Legation, had a farewell audience of the Prince Imperial at 10 a.m. on Wednesday.

MR. ARAKAWA GITARO, Governor of Tottori Prefecture, has been removed to Miya Prefecture, Mr. Kubota Kanichi succeeding him.

THE sale of No. 607 of the *Kelvin Shimbun*, published at Yokohama, has been suspended on account of its containing matter injurious to public morals.

A BOMBAY despatch received on Tuesday states that plague is now declining there. The number of new cases per day are about 150, of which fully 100 prove fatal.

THE *Hakui Maru*, of the Japan Red Cross Society, now lying at Yokohama harbour, will commence service on the Hongkong Vladivostok line about the 20th inst.

REPLYING to the Foreign Residents' Address the other day, His Majesty departed from his usual custom and expressed a hope that the trade of Japan might be increased.

VARIOUS reports are circulated, tending to indicate that the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of States for the Colonies, has resolved upon a strong attitude towards the Transvaal.

THERE is talk of the prominent Japanese Merchants of Yokohama inviting the foreign community to a huge garden party in July to commemorate the opening of the new order of things.

IBRAHIM ALI, Gen. Lord Kitchener's envoy to the Sultan of Darfur, found the latter dethroned, and the usurper routed Ibrahim Ali's escort of 150, killing 120. The survivors have returned to Omdurman.

WEATHER permitting the postponed Athletic sports of the Y. C. & A. C. will take place this afternoon. In consequence, the Ladies' Lawn Tennis Tournament and the opening races of the Yacht Club have been postponed.

ATTEMPTS are again being made to collect funds for the foundation of a University for women. A meeting of promoters was held on the 8th at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, Count

Okuma, Baron Iwasaki, Messrs. Shibusawa, Kojima, Fuchikura, and others being present.

MR. TANAHARA, ex-Minister to Austria-Hungary, who has been talked of as a likely candidate for the post of Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, left Vienna on Wednesday. His arrival home is expected on the 14th or 15th proximo.

IN satisfaction of the destruction of the French mission stations in Szechuan, the French Government, in addition to an indemnity of Taels 120,000, claims the cession of forty square miles of territory in the neighbourhood of Chungking.

ON Monday evening a young woman named Washimi Hiro (18), living in Chofu-machi, Yokohama, and a girl named Yoshimura Mitsu, an intimate friend, committed suicide by hanging themselves in the former's house. The cause remains a mystery.

ON Tuesday morning a clerk in the service of the 100th National Bank, Tokyo, while counting notes at the paying-out window, was robbed of three notes of the value of 100 yen each. The note snatcher had the appearance of a merchant and was apparently 28 years old.

M. DE FREYCINET, Minister of War, has resigned, because he was hoisted in the Chamber of Deputies while defending the Governor of the Military College, who had suspended a Dreyfusite professor. M. Kranz, Minister of Public Works, has succeeded M. de Freycinet.

OWING to financial embarrassments, the shareholders of the Shinagawa Electric Light Company are considering its amalgamation with the Tokyo Electric Light Company or the sale of the institution to the latter. The realization of the scheme, however, is improbable.

AT 9 a.m., on Tuesday a committee for revising the Tokyo Municipal divisions met and considered the question of disbursing 5,000 yen as expenses for the investigation of the Tokyo harbour construction work. Other Committees discussed the continuance of the present abattoirs and crematories, the widening of roads, etc.

THE funeral of the late Rear-Admiral Nomura, Commandant of Kure Naval Station, took place on Sunday afternoon at Aoyama Cemetery. Among those who attended were representatives of H.I.H. Princes Arisugawa, Kounetsu, Kwacho, and Yamashina, Marquis and Vice-Admiral Ito, Privy Counsellors Kawamura, and Saeki, and other naval officials. H.I.M. the Emperor contributed yen 300 toward the funeral expenses and a roll of white silk.

ACCORDING to investigations made at the close of February last, the criminals throughout the country numbered over 72,000, against over 74,000 during the corresponding month last year—a decrease of no fewer than 2,000. The explanation is that the authorities have adopted the policy of liberating first offenders after admonishing them; and that the decrease in the prices of commodities has lessened the embarrasment of the poor.

MESSRS. Kishy and Macdonald have raised a subscription among the friends of the late Yamamoto Tadakazu, constable of the Metropolitan Police Bureau, and the list lately closed at yen 96, which was sent to the widow a few days ago through the Kyobashi Police Office. Tadakazu used to be in charge of a branch office at Shinjuku bridge, Kyobashi district, and his courteous treatment of foreigners gained him their esteem.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The calm now reigning in the atmosphere of politics is not expected to be of very long duration. A depression is diagnosed by the prophets. They consider that the ultimate aim of the Constitutional Party is to obtain Marquis Ito for their head, and to organise a new Cabinet. But Marquis Ito is master of the situation, and will insist on having his own terms. The concessions that the Party would have to make to him could scarcely fail to dislocate it more or less. Besides, during its association with the present Cabinet, the Party has been subjected to disintegrating influences. There is now a Yamagata section, and there is a Hoshi section, and there is an anti-Hoshi section. The last consists of the Tosa folk and the Sugita folk. The Tosa are all for placing themselves under Marquis Ito, but Sugita's followers, in other words, the Satsuma men, would prefer an alliance with the elder Satsuma statesmen, and, failing that arrangement, are for Marquis Ito. If that diagnosis be correct, it would follow that Mr. Hoshi Toru and his friends are not anxious to have Marquis Ito's leadership, but we should hesitate to attribute any such reluctance to them.

As for the new party, the *Kokken-to*, which is to have its first general meeting on the 5th of July, the *Asahi* thinks that its prospects are questionable, for among its promoters there are no less than four coteries, an Ito coterie, a Yamagata coterie, an Inouye coterie, and a Shinagawa coterie. These four can not agree, the *Asahi* believes. But that is a very novel theory. When has it been shown, or why should it be assumed, that Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Count Inouye, and Viscount Shinagawa can not work together? They have repeatedly worked together in the past, and they are precisely the quartet whom the public would be disposed to group for administrative co-operation, though their inclusion in the same Cabinet might be difficult.

Various changes of Japanese diplomatic officials are predicted by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, with how much truth we do not know. Mr. Hayashi Gonsuke goes to Korea, we read; Mr. Uchida Kessai to London; Mr. Akabane Shiro to Peking, and Mr. Nakada Keigi to Siam. These various appointments are said to be connected with the general trend of Viscount Aoki's foreign policy, but, as to the nature of that trend, there is the usual oracular silence.

ARMAMENTS AND FOREIGN POLICY.

The leader of a forward Chinese policy for Japan is the *Fiji Shimpō*. That influential journal employs all its eloquence and power of reasoning to prove that unless Japan converts her Fuhkien claims into tangible realities, she will be permanently left out in the cold. There is not much difficulty in constructing an effective appeal to Japanese patriotism on those grounds, and when the *Fiji's* influence is supplemented by pertinacity, some measure of success will surely be secured. Its latest article on the subject laughs at the

notion of waiting until the armaments-expansion programme is completed. Japan is already stronger than any State in the Far East. If European Powers would kindly halt until she had finished her preparations, she might be relatively stronger than she is now. But they are not so obliging. They go on adding to their armaments all the while, so that Japan's position is not a bit better now than it was in 1894, comparatively speaking, nor will it be a bit better in 1902 than it is to-day. "Strike at once" is the evident conclusion to which that line of reasoning points.

Setsurei (Mr. Miyake Yujiro) contributes one of his delightfully piquant articles to the *Nippon*, and by mere accident preaches from virtually the same text as the *Fiji Shimpō*. There is an excellent Chinese story of a rustic on whose farm an old tree-stump stood. One day a frightened hare dashed against the stump and broke its neck. The delighted farmer at once abandoned agriculture, placed tree-stumps in profusion on his land, and sat down to wait for more hares. Hence the proverb, *Kabu wo mamotte usagi wo matsu* (to watch the stump and wait for the hare). That is what Japan is doing now, according to *Setsurei*. The war of 1894-5 was the hare that collided against her stump. She had not made preparations for war. She did not expect it. Its occurrence was a mere accident of the time, and the fruits of victory came to her as unexpectedly as the hare did to the farmer's pot. Yet she at once set herself to prepare for more wars, and she is now busily planting stumps in the vain hope that some other silly folks will run their heads against them. Meanwhile foreign Powers are augmenting their military strength just as fast as she is, and while she fondly imagines that the distance between her and them is diminishing, it measures in reality just as much as it ever did. Nor is that all. They are not only adding to their respective strength, but they are also beginning to appreciate the folly of fighting for the spoils, and to perceive the wisdom of agreeing about a partition. If Japan waits a little longer, she will have to draw in her horns altogether or make head against united Europe.

THE STREETS OF TOKYO.

The agitation carried on for some time by various journals with reference to the disgraceful state of the Tokyo streets, has borne fruit. In March last the City Assembly was asked to consider a bill providing a sum of 1,000,000 yen for road-making. In view of the magnitude of the problem, the Assembly decided that a committee of investigation should be formed, consisting of one representative from each ward. The committee recently submitted its report, and on the evening of the 9th instant the Assembly decided that the work should be undertaken. The expenditure is to be spread over 5 years, and the funds will be raised by means of a house tax. There is nothing like patience. It is a magnificent reflection that five years hence the capital of Japan may hope to have good roads, and that the vast outlay of twenty thousand pounds is to be annually incurred for the purpose. How many millions upon millions will be lost in the meanwhile by the waste of toil and time that the bad streets entail?

A SENSATIONAL TELEGRAM.

The *Fiji Shimpō* publishes at once sensational and mystic comes from the *Fiji's* special agent in Shanghai, and its fourteen Japanese subjects seized by the Russians and killed. The mystery of the matter is that most important words in the telegram printed with defaced type so almost illegible. One, indeed, of the place where the event is totally illegible, but the other deciphered with some uncertainty appears to be *tantei* (explore). It is probably a euphemism for that be the proper interpretation of the news is that that these were acting as spies, and presumed that the place is some the vicinity of Port Arthur. The whole story may probably be as a *canard*. Its provenance, stamps it at once as apocryphal dimensions and dénouement are preposterous. What on earth fourteen "spies" or "explorers" doing in company, and how is it able that the Russians would permit death in an era of peace? She has given us a rest for some time, to have now set its burden-fact with extreme vigour.

As to the above two near words, the *Fiji* explains in a special issue that for *tan-ri* we must read *ryo-baku* (travellers), and that word was "Manchuria." Hence the telegram becomes:—"Fourteen travellers have been seized by the Russians in Manchuria, and because of course the *Fiji* and all the other papers decline to credit this story of intelligence. Nothing of the kind reached the Foreign Office, we know, nor can any confirmation be obtained."

DISHONEST SIZING "HABUTAYE."

Complaints are again heard of dishonest practices in connexion with the fabric of the prefectures of Kanazawa, and Toyama, and that a strongly worded communication has been made by the Prefect of Kanazawa on the subject. The fabric of Kanazawa on the subject of *habutaye* absorbs more or less moisture of weight varying from 2 to 3 per piece (*hiki*) is attributable to perjury. But the method of sizing by the adulterators increased it by from 20 to 30 *momme* per piece. Adulteration is not practised by paltry middlemen. Merchants are also said to be implicated. It does not rest with the manufacturer after the fabric reaches Yokohama it receives the treatment. There be only one or two places in Japan for adulteration, but it is said are now five or six. The label to each piece of the fabric in the station office at the seat of manufacture taken off in Yokohama before the operation of sizing, and is afterwards We read in the *Fiji Shimpō* that which have been thus treated detected by examining the number back, but our contemporary's view of this point is not quite clear.

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS.

The educational problem continues to receive a great deal of attention from vernacular newspapers. In some quarters it is predicted that the objectionable measure which recently obtained the approval of the High Educational Council will be quietly suppressed by the Government, since not only will it fail to secure the Cabinet's approval, but also a strong party in the Educational Department is ranged against it. Others, again, allege that the draft submitted to the High Council was intended to be a liberal modification of the strongly conservative veto approved by the Council last year against foreign educational enterprise in Japan, and that the Council having endorsed the modified measure—in other words, accepted a compromise—the Government will be more or less obliged to draft legislation on those lines.

There is a tendency, also, to justify the measure. Mr. Sawayagi, a high official of the Educational Department, is quoted by the *Fimmin* as pointing out that the proposed law does not involve any new departure, but is merely an embodiment of the policy hitherto pursued by the Department; the policy of completely separating religion and education. Mr. Sawayagi is represented as alleging that the most enlightened opinion in the Occident is now entirely in favour of completely differentiating the two, for whereas education can be regulated by rules constituting a system universally applicable, religion is an affair of innumerable creeds, and a form of faith that is meat to one may be poison to another. He further points out that, according to the proposed regulations, a man, whatever his educational qualifications and whatever his nationality, may establish a school provided that he places it under the charge of a head-master approved by the local governor. As to the charge that this legislation must be considered anti-foreign, Mr. Sawayagi denies it on the ground that all religions alike are excluded from the sphere of education. We regret to observe, also, that the *Nichi Nichi Shim-bun* takes the same line. It avows that Japan's attitude towards religion and towards the racial question generally is far more liberal than the attitude of several of the most highly civilized States, for she grants complete freedom of faith and does not attempt to exclude any nationals from her territory. Foreigners should look at home it says, before they gird at every act of Japan's which does not suit their pet theories.

Concerning the arguments put into the mouth of Mr. Sawayagi, there are two points to be noticed. The first is that the principle which he attributes to Western publicists is not really entertained by them. They do affirm that religious teaching ought not to be included in the curriculum of any school which receives aid from the State, because tax-payers might thus be compelled either to contribute to the propagation of a creed they condemn, or to violate the law by refusing to pay their taxes. But that case is quite beside the question. No one advocates State aid for religious schools. The whole point is that private education—education not dependent on public funds—should be entirely free. The meaning of the measures proposed by the High Educational Council is that no parent may send his son to a school

where religion forms an item of legislation. In short, even though men of enterprise start schools entirely with resources of their own, they are denied the privilege of having religion taught there. There could be no grosser violation of the rights of the subject. The State has no manner of title to forbid the people to found and maintain private schools where religious influences may be brought to bear upon the character of children. To penalize such schools so that their existence becomes virtually impossible is unconstitutional arbitrariness.

The second point is that Japan's foreign friends condemn this educational proposal not simply because it banishes Christianity from private schools, but because it rules religion—Christianity, Buddhism, *Shinto*, &c.—entirely out of the child-life of the nation. A veto of that kind must be calamitous in its results.

The hope appears to be growing stronger that the illiberal project of law recently submitted to the High Council of Education and approved by that body, will fail to obtain the endorsement of the Cabinet. Even in the Educational Department a feeling is said to be growing that such interference with the freedom of private education would be contrary to the best interests of the country. There is, therefore, a possibility that the privilege of exemption from conscription will be granted to the pupils of all private schools whose curriculum satisfies the official standard, whether religious instruction be given or not. Theological schools and educational institutions where the prime purpose is to teach some form of creed, may be specially treated; their case remains to be discussed. We take this forecast from the columns of the *Chiuo Shim-bun*, but we confess that we ourselves are not very confident about its accuracy.

BANK OF FORMOSA.

The financial arrangements for starting the Bank of Formosa are now in a fair way to being completed. The subscribed capital of the Bank is to be 5 million *yen*, of which the Government takes one million *yen* worth of shares. One quarter of the capital is to be paid up at once, namely, one million by the general body of share-holders, and a quarter of a million by the Treasury—the Imperial Household Department also taking some of the latter. Further, the Government lends the Bank 2 million *yen* in silver coins for five years, without interest. Thus the Bank commences operations with a hard-money capital of 3½ million *yen*. Three-quarters of a million will be required for initial expenses, and the sum actually in hand for commencing business will consequently be 2½ million *yen*. Against that sum the Bank is entitled to issue notes to the total amount of 5 million *yen*—2½ million being the securities issue—and, out of these 5 millions, 3½ must be lent to the Formosan Government for public-works' purposes. Thus, finally, the sum actually available for general banking purposes will be only 1½ million *yen*, a very insignificant figure. Of course there is the possibility that the Bank may attract numerous depositors, but that prospect is not viewed with much hope, for although the Bank can afford to offer a high rate of interest, it is not likely to secure the confidence of the wealthy Chinese in Formosa for a considerable time.

MEETING OF BANKERS.

Forty persons representing 150 Japanese Banks met in the Osaka Hotel on the 6th instant. After the business of the meeting had been discharged, a *Konshin-kai* (convivial party) was held, and addresses were delivered by Count Matsukata and Mr. Yamamoto, Manager of the Bank of Japan. The Minister of Finance alluded to the fever of enterprise that had attacked the country after the war with China; the great stringency that had resulted in the money market; the comparative ease of the present time, and the necessity of guarding against a recurrence of similar excesses. He then spoke of banking business in Japan, and declared that it was still in its infancy, the banks being little better than pawn-shops. In Europe and America a banker attached more importance to the credit of a customer than to the security he could offer, but in Japan security was everything and credit comparatively nothing. Mr. Yamamoto endorsed this criticism. Much of what he said was of a technical character, and is so badly reported that we can not decipher its meaning. But he gave some interesting figures about banks:—

Year.	Number of banks in Japan.	Total paid-up capital.	Average paid-up capital per bank.
1896	1,300	144,800,000	88,030
1897	1,500	197,000,000	131,333
1898	1,700	223,000,000	131,176

The total deposits of these banks at the end of 1898 were 227,000,000 *yen*, being an average of 133,530 *yen* for the 1,700, so that the sum at their disposal for business purposes did not exceed 265,000 *yen* each, approximately. Mr. Yamamoto justly said that, though the existence of a large number of banks might be regarded as a matter for congratulation from some points of view, the exceeding pettiness of their operations was an obvious defect.

WOOL.

The sudden and rapid rise in the price of wool is attributed by Japanese journals to long-continued drought in Australia, and the consequent death of thousands of sheep. So far as Japan is concerned, the manufacture of woollen fabrics, an industry which has of late begun to assume considerable dimensions, will, of course, be seriously affected by an addition of 10 or 12 *sen* per lb. to the price of the raw material, and another result in that the stagnation in the demand for *mousseline de laine*—which was imported in such quantities at the close of last year, in anticipation of the increased tariff, as to produce a glut in the market—will quickly disappear. Already, indeed, speculative purchases of that fabric are said to be taking place.

SUGAMO PRISON AFFAIR.

It is alleged by the *Yomiuri Shim-bun* that although the affair of the chaplain at the Sugamo Prison has not been spoken of lately, and was supposed by the public to have been quietly settled, the Hongwan-ji people have never ceased to agitate about it and to make representations to the Authorities. The perseverance of the priests has been rewarded, for the Home Office has at last yielded, and the Christian Pastor, the Rev. Mr. Tomeoka, was replaced on the 3rd instant by two *Kyōkai-shi* from the Hongwan Temple.

SUCCESSION TO LANDED ESTATE IN FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS.

It is stated, we observe, by the *Japan Herald*, with reference to wills and intestacies, that "very possibly, one roundabout effect of the law of succession is that the succession to land even in the Settlements will be governed by Japanese law, so that such land can not be freely disposed of by will, and so that wills affecting it must be executed with a minute observance of all the requisites specified in the Civil Code." Our contemporary adds that, "if this is the case, it will certainly be an unpleasant surprise to land-holders." We have already had occasion to refer to some remarkable assertions by the same journal about wills in Japan, but it seems to have altogether forgotten the laws to which we then drew its attention. This latest departure is quite as strange as the original misconception, and will probably cause some uneasiness unless corrected.

The *Japan Herald's* first contention is that succession to lands in the Settlements will probably be governed by Japanese law and that, consequently, such land can not be freely disposed of by will. It is extremely difficult to understand what is signified by such language, but if we assume that the words are intended to mean what they say, our contemporary stands committed to the assertion that landed property governed by the Japanese law of succession can not be freely disposed of by will. That is nonsense, of course. The laws of Japan do not interfere in any way with the freedom of a testator. Even if they did, foreign land holders in the Settlements would still be protected by the terms of the title deeds under which they have acquired the property, for though the *Japan Herald* appears to be ignorant of the fact, the form of title deed prescribed by treaty contains the words, "leased in perpetuity to M. or N., his heirs and assigns."

Our contemporary's second allegation is that wills affecting the Settlement lands will have to be "executed with minute observance of all the requisites specified in the Civil Code." There is here a double blunder: a blunder as to the fact that the forms of Japanese law must be complied with by foreigners for testatory purposes, and a blunder as to the suggestion that the Civil Code of Japan prescribes any intricate or difficult steps of procedure in the matter of wills. The former blunder might easily have been avoided by a slight exercise of memory for, just a month ago, we called our contemporary's attention to the 26th article of the Law concerning the Application of Laws in General, which says:—"The existence and the effect of a will are governed by the law of the nationality to which the maker of the will belongs at the time of the making; the revocation of a will is governed by the law of the nationality of the maker at the time of revocation; and, notwithstanding the provisions of these two paragraphs, the law of the place where the act is done may be followed as to the forms of a will." Thus we have it provided in the most unequivocal language that a foreigner making a will in Japan is free to choose between the forms prescribed by the law of his own nationality, and the forms prescribed by the laws of Japan, but that, in either case, the law of his nationality at the time

of making the will will govern its existence and effect.

As to the implication that the Civil Code of Japan provides intricate and troublesome procedure with regard to wills, nothing could be further from the truth. A will, according to the Japanese Code, may be a holograph document, in which case it must be written and signed wholly by the testator, and there need not be any witness or formalities of any kind. It may also be a public document, in which case the services of a notary public must be employed and two witnesses must affix their names. Finally, it may be a secret document, in which case the closed will must be acknowledged before a notary public and at least two witnesses. It is difficult to conceive any simpler procedure or more concise instructions. Few Englishmen venture to write their own wills: they feel constrained to avoid legal pitfalls by engaging the aid of an attorney. But a Japanese subject need have no hesitation whatever. All that is necessary is that he should commit to writing with his own hand his wishes as to the disposal of his property, and that he should be careful to avoid erasures, or to add a note acknowledging them if they occur.

It is surely both unfortunate and mischievous that the uneasiness which many of the foreign residents already feel about the probable results of their submission to Japanese jurisdiction, should be needlessly augmented by mistakes like those which we have here corrected.

EMIGRATION TO KOREA.

The Liberal organ (*Jimmin*) strongly urges its countrymen to form associations for the purpose of engaging in Chinese trade and establishing colonies in Korea. That used to be a pet project of the *Fiji Shimpō's* some time ago, and the *Jimmin* probably thinks that the subject has grown old enough to be novel. Perhaps such writing may produce some effect, but if newspaper articles can galvanize the Japanese into becoming colonists where colonization presents no attractions to them, the Japanese must be very different from other peoples. There is a remarkable strain of romance in the character of this nation. If an English journalist wanted to encourage emigration he would never think of setting about the task in any way but one; namely, collecting statistics and detailing hard, practical facts to prove that there was money in the venture. He would know very well that a sermon preached from any other text must fall on deaf ears. But the Japanese editor approaches the matter from a political point of view. He invites his countrymen to emigrate with the patriotic purpose of extending Japan's influence in a neighbouring empire, and he does not begin to take the trouble of explaining what personal advantages, if any, are to be derived by adopting his counsel. When one thinks of the class of people from whom alone emigrants are drawn; when one remembers how little they have to do with newspapers, and how ill they can afford to embark upon enterprises with nothing more substantial than a patriotic halo by way of reward, the romance and unpracticality of such writing assume quite quaint proportions.

OPERATION OF THE NEW COMMERCIAL CODE.

The new Commercial Code is to go into operation, as our readers are aware, from the 16th of June. Various Ordinances and Department Notifications have to be issued in connexion with the event. The principal of them are:—(1) Ordinance relating to pedlars and petty traders, referred to in Art. VIII. of the Code. (2) Ordinance relating to foreign insurance companies which have branches or agencies in Japan. (3) Notification of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce with reference to insurance companies. (4) Notification of the Communications Department with reference to the limits of navigation on lakes, rivers, harbours, bays and coasts.

The *Yorossu Choho*, referring to the above, says that the authorities are also considering the advisability of drafting an Ordinance with reference to foreign joint stock companies which have their principal place of business in Yokohama, Kobe or Nagasaki and are carrying on trade operations there. "Foreign companies," our contemporary writes, "which have their principal business establishments in the Settlements, will of course become subject to the provisions of the Commercial Code when the Revised Treaties go into operation. But as they have all been established in conformity with the laws of their own nationality, it will be necessary that some changes be effected in their rules and regulations in order to bring them under the Japanese Code. Some, indeed, may even have to dissolve their organization by way of preliminary, should the rules and regulations in compliance with which they are established, be found greatly at variance with the Code. Hence it will probably be essential to issue an Ordinance fixing a limit of time subsequently to the operation of the new Treaties, within which the requisite changes of rules or organization may be effected. If, before the expiry of the period of grace, any questions involving litigation should arise, they will have to be decided in accordance with the national laws of the company concerned. The Authorities are very anxious to devise suitable methods for dealing with these matters."

CURRENCY IN KOREA.

It appears that the Koreans have been issuing debased subsidiary coins and using them to buy up good Japanese coins as well as Japanese paper notes, so that business is now seriously hampered, and the Japanese merchants in the peninsula are said to be in considerable embarrassment. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* recounts the facts at some length, and uses them as a peg to hang one of its habitual attacks on Viscount Aoki. Our critical contemporary's opinion is that the Minister of Foreign Affairs ought to have been able to prevent the issue of debased coins before their quantity became embarrassing. A Foreign Minister, to satisfy the Progressist organ's requirements, ought to be omniscient and, at the same time, prepared to meddle to an unlimited extent in the domestic affairs of other countries.

IMPERIAL VISIT TO YOKOHAMA.

THE SETTLEMENT EN FÊTE.

THE ADDRESS FROM FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

The foreign settlement of Yokohama held holiday on Tuesday, for although work was nominally supposed to be proceeding in the early morning, long before ten o'clock every suggestion or thought of toil was laid aside and thence onward the day was devoted to the pursuit of pleasure. His Imperial Majesty has frequently visited the Yokohama race-meetings, but never before has the Community formally received him in the manner customary in western lands. The Emperor is averse to display and fuss of all kinds, and prefers to drive unostentatiously to and from the race-track at Negishi in the character of a private gentleman; and His Majesty's wish has always been scrupulously respected by the Nippon Race Club and the community generally. But this year, owing to the significant events that will transpire in July—when foreigners will pass from the jurisdiction of their own Consular Courts under the guardianship of the Imperial Government of Japan—it was felt that the occasion of the Emperor's visit should be signalled by something a little out of the ordinary. The proper steps were therefore taken to ascertain the Emperor's opinion on the subject, and when it was found that His Majesty would graciously receive an Address, a public meeting was called at which power was conferred on a representative committee to draw up an address and to decorate the route. This Committee, which had for its Chairman, Mr. R. D. Robison, and its Vice-Chairman Mr. W. F. Mitchell—two better men for the positions would be hard to find—was as follows:—

THE CONSULAR BODY.

AMERICAN—Messrs. Stuart Eldridge, John Lindsey, Geo. Middleton, W. T. Payne.
AUSTRIAN—Mr. K. M. Benedictich.
BRITISH—Messrs. Vivian R. Bowden, J. Dodds, F. S. James, E. Flint Kilby, J. F. Lowder, J. P. Mullinn, W. W. Till, W. B. Walter.
CHINESE—Mr. Lo Wo Sing.
DANISH—Mr. F. M. Tegenar.
DUTCH—Mr. H. Klingem.
FRENCH—Messrs. E. Knuff, C. Pravioux, A. Soux.
GERMAN—Messrs. H. J. Holm, M. Kaufmann, M. Pors, A. Unger.
ITALIAN—Messrs. A. Bianchi, F. Biagini.
MEXICAN—(Mexican Consul General).
NORWEGIAN—Mr. J. M. Jensen.
PERUVIAN—(Peruvian Consul).
PORTUGUESE—Mr. A. Eca da Silva.
RUSSIAN—Mr. W. Droumeier.
SPANISH—(Spanish Consul).
SWEDISH—(Swedish Consul).
SWISS—Messrs. H. Abegg, F. Strässer.

His Majesty left Shimabashi shortly after 9 o'clock and travelled by the Imperial special train to Yokohama, accompanied by a small suite and his usual escort of Lancers. As he steamed into the railway station the *Yashima Kan* (38), battleship, 12,517, Capt. Uchida; the *Matsushima Kan* (30), cruiser 4,278, Capt. Endo; the *Itsukushima Kan* (33), cruiser, 4,278, Capt. Masaki Hashimoto; and the British first-class battleship *Barfleur*, Rear-Admiral Fitzgerald, fired an Imperial salute of 21 guns.

Accompanying His Majesty were Prince Kan-in; Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain; Viscount Tanaka, Minister to the Imperial Household; Lieut.-General Baron Okazawa, Chief Military Aide-de-camp; Baron Saunomiya, Grand Master

of Ceremonies, and other Court functionaries. His Majesty, on alighting, was received by the members of the Foreign Committee, and by Governor Asada, Mr. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama, Mr. Otani Kahei, Chairman of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Watanabe, President of Municipal Assembly, Mr. Rinoiye, Secretary to the Kencho, and naval officers from the Japanese warships in harbour. As His Majesty stepped on the platform the Yokosuka Naval Band struck up the national anthem. The Emperor, who was preceded by an aide-de-camp bearing the Imperial Banner, a chrysanthemum on a red ground, bowed his acknowledgments of the welcome of the Reception Committee, and proceeded upstairs to a private room, where Mr. Robison and Mr. Mitchell followed to present, on behalf of the foreign community, the address which had been prepared.

THE ADDRESS.

Mr. Robison read the address, which was followed and afterwards handed it to His Majesty, who received it personally: May it please Your Imperial Majesty:

On the auspicious occasion of Your Majesty's presence in Yokohama, the Foreign Residents of all nationalities unanimously desire to take advantage of the opportunity afforded to them of manifesting their profound respect for Your Imperial Majesty.

They feel it is a great honour, and it gives them the greatest satisfaction, to welcome your Majesty at this port and to witness your Imperial Majesty's progress through the streets of this Settlement, in accordance with the wish expressed by us and graciously acceded to by your Imperial Majesty. It is a matter of history how Yokohama has grown in forty years from an insignificant fishing village until it has attained the important commercial position which it now occupies.

The Foreign Residents, now numbering over 5,000, are pleased to have taken a part in the development of this prosperity. They recognise how much they owe to the protection of your Imperial Majesty, and they fervently desire that your Majesty may be long spared to rule this country in the enlightened and liberal spirit which has characterised this era of Meiji.

THE EMPEROR'S REPLY.

His Majesty's reply was as follows:—

"I have received your address with much satisfaction, and I thank you for the cordial welcome you have given me. I also hope that the commerce between Japan and all foreign countries will be further developed."

His Majesty then left the station precincts; and entered his carriage. There was an enormous crowd outside the station; nearly all of them loyal Japanese straining every nerve to catch a glimpse of their beloved Sovereign. Near the entrance were the members of the Prefectural Assembly, the Municipal Council of Yokohama, the Red Cross Society, and a large number of students. A squadron of lancers of the Imperial Body Guard formed the escort and surrounded the Imperial carriage, which was followed by carriages containing the members of the Emperor's suite, Government officials, Kencho officials, and foreign residents. The students sang the *Kimi-ga-yo* as the Emperor passed, and at the Recreation Ground a number of Chinese scholars from the Taiton School, in uniform, were drawn up to welcome His Majesty. The Imperial carriage proceeded round the Recreation Ground, and then drove past the British Consulate to the Bund, as far as the Grand Hotel corner, where it crossed Yatozaka, and passed along the main Bluff road to the Race course.

The procession entered the course by the usual carriage road, and His Majesty was received at the steps of the Grand Stand by Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., President, and Dr. Wheeler, Vice-President of the Club. He at once ascended to the Imperial Box at the top of the stand, where he remained till the finish of the last race. The escort was then reformed, and, amid the respectful salutations of the great crowd of foreigners who were present, set out on the return journey, which was through Yamamotocho, down the Jizozaka, then to the left to Maida-bashi, along the creek, across the bridge, through Awacho and to the left round the corner of the premises of Messrs. Geen, Evison, Stutchberry & Co.; and down Main-street to the Railway Station, crossing the Benten-bashi.

The police arrangements were perfect; constables were stationed every few yards of the route, and the conduct of the crowd was admirable. Foreigners universally respected the rule of Japanese etiquette which demands that no one shall view an Imperial procession from a higher level than His Majesty.

THE DECORATIONS.

In front of the railway station and immediately facing the Benten bridge was erected a huge arch in the shape of a temple *torii*, with subordinate arches on either side. White and red were the colours used and the piece was highly effective. Along Honcho-dori Japanese flags and lanterns were hung in profusion. At the entrance to the recreation ground, the centre of which is used by the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, was erected a low, but tasteful arch of bamboo boughs and evergreens. This bore a tablet on which was emblazoned the word *Hōgei* (Welcome to the Emperor). Just above this tablet was a chrysanthemum—the Imperial crest—wrought in flowers, while other devices were set out in shrubs and variegated grasses. All round the Cricket ground were flags of various nations and Japanese paper lanterns. Nippon Dori was rather plain, but the road running past the Union Church was gay in the extreme, Messrs. R. Isaacs & Bro., Messrs. Strauss & Co., and the devices at Wright's Hotel being particularly pleasing. Near the Custom House, facing the Harbour Office, a grand arch of evergreens was raised, upon, and near, which were the national flags of several Powers. But the best piece of decoration was

THE BUND.

Here the Committee had expended to the greatest advantage the scanty leisure and means placed at their disposal. All the telegraph, telephone and other posts were draped in red and white bunting; Venetian masts were placed at regular intervals between, while each post was connected with ropes, festoons, and garlands of evergreens and flowers. Across the roadway were suspended, at intervals of a dozen yards or so, slight rustic arches of greenery, and flags, streamers and lanterns swung from every available post, staff, or line. Unsightly scaffolding poles were hidden away behind broad bands of red-and-white bunting, and armorial shields of almost every nation or clan under the sun found representation somewhere along the broad thoroughfare. The whole effect was very charming, rivalling almost the display of Jubilee times. Mr. Unger, who was responsible for this portion of the scheme, had over 400 men

employed upon it. Needless to say the men-of-war, merchant steamers, steam launches and yachts in harbour were all gaily decorated. The Y.U.C. premises were hung with flags and set out with choice flowering plants; the Standard Oil Company made a capital display, as did also the M.M. and C.P.R. Companies. At the boat-house of the Y.A.R.C., the decorations partook of a nautical character and included the four-oared *Petrel*. The Oriental and Club Hotels were gay with flowers and flags, and, of course, the Grand Hotel was a triumph of artistic dressing. On the *ando* which formed a prominent feature of the Grand's display, were the words *Seiun Bansai* (Long live the Emperor). At the Yato Bashi an imposing arch of evergreens was built, and a similar one crowned the steep ascent of Camp Hill, just in front of the Public Hall. The private residences along the Imperial route of the Bluff all "hung out banners on their outward walls," the display at Mr. MacLaren's and Mr. E. J. Moss' being particularly noticeable. The General Hospital fairly wreathed itself in flags and greenery, making one of the best set pieces along the road. Opposite Mr. Till's residence was a big evergreen torii bearing an appropriate inscription in Japanese. At the top of Jizosaka another huge arch was built similar in character to the one near the Public Hall. Motomachi and Main Street were, of course, profusely set out with flags and other forms of out-door finery. Indeed, considering the short notice, the town was exceedingly well-decorated and presented as gay a scene as the most enthusiastic could have wished.

THE SIGHT-SEERS.

The demeanour of the crowds that lined the whole route was in strange contrast to that of western lands. There was no cheering, no rippling run of hurrahs—or the Japanese equivalent, *bansai*—such as one usually associates with royal or imperial progresses. All was respectful, quiet, and impressively orderly.

JAPANESE OPINION.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* writes about this event in very warm terms. It recalls the evil past, thirty years ago, when some of the Foreign Ministers took mistaken views of Japanese affairs, and some of the Japanese people were imbued with hostility to foreigners, so that estrangements and collision were the custom of the time. These things have now faded into dream-land, and both sides have clasped hands of friendship, laughing over their old troubles, and hoping that hereafter they may walk together in paths of mutual good-will and prosperity. The visit of the Sovereign to the Foreign Settlement and the reception which the whole foreign community of Yokohama prepared for His Majesty will become historical events, marking the close of the ancient era and the opening of the new.

HIBIYA PARK.

More than a year ago an exact statement was published about a park which the Tokyo Municipality proposed to make at Hibiya. A large area available for the purpose had long been lying vacant, disfiguring the most fashionable quarter of the city. We were then told about artificial hills, miniature lakes, rockeries, shrubberies and so forth, which should

convert the weed-covered waste into a pretty pleasure. But the waste remains as much *en evidence* as ever, and the projected improvements, like other steps of progress in Tokyo, are still in the land of dreams. However, the subject has once more come upon the *tapis*, and we are now informed not only about embankments, parterres and walks, but even about the precise widths of the ditches that are to surround the enclosure on its northern, southern, eastern and western faces, as well as the conduits with which the drains are to communicate. Experience of the Tokyo Municipality's methods has taught us that to know the dimensions of a ditch, even to decimals of an inch, does not necessarily signify that the ditch is within years of being dug. However, it is our business to record current events, and we therefore note that the programme has been once more drawn from its pigeon-hole, and that the cost of completing it is estimated at 133,127 *yen*—we omit the *sen* and *rin*. What is now troubling the authorities is whether the park should be laid out with the object of serving as a retreat for aged persons who desire to wander in its bosky solitudes, forgetting life and its cares, or whether it should be adapted to the uses of boisterous youth, and furnished with tennis-lawns, cycling tracks, panoramas and penny peep-shows. The question is not practical. Any other topic from dream-land would have an equal claim on public attention. Still, we are at one with the folks who advocate the idea of a retreat for rumination. That is certainly best suited to the mood of the Tokyo citizens, as evidenced in the doings of their Municipal officials.

LAKE KAWAGUCHI.

Another correspondent writes about what he calls, with apparent justice, a foolish scheme, namely, the draining of Kawaguchi Lake, and the conversion of its bed into rice-fields. If the plan is carried out, it can scarcely fail to inflict loss on both Japanese and foreigners. Many people regard this lake as the most beautiful in Japan. Whether it deserves such a very high eulogy we not know, but certainly it has scenic charms of the highest type, and its effacement would be an infinitely regrettable act from that point of view alone. Then there is the practical question. Undoubtedly a lake situated at an altitude of 2,800 feet must have a great effect on the water-supply of the surrounding country. As a matter of fact, the streams of the Fujikawa Valley are almost entirely dependent upon the lakes of which the Kawaguchi sheet of water is one, and a small difference in the level of the lakes means a great difference in the volume of water received by the streams. This a point of much importance, and it should be carefully investigated before any project for the draining of the lake is permitted. Then, again, the water of the lake would have to be run into the Banyu-gawa, a river which already works havoc in Kanagawa Prefecture in times of flood, one of its frequent feats being to wash away the railway at Hiratsuka. Suppose that the volume of water now carried off by the Banyu-gawa be augmented by the contents of a lake 5 miles long, three-quarters of a mile wide, and subject to rises of from 10 to 15 feet in 48 hours, can there be any doubt that the river's floods would acquire destructive potentialities such as might cost Kana-

gawa Prefecture more in one season than the people who drained the lake would obtain in a century? Indeed, the profit derivable from such a reclamation might be illusory, for the bed of the lake seems to be chiefly lava rock, quite unfitted for purposes of agriculture. The scheme appears to us to be wild and rash. We venture to hope that it will not be lightly sanctioned.

A COMMERCIAL DIFFICULTY.

Here is an item from the *Tokyo Asahi*:—"The Fujiyama Company of Yokohama, which deals in silk fabrics, made a contract with Messrs. Browne and Company of No. 72, in the Settlement, to deliver 1,100 pieces (2,200 *tan*) of *aya-habutaye*, at 7 *yen* per 100 *momme*, and the contract should have been implemented by the end of March. The Fujiyama Company sublet the order to Mr. Uyeno Motokichi, but owing to the sudden rise in the price of raw silk, the weavers all failed to keep their engagements, and the *habutaye* not coming to hand, the contract with Messrs. Browne and Company could not be fulfilled. The Fujiyama Company were not able to deliver more than one-half of the *habutaye*. They promised to deliver the remainder in six months, but Messrs. Browne and Company, not content with this, stopped 5,000 *yen* out of a payment of 7,000 *yen* that they had to make to the Fujiyama Company for other goods delivered by the latter, and announced their intention of not making the full payment until the *habutaye* contract was completely implemented. It has hitherto been found impossible to induce them to alter their attitude, and the matter is now under discussion."

COTTON SPINNING.

Tables published by the *Keisai Zasshi* show that the total quantity of cotton yarn spun in Japan from April 1st, 1898 to March 31st, 1899, was 32,265,745 *kwan* (268,881,098 lbs.), of which 18,496,209 *kwan*, or 57 per cent., was from 15 to 17 counts; 10,814,378 *kwan*, or 33 per cent., was from 17 to 19 counts, and the remaining 10 per cent was of 20 counts and upwards. The raw cotton used in the manufacture was as follows:—

	Kwan.	Lbs.
Japanese Cotton ...	50,944	
Indian Cotton ...	22,053,934	
Chinese Cotton ...	3,272,962	
American Cotton ...	12,141,867	
Australian Cotton ...	199,626	
Saigon Cotton ...	448,739	
Egyptian Cotton ...	352,864	
Other Cotton ...	182,711	
Total ...	38,703,647	or 332,530,391

JAPANESE CLARET.

Very few of our readers are in love with Japanese claret, we imagine. Some, however, may be disposed to drink it, and for their sakes we may explain that there has of late been much talk about the injurious adulteration of the wine. Four brands are mentioned as being coloured with poisonous aniline dyes. We do not know that the statement emanates from an entirely trustworthy source, but the police authorities are now said to have taken up the matter, so that the exact facts will doubtless be soon published.

JAPANESE LADIES' COSTUME.

There is an incipient agitation in favour of a radical change in the costume of Japanese ladies—nothing less than the abolition of the girdle (*obi*) and the substitution of the capacious trousers known as *hakama*. The advocate of the innovation is the *Yimmin*. It speaks in very disparaging terms of the *obi*, and denounces it as unwholesome and unsightly, but it certainly is neither the one nor the other. We, too, have often discussed the subject of ladies' dress in Japan, but we have never thought of attacking the *obi*. Our idea has always been that from the girdle upwards the costume of the Japanese female is exceedingly picturesque, sensible and economical, but that the skirt is eminently impractical, and has, moreover, the evil effect of compelling a most ungraceful gait. A Japanese lady never moves prettily. She never carries the foot straight forward and plants it elastically, toe first, heel last. What she does is to walk with curved paces, the lower part of the leg and the foot swinging in an arc from the knee as pivot with the direction of advance for inner chord, and the outer edge of the foot being planted on the ground. When we add that the habit of exercising the prehensile power of the toes for the purpose of gripping the loop of the sandal causes the heel to be turned outward, we find a combination of movements constrained, unnatural, and clumsy. Further, the wearer of a Japanese skirt can never be sure of not offending against modesty, and is virtually precluded from sitting on a chair or a sofa. The skirt ought to go, but we should be sorry to see the *obi* ostracised, for it is a very beautiful article of dress and has been pronounced eminently wholesome by competent medical authorities. The *Yimmin* talks of the expense of the *obi*. Well, it certainly costs a good deal, but, on the other hand, how many *obis* does a Japanese lady buy in her life-time, and how many does she wear out? The stock of a fashionable woman seldom exceeds seven or eight, and when one is discarded, it finds probably two or three other wearers in succession before it passes quite out of use. There is not the slightest comparison between the expense of women's costume in the West and in Japan. The item of jewelry alone constitutes an immense difference. A few years ago it seemed unhappily possible that the habit of wearing jewelry might come into vogue in this country, and to the extent of a few rings the apprehension proved only too correct. But, on the whole, the innate good taste of Japanese ladies has rebelled against the solecism of encircling the neck, the waist, the arms, the fingers, and the head with shackles of gem-set metal. The some-time tendency to adopt foreign costume has also disappeared in great part. It can never disappear altogether so long as the extraordinary rule is enforced that a Japanese lady may not appear at the Imperial Court in the ordinary costume of her own country, but must either wear alien garments which generally render her ungainly and uncomfortable, or put on a costume—the *hi-no-hakama*, or crimson trousers—which can not be carried without long practice and is almost a monstrosity. That severe, and, as we venture to

think, unwise rule secures a compulsory vogue for foreign costume. Let us not be suspected of denying the picturesqueness of the Occidental lady's garments. Worn as she wears them, they are often most charming. But they do not suit the lady of Japan, not does it appear possible that a woman should develop ability to wear each costume, the Japanese and the foreign, with equal grace, unless the skirt of the former is changed for the *hakama*. The gait of a *hakama*-wearer is perfectly suited to petticoats, and the costumes would then become interchangeable.

JAPANESE PROSPECTING FOR COAL IN CHINA.

Statements have recently been circulated that rich coal-bearing strata exist in the Russian and German "spheres of influence" in China. Inspired by these accounts, a certain wealthy Japanese merchant, says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, determined to inaugurate prospecting operations. He despatched experts to China, and, after incurring large expenses, his emissaries have discovered a most promising coal mine in Anhui province. It is situated near the bank of the Yangtze, at Swan-seng, which is 100 miles to the south-west of Bu-u. As to the facilities for bringing the mineral to market, it appears that it can be carried by water to Ning-kok-hu, which is 90 miles from Bu-u, and from thence a land journey of 17 miles over level roads will take it to Swan-seng. The coal is said to be equal to that of Kiushiu in quality, and there are three veins, each over a great area.

VISCOUNT KAWAKAMI.

Viscount Kawakami has had a relapse. He had been progressing quite favourably when, on the 5th instant during his mid-day meal, a return of the spasms took place. The bulletin of the physicians attending him—Doctors Hashimoto, Takagi, Baelz, and others—says that, although these attacks are not in themselves actually dangerous, their recurrence in the case of a patient whose strength has been already so much exhausted, affords ground for much uneasiness.

His convalescence would be very welcome to the Government, not merely because the country can not afford to lose a strategist and military administrator of such ability, but also because his permanent incapacity for duty would create a serious political difficulty. Public opinion is unanimous in regarding Viscount Katsura as the one man in all Japan eminently fitted to preside over the Head Quarter Staff should there be a necessity to replace Viscount Kawakami. But Viscount Katsura now holds the portfolio of War, and it would be exceedingly difficult to find a successor for him were he transferred to Head Quarters. He is one of the mainstays of the Cabinet, and the tenure of another important portfolio also probably depends on his remaining in his present position. It is not at all sure, of course, that this difficulty will not still arise, for Viscount Kawakami's recovery may not be so complete as to warrant his continued discharge of the onerous duties of Chief of Staff. But for the present the problem is postponed.

ADULTERATED SILK FABRICS.

We recently published a statement which had appeared in several Japanese journals with reference to an analysis of French silk fabrics. Mr. Henry Satow, of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, had made the analysis, and was represented as having found that the wool of the stuff consisted apparently, of artificial silk, so brittle as to deprive the fabric of all durability. The *Yoroku Choho* now alleges that an analysis of the same fabric made at the Tokyo Industrial School did not confirm Mr. Satow's conclusions, but showed that pure silk only had been used by the weavers, and that the brittleness was due to sizing with deleterious compounds for the purpose of increasing the weight of the fabric. The *Yoroku* speaks very sarcastically of Mr. Satow's errors, but truly it seems immaterial whether the worthlessness of the stuff was due to a mixture of artificial silk or to unscrupulous sizing.

DEPARTURE OF LIEUTENANT MEINCKE.

Lieutenant M. Meincke left Tokyo on the afternoon of the 11th instant, having completed his term of service as military Attache at the German Legation in Tokyo. Before his departure the officers of the Tokyo Garrison and the Head Quarter Staff presented to him a beautiful souvenir in the form of an album containing their photographs. The border of each picture was exquisitely painted by the best artists of the time, the motives of the decorative designs being taken from the names of the donors. Lieutenant Meincke was entertained at a farewell banquet by members of the Tokyo Club on the night before his departure from Tokyo, and a large number of persons of all nationalities assembled at Shimbashi to bid him farewell.

THE INDUSTRIAL BANK.

The subscriptions for the Industrial Bank's debentures closed on the 9th instant. The total sum subscribed by the public was 272,980 *yen* at the head office and 530,340 *yen* at the branches, or 803,320 *yen* in all. Since the sum to be raised was a million and a half, it follows that the Government has to subscribe 696,680 *yen*. This result is somewhat better than the original official estimate, namely, that the Government would have to find one half of the whole amount. But it is a poor result after all. Even with the scheme of prize-bearing coupons to tempt them, Japanese capitalists can not be induced to put up a million and a half of *yen*.

JAPANESE FISHING ENTERPRISE IN KOREA.

The fact that a Russian whaling company has obtained three stations on the coast of Korea to facilitate its operations is already matter of public knowledge. We read now, in Japanese papers, that steps have been taken by the Foreign Office in Tokyo to prefer corresponding demands on behalf of Japanese fishermen, and that the desired concessions will doubtless be granted by Korea at an early date.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT TO YOKOHAMA.

IT appears to us that the greatest possible credit is due to the International Committee of Yokohama for the admirable arrangements they made in the brief time at their disposal to prepare for the EMPEROR'S reception. It may be safely asserted that never on any occasion during the *Meiji* era has HIS MAJESTY found a route so handsomely and tastefully decorated for his passage as the Bund was on the 9th instant. Even the triumphal return to the capital in 1896 was not marked by any spectacular display of comparable taste and excellence. Of course, it is not easy to find a place which lends itself so readily to a great effort as the Bund does. A noble esplanade, under all circumstances, its freedom from every semblance of curve or variation of level throughout its entire length are features perfectly adapted to the style of decoration chosen. It seemed like an endless avenue in fairy-land, and the effect of the spanning arches of greenery was to divide the sea-scape on the north and east into a multitude of varying vistas, each with its own distinctive middle-distance of shipping and its back-ground of hills. The EMPEROR, we understand, fully appreciated the scene, and expressed in very emphatic terms not only the pleasure he derived from its artistic beauty, but also his satisfaction that the foreign community should have taken such pains to welcome him. The cheering at the Race-course, led by Mr. T. THOMAS, was of the lustiest and heartiest character, and HIS MAJESTY bowed repeatedly in acknowledgment.

Judged by the custom of European Sovereigns, HIS MAJESTY'S reply to the Community's Address may possibly appear curt. But it was, in truth, a very signal departure from Japanese canons of Imperial etiquette. As a general rule the EMPEROR limits himself to half a dozen words at most when replying to addresses. He did not reach even that maximum on the occasion of the Imperial progress through the Kobe Settlement last year. But in reply to the Yokohama Deputation, HIS MAJESTY not only declared his satisfaction at the receipt of the Address and his thanks for the cordial welcome given to him, but also went on to express a hope that the commerce between Japan and foreign countries may be further developed. Mr. R. D. ROBISON, the Community's representative, was authorized to speak of the growth of Yokohama as a historical fact. We may add that this reference to commerce in a Japanese Emperor's public utterances is also historical, for it is certainly the first instance on record. The EMPEROR was evidently disposed to show the utmost graciousness. He not only acknowledged with unusual distinctness the cheers raised by the foreigners, but he also received

the Community's Address direct from Mr. ROBISON'S hand, whereas the ordinary course would have been for Mr. ROBISON to lay it on the table at which HIS MAJESTY stood.

JAPANESE VIEWS OF THE ANGLO- RUSSIAN ENTENTE.

FEW topics have ever attracted so much attention in Japan or received such interested notice from the vernacular press as the recently concluded Anglo-Russian *entente*. We have already alluded to some of our Tokyo contemporaries' writings. Thus the *Yiji Shimpō*, when the news of the arrangement first reached Japan, regarded it as a public declaration on the part of the two great Powers of the world that the partition of China was inevitable; the *Yomuri Shimbun* construed it as a clear indication that Great Britain had changed her Far-Eastern policy, and that the reason of the change was Japan's hesitation about joining the league for the conservation of China, and the *Kokumin* and the *Yiji* concurred in declaring that, since the business of division had now commenced, Japan must step forward and claim her share by giving practical effect to the pledges she had obtained about Fokien. These views are now supplemented by several other expressions of opinion. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, for example, differs from all the above contentions, denies that the partition of China has been brought nearer; and infers, on the contrary, that a new guarantee for her integrity has been given. The first era of danger, it thinks, was one of territorial aggression, commencing with the seizure of Kiao-chow, by Germany and closing with the occupation of Wei-hai-wei by England. The second era was one of railway competition. That, too, has now been brought to a close, and unless some problem arising out of China's actual condition presents itself, there is no prospect of fresh difficulties. In short, the *Nichi Nichi* classes the Anglo-Russian agreement in the same category with the Russo-Japanese Convention in Korea, and concludes that, just as the operation of the latter covenant has not entailed any injury to Korea or impeded her independence, so the Anglo-Russian *entente* will not disturb China's integrity. The *Yiji Shimpō*, also, has materially modified its tone. Instead of repeating its apprehension about the speedy partition of the Chinese empire, it now believes that the *entente* will contribute to the peace of the East, and rejoices to think that the two great Powers have been able to agree. Nevertheless the *Yiji* retains its apprehensions about the ultimate safety of the Chinese empire, and evidently thinks that a difficult chapter of foreign policy has opened for Japan.

Side by side with these comments we

find others of a more highly coloured character. The *Hochi Shimbun* thinks that the Convention has no elements of durability. Among all the nations of the world the English are least capable of yielding. Ever since they conquered the Invincible Armada, their career has been one long series of triumphs. They have fought country after country, and always come out victorious. They have built up an empire such as the world never saw before, and they stand out to-day as the leading Power among all peoples. But now, for the first time, they seem to have yielded a step, and cried "peace" to a rival. Are we to suppose that this compromise is an evidence of the decay of their immemorial spirit, and that they are content to see their hitherto untarnished glory begin to fade from to-day? By no means. What is happening now in China is simply what happened in India a century and a half ago. The French, with their head quarters at Pondicherry, and the English with theirs at Fort St. George, looked upon Coromandel and Madras respectively as their spheres of influence, and for several years traded side by side without active rivalry or territorial aggression. But the struggle between them was only deferred. It came inevitably, and when it came the English stopped short of nothing less than sweeping their competitors out of India. China is the India of the Far East. The British may agree with the Russians for a time, but the clash will surely come, and when it comes, the history of England teaches us where it will end. This convention is but a breathing space (*omoi nakaba ni suginu*).

If you want to trap a bear, says the *Chiuo Shimbun*, don't tell it that you intend to skin it. Germany obeyed that precept at Kiao-chow. She occupied the place temporarily in appearance, and having cajoled China past the point of successful resistance, settled down permanently to her new possession. England and Russia are following the same line. They pretend to be merely agreeing not to dispute with each other, and they place the integrity of China in the forefront of their agreement. Thus China's eyes are blinded. She does not perceive that she is about to be skinned. Yet nothing is more certain than that the Yangtze Valley is to be an appanage of the British crown and Manchuria a Russian province. The Chinese Empire, in short, is becoming another Europe. The four Great Powers of Europe, England, Russia, France, and Germany, will soon have carved large States out of its bulk, and Japan will find herself brought into direct contact and competition with Western nations. She must face the prospect boldly and prepare for it resolutely. It is not a time for her to fritter away her strength in petty squabbles over domestic politics. The *Chiuo* then passes on to attack Count

OKUMA for creating discontent among the agricultural classes at such a time by his anti-land-tax agitation, and thus diverting the people's attention from great national problems to petty parochial issues.

Two other leading journals deduce lessons for Japan's instruction from the action of England and Russia. The *Fimmin* (Liberal organ) concludes that an offensive attitude is the true secret of a successful defensive policy. It is not enough to stand ready. The enemy must always be forced back upon his own lines. That is the principle obeyed by the two great Asiatic Powers. They are perpetually pressing forward: constantly threatening a further advance. It must not be supposed that an era of real rest has now dawned. What the two Powers have done is merely to map out the areas of their activity. But Japan is always in an attitude of retreat and self-effacement. Such is the gist of the *Fimmin's* criticism. There is no mistaking the direction indicated by the Liberal sign-post.

The *Nippon*, as usual, has a special theory to propound, but it is a theory based on the well-recognized difference between the methods of England and Russia. England rules, Russia assimilates. Both seem to succeed. Both make vast strides of empire. Russia finds in China an excellent field for the practice of her special plan. She insinuates herself between the Manchus and the Chinese, and utilizes the one against the other. England stands over both and moulds them to her will. The question for Japan is, in which of these two methods does her better chance of success lie; which is more adapted to her capacities and opportunities? Undoubtedly the Russian method. Whatever facilities Russia possesses for ingratiating herself with the Chinese and winning their confidence, are possessed by Japan in a far fuller degree. This country's course is clear. Its people must establish schools in China, must themselves study the Chinese language, must lend to the Chinese every possible assistance, and must help them to conserve their own customs while adopting the essentials of Occidental civilization. Sound advice certainly, but when we (*Japan Mail*) observe the procedure adopted by Japan in Formosa where, for the first time, she has to grapple with the problem of governing Chinese, the words of the *Nippon* sound like the voice of one crying in the wilderness.

THE JUDICIARY.

According to statistics for 1897, the number of Judges in Japan was 1,063 and the number of Public Procurators, 443. But the regulations published last month with regard to the fixed establishment of the Judiciary provide for an increase of 181 Judges and 30 Public Procurators, bringing the totals to 1,244 and 473, respectively. On the other hand, the opera-

tion of the new Codes will largely augment the work devolving on the Judiciary, and the District Courts will be specially occupied, since upon them falls the duty of all registrations. Further, owing to the amendments effected in the Code of Criminal Procedure by the last Diet, the Judges will have to detail the evidence and make full statements of their reasons in pronouncing judgments. That will treble their work, to say nothing of the additional business thrown upon them by the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. It is, therefore, anticipated, says the *Nippon*, from which we take these details, that the question of increasing the number of Local and District Courts, as well as of the Judges and Public Procurators, will soon come upon the *tapis*.

OSAKA BANKS.

Some trouble is reported in Osaka banking circles. Last month, the Thirty-fourth Bank, the Independent Bank, and the Union Bank combined to form one large institution, under the presidency of Mr. Koyama. But a party under the leadership of Mr. Okahashi Jisuke are agitating to effect a change of president. They urged Mr. Koyama to resign, but he declined to follow their advice, and his friends supported him, so that a division was caused among the business men of Osaka. Count Matsukata and Mr. Yamamoto, President of the Bank of Japan, who happen to be in Osaka at present, have attempted to compose the dispute, but without success. This kind of agitation is becoming quite fashionable in Japan just now.

EXCHANGES.

The Exchanges in Japan, those of Tokyo and Osaka excepted, are said to be having rather a bad time. Several of them have recently put up their shutters, and others are expected to follow suit soon. In connexion with this subject the *Mainichi Shinbun* quotes a table recently published by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce:—

Year.	Number of Exchanges.	Total paid up Capital. Yen.
End of 1891	110	5,744,000
" 1895	123	5,895,200
" 1896	124	6,309,200
" 1897	152	11,629,500
February 1899	142	10,972,500

The year 1897 was evidently the time when the Exchange-fever reached its highest point.

RUSSIANS AND JAPANESE IN NAGASAKI.

There seems to be an unfortunate state of ill-feeling between Russian and Japanese man-of-war's men in Nagasaki. Several collisions have occurred within the past year, and if the last be correctly reported, it must have been of rather serious dimensions, five men having been wounded. Such occurrences are not in themselves important, but they are apt to have reproductive consequences, and they are certainly significant of relations which can not be pleasing to the statesmen of either country. There ought not to be any difficulty in keeping the men apart. When collisions of such a nature are to be apprehended, the commanding officers on both sides usually coöperate to prevent them.

TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

This Society gave a very successful performance at the Shoreikai, on the 5th instant. The object was, as usual, charitable and a good audience assembled. "On 'Change'" was the piece chosen. Written originally in German, it has been translated and arranged for the English stage by Miss Eweretta Lawrence. A somewhat formidable farce of three acts—the second a very long one—occasionally ponderous as to humour and depending for its stir and briskness chiefly on the vim and spirit of the performers, it is not eminently calculated for amateur acting. The Tokyo amateurs, however, took hold of it courageously, and their rendering evinced considerable study and talent. The piece is largely based on contrasts of character. *Mr. James Burnett* (Mr. J. Conder), a genial, open-handed stock-broker, who has made an ample fortune on 'Change and developed a *souffron* of pomposity in the sunshine of success, serves as a striking foil to his cousin, *Professor Seneca Peckering Peck* (Captain Brinkley), an irascible, close-fisted, conceited prig of a Scotch pedant, who despises the business of money-making, imagines that if he bent his scientific intellect to such a trade, he could make millions in a moment, and is goaded on by *Burnett* to try his hand at stock-jobbing under circumstances which the Scotchman imagines to be *bona fide*, but which are secretly contrived by *Burnett* in such a manner as to prevent any real loss. Of course the *Professor* makes a terrible fiasco and it is upon his vicissitudes of fortune that the principal action of the play turns. *Mrs. Lavinia Burnett* (Miss Hayes) is a dame of superfine laced-and-starched airs and graces, poetic, romantic, dainty, and delicate, whereas her daughter, *Iris* (Miss Hilda von Fallot) is a sweetly natural and slightly wayward lassie, who has just emerged from a convent, and has no idea of concealing her verdant delight in the mysteries of life. *Mrs. Professor Peckering Peck* (Miss Nishikawa), a good lady, somewhat worn out by breathing the petulant and penurious atmosphere that surrounds her Scotch husband, but not yet entirely divested of hopes of happier things, has a daughter *Millie* (Miss F. Denning), an unaffected, kindly, and artless girl, who seems to be just what her mother must have been at the same age. *Tom* (Mr. Hillhouse) is a young doctor, slow and gauche, desperately in love with *Millie*, but totally ignorant of the finesse of love-making, and the very antipodes of his friend *Joe* (Mr. Vickers), a dashing rattling youth, full of verve and audacity, who has emerged buoyant and self-confident from experiences in America that would have crushed a smaller spirit, and who now, with only a month's salary in his pocket, wants to share it with *Tom*, while he gives his whole heart to *Iris*. *De Haas* (Mr. Pattison) minces through the play as a dude, a vacant ass, with a certain measure of malign cunning. He loves *Iris*, but, of course, receives only rude contempt from her father, and, equally of course, is favoured by her mother, who sees in him a poetic, lavender-pressed person after her own model. *De Haas* serves as a foil to everybody, and is ultimately kicked off the stage. Finally there are a second-hand

book-seller, *Mouser* (Mr. Gardiner); a buttons, *Tiffin* (Master Carl von Fallot), and two porters (Mr. James Mason and Mr. Richard Morris.)

The character of *De Haas* is so accentuated by oddity that he becomes the most prominent figure in the piece. Mr. Pattison's conception and rendering of the part were admirable. In quality his acting did not reach a higher level, perhaps, than some of the excellent performances which have already established his reputation, but the absolute novelty of the study showed remarkable versatility, and the manner of the thing was very mirth-provoking. *Burnett's* role does not permit any special emphasis, and is therefore correspondingly difficult to make conspicuous, but Mr. Conder, as the semi-jovial, semi-pompous *nouveau riche*, certainly achieved the greatest success he has ever scored. Under his treatment the character showed lights and shades which relieved it from any suspicion of the common-place, and constituted a representation thoroughly artistic without any evidence of art. On the whole, the role of *Joe*, which fell to the lot of Mr. Vickers, taxes the capacities of an amateur more than any of the male parts in the farce, for, while precluding all display of eccentricity, the tyro's refuge, it drags the performer before the public in situations which instinctively shun observation, and requires him to be perfectly natural as a wooer, as a disappointed lover, and as an accepted suitor. These passions always fit a man badly, but when he is obliged to wear them *coram populo*, they generally take the shape of very ungainly gear. Mr. Vickers made his first appearance in Tokyo in this perplexing role—we believe that it was his first appearance on any stage—and he undoubtedly deserves to be congratulated on the result. It was a close, conscientious, and unembarrassed study, and would have been altogether pleasing had it been a little more restful. We do not mean less vivacious. There was not a bit too much vivacity; possibly, indeed, some of the sentiment might have had more sparkle. What we mean is that the amateur's tendency to punctuate his lines by "prowling" made itself slightly apparent. That is an easily corrected blemish. The Dramatic Society obtains a powerful recruit in Mr. Vickers. *Tom's* part labours under the same defect at that of *Joe*, absence of salient points. Mr. Hillhouse seemed to satisfy the author's conception. He was just a plain, honest, diffident, and perfectly natural young fellow, and one could thoroughly sympathise with *Millie's* disposition to galvanise him into fervour and *Mrs. Peck's* approval of his penniless suit. Mr. Gardiner, as the second-hand bookseller (*Mouser*) had not much to do, but he made more of his part than the Germany author thought of putting into it, and added materially to the success of the performance by saving it from the too common defect of slovenly acting in the minor roles. Master Carl von Fallot made a good "buttons," and Mr. James Mason and Mr. R. Morris acted their small parts vigorously, which was all that they had to do.

We have spoken first of the men because the farce is mainly a man's play, but we do not intend to suggest that this departure from the usual order of priority is based on any question of merit. The ladies carried off more than their due

share of the laurels. Miss Hayes (*Mrs. James Burnett*) had appeared only once before on the Tokyo stage, and, while appreciating her evidently high histrionic capacities, we were disposed to question her conception of the part she played on that occasion. But the role of *Lavinia* she rendered admirably. Every movement, every gesture, and every modulation of her voice suggested the lady a little too fine; the postaster with less ideality than mannerism. She had interpreted the character faithfully and her reproduction of it was faultless. For Miss Nishikawa, as *Mrs. Peck*, there was also a good opportunity. This young lady, takes a higher place as an actress on each appearance in public, and she has now established her competence to fill any role that may be assigned to her. She was quite a perfect little dame of five-and-forty, true to the life in every respect, and delightfully natural. To Miss Hilda von Fallot's part (*Iris*) the same remarks apply as to the part of *Joe*. It is an exceedingly difficult character, demanding a display of most varied emotions without the slightest approach to exaggeration. Miss von Fallot played it in a really artistic manner. Her acting showed many fine points which imparted sparkle to the whole without disturbing the general impression of subdued force and gracefulness. *Millie* (Miss F. Dening) is just a sweet artless girl with one opportunity of shining. It is a good opportunity, however, and was so prettily utilized that one felt inclined to go on the stage and shake *Tom* into fuller appreciation of the chance presented to him. We have seen Miss Dening fill more important roles successfully, but as *Millie* she certainly gained fresh laurels.

We must congratulate the ladies and the gentlemen alike on their "costumes." All the harmonies were consulted and the possibilities exploited. The decoration of the stage—for which Mr. Conder is to be thanked—was also very pleasing and appropriate. It is especially incumbent, too, to thank and felicitate the stage-manager, Dr. Clay MacCauley. His skilled direction was very palpable in the smooth interactions of the performers and the invariably well balanced grouping of the figures. Mr. Beart kindly took charge during an interval when Dr. MacCauley was incapacitated by illness. We need scarcely speak of Mr. Beart as a stage-manager. He is a king of that craft. Of course a large meed of gratitude and praise is due to Baroness Sannomiya. Her good offices in connection with these affairs are invaluable, and the same must be said of Mr. Conder, to whose artistic taste and technical knowledge the Society is perpetually indebted. Miss Gladys Nishikawa undertook the task of prompter and discharged it most conscientiously, and the Imperial Band played some pretty music before the curtain rose as well as during the interacts.

(BY AN UNPROFESSIONAL CRITIC.)

Amateurs commonly experience some difficulty in the selection of a piece for dramatic representation. Supposing them to be of the ordinary degree of taste and culture, they will abhor melodrama as a device of the Evil One. High-class comedy and serious drama, again, are excellent things not to attempt; they are apt to be unconvincing in the hands even of competent professional actors, and most amateurs do well to leave them altogether alone. The choice is thus narrowed down to farce. A good farce is unquestionably the safest card to

play. Deficiencies are less apparent, inartistic exaggeration does less damage; all the player has to do is to amuse, and it is easy—almost painfully easy—to amuse people of good digestion and conscience who have paid their money for the express purpose of being amused.

But there is still a difficulty for the amateur. He has to be more careful of the proprieties than his professional counterpart. A chartered libertine like Mr. Arthur Roberts can say things which would be heinous in Mr. Smith or Mr. Robinson. Miss Marie Tempest can look, or speak, or dress—in such a comprehensive phrase can be used of a costume which is merely sketchy—as an Artist's Model, and so on, except a member of the London County Council, says a word in reproof. But Miss Brown—whose mamma is in the reserved seats, and whose Sunday scholars are in the gallery on reduced terms to see "teacher!"—Why, the thing is clearly impossible. And how could a highly respectable family solicitor, with a young family, retain the respect of either his clients or his offspring if he had to represent in his own person the adventures of a gay old reprobate at the Moulin Rouge or the Folies Bergères?

The choice is thus rather limited. There are plenty of farces which are one prolonged laugh from start to finish, but they are mostly "suggested" (which is another word for "robbed") from the French, and are much too French, even after toning down, for the English palate. There are plenty of farces, on the other hand, which contain not one word in bringing a blush to the cheek of innocence, but then they are often so unutterably stupid that nothing but genius on the part of the actors could redeem them from inanity.

It would be unjust to Herr von Moser, the author of the farce played by the Tokyo Dramatic Association on Friday evening, to say that his work belonged entirely to the latter category. "On 'Change" was exceedingly proper, and moderately stupid, but still not wholly dull. It bore, however, the trade mark of German-made humour. The Teuton applies to the making of a joke that dogged perseverance and patient research that make him the prince of scientific investigators. One cannot help admiring *Kladderadatsch*, but it is the same kind of admiration one feels for Gibbon's "Decline and Fall," or for "The Wealth of Nations." The fixity of purpose, the tenacity of effort, the determination to joke or die compel one's respect. But after all it is not humour—as I understand it. A good colourable imitation perhaps, sufficiently good to pass the barrier at the literary *douane*, but not the real thing. Do you remember that story of the German Baron who had settled in Paris, and wished to become truly French? One night a Frenchman called in and found him jumping ponderously—he was a heavy man—over the chairs and tables. "What on earth are you doing?" exclaimed the visitor. "Ach," was the reply, "j'abbrends à être *fit*." That was his idea of acquiring French vivacity. These of course are purely personal opinions. There may be some who like German light humour, just as there are some who like tallow candles. I frankly acknowledge that my attitude is that of the backwoodsman towards roast polecat—I can eat it, but I don't "hanker" after it.

The leading idea of "On 'Change" is not brilliant, the characters are more absurd than amusing, and the construction is clumsy. It would have been intolerably dull without good acting, and the Tokyo amateurs, owing so little as they did to the author, deserve every credit for providing capital entertainment out of rather bare materials.

Mr. Conder, to my mind, is entitled to the chief honours among the men—both in regard to what he had to do and the manner in which he did it. The part was one which it was hard to render convincing. Imagine a stock-broker who, piqued by the sneer of a man of books, allows the latter to take temporary charge of his office, and speculate as he pleases to the tune of £10,000! Figure to yourself any business man doing this. Surely such a stock-

broker would be considered eccentric even in Mr. Gilbert's Empire of Topsy-turvydom. But Mr. Conder was equal to the task. He carried off the part with the ease of a finished actor, and brought into it so much real, quiet humour, that one recognised Mr. Burnett as a man, and not a mere stage convention.

One can well imagine even a good-natured man declining the part of *Professor Pocherig Peck*. The rôle is not humorous—only frankly silly. Besides, there is a Scotch accent to be maintained throughout three acts, and that is tiring to actor and audience alike. I say Scotch accent, but I should rather say the accent of a stage Scotchman, which is a very different thing. I doubt whether any audience of ordinary nerves would stand real broad Scotch for two hours and a half together. Actors know this, and they compromise by the invention of theatrical Scotch. It is the same with stage Irishmen and sailors. "Arrah," "Bedad," and "Spalpeen" are not, I believe, indispensable to conversation in Dublin, but they are to a talk between two stage Irishmen. Real sailors seldom wish their timbers shivered at their main braces—whatever main braces may be—spliced. But they have to do it on the stage. Otherwise the audience would rebel. Captain Brinkley chose the better part. He was awfully Scotch—with a rich melodious accent of which it would be hard to find the counterpart beyond the Tweed. But it was much better than real Scotch, all the same. Captain Brinkley banged his sashpender, and counted his hawbees like a true Kailyarder.

I hope Mr. Pattison will not feel offended if I say a word about his *de Haas*. *De Haas* is a fool, and meant to be a fool. That is conceded. But is he precisely the kind of fool Mr. Pattison made him? I know Mr. Pattison has his preferences for that falsetto voice, that trick of pronouncing "very" "vewy," and that absurd exaggeration of deportment. I have seen many stage "nashers" of that particular type. They used to be the classic ideal of a stage fool, though I am happy to think that they are rarely met with now, except among third-rate provincial companies. Persons like *de Haas* are supposed to move in polite society, they are supposed at any rate to be human beings. In this world of fools and this fool of a world there are fools of infinite variety, but did any one ever meet a fool of the type of Mr. Pattison's *de Haas*? The exaggeration of the character takes away much of its effect, because it never gives the spectator the idea of verisimilitude. He sees at once that it is acting—clever acting, it may be, but not that sort which convinces and which is required even in farce. An artist of Mr. Pattison's evident ability should discard a discredited tradition; he would do better if he relied on his own taste.

Mr. Vickers did not appear altogether happy as *Joe Johnson*, but that was hardly his fault. These "lovers' parts are always a stumbling block to amateurs. Even in actual life it takes a great deal to prevent a man in love appearing ridiculous to his fellow creatures, and love, as made on the stage, is perhaps the most ridiculous thing in the world. It takes an experienced actor to seize his adored one by the hand, and as she bashfully turns her head aside, breathe his affection down the back of her neck. To do that properly, so that the audience shall believe and sympathise with it, is the highest art. Who shall blame Mr. Vickers if he hardly succeeded where many who had less excuse have failed? In the more natural points of his rôle he was much happier. Mr. Hillhouse, as an awkward lover, had more chance, and he availed himself of it. He looked and spoke the part capitally. Mr. Gardiner, as *Muster*, though it was a small rôle, also struck me as good.

As for the ladies, the author was not altogether kind to them. The parts were nearly all sketchy and indistinctive. *Iris* (Miss Von Fallot) and *Millie* (Miss F. Dening) were just two pretty, attractive girls, quite colourless, altogether of the wax doll type, such as one sees in every machine-made play, provided for one purpose only—to have love made to them. Miss Dening appeared in one situation which had

the raw material of humor, and that she utilised. Miss Von Fallot acted charmingly within the narrow limits prescribed by the playwright, and both ladies fulfilled the ideal of sweet girlhood. Miss Nishikawa, I thought, was a splendid *Mrs. Peck*. In fact, it appeared to me, in spite of the comparative insignificance of the part, perhaps the best realised of the feminine characters. For a young lady to transform herself into a demure, becaped and bespectacled Professor's wife, a little worried over money affairs and ambitious of leaving dingy lodgings for a neat villa—to do this so absolutely naturally as Miss Nishikawa did is surely art of a very high order. Her performance was really a remarkable one. Of Miss Hayes' *Mrs. Burnett* I should, perhaps, have spoken before. The part was one which might in some hands have been colourless and lacking in individuality; in others it might easily have been ridiculously exaggerated. Miss Hayes played it with admirable restraint. Indeed she made a rôle which was, in it left the author's hands, a mere wooden stage conventionality, quite natural and human.

Altogether it was a poor play far from poorly played.—*Communicated.*

CHAMBER CONCERT.

The third and last of Herr Junker's Chamber Concerts was held at the Public Hall on Thursday, and was largely attended. The string quartette consisting of Herr Junker (first violin), Mr. Herbert Pöhl (second violin), Mr. Fritz Schmid (violin) and Mr. Rodolph Schmid (cello), was successful in its selections, notably in the two from Beethoven, the quartette from Mozart (in which Mr. Kaufmann assisted), and the selection from Bach. Professor Von Koeber's piano soli were perhaps the instrumental gems of the evening, his *Berceuse* from Chopin being especially enjoyable. Signor Bracciatini, who has an extremely powerful tenor voice—almost too powerful for so small a room—was heard to advantage in two selections, and was both times loudly encored. Mr. Friedlander was the baritone, and no doubt did his best in the solo "Gott sei mir gnädig" from "Paulus," though there is something which does not please both in his voice and manner. The programme was as follows:—

PART I.

- 1.—String Quartette in "C Minor".....Beethoven.
- 2.—Tenor Solo...."Libro Santo".....Pisenti.
- 3.—Trio in "C Minor".....Beethoven.
for Piano, Violin, and Violoncello.
- 4.—Baritone Solo
"Gott sei mir gnädig" from "Paulus"
Mendelssohn.

PART II.

- 1.—Quintette in "G Minor".....Mozart.
for 2 Violins, 2 Violas and Violoncello.
- 2.—Piano Solo—
(a) Pastorale }.....Scarlatti-Tausig.
(b) Scherzo }
(c) Berceuse.....Chopin
- 3.—Tenor Solo....Aria from "Carmen"....Bizet.
- 4.—String Quartette, Selections—
(a) "Air".....Bach.
(b) Entr'acte from Mignon
(by request).....Thomas.

PRINTERS' ERRORS.

We have no doubt that our readers often open their eyes in surprise at the typographical errors occurring in these columns, as well as in the columns of Far Eastern journals generally. Such errors are a constant source of woe and worry to the English staff of the unfortunate newspaper they disfigure, yet when it is remembered that Japanese compositors are required to set up manuscript badly written in a language of which they know nothing, the paucity rather than the plenitude of their blunders is surprising. Probably the best printed journal in the world is the London *Times*. Twice within the past twenty years its compositors have played malicious tricks, and the

great newspaper has had to spend thousands of pounds in buying back the copies distributed before the misprint was discovered. On the most recent occasion of the kind, by a skilful transposition of type at the last moment before locking the forms, a member of Parliament was represented as having used abominable language in a speech delivered during the previous night. The trick was discovered very soon after the distribution of the paper had commenced, and every available agency was requisitioned to recall the copies sent out. The resulting expense is said to have amounted to twenty-seven hundred pounds sterling, and on the afternoon of the same day, copies of the misprinted number were selling for £5 each. But these were deliberately planned affairs against which no organization could provide. From accidental errors of compositors *The Times* may claim almost absolute freedom. We are constant readers of the great journal, and we have never yet detected a mistake of type-setting. The system pursued in Printing House Square and in the offices of other great journals is this:—Every proof is examined not merely by the author and the ordinary readers, but also by an old man and a boy. The two last work together, the boy reading the copy aloud and the old man following the printed matter. The idea of this combination is that neither of the two becomes interested in what he reads, and that whereas the lad is never likely to substitute words of his own imagining for the actual text, the old man is not betrayed into any impulses of impatience. The worst proof-reader, as a rule, is the author himself, for it is well known that by unconscious cerebration he imagines the correct presence of the words which ought to be before him, though their forms may be mutilated, and even though they be absent altogether. But that other great dailies of London have no such record as that of *The Times* will be apparent from the following notes in a recent issue of the *Morning Leader*:—

Yesterday I had the honour to call attention to a somewhat original bit of Greek in the *Standard*. And now, just to show my impartiality, I invite the reader to notice the following somewhat dark and puzzling statements in two or three leading articles in yesterday's *Daily News*. The first is taken from an article headed "Can the Bill be Knocked into Shape?" and it contains the following very fair and moderate suggestion:

The Opposition, then, object to the bill not because of real answer, and we trust that some peer will take it up again.

I throw out the hint with all humility, but it seems to me that the bill is not the only thing that requires to be knocked into shape.

I pass on to another leader in the same dignified journal, and read with a respect bordering on awe these observations about the conditions prevailing in the late Mr. Cadbury's model factory:

It seems like dreamland, or something out of a novel—spacious cooking, dining, and recreation room, pretty arbors where the girls might read and that at their ease, and all as cause it seeks to increase the dignity and importance of the local bodies, but because it tends to impair the solidarity of London as a whole.

I confess I am unable to follow the argument, but we must all agree with the first remark, that "it seems like dreamland."

I turn to yet another leading article in the same paper, and having settled down in firm earnest to find out what my excellent contemporary really has to say about "Confession in the Church" I come across this:—

The other question put by Lord Portsmouth was of wider and deeper significance. It re-adjusts to "the factory!" His incessant care pursued his people in sickness as in health.

There is a little bit more of dreamland business knocking about here, I'm afraid, and we must all ask in what Mr. Chadband called "the spirit of ter-ewth." How do we stand?

Now, some narrow-minded and dull souls may write to me asking why I poke fun at other papers for slips when my own paper has now and then been known to trip. Of course it has! Even *The Morning Leader* is human, but that is what makes one enjoy these little regrettable incidents all the more. And I compliment any paper which concentrates its errors in its leading articles, for it's ten to one no one ever reads them.

But when my really sound and able contemporary the *Daily News* begins to indulge its weakness for fun and frolic in its reporting columns I must

protest. Here is what I gather from its inspired page on the question of "condensed milk as food":

Dr. W. Stocker (Willesden) said practically 200 per cent. of the children who died in his district last summer died from the effects of taking "separated" condensed milk. (Sensation.) He was simply mentioning the facts. Quite so; but I have noticed that sometimes when I "simply mention the facts" my observations cause considerable sensation.

SPRING MEETING OF THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

FIRST DAY.—MONDAY, MAY 8TH.

PATRON.—H.I.H. Komatsu-no-Miya, H.I.H. Fushimi-no-Miya, H.I.H. Takashito-no-Miya.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE.—Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., President; Dr. Wheeler, Vice-President; Messrs. T. Asada, W. B. Walter, Jas. Dodds, F. Strahler, Baron d'Anethan, Count Orfini, Messrs. T. Thomas, R. D. Robinson, W. W. Till, E. Knaff, G. Philip, S. Isaacs, W. F. Mitchell, and T. Rinoiye.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Mr. W. W. Till, Chairman; Messrs. E. Knaff, T. Thomas, J. C. Nicholson, A. J. Easton, Geo. Philip, K. Mori.

CLERK OF THE COURSE.—Mr. A. J. Easton.
SECRETARY.—J. E. Beale.

The opening day of the Nippon Race Club's spring meeting passed off very pleasantly. Some anxiety was felt as to the weather, for the early morning was very dubious, but fortunately there was no rain to spoil the enjoyment of those present, though the wind was a trifle cold and cutting for so late in the year. The attendance was not very large, the majority of those who toil and spin having apparently reserved their holiday till to day, when the Emperor's visit will add special interest to the occasion. Official circles both in Yokohama and Tokyo were fairly well represented, and there was a good sprinkling of ladies, many of whom were walking advertisements of their dress-makers' and milliners' artistic tastes. The racing was on the whole interesting, and in several of the events the finishes were close and exciting, but there were no sensational surprises; the expected mostly happened. A record was made in the Nippon Plate, one and a half miles, Tatsuta winning in the excellent time of 2 min. 55½ secs. against 2 min. 56 secs. made by Mr. Takeda's Young Australia in November, 1891. The enjoyment of the spectators was enhanced by performances of the Town Band.

It should be noted that Wisconsin, Civility, and Gladiateur are scratched all engagements.

Following are details of the racing:—

1.—THE MONGOLIAN PLATE, for Subscription China Ponies, non-winners in Japan at date of entry; winner yen 250, second yen 50; weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nishimura's Azuma, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. Avis' Nightingale, 147lb. (Goto) 2
Mr. Nemo's Open Door, 150lb. (Ichi) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tortoise, 150lb. (Miura) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Hayabusa, 150lb. (Riki) 0
Mr. Hyogo's Hiroshima, 147lb. (Takahashi) 0
Mr. Russia's Chingiz, 147lb. (Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Worthington's Edinburgh, 153lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. G. Campredon's Fleur-de-lis, 147lb. (Kubota) 0

Mr. Tytherleigh's Manifesto, 153lb. (Tobe) 0
Time, 1 min. 39½ sec.

After several false starts the field got away well together, Nightingale leading the way with Edinburgh and Chingiz well up, and the rest following in a cluster. So they ran to the half mile, when Edinburgh forced Nightingale into second place, Open Door racing third. At the Shakespeare Nightingale again came to the front, with Manifesto and Azuma in close attendance. On turning into the straight Chingiz challenged the favourite and passed him close on the post, winning by two lengths, a good third. Chingiz was fourth.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tortoise 0, Hayabusa 6, Open Door 12, Hiroshima 6, Chingiz 15, Edinburgh 15, Nightingale 54, Azuma 28, Fleur-de-lis 8, Manifesto 1; total, 715 yen—Azuma 23 yen.

2.—THE ALL-AGED STAKES, for Country breeds; yen 250; weight as per scale, maidens at date of entry 5lb. allowance. Three-quarter Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. R. Field's Tomboy, 145lb. (Miura) 1
Mr. States' Idaho, 140lb. (Sugina) 2
Mr. Yoda's Saikio, 137lb. (Hakodate) 3
Mr. Avis' Peacock, 130lb. (Goto) 0

* Mare.—Allowance deducted.
† Maiden.—Allowance deducted.
Time, 1.25½.

From the start Idaho settled down to the lead, with Peacock second, and Saikio third. Shortly after Saikio forced his way into second place, and was almost on even terms with Idaho. They ran thus till the Shakespeare, when Tomboy came up, and made a bid, passing Idaho and Saikio just before entering the straight. An exciting race ensued up to the post, Tomboy getting in half a length ahead; Saikio close up.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tomboy 29, Peacock 20, Idaho 72, Saikio 58; 895 yen—Tomboy, 28 yen.

3.—THE CRITERION STAKES, for China Ponies; winner yen 250, second yen 50; weight as per scale. Three-quarter Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Tatsuta's Kutaka (late Kestrel), 147lb. (Riki) 1
Mr. R. Field's Kinder, 144lb. (Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. Nishimura's MacMorse, 150lb. (Goto) 3
Mr. Nemo's Rond-de-Cuir (late Nitsaka), 150lb. (Ichi) 0

Mr. Russia's Doorak, 144lb. (Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Guignol's Kuigoni, 147lb. (Matsuya) 0
Mr. States' O'egon, 150lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 0
Messrs. Sharp and Elliott's Gadfly, 150lb. (Mr. Elliott) 0
Time, 1.37½

The field went away all together, but on thinning Kutaka assumed the lead with Kinder second, and Oregon third. This was about the order till the entrance to the straight, when MacMorse came away from the rack and jumped into third place. Kutaka was never seriously troubled, and won by two lengths. MacMorse made a splendid effort at the post, and all but snatched second place from Kinder. Oregon was fourth. Gadfly was weighed in, but was not quiet enough to be saddled in time and so did not run.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Kinder 88, Kutaka 27, Rond-de-Cuir 19, Doorak 14, MacMorse 35, Gadfly 5; total, 1,160 yen—Kutaka, 39 yen.

4.—THE SHIMOSA PLATE, for Subscription Country-breds of Autumn 1898; yen 150; weight 130lb.; winners in Japan at date of 130lb. † Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Schuix's Mazette, 135lb. (Miyagawa) 1
Mr. News' Eclat, 130lb. (Sugina) 2
Mr. Avis' Chaffinch, 135lb. (Matsuya) 3
Mr. Tatsuta's Sekirew, 135lb. (Hattori) 0
Time 1.13½.

Mazette led from the start, with Eclat a length or two behind, and Chaffinch racing third. The pace was leisurely up to the trees, when Eclat made an effort to come on terms, but it was clearly Mazette's race, and he came in an easy winner by about three lengths, the same distance between second and third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Sekirew 89, Eclat 36, Chaffinch 27, Mazette 67; total, 1,095 yen—Mazette, 15 yen.

5.—THE MANDARIN PLATE, for Subscription China Ponies of Autumn 1898 and Spring 1899; winner yen 250, second yen 50; weight as per scale; winners in Japan at date of entry 5lb. extra, winners of more than one race at date of entry excluded. 1½ Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Guignol's Confidence, 155lb. (Mr. Longin) 1
Mr. Tytherleigh's Manifesto, 153lb. (Yasu) 2
Mr. R. Field's Terrapin, 147lb. (Miura) 3
Mr. News' Evenement, 147lb. (Sugina) 0
Mr. Hyogo's Iwabuchi, 150lb. (Takahashi) 0
Mr. Starlight's Mars, 153lb. (Katsu) 0
Time 2.37.

Manifesto went away with a long lead, with Confidence and Evenement having second and third. Manifesto made the running as far as the Trees, when Confidence got on terms and Terrapin ran into third place. A good race ensued down the straight, but Manifesto was unable to make up lost ground, and Confidence won by three lengths. Bad third. Mars was fourth and Evenement last.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Terrapin 26, Evenement 37, Iwabuchi 16, Confidence 55, Mars 13, Manifesto 85; total, 1,160 yen—Confidence, 19 yen.

6.—THE NIPPON PLATE, for Country-breds; winner yen 200, second yen 50; weight as per

scale, maidens at date of entry 5lb. allowance. One-half Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb. (Riki) 1
Mr. Worthington's Tambour Majeur, 132lb. (Yasu) 3
Mr. Russia's Hermine, 137lb. (Horikoshi) 0
Time 2.55½.

Hermine took the lead, but was passed by both Tambour Majeur and Tatsuta just after the trees had been reached. Coming down the straight Tambour Majeur and Tatsuta were racing neck and neck, Hermine going two or three lengths behind. Going up the rise Tatsuta got a slight lead, but it was a very close thing till the houses, when Tatsuta began to forge ahead, and had obtained a couple of lengths lead by the half-mile post. From thence to the Shakespeare he increased the advantage, and was leading easily on entering the straight. From this point it was a sure thing, and Tatsuta came in quite untroubled with half a dozen lengths to spare; a bad third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tatsuta 174, Hermine 72, Tambour Major 136; total, 1,910 yen—Tatsuta, 10 yen.

7.—THE SHANGHAI PLATE, for China Ponies; winner yen 250, second yen 50; weight as per scale. One-and-a-half Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Worthington's Aberdeen, 150lb. (Yasu) 1

Mr. Nemo's Mr. Darcy, 140lb. (Ichi) 2
Mr. Hyogo's Okayama (late Miyajima), 153lb. (Takahashi) 3

Mr. Nemo's San-moon, 153lb. (Katsu) 0
Mr. News' Eclairer, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 0
Mr. Russia's Maygar, 153lb. (Horikoshi) 0
Mr. States' Oregon, 150lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 0
Messrs. Sharp and Elliott's Gadfly, 150lb. (Hakodate) 0
Time, 3.23½.

Mr. Nemo declared the best of his pair to win. Aberdeen took the lead from the start, with Mr. Darcy second, and Eclairer and Maygar close behind. This was the order till the half mile was passed. Okayama, who had been in the rack, then commenced to work his way through the field, but was unable to get on terms with Aberdeen and Mr. Darcy. The former had an easy run down the straight, finishing with two lengths to spare. Okayama was a bad third, and Eclairer was close up. San-moon came in at the tail.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—San-moon 14, Mr. Darcy 112, Eclairer 50, Okayama 14, Maygar 24, Aberdeen 127, Oregon 19, Gadfly 7; total 1,835 yen.—Aberdeen 13 yen.

8.—THE JAPAN STAKES, for Country-breds, maidens at date of entry; winner yen 200, second yen 50; weight as per scale. † Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Avis' Peacock, 135lb. (Goto) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Omokage, 135lb. (Sugina) 2
Mr. Nemo's Speranza (late Mizuhashi), 137lb. (Ichi) 3
Mr. Starlight's Minerva, 140lb. (Katsu) 0
Mr. G. Campredon's Iris, 145lb. (Kubota) 0
* Mare.—Allowance deducted.
Time, 1 min. 12 secs.

Omokage jumped away with the lead, with Peacock close up. Peacock passed Omokage near the Shakespeare, and went away with a long lead, coming in with several lengths to spare; fair third. Minerva was fourth and Iris last.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Omokage 127, Speranza 39, Peacock 182, Minerva 54, Iris 11; total, 1,715 yen.—Peacock 14 yen.

9.—THE CELESTIAL STAKES, for Subscription China Ponies, non-winners in Japan at date of entry; winner yen 225, second yen 50; weight as per scale; winner of race 5. 5lb. extra. 1½ Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nishimura's Azuma, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. Russia's Chingiz, 147lb. (Horikoshi) 2
Mr. Guignol's Cascadeur, 150lb. (Mr. Longin) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tortoise, 150lb. (Mr. Tegen) 0
Mr. Hyogo's Iwabuchi, 150lb. (Takahashi) 0
Mr. Avis' Nightingale, 147lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 0
Mr. Wayloong's Ginko, 150lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. G. Campredon's Fleur-de-lis, 147lb. (Miyagawa) 0
Time 2 min. 37½.

Cascadeur jumped away with the lead, but when they passed the grand stand Ginko was ahead, with Chingiz and Nightingale close. Going up the rise Nightingale got a slight lead, closely followed by Chingiz, Azuma, and Cascadeur. Nightingale had a length's lead as far as the houses, when Azuma made a bid and rushed into first place just before entering the home

straight. From that point he was not troubled, and won by several lengths. Nightingale allowed himself also to be beaten by Chingiz and Cascadeur, and came in fourth. Tortoise was last.

PARI MUTUEL. 5 yen—Tortoise 3, Iwabuchi 4, Chingiz 27, Cascadeur 25, Nightingale 99, Azuma 129, Ginko 72, Fleur-de-lis 7; total, 1,830 yen—Azuma, 13 yen.

SECOND DAY.—TUESDAY, MAY 9TH.

Tuesday was probably a record in the annals of the Nippon Race Club. Seldom, if ever, has the great day of the meeting passed off with so much *clat*. The Ladies' Day is always, if the weather is reasonably tolerable, a brilliant social function, but the fact that the Emperor had consented to make what was practically a State visit to the course gave added interest and importance to the gathering. Fortunately the day, as far as the climatic conditions were concerned, was perfect. Some misgiving was felt early in the morning, as to possible mean conduct on the part of the powers which regulate the clouds, and which, in spite of all scientific improvements, are still not amenable even to a Court Chamberlain. But these prognostications of evil were happily not fulfilled, and Tuesday was as pleasant a day as could possibly be wished—not too warm to render the crowded grand stand insufferably hot, and not too devoid of sunlight to neutralise the effect of the gay-tinted spring dresses of the ladies. The attendance was a record one. The grand stand and the ground in front of it were packed, and the scene was most brilliant and animated. There were hundreds of foreign visitors from Tokyo, Kobe, and the country; crowds of Japanese and Chinese; and practically the whole foreign population of Yokohama, except the few whom business—and it must be serious business that cannot be put aside on race day—tied to their desks in the Settlement. Everybody, at all events, with the slightest pretensions to being "smart" was to be seen. Silk hats were as plentiful as in Piccadilly; and tasteful spring toilets were in almost as great numbers and in nearly as bewildering variety as on a June morning in Hyde Park. Nearly all the Legation officials from Tokyo were on the course, and a great body of Japanese notables were also present. Among the principal visitors were:—Prince Kan-in, Viscount Aoki, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Viscountess Aoki, and Miss Aoki; Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain to the Emperor; Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Household Department; Baron Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies; Governor Asada; Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima; Mr. Nagasaki, Private Secretary to the Minister of the Imperial Household; Count Lieut. Hirohaki, Chamberlain to His Majesty the Emperor; Baron Madenokoji, Chamberlain to His Majesty; Sir Ernest Satow, British Minister; Baron Rosen, Russian Minister, and Baroness Rosen; M. Harmand, French Minister, Madame Harmand, and Mademoiselle Harmand; Count von Leyden, German Minister; Count Orfini, Italian Minister; Baron d'Anethan, Belgian Minister, and Baroness d'Anethan; Hon. A. E. Buck, United States Minister, and Mrs. Buck; M. Antoine de Grubisch, Austrian *chargé d'affaires*; Senor Louis de la Barrera, Spanish *chargé d'affaires*; Senor de Freitas, Portuguese *chargé d'affaires*, and Senora de Freitas; Mr. Van der Polder, Dutch *chargé d'affaires*, and Mrs. Van der Polder; the Mexican *chargé d'affaires*; Viscount and Viscountess de Bondy, Mr. Ralph Paget, Senor and Senora Caicer, Mr. Paul May, Mr. Poklewsky, Mr. Michel Andréau, Commander Chugin; Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, British Consul at Yokohama; Marquis Nembrini de Gonzaga, and nearly all the Consular body of Yokohama.

His Majesty arrived on the ground shortly after 11.30, followed by his suite, and escorted by a troop of Lancers of the Imperial Bodyguard. He was received at the steps of the Grand Stand by Sir Ernest Satow, and at once proceeded to the Imperial box, whence he watched the whole of the races. At the end of the meeting the Imperial Guards formed up at the entrance

to the grand stand, and His Majesty entered his carriage amid ringing cheers, which he acknowledged by a gracious bow. A huge crowd lined the road on the homeward journey.

The sport was worthy of the occasion; and several exciting finishes were witnessed. The pleasure of those present was greatly augmented by the capital performances of the massed bands of H.M.S. *Victorious* and *Barfleur*.

Details of the racing are as follows:—

1.—**THE NANKIN STAKES**, for Subscription China Ponies of Autumn 1898 and Spring 1899: winner yen 200, second yen 50; weight as per scale; winners in Japan at date of entry 5lb. extra; of more than one race excluded. Three-quarter Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Worthington's Edinburgh, 153lb. ... (Yasu) 1
Mr. G. Campredon's Fleur-de-lis, 147lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 2

Mr. Avis' Nightingale, 147lb. ... (Goto) 3
Mr. Tatsuta's Hayabusa, 150lb. ... (Rikizo) 0
Mr. Nemo's Open Door, 150lb. ... (Ichi) 0
Mr. News' Evenement, 147lb. ... (Mayeda) 0
Mr. Hyogo's Hiroshima, 147lb. ... (Takahashi) 0
Mr. Tythierleigh's Manifesto, 153lb. ... (Kobey) 0
Time, 1.38.5.

Open Door made the running, attended by Edinburgh and Manifesto, with Fleur-de-lis close up. They ran thus to the Shakespeare, when Open Door and Manifesto fell altogether to the rear, and Fleur-de-lis took up the lead, with Edinburgh racing second, and Nightingale a length or two behind. On entering the straight Edinburgh made a splendid bid, and for most of the distance was racing neck with Fleur-de-lis, eventually coming in with a length and a half to spare. Poor third. Hayabusa was fourth, and Open Door last.

PARI MUTUEL. 5 yen—Hayabusa 24, Open Door 5, Evenement 1, Hiroshima 3, Edinburgh 18, Nightingale 90, Fleur-de-lis 24, Manifesto 35; total, 1,000 yen—Edinburgh, 30 yen.

2.—**THE SPRING STAKES**, for Country-breds; yen 200; weight as per scale, maidens at date of entry 5lb. allowance, winners at the meeting 5lb. extra. 1½ Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 137lb. ... (Ichi) 1
Mr. R. Field's Tomboy, 145lb. ... (Mura) 2
Mr. States' Idaho, 140lb. ... (Sugura) 3
* Mare.—Allowance deducted.
Time, 2.10.5.

Idaho made the running, with Saikio next and Tomboy, who was a warm favourite, last. They went past the stand and up the dip in this order, but approaching the Shakespeare Saikio went ahead with a long lead, and shortly after Tomboy passed Idaho. Saikio was never troubled, and came in several lengths ahead.

PARI MUTUEL. 5 yen—Tomboy 148, Idaho 85, Saikio 54; total 1435 yen—Saikio 24 yen.

3.—**THE KANAGAWA STAKES**, for Subscription Country-breds of Autumn 1898; yen 150; weight 130lb., winners in Japan at date of entry and winner of Race 4, first day, 5b. extra. Three-quarter Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Sphinx's Mazette, 140lb. ... (Miyagawa) 1
Mr. News' Eclair, 130lb. ... (Sugura) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Sekirew, 135lb. ... (Yasu) 3
Mr. Avis' Chaffinch, 135lb. ... (Goto) 0
Time 1.28.5.

Mazette got away with the lead, and held it throughout, winning by a length; two lengths between second and third.

PARI MUTUEL. 5 yen—Mazette 128, Eclair 51, Chaffinch 24, Sekirew 72; total, 1,375 yen—Mazette 10 yen.

4.—**THE LADIES' PURSE**, Presented, for all China Ponies; to be ridden by Members of the Club or Visitors, whose names must be sent to the Committee before the meeting and approved by them; weight as per scale with 5lb. added. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Worthington's Aberdeen, 155lb. (Mr. Easton) 1
Mr. Nishimura's MacMorse, 155lb. (Mr. Nishimura) 2

Mr. Russia's Magyar, 158lb. ... (Mr. Pearson) 3
Mr. R. Field's Kindar, 149lb. ... (Mr. Motin) 0
Mr. Nemo's Mr. Darcy, 155lb. carried 160lb. (Mr. Andreis) 0

Mr. News' Eclair, 155lb. ... (Mr. Kingdon) 0
Mr. Guignol's Confidence, 155lb. ... (Mr. Lougin) 0
Mr. States' Oregon, 155lb. ... (Mr. Pakemham) 0
Messrs. Sharp and Elliott's 155lb. (Mr. Elliott) 0
Time, 2.12.5.

MacMorse made the running, followed by Magyar, with Oregon close up, and the rest running in a bunch. Going up the dip Oregon drew

up level, and a blanket would have covered the first four till the half mile post, when Aberdeen worked through the field, and took a slight lead, which he increased during the journey to the home stretch. On entering the straight Aberdeen was leading with Magyar a length or two behind, and MacMorse third. Half-way up MacMorse challenged Magyar, and shot ahead of him just before the post. He could not, however, reach Aberdeen, who won by two lengths. A length between second and third.

A PRETTY PRESENTATION.

After the race the Ladies' Purse, value fifty sovereigns, was presented to Mr. Easton by Miss Lloyd Thomas with the following neat little speech:—

I have much pleasure in behalf of the ladies of Tokio and Yokohama in presenting you with this purse as a token of the great interest we take in this noble sport. That the Nippon Race Club may long continue in its present flourishing condition is the earnest hope of us all and it is a good augury for the future success of the club that His Majesty the Emperor has honoured this Meeting with his presence. We are sorry that some of the riders had to lose but it was inevitable when so good a pony as Aberdeen was ridden by so able a rider as yourself, and it is only natural that the clerk of the course should lead the way. We hope you will accept our good wishes that your success to-day may not be a simile of the fickle goddess of fortune but may prove a token of the certain and lasting favour of the goddess of victory.

Mr. Easton, in reply, said:—I have to thank you, Miss Thomas, for so kindly presenting the prize, and I have also to thank on behalf of the members of the Club the ladies of Yokohama and Tokyo for so liberally subscribing to the purse. I am told it is the largest on record, which shows the increasing interest that is taken in our races. I have seen racing in nearly all parts of the world and I think considering our small community there are many ladies who take as genuine an interest in racing as they do in other parts. It was only this morning that I decided to ride, and therefore I have had no time to think about a speech, but I may say that I feel proud in having won to-day, for it is no ordinary day, because H.M. the Emperor has honoured the Club with his presence and also graciously consented to receive this morning an address from the foreign community, showing the feeling that exists on the eve of the new treaties.

PARI MUTUEL. 5 yen—Kindar 128, Mr. Darcy 49, Eclair 66, Magyar 27, Aberdeen 250, Confidence 43, Oregon 30, MacMorse 33, Gadfly 10; total, 3,130 yen—Aberdeen 11 yen.

5.—**THE MAIDENS' PLATE**, for Country-breds, maidens at date of entry; winner yen 200, second yen 50; weight as per scale; winner of Race 8, first day, 5lb. extra. Three-quarter Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Avis' Peacock, 135lb. ... (Goto) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Omokage, 135lb. ... (Sugura) 2
Mr. Guignol's Zigoto, 135b. ... (Miyagawa) 3
Mr. Nemo's Speranza, 137lb. ... (Ichi) 0
Mr. Starlight's Mineva, 140lb. ... (Katsu) 0
Mr. G. Campredon's Iris, 145lb. ... (Horikoshi) 0
* Mare.—Allowance deducted.
Time, 1.25.5.

Omokage jumped away with the lead, with Iris next, and the rest of the field close up. Omokage steadily increased his lead as far as the houses, where he had an advantage of five or six lengths. Peacock then made a bid, and had greatly improved his position when they reached the trees. Entering the straight Peacock was two lengths behind Omokage, and half-way down he got on terms, finishing with two lengths to spare. Zigoto was a good third.

PARI MUTUEL. Omokage 150, Speranza 31, Zigoto 14, Peacock 250, Mineva 16, Iris 11; total 2,360 yen—Peacock 8 yen.

6.—**THE PEKING CUP**, for Subscription China Ponies, non-winners in Japan at date of entry; winner yen 225, second 50; weight as per scale; winner of Race 5, or 9 first day, 5b. extra. One-half Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nishimura's Azuma, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. R. Field's Terrapin, 147lb. ... (Mr. Motin) 2
Mr. Russia's Chingiz, 147lb. ... (Horikoshi) 3
Mr. Hyogo's Iwabuchi, 150lb. ... (Takahashi) 0
Mr. R. Field's Tortoise, 150lb. ... (Mura) 0
Mr. Starlight's Mai, 153lb. ... (Katsu) 0
Time, 3.29.5.

Mr. R. Field declared the best of his pair to win. The field got away well together, but as they passed the post Azuma was leading by a length, with Chingiz next and Mai and Terrapin just behind. This order was maintained until the Shakespeare, when Chingiz began to go ahead, and just before entering the straight he had a

slight lead. Azuma, however, then got on terms again, and rushed into first place, winning by about two lengths. Terrapin also beat Chingiz just before the post, three lengths separating them.

THE EMPEROR'S PRIZE.

The Emperor's prize, a magnificent silver bowl, was presented by Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household to Mr. Kingdon, the jockey of the winning horse. Three hearty cheers and a lusty *Bansai* led by Mr. Thomas were given for His Majesty, who acknowledged the compliment with a gracious bow.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tortoise 18, Terrapin 65, Iwabuchi 35, Chingiz 218, Azuma 385, Mats 14; total, 3,675 yen—Azuma, 9 yen.

7.—**THE NIPPON STAKES**, for Country-breds; yen 200; weight as per scale; Maidens at date of 10lb. allowance; winners at the meeting of one race 5lb. extra, of two races excluded. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb. (Riki) 1
Mr. States' Idaho, 140lb. (Sugiura) 2
* Mare.—Allowance deducted.

Time, 1:53.

Though there were seven entries, the race resolved itself into a match. The pair kept together almost all the distance, Tatsuta eventually winning by half a length.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tatsuta 31, Idaho 18; total, 245 yen—Tatsuta, 7 yen.

8.—**THE MANCHURIAN STAKES**, for China Ponies; winner yen 200; weight as per scale; winners of the race at the meeting 5lb. extra; of two races excluded. 1½ Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nemo's Mr. Darcy, 150lb. (Ichi) 1
Mr. Hyogo's Doorak, 144lb. (Takahashi) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Kotaka, 147lb. (Riki) 3
Mr. Nemo's San-moon, 153lb. (Katsu) 4
Mr. News' Elclairer, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 5
Mr. Russia's Magyar, 153lb. (Hattori) 6
Mr. Russia's Doorak, 144lb. (Horikoshi) 7
Mr. Guignol's Kirigomi, 147lb. (Matsuya) 8
Mr. States' Oregon, 150lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 9
Messrs. Sharp and Elliott's Gaddy, 150lb. (Mr. Elliott) 10

Time, 2:33½.

Mr. Nemo and Mr. Russia declared best to win. Mr. Darcy went away with the lead, with San Moon and Doorak close behind. Doorak had got into second place by the dip, but soon fell back into the rack. Okayama worked his way through the field and was at one time on terms with Mr. Darcy, but the latter, just before entering the straight, went away, and won by three lengths, a good third. Oregon was fourth and Doorak fifth.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Kotaka 284, Mr. Darcy 129, San-Moon 7, Elclairer 23, Okayama 34, Magyar 7, Doorak 83, Kirigomi 13, Oregon 18, Gaddy 7; total, 3,160 yen—Mr. Darcy, 22 yen.

9.—**THE TAIWAN STAKES**, for Subscription China Ponies, non-winners in Japan at date of entry; winner yen 200, second yen 50; weight as per scale; winners of one race at the meeting 5lb. extra, of two races excluded. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Avis' Nightingale, 147lb. (Goto) 1
Mr. Guignol's Cascadeur, 150lb. (Mr. Longin) 2
Mr. Starlight's Mats, 153lb. (Katsu) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tortoise, 150lb. (Mitsu) 4
Mr. Tatsuta's Hayabusa, 150lb. (Riki) 5
Mr. News' Evènement, 147lb. (Mayeda) 6
Mr. Russia's Chingiz, 147lb. (Horikoshi) 7
Mr. Worthington's Edinburgh, 153lb. (Yasu) 8
Mr. G. Campredon's Fleur-de-lis, 147lb. (Mr. Mottu) 9

Mr. Tytherleigh's Manifesto, 153lb. (Kobei) 10
Mr. Wayfoong's Ginko, 150lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 11
Time, 2:16½.

Manifesto made the running, followed by Nightingale and Ginko. So they ran till the houses were reached, when Nightingale drew level and finally passed Manifesto, Cascadeur and Mats also working their way through the field to second and third place. Nightingale had a slight lead on entering the straight, when Cascadeur made a splendid bid, and a neck to neck race ensued, Nightingale finishing first by a head. Bad third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Hayabusa 28, Evènement 6, Chingiz 43, Edinburgh 48, Cascadeur 35, Nightingale 73, Mats 4, Fleur-de-lis 7, Manifesto 26, Ginko 77; total, 1,735 yen—Nightingale, 21 yen.

THIRD DAY.—WEDNESDAY, MAY 10TH.

The third day of the races was decidedly of an "off" character. The attendance had greatly thinned, and there were not many ladies present in comparison with the large

numbers of the previous day. The weather was fortunately beautifully fine, and the day was a fitting conclusion to a meeting which has been particularly fortunate in regard to the atmospheric conditions. The Town Band was present and played during the intervals between the races. Speculation was very rife, and some of the totals in the *pari mutuel* were extremely large. The sport witnessed was on the whole excellent, and some finishes were exceedingly near. It should be mentioned that the arrangements for the meeting, except as regards accommodation for the Press, were excellent; and the catering of Clauson's Hotel, who supplied the lunch, gave much satisfaction.

Details:—

1.—**THE CÉSAREWITCH STAKES (Handicap)**, A forced entry at yen 20 of all China Ponies entered at the meeting; non-starters half forfeit; winner yen 300, second yen 100, third yen 50; handicap after the second day's racing. One Mile.

Mr. Nishimura's MacMorse, 150lb. (Yasu) 1
Mr. Russia's Magyar, 145lb. (Mr. Pearson) 2
Mr. Nemo's Mr. Darcy, 153lb. (Ichi) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tortoise, 132lb. (Mitsu) 4
Mr. Tatsuta's Kotaka, 150lb. (Riki) 5
Mr. News' Elclairer, 138lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 6
Mr. News' Evènement, 134lb. (Mayeda) 7
Mr. Hyogo's Okayama, 149lb. (Mr. Mottu) 8
Mr. Russia's Doorak, 139lb. (Horikoshi) 9
Mr. Guignol's Kirigomi, 140lb. (Miyagawa) 10
Mr. Guignol's Confidence, 150lb. (Mr. Longin) 11
Mr. Avis' Nightingale, 140lb. (Goto) 12
Mr. States' Oregon, 143lb. (Sugiura) 13
Mr. Starlight's Mats, 137lb. (Katsu) 14
Mr. Wayfoong's Ginko, 137lb. (Hayashi) 15
Time 2:10½.

Mr. News and Mr. Russia declared best to win. Kotaka made the running, closely followed by MacMorse and Mr. Darcy, but Kotaka soon fell behind and MacMorse assumed the lead, which he kept throughout, Magyar, who had come up after passing the Shakespeare, failing to reach him. Won by three lengths; third close up. Oregon was fourth, Nightingale fifth, and Mats last.

PARI MUTUEL, (5 yen)—Tortoise 1, Kotaka 32, Mr. Darcy 57, Elclairer 20, Okayama 11, Magyar 7, Doorak 11, Kirigomi 4, Confidence 5, Nightingale 7, Oregon 3, MacMorse 9, Mats 2, Ginko 4; total 1,275 yen—MacMorse 13 yen.

2.—**THE PRIX DES HARAS (Handicap)**, for all Country-breds; a forced entry at yen 20 of all Country-breds at the meeting except Subscription Horses of Autumn 1898 and Maidens at date of entry; non-starters half forfeit; winner yen 300, second yen 100, third yen 50; handicap after second day's racing. One Mile.

Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 137lb. (Ichi) 1
Mr. States' Idaho, 135lb. (Sugiura) 2
Mr. Avis' Peacock, 140lb. (Goto) 3
Mr. Starlight's Mineva, 125lb. (Katsu) 4
Mr. G. Campredon's Iris, 112lb. (Kubota) 5
Time, 1:53½.

It was a poor start, Iris being left altogether behind. Saikio settled down with the lead, with Idaho and Peacock in attendance. They ran thus to the finish, Saikio winning easily by three or four lengths. Peacock a poor third.

PARI MUTUEL, (5 yen)—Peacock 44, Idaho 70, Mineva 3, Iris 2, Saikio 122, total 1,205 yen—Saikio 9 yen.

3.—**THE YOUNGSTERS' HANDICAP**, for Subscription Country-breds of Autumn 1898; a forced entry at yen 20 of all horses entered at the meeting; non-starters half forfeit; yen 250; handicap after second day's racing. Five furlongs.

Mr. Sobink's Mazette, 150lb. (Miyagawa) 1
Mr. News' Eclat, 150lb. (Sugiura) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Sekirew, 126lb. (Hayashi) 3
Time, 1:17½.

After several false starts Mazette got away with the lead, with Eclat second. So they raced as far as the Shakespeare, where Sekirew challenged Eclat and momentarily held second place, but just afterwards Eclat came up again and pressed Mazette hard. On entering the straight Eclat was a length or two behind, and a splendid race ensued to the finish, the horses racing neck and neck most of the distance. Mazette, however, managed to get in a short head in front. Sekirew was a poor third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Sekirew 101, Eclat, 222, Mazette 175; Total, 2,490 yen—Mazette 13 yen.

4.—**THE CHINA CHAMPION**, a Champion Race for all China Ponies; a forced entry for winners at the meeting, of one race yen 10, of two races yen 20, and of more than two races yen 40;

optional to beaten Ponies at an entrance fee of yen 25; yen 500; weight as per scale. Mile and a quarter.

Mr. Worthington's Aberdeen, 150lb.

(Mr. Easton) 1
Mr. Nemo's Mr. Darcy, 150lb. (Ichi) 2
Mr. Nishimura's Azuma, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 3
Mr. Worthington's Edinburgh, 153lb. (Yasu) 4
Mr. Guignol's Confidence, 150lb. (Mr. Longin) 5
Time, 2:40½.

Edinburgh made the running, but, going up the dip, fell behind, and Mr. Darcy and Aberdeen came to the front, and near the Shakespeare the latter gained a short lead. They raced thus as far as the entrance to the straight, when Mr. Darcy made an effort to reach Aberdeen, but the latter came away, and won by a length and a half. Bad third. Edinburgh was last.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Azuma, 148, Confidence 9, Aberdeen 302, Edinburgh 29, Mr. Darcy 47; total 2,675 yen—Aberdeen 8 yen.

5.—**THE COUNTRY-BRED CHAMPION**, a Champion Race for all Country-breds; a forced entry for winners at the Meeting, except Subscription Horses of Autumn 1898, of one race yen 10, of two races yen 20, and of more than two races yen 40; optional to beaten Horses at an Entrance fee of yen 25; yen 500; weight as per scale. Mile and a quarter.

Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb. (Riki) 1
Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 137lb. (Ichi) 2
Mr. States' Idaho, 140lb. (Sugiura) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tomboy, 145lb. (Mr. Easton) 4
Time, 2:22½.

Saikio led from the start, followed by Tatsuta and Idaho, Tomboy being altogether out of it. Tatsuta came away between the trees and the straight, and on entering the latter he had a good lead, which he increased with every stride, coming in five or six lengths ahead; three or four lengths between second and third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tomboy 135, Tatsuta 334, Saikio 67, Idaho 23; total 2,795—Tatsuta 8 yen.

6.—**THE CHINA SUBSCRIPTION CONSOLATION**, a Consolation Race for Subscription China Ponies, non-winners in Japan at date of entry, that have started and not won a race at the Meeting; winner yen 150, second yen; weight as per scale. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. G. Campredon's Fleur-de-lis, 147lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. Russia's Chingiz, 147lb. (Horikoshi) 2
Mr. News' Evènement, 147lb. (Mayeda) 3
Mr. R. Field's Terrapin, 147lb. (Mr. Mottu) 4
Mr. Tatsuta's Hayabusa, 150lb. (Riki) 5
Mr. Nemo's Open Door, 150lb. (Ichi) 6
Mr. Hyogo's Iwabuchi, 150lb. (Takahashi) 7
Mr. Hyogo's Hiroshima, 147lb. (Miyagawa) 8
Mr. Guignol's Cascadeur, 150lb. (Mr. Longin) 9
Mr. Starlight's Mats, 153lb. (Katsu) 10
Mr. Tytherleigh's Manifesto, 153lb. (Mr. Pearson) 11
Mr. Wayfoong's Ginko, 150lb. (Yasu) 12
Time, 2:15½.

From the start the field ran in a cluster till the dip, when they began to string out, Chingiz taking the lead. At the trees Fleur-de-lis came away, and on entering the straight had a fair lead. Chingiz tried hard to reach him, but was beaten by a length; bad third. Hiroshima was last.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Terrapin 62, Hayabusa 24, Open Door 5, Evènement 4, Iwabuchi 1, Hiroshima 7, Chingiz 76, Cascadeur 202, Mats 6, Fleur-de-lis 30, Manifesto 27, Ginko 30; total 2,370 yen—Fleur-de-lis 71 yen.

7.—**THE YOUNGSTERS' CONSOLATION**, for Subscription Country-breds of Autumn 1898 that have started and not won a race at the Meeting; yen 150; weight 128lb. Half-a-Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. News' Eclat, 128lb. carried 11b. over (Sugiura) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Sekirew, 128lb. carried 11b. over (Hayashi) 2
Mr. Avis' Chaffinch, 128lb. carried 3lb. over (Goto) 3
Time, 57½.

Chaffinch made the running, with Eclat racing second and Sekirew lying a little behind. At the trees Sekirew worked his way into second place, and was pressing Chaffinch when they entered the straight. Halfway down he got just a head in front, but on the post Eclat rushed past both and won by a neck. Third close up.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Sekirew 107, Eclat 269, Chaffinch 116; total, 2,469—Eclat 8 yen.

8.—**THE SOLACE**, a Consolation Race for all China Ponies that have started and not won a race at

the Meeting; winner yen 150, second yen 50; weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. News' *Eclairer*, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. R. Field's *Kindar*, 147lb. (Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. News' *Evenement*, 147lb. (May-da) 3
Mr. Nemo's *Rond-de-Cuir*, 150lb. (Katsu) 0
Mr. Nemo's *Sun-moon*, 153lb. (Ichii) 0
Mr. Hyogo's *Iwabuchi*, 150lb. (Miyagawa) 0
Mr. Hyogo's *Okayama*, 153lb. (Takahashi) 0
Mr. Russia's *Magyar*, 153lb. (Mr. Pearson) 0
Mr. Russia's *Dorak*, 144lb. (Hattori) 0
Mr. Russia's *Chingiz*, 147lb. (Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Guiguel's *Kuigomi*, 147lb. (Matsuya) 0
Mr. States' *Oregon*, 150lb. (Sugimura) 0
Messrs. Sharp and Elliott's *Gadfly*, 150lb. (Mr. Elliott) 0

Time, 1 39½.

Mr. News and Mr. Russia declared best to win. Oregon made the running, the rest of the field following in a cluster. They began to thin out just before entering the straight, when Kindar was leading. Half-way down *Eclairer* rushed ahead, and won by a head only. A fair third.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Kindar 173. Rond de Cuir 9, Sun-moon 8, *Eclairer* 59, *Evenement* 7, Iwabuchi 1, Okayama 89, Magyar 57, Dorak 18, Chingiz 24, Kuigomi 4, Oregon 11, Gadfly 6; total 2,330 yen—*Eclairer* 36 yen.

9.—THE COUNTRY-BRED CONSOLATION, a Consolation Race for all Country-breds that have have started and not won a race at the Meeting; maidens at date of entry 5lb. allowance; winner yen 150, second yen 50; weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Russia's *Hermine*, 137lb. (Horikoshi) 1
Mr. Taita's *Omokage*, 130lb. (Sugimura) 2
Mr. Saito's *Minerva*, 135lb. (Katsu) 3
* Mare.—Allowance deducted.
† Maiden.—Allowance deducted.

Omokage made the running but was challenged by *Hermine* just before the entrance to the straight, and the latter won easily by several lengths.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Omokage 251, *Hermine* 124, *Minerva* 66; total 2,205 yen—*Hermine* 16 yen.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, May 6th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,760,127
Amount of convertible notes issued	168,005,521
Government deposits	32,951,752
General deposits	9,618,367
Exchange liability	167,540
Total	255,503,309

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Discount notes	27,651,353
Foreign discount notes	12,744,021
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	42,863,686
Exchange liability	1,774,360
Government bonds	45,191,290
Property	1,819,452
Bullion and Specie	101,459,144
Total	254,503,309

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued... 173,855,321

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	97,397,837
Silver	—
Total	97,397,837

Securities:—

Government bonds	35,465,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,432,089
Commercial notes	9,459,613
Total	76,457,490

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	354,959	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	9,896,282
Government deposits	—	4,893,067
General deposits	6,137,013	—

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The German Government is sending four torpedo-boats to China to strengthen the squadron in the Far East.

A Malay ran amok at Penang the other day and killed four persons and wounded five. A police corporal stopped his career by shooting him dead.

It was expected that U.S. flagship *Olympia* would leave Manila on Sunday last, homeward bound. She will be docked at Hongkong and proceed via Suez Canal.

The paragraph published by Japanese newspapers to the effect that His Excellency Baron d'Auchan is about to make a trip to Europe, has no foundation.

M. Doumer, Governor-General of Indo-China, during his visit to Bangkok, had several long interviews with the King of Siam. He was also entertained at a banquet at the Royal Palace, where complimentary speeches were delivered.

Early on Wednesday morning a Japanese, apparently 24 years old, called at the Vantai Exchange, 72 Settlement, Yokohama, and presented a forged cheque for 175 yen 60 sen purporting to be drawn on the Chartered Bank by a guest in the Grand Hotel. He was paid the money and the exchange-shop afterwards found the cheque was false.

Says the *China Mail*:—The suit commenced in the Original Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, by Cuisanto Lichanco and Gregorio Agoncillo, as attorneys for Emilio Aguinaldo, the leader of the Filipino forces in the Philippines, for the recovery of a sum of \$200,000, and interest accrued, deposited with the Bank on 3rd January, 1898, has been settled out of Court, the money having been paid over by the Bank.

On Wednesday the *Higo Evening News* announced the death of the Rev. H. Rheas, D.D., who has been many years in Kobe as a Baptist Missionary. Dr. Rheas was a native of New Jersey. His death occurred early that morning. He was in the seventy-first year of his age, and leaves to mourn his loss a widow, who has attained the age of 84, and with whom the deepest sympathy will be felt.

A meeting was called for Tuesday evening in connection with the Progressist party in Yokohama, and many Liberal *soshi* attended. The principal speakers, however, did not attend, and the admittance money was retained. The disappointed *soshi* were greatly incensed, and attacked Mr. Doi Kosaku, Manager of the Branch Office of the Progressive party, with an iron rail, inflicting wounds on his face. A *soshi* of the party was also injured. The former is receiving medical treatment in Yokohama Hospital.

At the Court of Alderman, recently, the Lord Mayor nominated Alfred Henry Bevan, Esq., citizen and brewer, to serve the office of Sheriff of the City of London next year. Mr. Bevan is connected with Messrs. Barclay, Perkins, and Company (Limited), the well known brewers of Southwark, of which company he is a director. He will have as colleague Mr. Alderman Treloar, who is popularly known as the Children's Alderman.

Last December a Dr. Esser, who then claimed to have just returned from an extended tour of the German colonies, was granted a long audience by Emperor William, who was greatly interested in his account of his travels and rewarded Esser with a decoration. A number of doubting colonial officers have been investigating and examining Esser, who, it now appears, has been shown to be a rank impostor. It is added that he now admits that he never saw the places he described.

The financial returns of the Colonial Treasurer of Hongkong for 1898 are published. The

revenue was \$2,918,159, an increase on the 1897 revenue of \$231,244, while the expenditure amounted to \$2,841,805, an increase of \$260,395. The statement of assets and liabilities shows that the assets amount to \$1,089,802, of which \$915,000 is represented by subsidiary coins on the spot and in transit. The liabilities amount to \$876,444, showing a balance of assets over liabilities of \$213,358, from which has to be deducted the balance of the 1893 loan \$123,334, reducing the net balance to \$90,024.

Following were the winners in the shooting matches held at Tsurumi on the 7th May:—
1st Match, Standing Doubles, won by T. Watanabe, 33 points.
2nd Match, Walking Singles, won by S. Suzuki, 18 points.
3rd Match, Standing Doubles, won by S. Tanaka, 12 points.
Best Average Score, T. Watanabe, 57 points, 1st Gold Medal.
Ditto, A. Kingdon, 54 points, 2nd Gold Medal.

The opening ceremony of the newly built Shimbashi Bridge, Tokyo, was held on the 4th in most favourable weather. At 11 o'clock Governor Sengo, Mayor Matsuda, and other officials met, and the Governor, the Mayor, and the chief of the engineering work, read congratulatory addresses. They then viewed the under part of the bridge from a boat and afterwards partook of a foreign style luncheon. The work of construction was begun in March last year, and 62,242 yen was spent. The length of the bridge is over 60 feet, while its breadth is 50 feet, the area covering 200 *trudo*. It is of iron and paved with stone.

News has arrived from Iloilo indicating that no farther fighting has occurred there. On the M. lo side the people are very friendly; on the Jaro side, the insurgents are strengthening their entrenchments, which means nothing, for as soon as the Americans decide upon an advance the Filipinos will make the customary strategic movement to the rear. At Negros everything is peaceful, Colonel Smith and the officers of the Californian Regiment doing much to spread a friendly feeling amongst the natives. General Miller, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Miller, have been the guests of the President of the new Republican Government at Bacolod.

The Captain of the P. and O. steamer *Bengal*, on arrival at Singapore on April 30, reported the disappearance of a Russian naval officer, a Lieutenant Rastopulo, lately of the Russian cruiser *Rossia*. This unfortunate officer was proceeding to Port Said; thence he intended to take a passage to Odessa. When the *Bengal* was in the neighbourhood of Round Island, about 600 miles from Singapore, Lieut. Rastopulo, on the evening of April 18th, was seen to fall or more probably to leap overboard. On this becoming known, through the alarm being given, the ship was at once turned round on her course, and a boat was lowered. No sign was, however, seen of the missing man, and after a search the ship resumed her course for Singapore. It is understood that, before leaving Nagasaki, Lieut. Rastopulo had received bad news from Europe, a fact that supports the theory of suicide.

Sunday, says the *Kobe Herald*, was a great day for the Osaka wheelmen, a meeting having been arranged on the course near the Castle under the auspices of the Garrison. There were fifteen events in all, mainly—we believe—for members of the Osaka Yurin Club. Mr. Fujita, champion of Osaka, and Mr. Yamada, the champion of Osaka, Kioto and Kobe, were in great form, but they were not able to out-distance Mr. W. C. Vaughan, the Yokohama rider, who is now on a visit to this part of the country. Messrs. Mancini and Arthur McGlew also defeated the champion rider of the three cities. That was in the Five Mile Race—10 laps. Several sarts, but the only riders who finished or ran into the last lap were Messrs. Vaughan, Mancini, McGlew and Yamada.

The Yokohama rider defeated the Kobe men without apparent difficulty. In the Championships—two and a half miles—Mr. Vaughan again pedalled in an easy first, but the race was won by Mr. Fujita, the judges having decided that the event was intended for Japanese riders alone, though they allowed Mr. Vaughan to run, just for the purpose of seeing how he compared with the Osaka champion. Mr. Fujita won the race, but the Yokohama man was first at the goal, easily. Mr. Vaughan gave an exhibition of trick riding during the afternoon, which was hugely appreciated. The crowds cheered loudly, and at the close the officers of the Garrison descended from the Grand Stand and congratulated the foreign visitor most heartily. The races commenced at 10.30 and ended at 6.30, after which about 200 hundred cyclists adjourned to the Osaka Hotel and took dinner. It is estimated that there were almost 100,000 people on the ground.

Captain Shimazaki and the officers of the Japanese cruiser *Asama*, in Plymouth Sound, gave an "At Home" on board that vessel on 20th March. The appearance of the ship was thoroughly characteristic of her nationality. Every point was gay with bunting, while paper flowers of many colours had been freely used in adding to the festive appearance of the ship. At the top of the main gangway, hidden in bunting, the captain and his chief officers welcomed their English guests, while in the rear a smart squad of sailors stood at arms. Apart from the interest which the ship excited, there was an appropriateness in this visit to Plymouth while the flag of Admiral Fremantle is flying from the local flagship. He was in command of the British squadron in Far Eastern waters during the Chino-Japanese war, and was repeatedly complimented on the strict neutrality he maintained. As all the officers of the *Asama* fought in this campaign, they recognised in Admiral Fremantle an old friend. Singularly enough, this officer's successor on the China station, Admiral Sir Alexander Buller, was also among the guests, and there were many other naval officers who made the "At Home" an excuse for renewing friendships made in the Far East in past years. It was a critical gathering, and naval officers viewed the ship with undisguised interest. She is a formidable fighting machine and compares, for armour and armament, extremely well with vessels of even considerably greater tonnage. The *Asama* sailed for Japan on 25th March.

Japan must take the bitter with the sweet. The tide of foreign civilization is bound to throw some ugly things upon her shores as well as to carry thither the products of Western intelligence. Apparently she is on the verge of being invaded by the "trust" system of America. The experiment is to be tried in cigars. The American Tobacco Company is said to have combined with the Yezo-ye firm, and the necessary steps of organization will soon be completed. Vernacular newspapers say that two experts from the States are now in Yokohama, and that the office of the Trust will probably be at No. 3 in the Foreign Settlement.

Lieut.-Colonel Yatsushiro, Japanese Military Attaché in St. Petersburg, having been relieved of his duties, has set out from that city en route for Japan, intending to make an extended tour through the Russian empire, visiting the shores of the Black Sea, and proceeding thence via the Caspian through Central Asia. His successor at the Legation in St. Petersburg, Colonel Murata, also intends to reach his post over-land, journeying from Vladivostok through Siberia. There will soon be quite a number of Japanese officers who have made extended tours in Russia's dominions.

NOTES FROM CHINA.

Wang Chih-chun, Provincial Treasurer of Szechuan, through whose efforts the rebellion of Yü Man-tze was recently suppressed, has been decorated by the Empress Dowager with the Yellow Riding Jacket.

H.M. 1st class battleship *Renown* is coming to China to relieve the *Centurion*, and the new Rear-Admiral will bring out one of the *Canopus* class of 1st-class battleships as his flagship.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 22nd ult. says:—Samsah Bay has been quite a fashionable port of call for men-of-war of all nationalities during the last few years. Last week there were two Japanese cruisers in the harbour.

Some 500 houses in the Chinese City of Tientsin were destroyed by fire on the 27th ult. The reason why such a great destruction of property occurred is said to be a new rule of the Tientsin Taotai, who ordered that each district was to be under the supervision of its own fire brigade, so that when the conflagration took place, none of the neighbouring district fire brigades lent their aids. This is the ancient curse of China—"no b'long my pidjin"—which operated so conspicuously in the Japan-China war.

The *Universal Gazette* says that the French Consul at Chungking has made nine demands on the Chinese Government by way of reparation for the destruction of Catholic property in Szechuen by Yu Mantzu's hordes. Only five of the demands have been made known which are: the punishment of the inert officials; the execution of Yu Mantzu; the payment of an indemnity; the concession of ground along the banks of the Yangtze from Ichang to Chengtu, and finally a concession to open petroleum wells in that province.

In the course of some remarks on the recent race meeting at Shanghai, the *N.-C. Daily News* gives these figures as the result of three days' working of the *Pari Mutuel*:—

1st day	\$18,680
2nd "	24,975
3rd "	25,440
Total	\$69,095

Upon this the Race Club levied a toll of ten per cent, or nearly \$7,000. We believe at Yokohama on the second day over yen 30,000 was staked at the *Pari Mutuel*.

The Shanghai Derby, in the Spring Race Meeting recently held, resulted in a dead heat, Mr. Crawford on Interrogation finishing level with Mr. M. Jones on Rio Grande in 3m. 14½secs., the distance being one mile and a half. The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr. A. W. Burkhill on Sinbad in 4m. 24½secs.; two miles. The prize took the novel form of a particularly neat miniature racing saddle, made of pig-skin, with silk girths and surcingle, the weight-cloth being of white and red embroidered satin, whilst the pockets were filled with sovereigns instead of lead.

The conservative element at Peking, who have always bitterly opposed the opening of the new Peking University, have, it seems, recently taken the opportunity offered by the question of raising funds for the proposed conservation of the Yellow River to memorialise the Empress Dowager, urging the closing of that institution of learning and the transference of the Tls. 200,000 per annum set aside by the Board of Revenue for its maintenance to the Yellow River works, "thereby," so says the memorial, "devoting useful money towards a useful object." The Empress Dowager—says a Shanghai contemporary—has, so far, issued no rescript in answer to the above memorial.

The *North China Daily News* is advocating the leasing of one of the Saddle islands by the Municipal Council of Shanghai to be used as a summer retreat, or sanatorium, for residents of the model Settlement who cannot afford the time—and we might add,

without fear of offence, the money—to run to Japan or the northern watering places. There is a good deal in the idea, for the Saddles are only 6 hours sea-voyage from Shanghai and have excellent beaches for bathing. Japan, by the way, is earning a bad name these days for high living, extortionate charges, and wholesale fleecing. From Singapore, all along the China coast, up to far northern Newchwang, the cry has gone forth that Japan is no longer the place where the poor, or moderately circumstanced, man can come to spend a short holiday. Hotels, railways, *finrikishas*, tradesmen, all have raised their rates until living and travelling here have become so expensive that the burden is too great to be borne. There is a good deal of truth in these wailings, and Japan has only herself to blame if the tide of tourists and summer visitors turns from her shores to cheaper places.

The *Morning Oregonian* of the 28th of March announces the death at Portland, Oregon, on the previous day, of Mr. John Poyntz Munro Fraser. The *N.-C. Daily News* says many old residents will remember this gentleman in the British Consular service at Shanghai. He was appointed a student interpreter in 1859, and rose by degrees in the rank of 1st-class assistant in 1866, leaving China and the service in 1874. He was a genial companion and one of the pillars of the A.D.C. After leaving China he lived for a number of years in California, where he published a voluminous history of Solano County, Cal. Then he moved to Oregon and wrote a large history of Benton and some other Oregon counties. In 1890 he went into business in New York, but returned to Oregon a year ago too ill to undertake any work, though he was able to be at church only the day before his death from apoplexy. He has left a widow, but no children. He was a man of great ability and good education, but he unfortunately threw away his chances in China, to the great regret of his numerous friends. He was about sixty years old when he died.

The *N.-C. Daily News* of May 4 gives the following account of the sinking of a pilot boat by the N.Y.K. *Saikio Maru* on the previous day:—

The pilot-boat No. 2, partly owned by Mr. J. D. C. Arthur, licensed pilot, was run into and sunk at ten minutes to one, yesterday morning, whilst at anchor inside the Bell Buoy (entrance to the South Channel). Capt. Young, of the Japanese mail steamer *Saikio Maru* from Japan, desiring a pilot, was proceeding cautiously towards the boat, which at the time was carrying the Company's private signal lights, and was keeping the same heaving a point or more on his starboard bow. The night, although calm and clear, was very dark and colourless, the horizon being without definition, thus making an accurate estimation of distance impossible. The Tongsba light-vessel was bearing W. by S. mag., and the *Saikio Maru* was, when making for the pilot-boat, steering a W.N.W. course, her commander calculating that the tide was running west and that the boat was over a quarter of a mile distant and would be riding nearly end on to his course, whereas she was lying right athwart, the tide setting S.W. at the rate of from 3 to 4 knots. The chief officer, who was right forward on the forecastle head, was the first to notice the danger and immediately drew Capt. Young's attention to it; the engines were instantly stopped and a minute afterwards the helm was put hard to starboard and the engines at full speed astern, but too late—the bow of the steamer crashed into the starboard quarter of the pilot-boat. The pilot by this time was alongside in his dingy, totally unaware of the peril in his craft. Capt. Young, realising the gravity of the situation, had the engines set slow ahead, thus keeping his stern in the breach made, until the crew, who had been employed heaving up their anchor, were rescued. As the cry "Man overboard" was given life-buoys were immediately thrown and the starboard life boat manned and partly lowered, when the pilot alongside called out that he had picked the individual up. Learning that all were safely on board the Captain then proceeded on his course, as nothing could be done for the pilot-boat, she being full of water and on the verge of sinking. Capt. Young, who is a very popular commander and well known in the East and the Australian colonies, is one of the N.Y.K.'s oldest servants, and has never previously had an accident.

NEW LAWS OF JAPAN.

(TRANSLATED IN H.B.M. LEGATION.)

LAW No. 68.

LAW FOR RENDERING ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ARREST AND DETENTION OF MEMBERS OF CREWS OF FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR AND MERCHANT VESSELS.

Art. I.—Assistance to be given in pursuance of Commercial Treaties or Consular Conventions with Treaty Powers in connexion with the arrest and detention of members of crews of foreign vessels of war and merchant vessels shall be rendered by a Public Procurator at the request of the consular officer concerned.

Art. II.—A Public Procurator may not comply with a request for assistance in connexion with arrest or detention in the following cases.

1. When the person to be arrested or detained is a subject of the Empire.
2. When the person to be arrested or detained is under prosecution or undergoing punishment for an offence punishable as a crime or misdemeanour in the Empire.
3. When a further request is made in connexion with the same affair against a member of the crew of a vessel of war or a merchant vessel, who has already been set at liberty in accordance with Art. VII.
4. When the consular officer has not accompanied his written request for assistance by a proper extract of the vessel's register and of the articles of the vessel of war or merchant vessel, or other official document sufficient to prove that the person is a member of the crew.
5. When the consular officer has not guaranteed the payment of expenses in connexion with the assistance to be rendered.

Art. III.—When a Public Procurator recognizes that a request made by a consular official for assistance in connexion with arrest or detention is proper, he shall immediately take the necessary steps.

Art. IV.—When a Public Procurator has to order the arrest of a member of the crew of a vessel of war or a merchant vessel, he shall issue a warrant of arrest.

Art. V.—When the person who has received an order to execute a warrant of arrest has arrested the person indicated by it, he shall deliver him to the Public Procurator who issued the warrant.

Art. VI.—In the case mentioned in the preceding Article the Public Procurator shall immediately examine the person, and when he recognizes that there is no doubt of his identity, he shall hand him over to the Consular officer concerned.

Art. VII.—When the Consular Officer requests that the member of the crew of the vessel of war or merchant vessel who has been arrested be kept in detention, the Public Procurator shall cause him to be detained in a prison.

Art. VIII.—When the Consular Officer requests that a member of the crew of a vessel of war or a merchant vessel, who is under detention, may be set at liberty, or when he does not, within six months from the date of arrest, make a request for him to be handed over, he shall be set at liberty.

Art. IX.—The provisions regarding warrants of detention in the Code of Criminal Procedure shall be observed as far as practicable in connexion with the issue and execution of warrants of arrest.

Art. X.—The Public Procurator shall make a request to the Consular Officer concerned for the actual amount of the expenses incurred in connexion with the assistance rendered.

Art. XI.—When a Public Procurator has received a request from a Consular Officer for assistance in connexion with arrest or detention, he shall at once report to the Minister of Justice. When he recognizes that the case is not one in which assistance ought to be rendered, and when the steps taken for rendering assistance have been completed, he shall similarly report.

LAW No. 95.

LAW FOR RENDERING ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF SHIPPING DISASTER.*

CHAPTER I.—VESSELS MEETING WITH SHIPWRECK OR OTHER CASUALTY.†

Art. I.—The work of rendering assistance to vessels meeting with shipwreck or other casualty shall be performed by the mayor of a city, town, or village who is first cognizant of the matter.

Art. II.—A person who discovers that a vessel has been wrecked or has met with any other casualty shall, without delay, report the fact to the mayor or to the police officials of the nearest city, town, or village.

When police officials receive the information, they shall notify the mayor of a city, town, or village.

Art. III.—When a mayor of a city, town, or village becomes aware of the fact that a vessel has been wrecked or has met with any other casualty, he shall at once proceed to the spot, and take the steps necessary for rendering assistance.

Art. IV.—Police officials shall aid the mayor of a city, town, or village, in the work of rendering assistance, and when there is no mayor of a city, town, or village, on the spot, shall discharge the duties in his stead.

Art. V.—Assistance shall not be rendered against the wish of the master of the vessel.

The provisions of the preceding clause shall not apply in cases where the mayor of a city, town, or village, is of opinion that the means employed by the master of the vessel for preserving human life are insufficient, or in cases where he is of opinion that the master is acting in bad faith.

Art. VI.—The mayor of a city, town, or village, may summon persons to render assistance, may requisition vessels, vehicles, horses, or other things, and may make use of land belonging to other persons.

Persons summoned in accordance with the provisions of the preceding clause shall engage in the work of rendering assistance under the instructions of the mayor of a city, town, or village.

Art. VII.—The mayor of a city, town, or village, may, on the occasion of assistance being rendered, cause persons whose presence he considers to be unnecessary, persons who have caused obstruction, and persons who have been guilty of wrong conduct, to withdraw.

The mayor of a city, town, or village, may, on the occasion of assistance being rendered, restrain the persons of those who have been guilty of violent conduct.

When the mayor of a city, town, or village, takes the steps mentioned in the preceding clause, persons who have been ordered to help may not refuse to do so.

Art. VIII.—When, on the occasion of assistance being rendered, the mayor of a city, town, or village, is of opinion that there are persons who have concealed things belonging to the wreck, he may search for and seize them.

Article IX.—The mayor of a city, town, or village, shall take charge of shipwrecked vessels and of salvaged goods as well as of things seized in accordance with the provision of the preceding clause.

When there is postal matter among the things mentioned in the preceding clause, the Mayor of a city, town, or village, shall deliver it, without delay, to the nearest post office.

Art. X.—After a wreck or other casualty has occurred, the master of the vessel in question shall draw up, without delay, a report of the circumstances, and shall transmit it to the mayor of a city, town, or village. This rule shall, however, not apply in the case of the wreck of or other casualty occurring to vessels for which it is not necessary to apply for a

* *Suinan*.—This term includes in its meaning any calamity which occurs on the water. As used in this law the meaning is restricted to shipping disasters which occur on the coasts of Japan.

† The term *Sō-nan*, covers shipping casualties of all kinds including shipwreck.

Certificate of Registry, or to vessels which navigate only inland waters, or harbours, or bays.

The mayor of a city, town, or village, shall investigate the facts set forth in the report, and when he is of opinion that it is correct, shall grant a certificate to that effect on the application of the master of the vessel.

The mayor of a city, town, or village, may, in order to investigate the facts set forth in the report, order the production of the ship's papers, and may also summon members of the crew, passengers, and other persons, who were on board the vessel, and interrogate them.

Art. XI.—The mayor of a city, town, or village, shall, when he is of opinion that salvaged goods come under any one of the following headings, dispose of them by public sale and take charge of the proceeds.

1. Things which cannot keep for a long time or things in regard to which it is clearly to be apprehended that their value will deteriorate.
2. Explosives, things of an inflammable nature, or other things in regard to which it is apprehended that taking charge of them will be attended with danger.
3. When the expense of taking charge of the things exceeds, or is out of proportion to, their value.

In cases where it is proposed to conduct a public auction in accordance with the provisions of the preceding clause, when the master of the vessel is on the spot, the mayor of a city, town, or village, shall determine a time and give notice to him that if within that time he does not apply for the delivery of the things, furnishing such security as the mayor considers to be proper, they will be disposed of by public sale.

When the place where the shipwrecked vessel is her port of registry, the notice mentioned in the preceding clause shall be given to the owner of the vessel.

When the master or the owner of the vessel has made application for delivery of the goods in accordance with the provisions of the second clause of this Article, a public sale shall not take place.

Art. XII.—Persons who have taken part in rendering assistance may receive from the mayor of a city, town, or village, payment of expenses incurred by them in so doing.

The provisions of the preceding clause shall not apply to the following persons:—

1. The owner of the vessel to which the assistance has been rendered, or the crew of that vessel.
2. Persons who have caused the casualty purposely, through negligence, or by their own fault.
3. Persons who in rendering assistance have violated the provisions of Article V.
4. Persons who have, on the occasion of assistance being rendered, caused obstruction or have been guilty of wrong conduct.
5. Persons who have carried away or refused to deliver up things belonging to a wreck.

Art. XIII.—The following shall be considered expenses in connexion with rendering assistance.

1. Compensation for the labour of persons who have been concerned in rendering assistance.
2. Compensation for the use of land, or for the requisition of things, in accordance with the provisions of Article VI.
3. Expenses necessary for transporting salvaged goods or for taking charge of or disposing of them by public auction.

Art. XIV.—Persons wishing to receive payment of their expenses in connexion with rendering assistance shall state the amount within the time appointed by the mayor of a city, town, or village.

Persons who do not take the steps mentioned in the preceding clause shall not receive payment of their expenses in connexion with rendering assistance.

Art. XV.—The mayor of a city, town, or village, shall determine the amount of the expenses in connexion with rendering assistance in accordance with the provisions of Instructions. The mayor of a city, town, or village shall

inform the master of a vessel of the amount of the expenses in connection with rendering assistance, and shall cause him to pay it within a period which the mayor of a city, town, or village, shall determine.

When the place where a vessel has met with shipwreck or other casualty is her port of registry, or when there is no master of the vessel, the notice mentioned in the preceding clause shall be given to the owner of the vessel.

Art. XVI.—The master or owner of a vessel shall, on payment of the expenses in connection with rendering assistance, obtain delivery of the money and other things in the charge of the mayor of a city, town, or village.

When the master or owner of a vessel furnishes security which the mayor of a city, town, or village, considers proper, he may take delivery of the whole or part of the money and other things mentioned in the preceding clause.

He may receive delivery of the following things notwithstanding the provisions of the two preceding clauses.

1. The property of the crew.

2. The provisions of the crew and passengers.

3. The hand-baggage of the passengers carried by them on board the ship without payment of freight.

4. The things specified in clause 2 of Article XVII.

When it is proposed to sell, mortgage, or pledge a vessel or cargo in the charge of the mayor of a city, town, or village, his consent shall be obtained. Under these circumstances when the mayor of a city, town, or village, considers it necessary, he shall be present on the occasion.

Money or other things acquired by taking the steps mentioned in the preceding clause shall be taken charge of by the mayor of a city, town, or village.

In cases where the mayor of a city, town, or village, takes charge of money in accordance with the provisions of Article XI, and of the preceding clause, he shall, when that money has reached the amount of the expenses in connection with rendering assistance, at once pay those expenses with it and shall hand over the balance, together with the other things in his charge, to the master or owner of the vessel.

Art. XVII.—When the master or owner of a vessel does not pay the expenses in connection with rendering assistance within the time determined by the mayor of a city, town, or village, the latter shall dispose by public sale of the things in his charge, or the things furnished as security, and shall take charge of the proceeds.

The provisions of the preceding clause shall not apply in the case of things which the mayor of a city, town, or village, is of opinion should be disposed of by public sale not realize enough to meet the expenses of the sale.

Art. XVIII.—The mayor of a city, town, or village, shall defray the expenses in connection with rendering assistance with the sum which he has received in payment, or with the money in his charge.

Art. XIX.—When assistance is of no avail, the expenses shall be paid out of the Treasury.

In cases where the master or owner of a vessel does not pay the expenses in connection with rendering assistance, when, after the procedure laid down in Article XVII, has been followed, there is not sufficient to pay those expenses with the money in the charge of the mayor of a city, town, or village, it shall be supplemented by payment out of the Treasury, and when there is a balance, it shall be returned to the master or owner of the vessel.

Art. XX.—The provisions of this Chapter shall also apply to persons who have engaged in rendering assistance without waiting for the summons of the mayor of a city, town, or village. When, however, the mayor of a city, town, or village, does not take part in rendering assistance, this rule shall not apply.

Art. XXI.—The provisions of this Chapter relating to the master of a vessel, shall apply also to a person who takes the place of the master and performs his duties.

Art. XXII.—The provisions of Arts. I. to IV. inclusive, clause 1 of Art. V., Arts. VI. to IX. inclusive, Arts. XII. to XIV. inclusive, clauses 1 and 2 of Art. XV., Art. XVIII., clause 1 of Art. XIX., Art. XX., and Art. XXI., apply *mutatis mutandis* to men-of-war and other vessels of the Navy, or other officially owned vessels.

Art. XXIII.—The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply in cases where some special provision is made in the Treaties.

CHAPTER II.—FLOTSAM AND JETSAM AND SUBMERGED GOODS.

Art. XXIV.—A person who finds flotsam and jetsam or submerged goods shall deliver them without delay to the mayor of a city, town, or village. In cases, however, where the owner of such things is known, he may deliver them direct to the owner provided that this is done within three days from the day on which they were found.

Under the circumstances mentioned in the proviso attached to the preceding clause, the finder may in the case of flotsam and jetsam receive compensation from the owner to the amount of one-tenth of the value of the things, and in the case of submerged goods to the amount of one-third of their value.

Art. XXV.—The mayor of a city, town, or village, shall take charge of the things he has received delivery of.

The mayor of a city, town, or village, shall give public notice that the things mentioned in the preceding clause will be delivered to the owner. When, however, the owner is known, he shall at once communicate to the owner the facts that are to be publicly notified. Under these circumstances he need not give public notice.

Art. XXVI.—The provisions of clause 1, Article XI., shall apply to flotsam and jetsam and submerged goods.

Art. XXVII.—The owner may take delivery of the things within one year from the day on which the mayor of the city, town, or village, has given the public notice or made the communication mentioned in Art. XXV., on payment to the mayor of a city, town, or village, in the case of flotsam and jetsam of a sum of money equal to one-tenth of the value of the things, and in the case of submerged goods, of a sum of money equal to one-third of the value of the goods, together with the expenses that have been necessary for giving public notice, taking charge of the goods, public sale, or appraisal.

Under the circumstances mentioned in the preceding clause, the mayor of a city, town, or village, shall pay to the finder a sum of money equal, in the case of flotsam and jetsam, to one-tenth of the value of the goods and, in the case of submerged goods, to one-third of the value of the goods.

The value of the goods shall be determined by the mayor of a city, town or village. He may, however, cause an expert to appraise them.

Art. XXVIII.—When the owner does not apply for delivery of the things within the time specified in the preceding Article, or when he has expressed his intention not to apply for delivery of them, the mayor of a city, town, or village, shall determine a time, and inform the finder that he is to take delivery of the things within that time.

The finder shall acquire the right of ownership of the things by paying to the mayor of a city, town, or village, within the time specified in the preceding clause, the expenses which have been necessary for giving public notice, taking charge of the goods, public sale, or appraisal.

When the finder does not take delivery of the things within the time specified in the preceding clause, the mayor of a city, town, or village, shall dispose of the things by public sale and shall deduct from the proceeds the expenses specified in the preceding clause. Under these circumstances, when there is any balance over, it shall be appropriated by the Treasury, and when there is a deficit, it shall be supplemented from the Treasury.

Art. XXIX.—In cases where police officials have removed flotsam and jetsam or submerged

goods which they consider to interfere with navigation routes, anchorages, or buildings, they shall deliver these things to the mayor of a city, town, or village.

The provisions of Clause 1 of Article XI., and Clause 2 of Article XXV., shall apply in the case of things which the mayor of a city, town, or village, has taken delivery of in accordance with the preceding clause.

Art. XXX.—When the owner has applied for delivery of the things within one year from the day when public notice has been given, or a communication made to him in accordance with the preceding Article, the mayor of a city, town, or village, shall deliver the things to him, causing him to pay the expenses that have been necessary for removing them, taking charge of them, and for public notice.

When no one applies for delivery of the things within the time specified in the preceding clause, the mayor of a city, town, or village, shall dispose of them by public sale and with the proceeds pay the expenses which have been necessary for removing them, taking charge of them, for public notice, and for public sale. Under these circumstances, when there is any balance over, it shall be appropriated by the Treasury, and when there is a deficit, it shall be supplemented from the Treasury.

CHAPTER III.—PENAL CLAUSES.

Art. XXXI.—In cases where assistance is rendered to a shipwrecked vessel, persons coming under any of the following headings shall be punished by a fine of not more than 50 yen.

1. Persons who, without just cause, do not comply with the summons of the mayor of a city, town, or village, or who refuse to allow their things to be requisitioned or their land to be used.

2. Persons who have violated the provisions of Clause 2 of Art. VI.

3. Persons who have violated the provisions of Clause 3 of Art. VII.

Art. XXXII.—Persons who have caused obstruction in cases where assistance has been rendered to a shipwrecked vessel, shall be punished by major confinement for not less than one month and not more than six months, with the addition of a fine of not more than 20 yen.

Art. XXXIII.—Persons who have neglected to take the steps specified in Clause 1, Art. X. shall be punished by a fine of not less than five and not more than fifty yen.

Art. XXXIV.—Persons who have obtained by fraud a certificate of the correctness of a report on a shipwreck or other casualty shall be punished by major confinement for not less than eleven days and not more than six months, or a fine of not less than 30 and not more than 300 yen.

Art. XXXV.—The provisions of Articles 385 and 387 of the Penal Code shall apply also to submerged goods.

SUPPLEMENTARY CLAUSES

Art. XXXVI.—The date of the operation of this Law shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. XXXVII.—The memorandum of the 29 Feb. 1870 (Regulations respecting unopened ports,—the rendering of assistance to shipwrecked vessels), the Instructions (Entitled Steps to be taken on the occasion of foreign vessels drifting ashore) issued in April, 1871, Notification No. 66 of 1875, and Notification No. 55 of 1877, shall be abolished from the day on which this Law goes into operation.

Art. XXXVIII.—With regard to cases which at the time when this law goes into operation are being dealt with under Notification No. 66 of 1875, the provisions of that Notification shall continue to apply to them until the action taken has been completed.

Art. XXXIX.—The work of the mayor of a city, town, or village, specified in this Law, shall be performed in Tokyo City, Kyoto City, and Osaka City, by the district Mayor (*Kacho*) and in places where the Law of Organization of Cities, Towns, and Villages, is not in operation, by the *Kacho* or corresponding official.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By HOMER B. HOLBERT, A.M.

CHAPTER V.—(CONCLUDED.)

The Japanese were now settled in P'yŏng-yang, and as they were destined to remain there some time it may be well for us to leave them there and follow the fortunes of Kato, who, as we will remember, had branched off eastward into Hamgyŏng Province after casting lots. Kato pushed on rapidly across the country towards Wun-san, but as he was not on one of the main thoroughfares of the country he found it difficult to keep to the road; so he captured a Korean and forced him to act as guide. Arriving at the town of Kok-san, in the eastern part of Whang-ha Province, they crossed the mountains by the No-ri-hyun Pass and pushed on until they struck the Soul-Wun-san road not far from the latter place.

Gen. Han Guk-sŏng was in charge of the government forces in Hamgyŏng Province. He advanced immediately to engage the Japanese, and a fierce fight took place at the government storehouses at Ha-joung. At first the Japanese had decidedly the worst of it but at last they retired to the shelter of the granaries and barricaded themselves behind bags of rice, from which position they poured a destructive fire among the Korean troops, who were drawn up four deep and therefore suffered the more severely. Not being able to dislodge the enemy, the Koreans decided to withdraw and fortify the passes both in front and behind the Japanese, supposing that in this way they would be entrapped.

The Japanese knew of this and when night came they knew they must make a bold strike for liberty. So they scaled the mountains in the darkness and succeeded in completely surrounding the defenders of one of the passes. When morning came there was a heavy fog, and the Koreans were utterly unsuspecting of danger. Suddenly the surrounding party of Japanese opened fire on them and it took but a few moments to have them on the run. It came on to rain and the roads were heavy with mud, and the Koreans, who were entirely unused to such prolonged strain, fell exhausted along the way and were butchered by the pursuing enemy. General Han made his escape to Kyŏng-sung, but was there captured by the Japanese. The governor of the province, to the disgust of the people, fled and hid among the hills, but the populace arose and dragged him out and forced him to resume his duties. General Yi Hon also fled northward toward Kapsan, and the people consequently seized him and took off his head. It was hard work for generals in that province, for they had the Japanese on the one hand and the people on the other. The people of the north are made of sterner stuff than those of the south, and the punishment they meted out to these cravens is a good indication of their quality.

While these events were transpiring, two princes who had taken refuge in this province fled northward and stopped not till they reached the border town of Hŏn-yung on the Turman River. As it proved this was the worst thing they could have done, for the *ajun*, or constable, of that district was either in the pay of the Japanese or was so terrified by their approach that he was willing to go to any extreme to gain their favour. So he seized the two young princes and carried them to the Japanese camp. The latter received them gladly, unbound them, placed them in their midst, and carried them wherever they went. They were a prize worth watching. To the traitor, Kuk Kyung-in, who had betrayed the two princes, they gave a position equivalent to the governorship of the province, and he was formally installed in that office. But justice soon overtook him. A loyal general, Chong Mun-bŏn, in the northern part of the province, arranged a plan to effect the capture of the traitor. But in some way the news got out and the pseudo-governor sent and seized General Chong, intending to take his head off the next morning; but during the night another loyal man, named Sin Se-jun, gathered a band of men, armed them as best he could, and addressed them thus:—"Our district has become disloyal through the treachery of this villain. If we do not hasten to make it right we will all have to suffer for it in the end. If you do not agree with me take your words and strike me down." They answered as one man, "We will listen to you and obey you." They immediately sallied out, broke into the governor's house, and beat him to death. The Japanese knew that it was General Chong who had originated the plot and they searched for him everywhere, but he hid in private houses in different places and so they failed to apprehend him.

Chi Dal-wun of Kyŏng-sung gathered a band of men and tried to make head against the Japanese,

but not being a soldier he could make but little impression; so General Chŏng was hunted up and put in command. There were only two hundred soldiers in all, but soon they were joined by the prefects of Chŏng-sung and Kyŏng-wun and their contingents, and the little army made its headquarters at Kyŏng-sung.

As the Japanese were overrunning the country many events of interest transpired, many episodes that history will probably never record, scenes of cruelty and rapine that are perhaps better left undiscovered; but a few of the more important of these events are necessary to a correct understanding of the way in which the Koreans met their fate at the hands of the invaders.

When the Koreans fled from Soul a high official by the name of Yi Jong-am fled to the walled town of Yun-an in Whangha Province. Its prefect had fled, and when a Japanese force of 3000 men under Nagamasa approached, the people besought this official to take charge of the defence of the town. He consented and made proclamation:—"The Japanese are all about us and we are in jeopardy of our lives. All that wish to live must now run away and the rest of us will remain and die together." To this they replied with one voice, "How can we let our leader die alone?" The next day the Japanese arrived and invested the town, but on attempting to storm it they were met by buckets of boiling water thrown down on their heads. They drew off, but renewed the attack at night. This time they were met by piles of burning straw, which again drove them back. Again they came on, this time with broad planks over their heads to protect them from the novel weapons of the Koreans, but these were not proof against the huge stones which the defenders threw down upon them. The fight lasted three days, and finally the Japanese withdrew after burning their dead.

In the seventh moon the King moved northward to Kŭi-ju.

But we must turn again to the south to witness another loyal attempt to stem the tide of invasion. In the province of Chul-la there were men who longed to take up arms in defence of their homes, but all the regular troops had been drafted away northward and nothing could be done on regular lines. So Ko Gyong-myung and Kim Ch'un-il of that province and Kwak Ja-ni and Chong In-hong of Kyung-sang Province held a conference to devise ways and means for prosecuting a guerilla campaign. These men had all been connected with the army at some previous time and were not utterly lacking in knowledge of military affairs. Kwak Ja-ni was in the prime of life and was appointed leader. Gathering the people of the countryside to a great conclave, he addressed them thus:—"This whole country is being overrun by the Japanese, and soon we will become their prey. Among our young men there must be many hundreds who are able to bear arms. If we take our stand at Chong-jin, on the river, we shall be able to prevent the Japanese from crossing, and they will thus be held in check." This brave leader then turned his whole patrimony into ready money and spent it in equipping his little army, which amounted to 5000 men.

A Japanese General An Guk-sa attempted to enter this portion of the province, but was met all along the line of the river by a determined soldiery, and was not able to effect a crossing. The Korean leader Kwak has become famous in Korean story for his valiant deeds. He is said to have worn a fiery red cloak and he was dubbed Hong-ei Ta-jang or "General of the Red Robe." His particular skill lay in rapid changes of base, and he appeared now at one point and now at another with such bewildering rapidity that he earned the reputation of being able to transport himself by magic to incredible distances in a moment of time. These reports he did not contradict. The Japanese came to dread his approach, and the report that he was near or a glimpse of the flaring red robe was enough to send them scurrying off. From his central camp he sent out spies in all directions who kept him informed of every move of the enemy, and whenever the Japanese encamped the Koreans gathered on the surrounding hills at night, each carrying a framework that supported five torches, and so the Japanese supposed they were surrounded by great numbers of Koreans and anxiety kept them always awake. The best of the Korean soldiers were detailed to watch mountain passes and defiles and look for opportunities to cut off small bodies of the enemy's forces. Traps of various kinds were set into which they occasionally fell, and they were so harassed and worried that at last they were compelled to withdraw entirely from the three districts of En-ryung, Sam-ga, and Hyop ch'un, and quiet was restored.

But this useful man's career was cut short in a manner similar to that in which General Yi Gak had been. We will remember, after the Japanese had taken Tong-na and were sweeping northward,

that Kim-Su, the governor of Kyung-sang Province, not daring to meet them, turned to the west and fled from their path. It was just about this time that the "General of the Red Robe" was having his victories over the Japanese that had pressed westward after the fall of Tong-na. When this successful leader heard of the craven flight of Governor Kim Su he was filled with scorn and with righteous indignation. He considered the cowardly governor to be worse than the Japanese themselves. He sent the governor a message naming seven valid reasons why he deserved execution. Kim-Su replied "As for you, you are a robber yourself," and he also sent a letter to the King charging General Kwak with disloyalty. At the same time General Kwak set a letter to the King saying "Governor Kim ran away from his post of duty, and when I upbraided him for it he called me a robber. I have killed many of the 'rats,' but as I have been called a robber I herewith lay down my arms and retire." Despatching this letter to the King, General Kwak dismissed all his followers and retired to a hermitage of Pip'a Mountain in Kyung-sang Province and "lived upon pine leaves for food". So the records say. Thereafter, though offered the governorship of Hamgyŏng or Chul-la provinces, he refused to come out of his retreat. He changed his name to Mang U-dang, or "House of Lost Passions", and he thus acquired great sanctity. Here is another instance in which the King lost an able leader through mere wanton caprice. Wounded pride made the famous leader forget country, king, kindred, honour—all.

Another attempt was made by Ko Gyong-myung, a native of Chang-hŏng in Chul-la Province. Hearing that the King had fled to P'yŏng-yang he, together with Yu P'ang-no, gathered a large force at Tam-yang. Sending letters all over the province he succeeded in getting together 6000 men and made the central camp at Yun-san. The King, being informed of this, sent a gracious letter giving his sanction and urging the faithful men to do all in their power for the people and the country. General Kwak Nung was also sent from the north to cooperate with this army in their loyal attempts.

Hearing that the Japanese had arrived at Komsan the Korean forces advanced against them, but, for some reason not stated, when they appeared before the town their number had dwindled to eight hundred. Whether the rest had run away or whether a small detachment was sufficient is not known, but at any rate a blunder had been committed and when the Japanese saw the smallness of the attacking party they sallied out and soon scattered the Korean forces under General Kwak Nyung. The other troops, seeing this, also took to their heels, but General Ko would not run away, though urged to do so by his lieutenants. He told them to make good their escape, but that he would remain and meet his fate. So they all stood and fought it out to the bitter end and fell side by side. General Ko's son, learning of his father's death, burned for revenge and so he collected a band of soldiers in the south, which he named "The Band that Seeks Revenge."

A more successful attempt was made by Chong In-hong of Hyun-p'ung in Kyung-sang Province. He was joined by Kim Myon, Pak Song, Kwak Jin, Kwak Li, and Son In-gap. These men organized a force and drove the Japanese out of Mungye and burned their supplies. Hearing that the enemy had fled toward Chŏng-ye and knowing that a river intervened, they gave chase. The Japanese came to the river, but could find no boats to cross. They spent so much time looking for a ford that when at last they found one and were starting to cross the pursuers came up. The ford was a bad one, the bottom being composed of soft sand, something in the nature of a quicksand. Soon the horses and men were floundering about in mid-stream. Chong and his men, who knew the ford, rushed down upon them while so entangled and cut them down by hundreds. Those that escaped fled towards Song-ju, but one of Chong's lieutenants took a thousand men and gave chase. Pressed beyond endurance the Japanese turned and came on to fight. One huge fellow on a magnificent charger came dashing out ahead of the rest, brandishing his sword and yelling at the top of his voice. A hideous gilt mask added to the picturesqueness of his appearance, but it did not frighten the pursuers. Their leader aimed at the horse's legs and soon he came crashing to the ground, where he was speedily despatched. The other Japanese thereupon turned and resumed their flight. Japanese troops who were in force in Song-ju and Kuryung came out to intercept the pursuers, but Chong and his men formed an ambush and, springing suddenly upon the Japanese, threw them into confusion and chased them as far as Pyol Pass. In this fight the Japanese threw away their baggage, weapons, and all superfluous

clothing. Chong and his men chased them six miles and then turned back.

The last adventure of this nature which we shall mention is that of Kim Ch'un-il, a man of Na-jin in Chul-la Province. Hearing of the King's flight he sat down and wept, but, suddenly springing up, he exclaimed "I might far better be trying to aid my sovereign than sit here bemoaning his misfortune." In company with his friends Song Je-min and Yang San-do he got together a goodly band of men whose avowed purpose was the succour of the King. Before commencing operations the leader slaughtered horses and oxen and made each man taste the blood and take an oath of allegiance to the cause in which they were embarked. Kim addressed them in these words, "Of course this means death to us all. We cannot expect to come out of it alive. We can only go forward. There must be no retreat. If any one of you desires life more than the accomplishment of the work in which we are engaged let him turn back now." They fortified Tok-san in Ch'un-ch'ung Province. Koreans who had sold themselves to the Japanese as spies came to this camp to gain information, but were apprehended and put to death. The Japanese camp was at Keum-yong not far away. One moonless night Kim, by a forced march, came and surrounded this camp, and at a given signal his forces descended like an avalanche upon the unsuspecting enemy. Those that escaped the edge of the sword found safety in flight. In the seventh moon, this force, consisting of several thousand men, crossed the Han River below Yang-wha-do, intending to go and join the King, but, instead of doing so, they entered the island of Kang-wha and fortified it. When the King heard of these deeds of Kim Ch'un-il, he was highly pleased and gave him the title of "Defender against Invaders."

These incidents of Korean successes against the Japanese cannot be taken as typical cases, for as a rule the Japanese went where they wished and did what they wished, but they are inserted here more to show that it was no craven submission on the part of the Koreans, that there were strong, brave, and faithful men who were willing to cast their fortunes and lives into the scales and strike as hard blows as they knew how for their homes and for their King. It was of course a guerilla warfare and it was only small detachments of the main army of the Japanese that they could successfully withstand, but the utter pusillanimity of the Koreans as sometimes depicted is not a true picture of them. Their worst fault was that they were unprepared for war. This, together with the strife of parties, was the reason why the Japanese for a time worked their will upon the peninsula.

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

CABINET CRISIS IN ITALY.

Saigon, May 5.

The Italian Cabinet has resigned, fearing that the Chamber will demand the recall of the Squadron from China.

RUSSIAN ASCENDANCY IN CHINA.

The Russian journals say that the Anglo-Russian arrangement proves that England can no longer claim the lion's share in China.

THE DREYFUS JUDGMENT.

Saigon, May 6.

It is affirmed that the Court of Cassation will pronounce judgment in the revision of the Dreyfus case before the 20th of May.

THE "FIGARO" PROMISES SENSATIONS.

The *Figaro* has ceased its publication of documents, but announces that it will soon recommence, and promises sensational surprises.

THE AMERICANS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

In the Philippines the Americans continue to force back the troops of the enemy.

M. DE FREYCINET RESIGNS.

Saigon, May 7.

In the sequel of incidents caused by a question addressed to the Minister of War

in the Chamber on the subject of the suspension of a historical course at the *Ecole Polytechnique*, M. de Freycinet handed in his resignation, and refused to withdraw it, in spite of the representations of his colleagues. The Professor at the *Ecole Polytechnique* who had charge of the historical course was M. Duruy, the writer of certain newspaper articles favouring revision of the Dreyfus case, which had given rise to some disturbance. M. Krantz, Minister of Public Works, has been nominated Minister of War, and M. Monestier, a senator, has taken the portfolio of Public Works.

SPANISH PRISONERS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Saigon, May 8.

Spain has asked France to entrust to M. Cambon, the French Ambassador at Washington, the task of negotiating for the liberation of the prisoners in the Philippines.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, May 9.

M. Krantz, the new Minister of War, intends to modify the project elaborated by M. de Freycinet for a Colonial Army.

[This telegram was accidentally omitted from our issue of yesterday.—Ed. J.M.]

Saigon, May 10.

The President of the Council, M. Dupuy, questioned in the Chamber, affirmed that the resignation of the Minister of War, M. de Freycinet, had been due uniquely to the incidents which occurred during the session of last Friday. He moved that the Chamber proceed to the Order of the Day, pure and simple, and obtained a vote of 444 against 67.

RAILWAYS FOR MADAGASCAR.

Saigon, May 11.

General Gallieni, Governor of Madagascar, is going to France to negotiate a loan of 60 millions of francs for railway building in that Colony.

THE DREYFUS JUDGMENT.

On Monday, 29th of May, the Court of Cassation will commence the public hearing of the revision of the Dreyfus case. The arguments will probably extend over four sittings, and judgment will be delivered on the following Friday or Saturday.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE TRANSVAAL EMBROGLIO.

London, May 6.

It is believed that the question of the dynamite monopoly in the Transvaal has become acute, Mr. Chamberlain viewing it as a breach of the Convention.

A petition, purporting to be signed by 9,000 Uitlanders, has been presented to President Kruger, denying the grievances recited in the British petition.

London, May 8.

Various reports are circulated, tending to indicate that the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, has resolved upon a strong attitude toward the Transvaal.

London, May 9.

The *Chronicle* learns that, although containing no ultimatum or any threat thereof, Mr. Chamberlain's despatches are uncompromising in tone and temper, and there is a distinct indication that the Government intends to compel a settlement, even taking some risk of a war.

The *Morning Post's* correspondent at Johannesburg states that the general

opinion there is that a crisis is impending; that the families of some prominent men are preparing to quit; and that all Boers are warned to be ready for emergencies.

COLONIAL BISHOP COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL LIBEL.

London, May 10.

Bishop Tugwell was committed for trial and bailed, at Lagos, being charged with a criminal libel of Europeans on the West Coast of Africa, for writing to the *Times* that 75 per cent. thereof died of drink.

BRITISH PATRONAGE OF AMERICAN CONTRACTORS.

London, May 11.

Lord G. Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, speaking in the House of Commons, fully explained the circumstances under which a Philadelphia firm had secured the contract to build the Goktiel Viaduct, and regretted that this was not the first contract where marked difference existed between American and British tenders.

THE FAR EAST.

BRITISH AND RUSSIAN SPHERES OF INFLUENCE.

Mr. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, speaking on the subject of the Yangtze basin, defined it as comprising provinces adjoining the Yangtze river, and Honan and Chekiang; but he was unable to state the exact claims of Russia in Manchuria.

OPEN DOOR FOR THE SOUDAN.

Sirdar Kitchener notifies that he will open the Soudan in September to traders and settlers without any distinction and admit foreign goods free of duty.

CRISIS IN THE ENGLISH CHURCH.

The Government has given notice of an amendment to the private bill for enforcing Church discipline, announcing that, if the present efforts of the Episcopacy to secure obedience of the clergy prove ineffectual, some further legislation will be required.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

EARTHQUAKE.

Hakodate, May 8.

This morning a severe earthquake was felt here.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. May 27
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Laos	Th. May 28
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. May 29
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	M. May 30
Hongkong	P. & M. Co.	Robilla	M. May 30
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	Th. May 31
America	T. K. K.	American Maru	Th. May 31
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. May 30
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. June 4
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. June 5
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	W. June 3

- 1 Left San Francisco on the 28th ult.
2 Left Shanghai on the 25th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 23rd inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 6th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	F. May 20
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. May 23
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. May 27
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Baiko Maru	W. May 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. May 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	M. May 30
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. May 31
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Laos	W. May 31
Hongkong	T. K. K.	American Maru	F. May 30
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	F. May 30
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W. May 31
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. June 5

CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 419.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to R 6	1—R to R 4 ch
2—R takes ♔ mate	1—R takes Kt
2—Q to Q 8 5 mate	1—Kt to K 3
2—Kt to Q 7 mate	1—Kt to K sq on R 4
2—R to K 8 mate	1—Kt to B 4
2—B to B 4 mate	1—P to K 6
2—Q to B 4 mate	1—P to B 4
2—Q to Q Kt 2 mate	1—R to Q 4
2—Kt to B 6 mate	

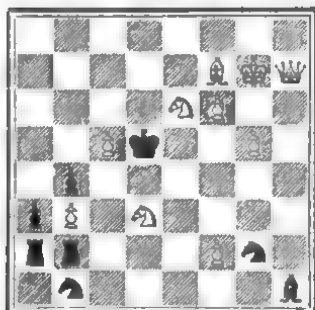
Correct solutions received from East Anglia, W.D.C., and "Veritas."

oid and Villa were caught in the trap set with K to R 2. The reply to K to R 2 is Kt to K 3. For Kt to Q 7 is not mate, as K takes P.

PROBLEM No. 422.

Dreizehnter-Tourier des Aftenbladet.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 506.

THE PILLSBURY STAINITS GAME (VIENNA.)

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Pillsbury.	Black—Steinitz.	White.	Black.
1 P K4	P K4	18 Kt(B3) K2	KKtq
2 Kt K B3	Kt QB3	19 P QR3	Kt K2
3 B K5	P Q3	20 P QKt4	
4 Kt B3	B Q2	(c)	Q QKt3ch
5 P Q4	Kt B3	21 K Rsq	Kt KKt3
6 BxR1	BxP	22 Kt KR5	Q QKt4
7 Q Q3	PxP	23 Kt(K2)	B4
8 Kt xP	B Q2	24 Kt xKtch	RPxKt(d)
9 Castles	B R2	25 Kt KB6!	
10 P QKt3	Castles	(e)	K Kt-q
11 B R2	P QB3	26 Q R4ch	K Kt-q
12 Q R-q	Q QB2	27 BxP	B K-2
13 RR R-q	RR K-q	28 BxR	PxP
14 Kt Q4 K2	QR Q q	29 RxP	B K3
15 Kt KB4		30 PxP	QxP
(a)	B KB q	31 R(K) Q	Q Q86
16 Q KK3	R R-q	32 B Q87	R signs
17 P KB3			
(b)	Q QR4		

Notes from Deutsches Wochenshach.

(a) If White had allowed himself to be misled in advancing his K B P two squares, then Black would gain the advantage by 15..... P to Q 4; 16—P to K 5. B to Q B 4 ch, and 17..... Kt to Kt 5 [or 16—P takes P, B to Q B 4 ch; 17—K to R sq. Kt to K K 5; or 17—Kt to Q 4. R takes R ch; 18—R takes Kt, Q takes Kt].

(b) Apparently White has directed his aim to stopping the B, whose advance to Q 8 must be prevented; however, at the same time, he is preparing an attack by Castling.

(c) Of little worth, since thereby the position on the Q wing is weakened.

(d) A momentous mistake, which makes White's plot succeed. The K B P should have taken. Pillsbury intended, as he showed after the conclusion of the game, to continue then with 25—Kt (R 5) to B 4. P takes P; 26—R to Q Kt sq, which continuation, however, Steinitz would have confuted in the following manner, as demonstrated by himself; 26..... P takes P; 27—B takes P ch, B takes B; 28—R takes Q. P takes R; 29—Kt to Q 5 (on any other move, the QR P would advance) B to K 3; 30—P to Q B 3. B takes Kt;

31—P takes Kt, B takes P and wins. However, it is to be considered whether White, after 24..... B P takes Kt, could not have gone to K 6 with the Kt; then Black would have been allowed to take in no way at all.

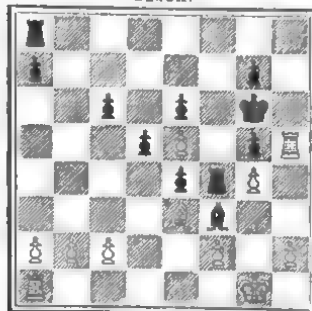
(e) Now this move decides at once, since Black is forced to take at Q R 4 on account of the threatened check.

END GAME.

The position shown on this diagram occurred in a game played recently at the Manhattan Chess Club, New York, between Edward Hymes, of the American Cable Team, and D. Janowski, the Parisian expert. It was the 27th move of Black and White threatened to win Black's King Knight-Pawn. Janowski played the unexpected move of R to B 5, giving up the exchange and eventually winning the game. The continuation will be found highly instructive:—

R to B 5 (R) Position after Black's 27th move:

BLACK.



WHITE.

28 R xR	P xB	41 R B5ch	K Q5
29 R R3(h)	R QKtq	42 R B4ch	K Q4
30 P Kt3	P Q5	43 P R5	P K6
31 R xB	P xR	44 R xP	R xPch
32 R Qsq(i)	♔ K4	45 K K-q	K K4
33 R xP	R xKP	46 R B8	K K5
34 K B q	K K4	47 ♔ K8ch	K B6
35 P KR3	R K7	48 R B8ch	K K6
36 R B4	P K4	49 R K8	P K7
37 R xQB	P K5	50 ♔ K3(i)	R B8ch
38 R B5ch	K K3	51 K Q2	R Q8ch
39 R B4	K B3	52 Resigns	
40 P KR4	K K4		

Notes by Emil Kemeny.

(g) Brilliant play, which gives Black a decided, if not winning, advantage. By sacrificing the exchange, Black obtains a powerful centre. See diagram.

(h) Had he played P to R 3, then the rook would be out of play. The move selected is much stronger. If Black plays B takes P, then White may answer R to Q B 3, with some winning chances.

(i) Had he played P to K R 3, then R takes Kt and R to Q B 4 would have won for Black.

(k) He could not play R takes P on account of R to K 8 mate. Had White played P to K R 4, then R to K 8 check, followed eventually by P to K 4, P to K 5, and P to K 6, would have been Black's continuation.

(l) K to Q 2 might have somewhat prolonged the battle, but the game was hopeless. The text move enables Black to win with R to B 8 check, ♔ to Q 8 check, and queening of the pawn.

NOTES.

The match by telegraph between the Chess Clubs of Vienna and St. Petersburg was won by Vienna. The stakes were 1,000 francs a side.

A match by correspondence, two games to be played simultaneously, has been commenced between the Cercle Philidor, of Paris, and the Cercle des Echecs, of Brussels, for a stake of 100 francs.

Of the fourteen competitors for the championship of the New York State Chess Association, Messrs. Lipschutz and Visser tied for 1st and 2nd places. Mr. Baird obtained the third prize and Messrs. Delmar and Marshall divided the fourth and fifth prizes.

Lasker played 130 games on his recent visit to Moscow. Of these he won 102, drew 19, and lost nine. The following position occurred in an ending of a consultation game, and will be instructive to practical players:—White, Lasker, King at Q Kt 4; Q at K Kt 2. Black, King at Q Kt 8, pawn at Q R 7. White plays ♔ to Q B 3 (not Kt 3) and wins, because after P to R 8 (Q) ch, K to Kt 3 settles matters. A 40 game simultaneous lasted from 8 p.m. till 2 a.m.—*Times Weekly*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 5th May.—Bunin Islands, Mails and General.
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 5th May.—Shanghai via ports, 29th April, Mails General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Heidelberg, German steamer, 2,145, Schuder, 5th May.—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 29th April, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,368, W. Townsend, 6th May.—London via ports, Hongkong, 30th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Vortigern, British steamer, 1,982, J. Fairweather, 7th May.—New York via ports, Kobe, 5th May, General.—Fraser & Co.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. H. Watkins, 7th May.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 6th May, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Hohensollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Woltersdorff, 8th May.—Hongkong, 3rd May, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachl.
Idsumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,899, M. J. Curnow, 8th May.—Seattle, Washington, 20th April, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yashima Kan (38), Japanese Battleship, 12,517, Capt. Uchida, 8th May.—Yokosuka, 8th May.
Matsushima Kan (30), Japanese Cruiser, 4,278, Captain Endo, 8th May.—Yokosuka, 8th May.
Itsukushima Kan (33), Japanese Cruiser, 4,278, Captain Masaki Hashimoto, 8th May.—Yokosuka, 8th May.
Hector, British steamer, 3,005, John Barr, 8th May.—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 7th May, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Fairport, British ship, 1,857, Armstrong, 8th May.—New York via Adelaide, 16th Feb., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Shanzi, British steamer, 1,250, Carnochan, 9th May.—Takow, 3rd May, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.
Macduff, British steamer, 1,881, R. Glegg, 10th May.—London via ports, Kobe, 9th May, General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.
Piemonte (32), Italian Cruiser, 2,900, Captain Francesco Giuliani, 10th May.—Honolulu, 22nd April.
Forland, British steamer, 2,832, McCutcheon, 10th May.—Batoum, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Lord Shaftesbury, British ship, 2,273, McCarthy, 10th May.—Port Royal, S.C., 12th December, Phosphate Rock.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Sibiria, German steamer, 2,367, Hildebrandt, 10th May.—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 4th May, General.—C. Illies & Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Win. Ward, 10th May.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 20th April, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 14th May.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 10th Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 5th May.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, Birch, 5th May.—San Diego via Honolulu and San Francisco, Mails and General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Binalder, British steamer, 1,958, Sarchet, 5th May.—Kuchinotsu via Kobe, Ballast.—Corney & Co.
Candia, British steamer, 4,194, W. H. Houghton, 6th May.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,781, J. S. Thompson, 9th May.—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Indus, French steamer, 2,331, Chevalier, 10th May.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 10th May.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ellisland, British ship, 2,355, J. C. Brinkenshar, 11th May.—Newcastle, N.S.W., Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.
Bertha, German ship, 2,085, K. Brunings, 11th May.—Iquique, Chili, Ballast.—Grosser & Co.
Heidelberg, German steamer, 2,145, Schuder, 10th May.—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Katuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, E. W. Haswell, 11th May.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 12th May.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sannhi Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. G. Sale, Miss Ada Sale, Miss Lillian Sale, Miss McLennan, Mr. A. Hansen, Mr. J. Shand, Mr. N. Isono, Mr. R. Sale, Mr. V. Sale, and Major M. Yui, in cabin; Mrs. Szigetory and 4 children, Miss Kasakabe, Rev. A. Smart, Mr. Nikolai Goltzoff, and Mr. Noguchi, in second class; 5 Japanese, and 6 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Mudge, Mr. A. Sharpe, Capt. Talbot, Mr. J. C. Budd, Mr. F. Harrold, Mr. J. Sword, Mr. C. Howlett, Mr. Stone, Mr. E. Kellman, Mr. E. W. Noel, Mr. Le Champion, Mr. Knapp, Mr. F. S. Goodison, and Mr. H. W. Lee, in cabin; 12 on deck.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Whitehead, 2 children and 4 servants, Dr. and Mrs. O. Nachod, Miss E. Fahn, Mr. A. B. Smith, Mr. Grote, Mr. O. Cohen, Mr. G. S. Smith, and Miss K. Ebert, in cabin; Mrs. Fowler, Mr. T. Nette, Mr. E. Hagedorfe, and Mr. H. R. Mahilang, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Bingo Maru*, from London via ports:—Miss A. M. Jewell, Master Richard Jewell, Master Edward Jewell, Capt. and Mrs. J. J. Efford, and Mrs. C. Efford and baby, in cabin; Miss Emily Dunn, in second class; 1 in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. W. P. Thomas, Mr. F. Von Richtofen, Miss Jettie Lee, Mr. J. B. Gallert, Mr. C. B. Gould, and 5 Japanese, in cabin. In Transit:—Mrs. Chauncy Thomas, Mr. W. P. Thomas and servant, Mr. John Healy, and Mr. B. Voight and family, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. L. Capps, Mr. F. C. Quinn, Mr. A. McGillivray, Lieut. and Mrs. A. L. Key, Mr. H. Keswick, Mrs. Swain, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. T. Robsion, Miss M. Longneval, His Excellency A. Pavine, Major H. C. Fitzgerald, Sir Theodore Fry, Mr. G. M. Bain, Mr. S. P. Greenstone, Mr. W. Nicholson, Dr. Crump, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Stowell, and Mrs. H. E. Averill, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. C. Ming Hyn, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Dr. J. W. Nobbe, Mr. and Mrs. E. Z. Simmons, Mrs. W. K. McKibbin, Mr. H. F. Bosman, Mr. J. P. Collam, Rev. and Mrs. L. Kriestensen and 2 children, Mr. H. B. Magor, Mr. G. M. Brady, Mrs. H. Gribble, Mr. J. C. MacColl, Miss North, Master McKibbin, Mr. and Mrs. W. Ashmore, Mr. G. Haffner, Mr. E. C. Clarke, and Master Brady, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—Rev. and Mrs. C. F. Reid and four children, Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Cleveland and four children, Mrs. Stuart Eldridge, Mrs. J. George, Miss C. Anderson, Capt. and Mrs. J. W. Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Locke, Rev. E. Box, Dr. J. A. Webster, Mr. J. R. Black, Mr. J. C. Epperly, Mr. C. Peterson, and Mr. W. T. Reid, in cabin; 157 Chinese and 194 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Indus*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. C. Favre Brandt, Mr. E. Savouret, Mr. Gutierrez, Mr. Emile Raynaud, Mr. M. Schellenberg, Capt. and Mrs. Jackson, Sœur Louise Amedee, Sœur Vitaline, Mr. Loo Yam Chee, Mr. Wong, Mrs. Amelia Schwartz, Mr. F. Oviedo, Mr. E. Ch. Stoepl, Mr. Chia Keng Chin and boy, Mr. Goldmann, Mr. R. E. Abenheim, and Mr. F. Hattori, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, for Australia via ports:—Rev. G. I. Keim, Miss Penny, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Bardeus, Mr. C. S. Deane, Miss M. R. Rabone, Mr. Sam Neal, Mr. F. Harrold, Capt. N. M. Black, Capt. S. Whiting, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Murray, Mrs. F. Townley, Mr. T. W. Hallyer, Mr. H. Takahashi, Mr. C. Horikawa, Mr. I. Mori, Mr. K. Sowa, Mr. S. Ono, Mr. S. Amenomiyai, Mr. K. Hase, Mr. S. J. Rabone, and Mr. F. S. Goodison, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kawachi Maru*, for London via ports:—Captain Y. Niemura, Capt. M. Togo, Com. Y. Shoji, Inspector of Mach. S. Ito, Inspector of Mach. M. Yokoyama, Com. I. Mano, Com. S. Fujina, Com. K. Wadagaki, Com. C. Chizaka, Com. G. Muzumachi, Paymaster Y. Suzuki, Paymaster C. Minna, Chief Eng. H. Iwabe, Surgeon S. Oishi, Chief Eng. C. Midzutani, Sub-Lieut. Y. Yamamoto, Sub-Lieut. M. Kawakami, Consul Y. Odate, Miss I. Yama-

da, Petty Officers M. Yamamoto, K. Harada, T. Uyeno, T. Fukumoto, S. Yamazaki, M. Seida, K. Sawai, J. Wada, F. Fujiwara, Y. Kawachi, K. Toyono, and T. Nakaya, Mr. K. Sasaki, Mr. John Graham, Mr. W. G. Clayton, Mr. H. A. Clare, Mr. R. Levenright, and Mr. D. J. Clark, in cabin; 78 in steerage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is a marked improvement in the tone of the market for yarns, and also a much better feeling in shirtings and fancy cottons and woollens. Yarns have gone up slightly, and there is also an upward tendency, though not so marked, in shirtings and fancy stuffs.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER PICUL.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 30 inches	\$2.50 to 3.00
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 31 yds, 45 inches	3.00 to 3.50
White Shirtings—7½ lb, 32 yds, 37 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yds, 34 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Alabama and Baltimore Black, 52 inches	PER YARD. 0.18 to 0.28
Flannels	PER YARD. 0.10 to 0.60
Italiana Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Rape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloth—Polo's, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloth—Polo's, 54 @ 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloth—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scalot and Green, 3 to 5 lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PICUL. 7.75 to 10.00
Victrola Lanes, 12 yards, 45 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 @ 3 @ 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 @ 8 to 4 lb, 24½ yards, 30 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

WOOLLENS.

Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24/25 inches, 30 inches	\$1.75 to 1.80 0.70 to 1.10
Victrola—Black, 13 yards, 24/25 inches, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—20 to 30, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.45 to 3.47
Turkey Reds—38 to 48, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47

North and Mac, Ltd., \$100	800 H
North & Co., Ltd., \$100	9,50 S
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100	255 B.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	170 H
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., \$100	65 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 S. & 1/2 S.
Kobe Club 1/2 Deb., \$100	50 Na.
Yokohama United Club 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 Na.
Arrest & Co., Ltd., 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 H.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 S.
Reserve Fund.—, yen 10,000; 2, yen 5,000 equaliza-	
tion of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property	
1, yen 17,770.80; 4, yen 16,398.44.	

N.—S. Sellers, H.—Buyers, Se.—Sales, St.—steady,
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak B.—Enquiries

Tokyo, May 11.

Redemption Loan Bonds	98.50
War Loan Bonds	98.50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	98.50
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 100	97.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	97.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	97.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100	97.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	97.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	97.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	97.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 50	97.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Japan Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 40	97.00
Japan Railway, 3rd issue—paid up yen 30	97.00
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45	97.00
Kobe Railway, new—paid up yen 50	97.00
Nanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	97.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 50	97.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 50	97.00
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Fuyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Nanto Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Hokuriku Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Formosa Railway—application yen 50	97.00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	97.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 50	97.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	97.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	97.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 50	97.00
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	97.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	97.00

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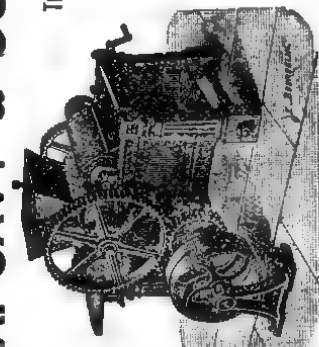
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November 21st, 1896.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No. 18.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, MAY 6TH, 1899.

月三年五十二拾
西曆者係國日十三

[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	437
Russia, England, and China	438
Events in the Philippines	438
Steam-boat Competition	439
The Commercial Code	439
The "Shimonoseki"	439
Political Talk	440
French Silk Fabrics	440
Parliament in Japanese Legislation	441
Commercial Museum	441
Minister of Justice and the Police	441
Electric Railways	441
Female Education in Japan	441
Share taken by Japanese Merchants in Foreign Trade	441
Legion of Honour for His Prince Imperial	442
A Strange Story	442
Death of Rear-Admiral Nomura	442
Special Japanese Settlements in China	442
Effect of the Increased Post and Railway Charges	442
Lotteries in Yokohama	442
An Offence against Ethics	443
Tea	443
Japan at the Paris International Exhibition	443
The Nagoya "Yoro-In"	443
The Educational Problem	443
Official Appointments	443
A Singular Community	443
Leading Article—Japanese Bokuwa	443
Monthly Summary of the Religious Press	443
Korean Affairs	443
Chinese Affairs	443
Bicycle Road Race	443
Correspondence	443
The Nagoya Yoro-In	443
Japanese Hotels	443
Female Education in Japan	443
Charges at Japanese Ions	443
The Nishibetsu	443
Yokohama Docks	443
News of the Week	443
The Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1898	443
Telegrams	443
Chess	443
Latest Shipping	443
Latest Commercial	443

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 6TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

At Osaka, 26 Concession, on the 1st May, the wife of GAVIN ALEXANDER FORREST, of a son

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE plague still continues virulent in Southern Formosa.

Prospects are bright for a very successful race meeting next week.

SHANOWAT has had its settlements enlarged on satisfactory terms.

MR. DIOY's tour in the provinces is duly recorded day by day in the vernacular press.

OFFICIAL figures of the import and export trade at Kobe during last month have not yet been published. A rough calculation is as

follows:—Imports, yen 8,624,079; Exports, yen 5,950,074.

THE agreement between Russia and Great Britain with regard to Northern China has been published.

WON. BRO. E. FLINT KILBY has been appointed Deputy District Grand Master of Freemasons in Japan.

THE spring athletic sports meeting of the Y.C. & A.C. is to be held this afternoon on the Cricket Ground.

THE first of May passed without any incident in France and abroad. Suspension of work was insignificant.

THE machine room of the Osaka Cement Manufacturing Company was destroyed by fire on Monday night.

AN enormous rise in the price of copper has taken place, due to the American ring dislocating the trade.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR will visit Yokohama on Tuesday next, the second day of the Nippon Race Club Spring Meeting.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE has received the Cordon of the Legion of Honour from the French Representative in Tokyo.

REAR-ADMIRAL NUMURA, who played such a distinguished part during the Japan China war, died this week in an early age.

CHINESE residents in Yokohama numbered 3,385 at the end of last month, an increase of 75 as compared with February last.

MR. F. W. EASTLAKE, living at Kojimachi, Tokyo, was on Tuesday robbed of several hundred yen by his cook, who absconded.

AT the Hungarian Diet, the Premier stated that there was no present intention on the part of Austria to acquire any territory in China.

THE Filipinos are suing for peace. At first they asked for an armistice, but the American Commander-in-chief would have no stipulations.

AT an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Tokyo Silver Bullion Exchange, held on Tuesday, it was decided to wind up the concern.

DURING the week several bicycle accidents have occurred in Yokohama, some due to furious Japanese riders, others to the unpractised antics of British men-of-war-men.

ALL is now quiet in the Kowloon hinterland. Mr. Stewart Lockhart, the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong, has been called home to explain matters to Mr. Chamberlain.

AT 1 p.m. on Sunday a fire broke out in a house occupied by a lumber dealer at Omori, Ehara district, Tokyo, destroying four houses, two godowns being greatly damaged.

THE negotiations for a Japanese settlement at Foochow have been concluded between the Japanese Consul, Mr. Ueno, and the chief official of the place. The agreement is stated

to have been signed on the 29th ult., and is expected to be shortly sanctioned by the Emperor.

THE *Times* reports that the Government has decided to contribute an early subsidy to the full amount recommended by the Cable Committee, as guarantee for the construction of the all-British cable.

ON the 26th ultimo, a fearful thunder-storm prevailed at Kobe and the vicinity. A woman named Sei (32), Takano village, was struck by lightning and killed. Her house was also struck and reduced to ashes.

THE combined regatta of the Higher Commercial School and the 1st High School was held on the upper course of the Sumida on Sunday. In the last Champion race, the High School won by about 8 feet.

A MAN named Onodera Teikichi, of the village of Inaniwa Okachi, Akita Prefecture, a few days ago murdered his mother and second son, wounded his daughter and his eldest son, and then hanged himself.

IN spite of the notification issued by Kanagawa Prefecture strictly forbidding students, whether of Government or private schools, to visit houses of ill-fame, 60 or 70 per cent. of recent visitors to such houses are said to have been students.

AT 10.25 on Sunday night a fire broke out at Ichome, Minami Hachobori, Kyobashi, Tokyo. A strong south-west wind was blowing, and made it impossible to extinguish the flames until five houses had been destroyed and eight damaged.

HORI SAICHIRO (31), fireman of the N. Y. K.'s *Kawachi Maru*, now lying at Yokohama, was found suffocated under the coal in one of the bunkers a few days ago. It is supposed that, while he was working, a quantity of coal fell on him and suffocated him.

MARQUIS HACHISUKA, Marquis Nabeshima, Baron Sannomiya, Messrs. Sonoda and Kikuchi Daitoku will give a garden party at Goryochi, Shinjuku, Tokyo, on the 13th instant. The English Minister, Mr. and Mrs. Dioy, and members of the London Japan Society will be invited.

THE other day sparks from a train on the Koku Railway ignited and seriously damaged two residences by the side of the line. At Akabane, near Tokyo, on Sunday morning sparks from the Shinagawa train fell on the roof of a peasant's house, resulting in the destruction of the building. The owner is trying to get compensation from the company.

SPEAKING in Birmingham, at the banquet of mechanical engineers, Mr. Goheen, First Lord of the Admiralty, said that the general appearance in Europe was much more tranquil than a few months ago, and that Great Britain had made friendly settlements with Germany and France. He also hoped that the country was making one with Russia.

A GENERAL meeting of the shareholders of the Meiji Fire Insurance Company was held on Monday. Mr. Abe Taigo, Director, took the chair, and presented a report and financial statement for the year ending March 30th. A dividend of 14 per cent. per annum was declared—an increase of 1 per cent. compared with last year—and it was decided to raise the salaries of the principal officials in view of the increase in business.

RUSSIA, ENGLAND, AND CHINA.

May 2.

Russia and England have come to an agreement with reference to railways in China. The only question actually at issue when our last detailed advices were received, was the question of the Shanhaikwan-Newchwang line. After the Chinese Government, acting at the instance of Li Hungchang, had granted to a Belgian syndicate, backed by Russia and France, a concession for a railway from Peking to Hankow—that is to say, a railway running from the Chinese capital into the very heart of the Yangtze Valley—, and had managed the grant in a fashion obviously unfriendly to Great Britain, Her Majesty's Minister proposed to demand from China a written assurance that all railway concessions for which British syndicates were then in treaty should be granted without further delay on terms identical with those conceded to the Belgians. The railways falling under this category were (1) the Shanhaikwan-Newchwang; (2) the Tientsin-Chingkiang; (3) the Shanghai-Nanking with its continuations and branches; and (4) the lines in Honan and Shansi. This proposal of Sir Claude Macdonald's was approved by the Foreign Office in London, but he was instructed to exclude the Shanhaikwan-Newchwang line, and it became the subject of the agreement now made public—that a British Chief Engineer and Financial Controller should be appointed for a portion of the line. British enterprise has obtained everything hitherto sought by it in China. It has received concessions for 2,800 miles of railways all offering most favourable prospects, if we except the Yunnan-Yangtze line, and it is not in the field for any further grants.

The quaint feature of the matter is that two European States should agree between themselves as to what parts of the Chinese Empire they are going to exploit, without at all consulting China's views. Never in the history of the world has any such spectacle been seen. China's independence is a veritable myth. She has the semblance of independence, but does not enjoy the reality in any sense. The *Fiji Shimpō* has a clever cartoon. The British lion and the Russian eagle are depicted as a compound monster, preparing to swallow up John Chinaman, who awaits the catastrophe with every semblance of consternation but not the smallest display of resistance.

May 3.

The publication of the last Blue Book of correspondence respecting the affairs of China clears up some points which had perplexed the public considerably. We learn from it, in the first place, the significance of the demonstration made by the British squadron last autumn at Chefoo. It was a very big demonstration—something like 30 ships assembled—and people in general jumped to the conclusion that it was directed against Russia. But when nothing happened, when the ships dispersed again quietly, and when Russia was found to be pursuing the even tenor of her way, several Far-Eastern English journals ridiculed the whole affair, and asked whether Great Britain's prestige could be sustained or enhanced by this objectless "marching of her men up the hill and marching them down again." We ventured to suggest that Her Majesty's Government probably

knew very well what they were doing, and that a good reason for the demonstration would be discovered when the facts became known. It now turns out that China was the Power menaced. The Tsung-li Yamén, instigated by Li Hungchang, granted to a Belgian syndicate a concession for the Peking-Hankow line. The grant was made virtually in defiance of Great Britain's protest—a protest based on the fact that the line would pierce the very centre of the Yang-tze Valley—and the Chinese Government had several times denied that it entertained any idea of giving the concession. Her Majesty's Ministry decided, therefore, at the instigation of Sir Claude Macdonald, that a written engagement of a drastic character must be exacted from China in the matter of railways, and that the British Admiral be invited to coöperate in obtaining the promise. With that object the fleet was assembled at Chefoo, to disperse again so soon as China gave the promise, which she promptly did.

Another point elucidated by the Blue Book is the reason of Li Hungchang's removal from the *Tsung-li Yamén*. It was stated at the time that the British Minister had demanded the Grand Secretary's dismissal, but the assertion is now proved to have been incorrect. Sir Claude Macdonald did not prefer any such demand. But he did state officially, in an interview at the Yamén on the subject of the Peking-Hankow railway concession, that he "believed that the Prince and the Ministers of the Yamén were not so much to blame for what had occurred, but that they had followed the lead and advice of Li Hungchang, who, for reasons best known to himself, had chosen to show himself hostile to British interests." Sir Claude then asked for the compensatory pledge referred to above, and received it on September 6th, and on September 7th Li was dismissed from the Yamén.

May 4.

The friends of China! Who are they, we can hear the reader of this sentence exclaim. Who are they, indeed? China is truly in the position of the lad in the fable: the time is most opportune for hitting her hard. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, however, thinks that it is also opportune for giving her good advice. She must feel very desolate just at present. England, her last possible friend among Western Powers, has been alienated by the untoward events at Kowloon, and is, moreover, likely to come to an understanding with Russia, which can only mean the driving of many new nails in China's coffin. Her sole hope of safety lay in the conflicting interests and mutual jealousies of the States waiting to cut her up. From the moment that they come into accord about the distribution of the morsels, it is all over with her. She ought to be ready now to take advice, and Japan is the country to tender it. On the occasion of the *coup d'état* last autumn, Count Okuma, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, strongly recommended the Empress Dowager not to countenance any retrogressive movement. The counsel was not adopted. It ought to be repeated now, for, if China persists in refusing to inaugurate sweeping reforms, her doom is sealed.

May 5

Various views are entertained by vernacular newspapers with regard to the

agreement concluded between Russia and England. By some it is not regarded as a specially important affair, nor considered likely to affect the course of political events. It may be classed, according to this view, with the Russo-Japanese Convention concerning Korea, which has not exercised any perceptible influence on Korea's status or interfered in any way with her independence. In short, these publicists think that things will continue to move in their old groove, unaffected by the new agreement. Others—notably the *Fiji Shimpō*—put their finger on the hard fact that China is altogether a *quantité négligeable* in the eyes of England and Russia. They have settled what parts of her are to be exploited by each without consulting her own wishes in any way. The incident may be regarded as a public announcement by the two leading Asiatic Powers that China is to be cut up. Other Powers will interpret it in that sense and will not fail to shape their own course accordingly. What should Japan do? Give practical effect, says the *Fiji*, to the rights already acquired by her in Fuhkien. Unless she steps into the arena now, she must consent to be permanently excluded. Of this latter view the *Kokumin* is also an exponent, but the *Kokumin*, as our readers know, has for some time been steadily advocating resolute steps on Japan's part with regard to Fuhkien. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, more so, makes political capital out of the event. It construes it as a clear indication that Great Britain has changed her policy towards China, and it then asks the reason of the change. Japan's hesitation to join the proposed alliance, is the answer. Had Japan frankly thrown in her lot with England and America for the conservation of the Chinese empire, the British Government would not now be found clasping hands with the Russian for the dissection of China. Next, our contemporary asks why Japan hesitated, and discovers a reply eminently satisfactory to its own political bias, for it alleges that the *Kensei-to* (Liberals) are responsible, their creed being the partition of China, and the Cabinet being obliged to adopt their creed. Finally, the *Yomiuri* mounts its pet hobby, and declares that, whatever the policy of the Cabinet or of its political supporters might be, the Foreign Office, under its present head, could not save the situation.

Curiously enough, not one of our vernacular contemporaries notices the essentially significant fact that England has now for the first time publicly recognised a sphere of Russian influence in China. Nothing seems to us more important than that.

EVENTS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The news received by the Legation of France, and published by us on Monday—namely, that the Filipinos are suing for an armistice—is confirmed by telegrams which have reached the Foreign Office in Tokyo. In the latter intelligence Aguinaldo is mentioned as the sender of the request, and it may therefore be inferred that there is no truth in the recent rumours which represented him as having been deposed from power by the General commanding the Filipino forces. There would be cause for great satisfaction should this armistice prove the prelude to a settlement of the whole question. It

does not appear, indeed, that the proximate purpose of the armistice is to treat for peace. The reason said to be assigned by Aguinaldo in preferring the request is that the Filipinos desire to take counsel among themselves. But that, we may fairly assume, will preface formal application for the opening of negotiations. Of course it must be perfectly evident to the Filipinos by this time that they have not the slightest chance of combatting the Americans successfully. With the exception of capturing a boat's crew who landed without proper precautions, and cutting off a few stragglers here and there, the Filipinos have not scored a single point. Every position they attempted to defend has been captured and every district they sought to hold has been abandoned at the first onset of the invaders. They can not but recognise that their cause is hopeless. Indeed, one of the latest pieces of news is that ten thousand of Aguinaldo's soldiers offered to surrender to Otis, but the American General refused to accept their surrender unless they brought their arms with them. At the same time, it is equally evident that the task lying before the Americans is of the heaviest. They beat the Filipinos wherever they find them, but the trouble is that they can never find them in sufficient numbers to render their defeat decisive. It is a campaign of mere skirmishes. The Filipinos yield wherever they are pressed and return to their original shape when the pressure is removed. Under such circumstances, it would be necessary for the Americans to permanently occupy all the territory they over-run if they hoped to reap the full fruits of victory. Their force, however, is quite inadequate for such a purpose, and even if they had men enough to garrison every locality, the nature of the country and the unwholesome climate would forbid that course at this season of the year. Still, it is only a question of time, and if the Filipinos are shrewd enough to recognise the fact, they will save themselves much needless suffering and the Americans a great deal of unnecessary trouble. America is of course prepared, and has always been prepared, to grant them the fullest measure of autonomy they can be trusted to enjoy.

STEAM-BOAT COMPETITION.

The Douglas and Osaka Shosen S.S. Companies appear to have entered into a keen competition on the Tamsui-Hongkong line. The third-class fare from Tamsui to Amoy used to be 3 yen, and that from Tamsui to Hongkong 7 yen, but when the Japanese Company's ships made their appearance, the Douglas Company reduced these fares to 2½ yen and 6 yen, respectively, and ultimately to 2 yen and 5 yen. The Osaka Company has followed suit. The *Maisuru Maru*, which sailed from Tamsui on the 23rd instant, took passengers at the last-named figures, which really mean 1.80 yen and 4.50 yen, inasmuch as the Chinese make payments in chop-dollars which are at a discount of 10 per cent. in terms of yen. The competition is expected to grow keener, but the Japanese company has a great advantage in the fact that it receives a subsidy from the Formosa Government. We presume that it will end in a "pool." The public generally suffer in the long run.

THE NEW COMMERCIAL CODE.

Dr. Lönholm is to be congratulated on the rapidity with which he has produced a translation of the new Commercial Code, recently promulgated and presently to go into operation. This Code was submitted to the Diet in its eleventh session, and passed the Upper House, but failed to become law owing to the dissolution of the Lower House. Dr. Lönholm nevertheless judged that the foreign public would be glad to have a trustworthy translation of it without delay. He accordingly published a translation last year, adding a note to the effect that the Code would undoubtedly become law within the course of the year. His forecast has proved correct in the main, but during the interval that elapsed before its submission to the Diet for a second time, the Code received certain additions and underwent some alterations, which, though neither radical nor numerous, have the effect not only of changing the import of a few articles, but also of disturbing the former numbering, and Dr. Lönholm has wisely decided to publish a new translation, which is now before us. We trust that his enterprise will be rewarded, but although every foreigner engaged in business in Japan ought to provide himself with a copy of this Code, we doubt whether the layman's old habit of leaving law entirely to the bench and the bar, and following the guidance of common sense only, will not prove more or less fatal to the sale of the German expert's very useful volume.

The first important alteration which we notice is the introduction of Art. 277, which says:—

The provisions of Art. 349 of the Civil Code do not apply to a pledge created at a security for an obligation arising from a commercial transaction.

The Article of the Civil Code here referred to runs thus:—

The pledgee can not, either by the act of creation or by an agreement made before the obligation is due, in order to make performance to the pledgee, agree that the latter shall become the owner of the thing pledged, or shall dispose of it without complying with the requirements of the law.

It is evidently a point of no small importance to the safety and convenience of trade transactions that a borrower should be able to guarantee to a lender an absolute right of property in goods pledged as security for monetary accommodation.

Dr. Lönholm has appended to his translation of the Commercial Code a translation of the Law Concerning the Operation of the Commercial Code. The 92nd Article of this Law says:—

As to foreign commercial companies (this term includes partnerships) which have set up a branch office in Japan before the taking effect of the Commercial Code, special regulations may be made by Imperial Ordinance. The same applies to commercial companies or associations formed in Japan by foreigners before the taking effect of the Commercial Code.

This Article will be found very re-assuring by many foreigners. The evident intention of its drafters is to protect foreign companies or partnerships doing business in Japan against undue inconvenience resulting from their being suddenly brought within the purview of a new Code which may conflict, in some respects, with the original principles of their organization.

In Article 95 *et seq.* of this Law Concerning the Operation of the Commercial Code, we find a number of interesting

provisions with regard to insurance business. Thus the business of insurance can not be carried on without the consent of the Government; it may be carried on by joint-stock companies only; an insurance company can not carry on any other business; the same company must not carry on the business of life insurance and the business of insurance against loss; the Government may, at any time, require an insurance company to make a report on its business, or may examine into the affairs of the company, and may order the business to be suspended or the directors to be removed if the management of the company's affairs or the state of its property shows that the continuance of its business would be perilous; an insurance company must not consolidate with another commercial company carrying on another business, etc. On the other hand, Art. 115 provides that:—

As to foreign commercial companies setting up in Japan a branch office or an agency to carry on insurance business, special regulations may be issued by Imperial Ordinance.

This Article, again, is evidently intended to furnish a means of protecting foreign offices and agencies against obstacles which the Code, if applied rigidly, might create in the path of their operations.

There is one other point to which attention may be drawn, though the interest attaching to it is now academical only. In the enumeration of "commercial transactions" (Art. 264 of the Commercial Code), so called if "done as a regular business," we find "transactions relating to publishing, printing, or photographing." Does not that appear to include journalism, so far as the printing and publishing of a newspaper are concerned? If so, the former Press Law, which limited to Japanese subjects the right of printing and publishing newspapers, could not have remained operative side by side with the Revised Treaties, for the latter guarantee to the subjects or citizens of the contracting parties the right to engage in all transactions of lawful commerce within each other's realms. However, the question, as we have said, has no practical importance, first, because the Press Law has been amended, and secondly because the right to print and publish without the right of editing would not suffice for the production of a journal.

THE "SHINONOME."

We have already explained that contradictions have been published of the stories circulated about injuries to the torpedo-catcher *Shinonome* on her voyage out, owing to carelessness on the part of her British crew. The contradictions are now supplemented by an announcement that, not only were no injuries suffered, but the vessel arrived in splendid condition, and the care taken of her reflects the greatest credit on her crew. It is a curiously drastic retraction, and one is puzzled to understand how the original story could have been manufactured. There is another complaint now, however; namely, that Captain Page, who commanded the vessel on her voyage out, was not properly treated by the naval authorities at Yokosuka. They gave him a dinner, but no Japanese officers of any standing were present, and Captain Page must have carried away a curious idea of Japanese hospitality. This is the *Nippon's* news. We have no information of our own.

POLITICAL TALK.

We look to the *Mainichi Shinbun* for sensations now-a-days. In each of its issues some staring item of intelligence appears, composed with big type. The latest is that Mr. Hoshi Toru, speaking at a meeting in Okawaramachi, Miyagi Prefecture, declared that Marquis Ito would combine with the Constitutional Party next autumn to form a new Cabinet. Such an event is not improbable, we imagine, but that Mr. Hoshi or any one else is in a position to predict it certainly, we do not believe.

Count Okuma has been telling a representative of one of our Tokyo contemporaries that, since the laws of Japan are now satisfactory, the only cause for uneasiness with respect to the operation of the Revised Treaties is the jails. It would be unjust not to take any account of differences in national customs when arranging for the treatment of prisoners. To make a foreigner sit and sleep as Japanese do, and to give him only rice and vegetables when he has always been accustomed to meat diet, would be to aggravate his punishment very heavily. These points call for due consideration, but otherwise there is no reason to be uneasy about the working of the Revised Treaties. We may supplement these remarks of Count Okuma's by reminding our readers that arrangements have been made by the authorities for acquiring the Consular jails at the open ports, and that foreign prisoners will be confined there, the method of treating them being conformed to that pursued while they were still under foreign jurisdiction.

It is significant to find a paper like the *Kokumin*, whose editor, Mr. Tokutomi, is generally supposed to have very close relations with some of the statesmen now in power, persistently and uniformly advocating the adoption of a strong policy towards China. What our contemporary thinks necessary is that steps should be taken to convert into a practical reality the engagement already obtained from Peking with regard to the non-alienation of Fuhkien. The general argument is that such a course need not imply any unfriendliness to China, for, if Japan is to assist her neighbour, she must be in a position to do so, and she can not be in a position unless she has a *point d'appui*. Further, there is the consideration of Japan's own safety. To secure that, she must be certainly able to prevent the occupation of the mainland facing Formosa by a potential enemy. Then, again, it is essential to avert every risk of collision with any of three Powers to whom she is drawn by community of general interests, England, America, and Germany. The apparently imminent *entente* between Great Britain and Russia will directly involve the recognised inclusion of northern China within the latter's sphere of influence, and indirectly impart a southerly direction to the expansion of England, the United States, and Germany in China. If Japan does not openly make good her footing in Fuhkien before that expansion becomes a practical reality, any attempt to do so may bring her into collision with one of the three Powers whose friendship she most desires to cultivate. It is not suggested that desigus would be deliberately planned against Fuhkien, but merely that all forces of expansion follow the line of least resistance and Fuhkien would be such a line

if it were left as it is now. The *Kokumin* is convinced that England, one of these days, will hold sway over a vast tract in the Yangtze Valley, and many tens of millions of Chinamen will be her subjects. Japan had better get a *piéd à terre* on the continent before that day dawns. To come down to hard facts, our contemporary advocates three things: first, that Japan should obtain a settlement of her own in Amoy; secondly, that she should acquire the sole privilege of working mines in Fuhkien; and thirdly, that she should have the building of all railways in the province, except those for which England may have already secured concessions.

The *Asahi* says that a project is on foot to form a big league of foreign and Japanese merchants, with a view to improved relations after the Revised Treaties go into operation. The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce has addressed the Yokohama Chamber on the subject, and has received a favourable reply. By what name the organization is to be called the Tokyo projectors do not seem to have yet determined, but there is some talk of calling it an "economic league" (*Keisai Dantai*). The inaugural ceremony will take the form of a convivial gathering.

The *Official Gazette* contains the Emperor's sanction of the change made by the Diet last session in the Press Law. The old Law contained a clause providing that the qualifications necessary for publishing, printing, or editing a newspaper in Japan were (1) to be a Japanese subject; (2) to be of the full age of 30 years; and (3) to be a resident in Japan. The first of these qualifications was expunged by the Diet, at the instance of the Government, and the amended Law has now been promulgated, to go into force from July 1st. It is, we presume, unnecessary to repeat what we have often explained already, namely, that the clause restricting newspaper enterprise to Japanese subjects was not inserted originally in an illiberal spirit. The law was framed for the Japanese people and for the Japanese people only, at a time when the question of foreigners' entering the sphere of journalism was not upon the *tapis* at all.

During the years immediately succeeding the inauguration of constitutional government in Japan, it seemed probable that political speeches would acquire great vogue, and that the Japanese would develop a marked propensity for public meetings and platform talk. But some figures tabulated by the *Yoroku Choho* seem to indicate that the taste for such things is dying out. The figures are these:—

Year.	Number of Political Meetings.	Number of speakers at meetings.
1891	6,482	15,526
1892	8,076	21,796
1893	7,076	18,021
1894	5,750	15,223
1895	1,506	3,337
1896	1,272	3,198

It is a pity that these figures are not carried down to a later date, for 1896, having been the year immediately subsequent to the war with China, can not be considered an average criterion. Still the marked diminution in the numbers is very suggestive. It further recalls the curious fact that in the early days of the Japanese Diet, many men attained ephemeral distinction of whom actually nothing has since been heard. The proceedings of the first three sessions

revealed at least a score of debaters possessing oratorical or rhetorical gifts which ought to have kept them long before the public. With very few exceptions they have all passed out of the vista of immediate observation, and are now scarcely remembered. We should like to hear a Japanese explanation of the fact.

There is a very curious and distinctly crude theory among certain Japanese politicians. Reduced to simple terms it amounts to saying that if a man has a serviceable weapon, he is bound to use it; if he possesses a good rifle and some dry powder, he ought to shoot somebody. The *Tokyo Asahi* is at present an exponent of that theory. It thinks that if the country's foreign policy does not keep pace with the expansion of her armaments, things will be much as though a party of play-actors should parade for an Imperial military review. But we are not to suppose that the *Asahi* wants any stalwart displays of enterprise in the field of foreign policy. On the contrary, its object is to prove that the *post bellum* scheme of armaments' expansion is out of all proportion to the nation's needs. It declares that the country's statesmen are inebriated with the idea of expansion, and have committed themselves to a programme just double as large as it ought to be. This homily may perhaps be regarded as one of the stop-gap utterances with which the Tokyo journals fill their columns in very quiet times like the present.

FRENCH SILK FABRICS.

Nearly all the Tokyo journals publish a paragraph headed "great discovery with regard to foreign silk fabrics." It appears that Mr. Henry Satow, head of the Imperial Commercial Museum in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, has been submitting specimens of French and English silk fabrics to certain tests of quality. The variety of fabric known in Japan as *Kohaku-ori* has been specially examined. It is a favourite stuff for ladies' garments, and large quantities are imported every year. Attention was drawn to this material by the curious facility with which it could be torn, and on analysis it was found that, although the warp consisted of silk, the weft was of some material as brittle as tinder. The English fabric proved somewhat better, but still left much to be desired, artificial silk being mixed in both the weft and the warp. The tensile strength of the threads was almost nil, and when burned in the fire they gave out a smell like that of singed hair, but did not shrivel, so that they were evidently made of some vegetable fibre. The results of these experiments may be seen by any one visiting the Imperial Museum.

The great publicity given to this discovery will, of course, have a serious effect upon the popularity of both French and English silk fabrics, especially the former, to say nothing to the rejoinder it will furnish to the Japanese manufacturer when he is charged with dishonest practices. It is of course possible that the specimens examined at the Imperial Museum did not represent the average European fabric, but of course the importers who are directly interested will take care to have that point cleared up.

FOREIGNERS IN JAPANESE LEGISLATION.

We are not altogether surprised to find that the *Nippon* writes somewhat sarcastically about the importance publicly attached by the Authorities to Mixed Residence as a reason for amending the laws and improving the procedure of the Judiciary and the police. It is a pity that the Japanese people should be taught to value judicial and legislative reforms less for their own sake than for the sake of foreigners visiting or residing in this country, and if the *Nippon* resents the notion that its own nationals do not deserve as much consideration as foreigners in such matters, the *Nippon* is not to be blamed. When the first draft of the new Civil Code was submitted to the Diet, one of the most effective objections raised by the Opposition was that the compilation of the Code had been unduly hurried for purposes of Treaty Revision. It was not a valid objection, but it carried great weight. The times have changed since then. There is far less disposition to-day than there was seven years ago to rebel against any concession to foreign requirements. Still the official references so frequently made to Mixed Residence, and the plea that in order to assume jurisdiction over foreigners Japan must rise to a higher plane than the needs of her own people require her to occupy, are not very judicious or tactful.

COMMERCIAL MUSEUM.

Under the able management of Mr. Henry Satoh, not a foreigner, as might be supposed, but a Japanese official—Mr. Satoh, whose personal name "Kenri" reads "Henli" according to Chinese pronunciation—the Imperial Commercial Museum in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has become one of the most attractive and, at the same time, useful places in Tokyo. All the exhibits have been re-arranged in accordance with a well thought out and very intelligent plan, and it is now possible to find, without trouble or delay, samples of what Japan produces in almost every serviceable line. Apprehending, probably, that the Museum is not as widely known as it deserves to be, the Director has now issued a brochure containing details as to the nature of the exhibits and the course to be pursued in seeking space to exhibit. The little volume is clearly printed on good paper, and embellished with pretty collotypes showing exterior and interior views of the Museum and its contents. As to the articles placed on exhibition, they consist of both domestic and foreign products. In the former class there are four subdivisions, namely (1) staple commodities of export; (2) articles capable of future export; (3) articles to compete with imported commodities; and (4) raw materials of industry. Under the heading of foreign products are included, (1) articles serving as models for home manufactures; (2) articles competing with Japanese products in foreign markets; (3) articles which may become competitors hereafter of Japanese exports; (4) articles commanding large sales in foreign markets to which they are imported from countries other than Japan, and capable of being manufactured in Japan; (5) staple commodities of import; (6) articles promising to become imports; and (7) raw materials

of industry. Articles belonging to any of these categories are received, either on loan or as donations, from both Japanese and foreigners, and the form of application to be sent in by applicants for space is given in the brochure. It would seem that samples and models of patents, registered designs, and trade marks are not received by the Museum direct from the patentee, but must be forwarded from the Imperial Patent Office. The Museum is open to the public daily—holidays excepted—free of charge from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and its contents will well repay a visit by any person interested in the present condition of Japanese industry. We should imagine, also, that the place will be found very useful by foreigners desiring to introduce their goods to the Japanese market.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND THE POLICE.

In an address delivered to the Police Inspectors in conclave, the Minister of Justice insisted on the fact that, after the Revised Treaties go into operation, more respect than ever must be paid to the liberty of the subject. Foreigners and Japanese should be treated alike, speaking generally, but note must also be taken of differences of custom and of language, and allowance must be made on these accounts in dealing with prisoners. His Excellency then proceeded to inculcate some very excellent general principles. The police must not abuse their power in effecting arrests, or confuse old-time methods with modern. In former days the idea was to apprehend a man first and seek proofs of his guilt afterwards, but in the present age the rule was that no one should be arrested unless evidence that he had violated the law was already at hand. Further, nothing was to be eschewed more than the uncivilized conception that a man could not be finally pronounced guilty until he had confessed his crime. Independent proof was the first desideratum: confession possessed altogether secondary importance. The Minister also instructed the police to remember that nothing redounded so much to their discredit as to send a man forward for trial on such slender evidence that he had to be acquitted after a public hearing.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.

Some time ago a company was formed for the purpose of laying an electric railway from Kawasaki to the celebrated temple of Daishi, whither so many thousands of pilgrims find their way every year. The company called itself the *Keihin Denki Tetsudo Kaisha*. It was a comparatively small concern, its capital being only 98,000 yen. The projectors have now combined with men of Tokyo and Yokohama; have decided to raise their capital to 850,000 yen, and to extend the line to Tokyo and Yokohama. Permission is said to have been obtained from the Authorities. But we doubt it. The competition thus created would be too great a shock to the *dolce-far-niente* folks who manage the present railway. They might find themselves compelled to raise the speed of the trains to the break-neck pace of 35 miles an hour, and to substitute some improvements for the fine full-flavoured antiquities that are so soothing to conservative instincts under the existing regimen.

FEMALE EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

An interesting newspaper controversy is going on in Tokyo about female education. The *Fiji Shimpō* asserts that the manner of bringing up Japanese girls is very faulty. They are taught the tea ceremonial, the art of flower arrangement, music, dancing, and classical versification. But they learn nothing of housekeeping, nothing of monetary affairs, and nothing of the political and social questions that attract public attention. The result is that they are entirely effaced after they leave the parental roof, and that they possess no influence whatever, but remain always on a much lower plane than men. The *Fiji* would alter their curriculum of studies in the sense of including subjects a knowledge of which would enable women to take their proper place and be competent to look after their own affairs independently. The *Fiji* is also a vehement critic of the celebrated classic, Kayebara's *Onna Daigaku*, which inculcates the self-effacement and subordination of woman. On the other side, the *Fimmin* denies that Japanese women are relegated to such an insignificant position as the *Fiji* indicates. Outwardly they do not seem to possess much power, but behind the scenes they have large influence. In that respect the *Fimmin* finds them just the opposite of foreign women, who receive a great deal of outward homage and seem to hold sway over men, but are of comparatively little account in married life. Still the *Fimmin* admits that the women of Japan are on a decidedly low level, so far as intellectual companionship with men is concerned, but its idea is that an improved system of general education is alone needed. Meanwhile another journal shows its conservatism by means of a cartoon in which the new woman of Japan, the woman whom the *Fiji* would create, is represented as a stalwart, over-dressed frump, with ill-fitting frock, a profusion of ornaments, and a vulgar, self-asserting demeanour; altogether a most displeasing ensemble.

SHARE TAKEN BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS IN FOREIGN TRADE.

For the purpose of comparing the share taken by Japanese merchants in the country's foreign trade with that taken by foreign merchants, the following figures are given by the *Yoroshu Choho* :—

IMPORT TRADE.		
	By Japanese Merchants. Yen.	By Foreign Merchants. Yen.
1888	8,499,788	53,820,246
1889	9,645,761	54,349,247
1890	19,521,764	61,033,109
1891	14,276,380	47,092,803
1892	13,812,662	56,263,748
1893	16,603,902	70,993,193
1894	33,947,596	82,336,454
1895	38,829,338	88,431,595
1896	51,211,825	118,670,799
1897	79,560,939	138,879,684
EXPORT TRADE.		
	By Japanese Merchants. Yen.	By Foreign Merchants. Yen.
1888	7,081,324	56,599,289
1889	6,781,587	61,641,543
1890	6,123,961	48,767,635
1891	8,770,764	69,144,861
1892	11,395,210	77,943,923
1893	13,654,984	74,485,809
1894	20,455,779	90,846,710
1895	26,328,816	107,188,169
1896	29,565,487	85,050,226
1897	44,374,130	115,013,294

LEGION OF HONOUR FOR THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.

It is noted by vernacular newspapers that Spain was the first European Power to offer a decoration—the grand collar of the Golden Fleece—to the Prince Imperial of Japan. Belgium followed suit with the Legion of Leopold, and now comes France with the Legion of Honour. The ceremony of presenting the Grand Imperial Cordon of the Legion of Honour to the Prince Imperial took place in the Shiba Detached Palace on the forenoon of the 3rd instant. His Excellency the French Representative, accompanied by Vicomte de Bondy, and other members of the French Legation Staff, repaired to the Palace at 11 a.m., and the Prince arrived at 11.20. M. Harmand made the presentation, and the Prince expressed his thanks in the French language. Luncheon was served afterwards, and among those present were their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Arisugawa and Prince and Princess Kanin, their Excellencies Baron and Baroness Sannomiya, Madame and Mademoiselle Harmand, the Vicomtesse de Bondy, Viscount Viscountess and Miss Aoki, Marquis and Marchioness Oyama, and Viscount and Viscountess Kagawa.

It is in contemplation, we read in Tokyo papers, to build a new palace for the Prince Imperial. The work is expected to occupy six years, and the estimated cost is 2½ million yen. A style combining the best features of Old Japanese architecture with those of modern Europe is to be adopted. So, at least, it is journalistically asserted, but we presume that what is meant is an edifice with one section in pure Japanese fashion and one in European. That is the most comfortable and also the most convenient kind of residence for this country. All attempts, however, to combine Japanese architecture, which is essentially adapted to ligneous structures, with the solid style of Europe have hitherto proved unsuccessful, and are now condemned by the experts.

A STRANGE STORY.

Nearly all the Tokyo journals give publicity to a rumour, apparently emanating from Shanghai, to the effect that China has approached the Japanese Government with a request for aid to get Germany out of Shantung. The suggestion is that the Peking Authorities have at last been roused to the imminence of the dangers threatening the Chinese empire, and to the certainty of its disruption unless some stop is put to the unscrupulous demands now constantly preferred by Western States. Germany being regarded as the leader in the game of aggression, and Shantung possessing special sanctity in Chinese eyes as the birth-place of Confucius, there is a double reason for the desire to get Germany out of the field. This *canard* seems to have been born of the complete dearth of sensations from which the vernacular press is suffering at present.

DEATH OF REAR-ADMIRAL NOMURA.

We regret to announce the death of Rear-Admiral Nomura Tei, who passed away on Thursday in the Red Cross Society's Hospital.

SPECIAL JAPANESE SETTLEMENTS IN CHINA.

Our readers are aware that negotiations have been going on for some time with reference to allotments of land at Foochow, Amoy, and Newchwang to form special Japanese settlements. Matters were much expedited in the case of Foochow by the Shashi outrage, for among the demands preferred in its sequel Japan was able to press the Foochow claim, and an area of 200,000 *tsudo* (166 acres) on the bank of the River was recently chosen, and mapped out in an agreement which now awaits the approval of the Peking Government. At Amoy, however, all the immediately available space being already devoted to foreign settlements, there is difficulty in finding a suitable area, and as to Newchwang, the negotiations are said to be progressing, but their actual condition is not described. We take these details from the *Chiuo Shimbun*. Special Japanese settlements at Amoy and Newchwang were promised by the Shimonoseki Treaty, ratified just four years ago. Things move very deliberately where China is concerned. But Japan can afford to wait. If she had obtained these settlements a month after the conclusion of the Treaty, they would probably have remained unutilized, like the majority of the other concessions included in that document.

EFFECT OF THE INCREASED POST AND RAILWAY CHARGES.

It is premature, perhaps, to attempt any conclusive estimate of the effect produced by the increased rates of postal and railways charges recently enforced. The *Shogyo Shimpō*, however, has collected official statistics which are suggestive, as far as they go:—

	First five days of April.	First five days of March.	First five days of February.
Mail Matter.			
Letters.....	873,174	1,081,555	1,258,422
Post Cards.....	1,713,809	2,015,082	2,521,005

Totals..... 2,586,983 3,097,237 3,779,427
A very marked diminution is observable in April as compared with February or March. But it is to be noted that the falling off in March as compared with February was greater than the falling off in April as compared with March, and, since the increased rates did not become operative until April 1st, the table can not be regarded as clearly indicating their effect.

As to the State railways, the increased rates went into force from the 16th of March. The *Shogyo Shimpō*, however, takes the returns for the month beginning March 11th and ending April 10th, and shows the following increases (+) or decreases (—) as compared with the corresponding period of 1898:—

Line.	Passengers.	Receipts from	
		Passengers.	Yen.
Tokaido	— 53,515	÷	139,805
Shin-Yetsu (Shimano and Echigo)	+ 8,282	+	328
O-u	— 5,178	+	446
Totals	— 50,411	+	140,599
Line.	Goods.	Receipts from	
		Goods.	Yen.
Tokaido	— 4,824	÷	13,843
Shin-Yetsu (Shimano and Echigo)	+ 3,118	+	7,845
O-u	+ 438	+	1,979
Totals	— 1,268	+	23,667

These figures show that an increase of revenue has been obtained, at the cost of a marked diminution in the number of passengers and in the quantity of goods carried.

LOTTERIES IN YOKOHAMA.

We gather from the writing in Tokyo journals that the enterprise whose legality after July next is said to be under official consideration, is the *pari mutuel*, which takes place twice a year on the Yokohama race-course. According to the *Tokyo Asahi*, different views are entertained about the matter by the Yokohama Local Court and the Tokyo Appeal Court. The former holds that the *pari mutuel* belongs to the category of games of chance, with which the police are not authorized to interfere unless they discover the gamblers in *flagrante crimine*. It would follow, if this view be correct, that since the *pari mutuel* is held within doors, the police would require a warrant if they desired to stop it, just as they would require a warrant in order to raid a club or a private house where they suspected that gambling was going on. The authorities of the Appeal Court, on the contrary, are of the opinion that the *pari mutuel* is essentially a lottery, and, as such, must be interdicted. After describing these views, the *Asahi* pronounces its own verdict, namely, that to discuss the legality of the *pari mutuel* is about as sensible as to argue whether foreigners are entitled to commit burglary or homicide in Japan. There is nothing like being cock-sure, but the *Asahi* would be more convincing if it gave its reasons. Is the *pari mutuel* a game of chance, or are the persons taking part in it an association of gamblers, or is it a lottery? It is not a lottery, so far as we can see, inasmuch as there is no drawing of lots. Each person stakes an equal amount on the horse of his choice, and, if his selection prove correct, he receives the money staked on all the other horses, or shares it equally with any persons who have made the same choice with himself. Roughly speaking, that is the system. It is not a lottery, then. It is simply a device for enabling men to back their judgment without the trouble of seeking individual takers. Is it gambling? Yes, undoubtedly, if to bet is to gamble, for the *pari mutuel*, as its name indicates, is betting and nothing more. But we do not know that betting is classed as gambling in Japan, nor whether the law courts could punish any man for betting. We have never heard of any such occurrence, nor does the Criminal Code contain any provision bearing on it. The Criminal Code vetoes only "games of chance" and "associations of gamblers." It would be difficult we imagine, to demonstrate that backing a horse in a race is taking part in a game of chance. When this question was originally referred to by Tokyo newspapers, we imagined that a lottery, pure and simple, was in question, but since the *pari mutuel* is the topic of discussion, we do not see that a hard-and-fast conclusion can be reached after the manner of the *Tokyo Asahi*. At all events, the fact that an expression of official opinion has been sought by the organizers of the *pari mutuel* evinces the desire that foreigners entertain to conform strictly to the laws of the realm.

AN OFFENCE AGAINST ETHICS.

A very determined campaign has been waged for quite a long time by the *Fiji Shimpō* against the immoral practices that prevail among its nationals. We have alluded to this subject more than once, and have explained that the *Fiji* argument is not directed to radical reform but aims rather at securing greater respect for ethical conventionalities. It does not hope to improve the morals of its nationals forthwith, but simply seeks to mend their methods. "If you have no regard for principles," it says in effect, "pay attention at all events to appearances." Probably the *Fiji* thinks that if the expediency of concealing vice be once recognised, disgrace will gradually attach to being vicious. Very likely the plan is wise, but its opportunism is certainly more apparent than its morality. Meanwhile our contemporary tells a curious story, divested of names and localities. A certain provincial governor, leaving his lawful spouse in Tokyo, took a light-love to the scene of his prefectural duties and introduced her as his wife. The good ladies of the district, suspecting nothing, received the new comer with due *empressement*, and elected her to the presidency of various social and charitable societies over which the chief official dame of the prefecture was wont to preside. By and by they discovered the truth, and now there is a great hubbub, the outraged ladies agitating for the recall of the governor, and the *Fiji Shimpō* endorsing their demand most vehemently, as, in truth, every decent person must.

TEA.

There is much significance in certain figures collected by the *Shogyō Shimpō* to show the comparative progress of the tea industry in India, Ceylon, and Japan:—

Year.	Export of Japanese Tea, Yen.	Export of Indian Tea, Yen.	Export of Ceylon Tea, Yen.
1882 ...	7,029,718	15,894,525	439,767
1887 ...	7,603,341	21,910,246	3,984,309
1892 ...	7,525,315	26,636,085	15,613,025
1895 ...	8,879,241	39,669,100	25,877,528
1897 ...	7,860,460	40,934,507	28,415,569
1898 ...	8,215,665	...	...

Thus, while the export of Japanese tea has increased by only 10 per cent. in 16 years, that of Indian tea has increased by 166 per cent., and that of Ceylon tea by over 636 per cent. The fact is that, whereas Europe and America consume larger and larger quantities of tea every year, Japan's market is not improving. Her leaf, partly owing to faulty methods of manufacture, and chiefly owing to its failure to suit Occidental taste, does not find purchasers abroad. It may be inferred, indeed, from the above figures that the circle of foreign drinkers of Japanese tea is narrowing, for, had it remained in favour in all the families that drank it sixteen years ago, the natural growth of their numbers would have produced a nearly doubled consumption. The question is, were foreign enterprise employed for the purpose of improving Japanese tea culture and manufacture, could the palates of Europe and America be captivated?

Mr. Ueda Seihachiro (37), of Hongō, Tokyo and four accomplices were on Wednesday arrested on a charge of attempting to obtain money belonging to the Formosan Administration Bureau by forging convertible notes of the Bank of Japan to the amount of 30,000 yen.

JAPAN AT THE PARIS INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

It is proposed to build at the French International Exhibition of 1900 a special hall for the Japanese Exhibits, taking the *Kondo* (golden hall) of the temple Koriuji as an architectural model, and to make the internal and external decorations after the style of the *Hikari-do* of Hidehira. The edifice will be left standing permanently, and, with that object in view, fire-proof wood will be used wherever timber is indispensable, but brick and iron will be substituted for wood as far as possible. The pillars are to be about 15 inches in diameter. They will be covered with aventuring lacquer; the walls, inside, will have decorative designs in gold lacquer in relief; in the recessed panels of the ceiling there will be paintings of dragons, phoenixes, and flowers; the tiles will be green; and the pendants (*furin*) at the eaves will contain electric lights. The plan includes a large tea-house at the back of the exhibition hall. This programme does not seem to have yet obtained the endorsement of the Government in Tokyo. It is recommended by Mr. Hayashi, who is in charge of the general business of the Japanese section. He justly says that an ordinary Japanese building among such surroundings as those of the French Exhibition, would look like a mere shed, or a stable.

THE NAGOYA "YORŌ-IN."

"A Home for Destitute Children and Aged People"—that is a name which immediately appeals to the sympathies of the charitable. There are six old folks and twenty boys now in the *Yorō-in* in Nagoya. The *Yorō-in* is one of the results of the great earthquake of 1891. Its original purpose was to provide sustenance for aged people who had lost their means of livelihood owing to the earthquake, but it was subsequently extended in scope so as to include indigent children also. Thus far, boys alone have been taken in. Unfortunately the funds provided by public benevolence do not suffice for extending help to girls, though many of the latter might be saved from being sold into a life of shame were a slight effort made to expand the *Yorō-in's* sphere. The twenty boys now supported by the institution would probably become the hirelings of beggars were not this charitable assistance forthcoming. To be hired out to a beggar means that the child is starved in order that its emaciated appearance may excite pity, and that, when it reaches the age of 12 or 14, it is regularly instructed in the art of thieving. A very small measure of relief will save a boy from such a fate. The 26 inmates of the *Yorō-in* were supported throughout the year 1898 for a total outlay of 896 yen, or a little over 34 yen each on the average. Thirty-four yen is very cheap for such an achievement as the rescue of a boy from a life of misery and crime, and his conversion into an honest bread-winner. Yet it appears that the pittance of ninety pounds sterling required for the maintenance of the institution can not be procured without great difficulty. Last year, the whole of the subscriptions aggregated only 584 yen. Had there not been a balance from the preceding year, it is hard to see what Mr. J. Cooper Robinson,

the Treasurer and Superintendent, could have done. An appeal for aid is made this year, and it well deserves to be successful.

THE EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM.

The clever cartoonist of the *Fiji Shimpō* illustrates the educational problem by means of a closed gate having Count Kabayama's head for gargoyles. Outside the portals stand two strikingly disconsolate figures, one a Japanese promoter of private schools, the other a missionary.

A leading article in the same issue discusses this educational question with all the robust liberality and common sense for which the *Fiji* is remarkable. The arguments, however, present no new feature. One interesting point insisted on by our contemporary is that the organization of the High Council of Education should be radically altered. Out of the 43 members now constituting the Council, 24 are connected, directly or indirectly, with the Imperial University, or with Government schools, and 7 hold official appointments. In short, three-fourths of the Council's personnel are not free to cast an unbiased vote. A complete re-organization is necessary, the *Fiji* thinks, so as to make the Council representative of independent public opinion.

That estimate of the Council's composition is not reassuring, for it suggests that in voting for the extremely illiberal and unwise measures recently submitted to it, the Council—or, at any rate, the majority of the Council—believed that it was acting in accordance with the Government's wishes. We should be sorry to think that the Government entertained such views.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Important changes in the organization of the Foreign Office are predicted by the *Mainichi Shimbun*. They consist chiefly in abolishing some of the present bureaux, and establishing in their place a Bureau of European Affairs, a Bureau of American Affairs, and a Bureau of Asiatic Affairs. It is further said that extensive alterations of personnel will be effected.

Mr. Oyama Tsunasuke, Minister *en disponibilité*, has been gazetted to represent Japan in Rome, and Mr. Makino, now Minister in Italy, is transferred to Vienna, combining the latter post with that of Representative in Switzerland. Mr. Takahira is ordered home, and it is understood that he will be appointed Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs on his arrival in Tokyo.

A SINGULAR COMMUNITY.

A very curious community is that of a village called Kohime-mura, Shiga Prefecture. It contains about 60 houses; agriculture is prosperous, and the people are well-to-do. They never lend even a *sen*, nor will they deposit money in banks. They do not cultivate the acquaintance of other villagers, and, there being no way to spend money, they vie with one another in making their buildings and surroundings as imposing as possible, so as to show their wealth. Perhaps the fact of being so comfortable leads them to a special abhorrence of the idea of death, which they carry to such an extent that they will never use the word.

JAPANESE DOLMENS.

READERS of Japan's ancient history have been taught by modern critics to relegate to the region of fable JIMMU Tenno and his doings, together with the whole tale of his *provenance*, and the narrative of events during the centuries immediately succeeding his era. The outlines of these various incidents are so blurred by clouds of myth and legend that it becomes almost impossible to decipher their true forms, and thus sinologues and sceptics have deemed it wisest to tear the early pages from Japan's so-called "history," and not to consider it seriously until it deals with incidents some thirteen centuries after the days of Jimmu.

A measure of light has been thrown upon this question by Mr. W. GOWLAND'S recent researches in the field of archaeology. The evidence obtained by him from the dolmens and barrows of the early Japanese tends to partly rehabilitate the history which we have hitherto been disposed to discard as fabulous.

What is it that Japanese annals have to tell us about the nation's primæval ancestors? It is a simple story when we separate the kernel of fact from the shell of fancy. A certain race of men, highly civilized in comparison with the general level of their time, discovered the islands of Japan. They came from the south, and, striking the southern part of Kiushiu, landed to find a fair country, covered with luxuriant vegetation, but sparsely populated by semi-savages. These lived like beasts of the field, had no organized form of government, and were incapable of offering serious resistance to the over-sea invaders, who thus established themselves without much difficulty in the island now known as Kiushiu, or the Nine Provinces. But in the main island a footing had already been gained by a race very different from the primæval barbarians whom the invaders of Kiushiu found there. The head quarters of this race were at Izumo, and they claimed to be the rulers of the whole country. It was necessary, therefore, that the immigrants from the south should either subdue or make a pact with the Izumo Court. They attempted to adopt the latter course. Envoys were sent to Izumo. The first of them, bribed by the Izumo folk, made his home in the land he had been sent to reconnoitre. The second forgot his duty in the arms of an Izumo beauty whose hair reached to the ground. The third, faithful to his charge, refused to be tempted by love or guerdon, and was put to death by the Izumo rulers. War ensued. The southern invaders broke the power of the Izumo Court and received its submission. But they did not transfer their own court to the newly conquered district. Ignorant that Izumo was a mere fraction of the main island,

they imagined that no more regions remained to be annexed. By and by, intelligence reached them, by routes about which the annals are virtually silent, that away in the north-east a race of highly civilized men, who had originally come from beyond the sea in ships, were settled, holding undisputed sway. To conquer these colonists another expedition was fitted out in Kiushiu. JIMMU became its leader. His campaign lasted 15 years, and ended, after some fierce fighting, in the submission of the Yamato rulers. They were not altogether shattered. A timely discovery of their consanguinity with the invaders saved them from the worst results of conquest.

Setting aside the semi-savage aborigines whom the southern invaders found in Kiushiu, we trace here the marks of three tides of immigration: one which found its bourn at Izumo on the south-western shore of the main island; one which reached the south-eastern shore at Yamato, and one which surged against the southern island, Kiushiu. It is easy to suppose that the Kiushiu and Yamato colonists both travelled, at different epochs, by an ocean railway which existed then as it does now—the Black Stream (*Kuro-shiwo*). Setting out from the South Pacific, it touches at Kiushiu, and, sweeping thence to the north-east, passes within sight of Yamato before it permanently leaves the main island of Japan. As for the Izumo folk, they doubtless crossed from Korea. Geology and geography are generally referred to by analysts of these events. There is a chain of islets which form a kind of causeway between Japan and Korea. This is pointed to as a probable route for nomads journeying from the latter to the former in remote ages. Again, evidences exist that the Far-Eastern quarter of the globe once passed through a glacial epoch, and it may be assumed that the sea dividing the Japanese islands from the Asiatic continent was then bridged with ice. Thus there is no difficulty in conceiving lines of communication. But in truth the necessity for these hypotheses is not apparent. Japan seems to have been always accessible from Korea, however primitive the means of access. In the very earliest times Koreans crossed to Japan and Japanese to Korea. No testimony furnished from any source suggests a state of affairs so rude that these peoples could not reach each other except by creeping from islet to islet, or by waiting till the ice of a glacial epoch built bridges across the ocean. The foreign policy of Japan, as tradition and history first reveal her to us, consisted in combating attempts made by the Tartars in the north and the Koreans in the south to support the resistance offered by the islands' aboriginal tribes to their Japanese invaders. It is a natural inference that intercourse had continuously existed between these peoples on the East Asiatic

sea-board and the insular tribes they thus assisted. That point, however, does not immediately concern us.

Let us now see what the latest witness, archaeology, has to say, under examination by Mr. GOWLAND.

The ancient Japanese buried their dead first in barrows and afterwards in dolmens. By "ancient Japanese" we do not mean the *Ainu*, or semi-savage tribes whom the Japanese invaders found in the islands. We mean the Japanese invaders themselves. The builders of the barrows were in the bronze age of civilization; the constructors of the dolmens had attained the iron age. The barrows contain weapons and implements of bronze and vessels of hand-made pottery; the dolmens, weapons and implements of iron and vessels of wheel-turned pottery. There is an absolute line of division. No iron weapon or machine-made pottery is found in a barrow; no bronze weapon or hand-made pottery in a dolmen. Hence it seems evident that the evolution of dolmen from barrow did not take place in Japan. The dolmen-builders must have completely emerged from the bronze age and given up the barrow-burial fashion before they reached Japan. Otherwise we should inevitably have some transition form between the barrow and the dolmen, and we should find some iron implements in the barrows and bronze weapons in the dolmens. But it does not appear that the barrow-builders and the dolmen-constructors were two distinct races. Mr. GOWLAND says—and there is every reason to endorse his dictum—that the forms of the metal work and other objects found in the barrows and in the dolmens show such continuity from first to last as to compel the conclusion that barrow-builders and dolmen-constructors belonged to the same race. Thus we come finally to two tides of immigration from the same source, but separated by such an interval of time that the second immigrants brought with them a much higher type of civilization than the first.

That result tallies exactly with the narrative contained in Japanese written annals; the narrative which reveals Jimmu as the leader of the last band of immigrants, represents him as conquering the previous immigrants who had established themselves in Yamato, and tells us that he recognised men of his own race in the settlers whom he conquered.

We shall not here attempt to pursue further the interesting line of speculation suggested by Mr. GOWLAND'S researches, the results of which he has set forth minutely and with scientific insight in the *Journal of the Society of Arts*, and briefly but succinctly in the *Proceedings of the London Asiatic Society*. It might be supposed that the dolmen would possess value as an aid in identifying the Japanese with some people of Continental Asia, for the dolmen of Japan is "a highly specialized form of megalithic

structure," and were it in common use by any two nations, their consanguinity, or, at any rate, their immemorial intercourse, might reasonably be conjectured. But in that respect the dolmen augments our perplexity instead of removing it. For though similar megalithic structures have been traced from the Crimea and Circassia through Central Asia to India, where they are widely distributed, none has yet been found in China, and the Korean type is essentially distinct. How then, did the dolmen-builders reach Japan if their path lay neither through China nor through Korea? Is it conceivable that they came over-sea from India without finding any temporary home along the route? And how singular it is that the distribution of the European dolmens should create cognate bewilderment. For, whereas the dolmen is found all through Western Europe from Scandinavia to Portugal, whence it crosses into Africa, and there occurs frequently in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunis, no dolmens are found in eastern Europe beyond Saxony, nor do they re-appear until we reach the Crimea and Circassia. Ethnologists have never succeeded in suggesting any working theory to account for this strange irregularity of distribution, and the Japanese dolmen accentuates the puzzle. In short, invaluable as are Mr. GOWLAND'S archaeological researches for the sake of the light they throw on the manners and customs of the ancient Japanese, and interesting as is the testimony they bear to the accuracy of Japan's early history, they do not help us much to answer the great questions, whence did the Japanese come originally and who were their ancestors?

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Briefly stated, the following are the conclusions that the Rev. E. Schiller reaches in reference to Japanese Christianity in the last of his series of articles on this subject published in the *Shinri*. Although theoretically the establishment of a special form of Christianity by Japanese Churches would seem to be both possible and natural, in practice it is found that the difficulties in the way are very great. There are two parties which object to the embodiment of the chief elements of the Christian religion in any system designed to become thoroughly national. These may be called the moralists and the extreme rationalists. The moralists, while appreciating the moral excellence of Christianity, see no use in what may be designated its strictly religious elements—its doctrine of sin and revelations about God. If they are told that the ethical part of Christianity cannot be used with effect when separated from the religious part, they reply that in that case they must rely on Confucian and Buddhist ethical teaching and let Christianity alone. The extreme rationalists argue away all the distinctive elements of the Christian creed and render it quite useless as an instrument for

reform and a guide in life. I am not in favour of trying to establish an irrational form of Christianity, says Mr. Schiller, but at the same time I am opposed to a form of Christianity in which reason banishes faith, which is all head and no heart. In the Japanese Christianity which I desire to see established faith and reason must have equal power; the intellect and the emotions must be alike satisfied. It seems to me that there are sufficient grounds for the Japanese seeking to establish their own special form of Christianity. As a nation the Japanese are distinct, and the colour and tone of their thoughts cannot but give a special tinge to the creed which has been brought to them from the west. For the thorough nationalisation of Christianity, however, it is necessary that Christian Japanese poets should blend Japanese sentiment and Christian teaching in their verses; that artists of skill should portray scenes connected with Christian life as lived now or in ancient times; that architects should design churches whose appearance would suit native taste, and that musicians should train the native ear so as to enable it to appreciate divine melodies. But these things cannot be forced. They must grow naturally, that is, be produced by the spirit of the times. In addition to this, for the nationalisation of Christianity in Japan, it is essential that Christian schools should be established that are not mission schools. Care should be taken to christianise, as it were, all important national festival days, such as the Tenchō-setsu, the Kigen-setsu, and the Shōkōnsai. Such occasions should be utilised for holding meetings of Christians, and special allusions should be made to the historical event celebrated. All long-established and honoured customs should as far as possible be perpetuated in some form or other in the National Christian creed. But care will have to be taken that Christians do not go too far. In paying respect to the dead, for instance, there should be no burning of incense, as this is invariably associated with worship.

Pessimism and eloquence often go together in Japan as elsewhere, the reason being, no doubt, that pessimistic writers are in earnest; and in the case of practised writers earnestness is wont to become the artificer of powerful language. We have an illustration of this in the pages of No. 147 of the *Bukkyō*, where the essayist, who is evidently a devout Buddhist, pours forth pages of lamentation over the decay of faith among his fellow-religionists. The language is unusually taking and has the effect of producing deep sadness on the mind of the sympathetic reader. The complaint that the *Bukkyō* has to make against all Buddhist sects alike may be told in a few sentences. Everywhere there is pretence and show, ceremony and high-sounding words, but no real faith or earnestness. The priests are like whitened sepulchres that within are full of uncleanness. Neither in the old Buddhism nor in the new is there anything hopeful. The young priests who have gone out into the world are far more interested in the money-making schemes which they carry on in secret than in the instruction of the people who attend their preaching. There is much more in the same strain.

The *Bukkyō* quotes a very sensible

article from a newspaper called the *Kyōto*, which discusses the wholesale and irrational manner in which everything Christian is condemned by certain leaders of Buddhist opinion. The *Kyōto* says that the proverb, "when a priest is hateful he is hateful even to the garment that he wears," may be applied to the manner in which Christianity is treated by some Buddhist zealots. It is not only the Christian creed that is hated, but the foreigners who profess it, and this fact may, if not guarded against, lead to some very undesirable consequences in the near future. A large amount of anti-foreign feeling is caused by the stupid notion that it is the duty of loyal Buddhists to speak evil of Christianity and its professors. Educated Buddhists should place the real situation before the ignorant masses and explain to them that it will be impossible for mixed residence to prove a success if the religion of foreigners is spoken of in an insulting manner. The majority of priests, says the *Kyōto*, are quite unconscious of any responsibility that attaches to them in this matter, and hence steps should be taken by the authorities to instruct them as to their duties. This is a State affair, as it may result in undesirable complications.

* * *

It is said that what is known in Japan as *shinjū* or *jōshi* (情死), the simultaneous suicide of two lovers, is on the increase, and that Buddhist teaching is responsible for the state of mind which makes such a tragical ending to the lives of young people possible. The *Taiyō*, in No. 6, discusses this question in the following terms: The idea which these desperate lovers have is that the union which is denied them here will be consummated in paradise, as is expressed in two well-known proverbs: 一蓮花生 *ichiren tanshō*, "Both dwell together in one lotus-flower,"—(that is, in paradise),—and *Oya-ko wa isse; fūfu wa ni se*. "The relationship of parent and child extends over one life but that of husband and wife over two lives" (this life and the next). That Buddhist teaching is pessimistic there can be no manner of doubt, says the *Taiyō*, but to say that this teaching accounts altogether for the existence of lovers' suicide is going too far. Gloomy views of the affairs of this world, arising as they do from the feeling that nothing is as good as it might be, imply that the persons who hold such views have an ideal, and this of itself is to be regarded as preferable to satisfaction with imperfect attainments. Ordinary pessimism would not of itself lead to suicide. It is plain that there is something peculiar in the mental condition of the young people who perpetrate *jōshi*. The spirit which conduces to suicide is older than Buddhism, and is deep-seated in the national character. Undoubtedly belief in the transmigration of souls helps persons whose love affairs have reached a point where death seems the only happy exit from an unbearable situation to summon courage for the last dire act, but the tendency to lapse into despondency and to resort to desperate measures rather than bear prolonged anguish is one of our national characteristics. It can hardly be said that Buddhism has sufficient influence at the present day to cause any such phenomenon as the one under discussion. If the practice is actually on the increase, it seems more natural to attribute it to the general unrest of the age, to the lack of

any true conception of the good uses to which this life of ours may be put, to the tendency to resent any kind of curb on the desires, rather than to the direct influence of Buddhist teaching.

The Shintō organ, the *Kyōrin*, expresses great anxiety as to the fate of the memorial which was presented to the Diet and accepted by it during the last session. It will be remembered that this memorial petitioned the Government to give to Shintō shrines a rank above all other places of worship and to create a special bureau to take charge of the Imperial mausolea and other sacred places. The *Kyōrin* fears that the present Government is not likely to regard with favour any such scheme as that embodied in the memorial, and appeals to the general public to bring what pressure is possible to bear on the question.

The *Kyōiku Jiron* is astounded to find that the Education Department is still uncertain as to the policy to be pursued in reference to allowing religion to be taught in schools. The course advocated by this organ is the banishment of religion from all elementary schools of every kind, and the granting of permission to teach religion in private middle schools. Seeing that in most European countries care is taken to keep religion out of elementary schools, says the *Kyōiku Jiron*, there is no reason why Japan should depart from her traditional practice, at the instigation of a few narrow-minded agitators.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* is to be commended for its diligence in collecting and publishing the opinions of foreign residents and visitors on things Japanese. We have already several times given epitomes of its articles entitled "Japan as seen by Foreign Eyes." But we have by no means exhausted the list. In articles Nos. 41, 42, and 43 of the series, we find Professor von Koeber's opinions given. Professor von Koeber evidently holds decided views on that much-disputed question: Is there any religious sentiment with the normal Japanese? This question Professor von Koeber answers in the negative, as so many observant students of Japanese thought and life have already done. The Professor's observations on this subject as quoted in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, may be summarised as follows:—The Japanese have no religion. Buddhism is a religion in India, but in Japan it has lost its religious character. I have inquired of a number of scholars as to the leading features of Japanese Buddhism, and find no agreement between the different answers given. A religion that, when adopted in another country, is so changed as to be almost unrecognisable by those who are acquainted with its original form suffers a loss of identity. Even among the priests of Japan there are very few that know anything about the real teaching of the Buddhist scriptures, and hence it goes without saying that the laity as a whole know next to nothing of Buddhist doctrine. There being no religion in the Japanese mind, the teaching of morality is found to be a very difficult undertaking. The students of the Imperial University are a fair specimen of the state of mind of the whole nation. They have no religious be-

lief of any kind.* When I have occasion to speak to them on the subject of religion, they evince great interest, but at the same time show how crude are their ideas by talking about founding a religion for themselves. Such remarks are not only a proof that the normal Japanese has no religion, but show that he has no conception of what real religion is. The comparatively small influence of Buddhist teaching on the lives of the Japanese is a proof of the uncongeniality of the soil in which Buddhist seed has been sown. One of the professed objects of Buddhism is to teach men how to overcome their desires and lusts. This it certainly has not done in Japan. . . . Since Japan has not adopted Christianity, it may be said to be without a religion. . . . In my opinion Christianity is the only religion in the world (*ware wa Kirisuto-kyō no hoka ni sekai ni shūkyō wa nai to omou*).† Buddhism is a philosophy with a religious basis, but is not a religion. Christianity, whether as regards its philosophy or its ethics, excels all else in the world. All philosophy since the days of the Greeks that has kept free from error has had the existence of God as its basis. Philosophy in Europe may be said to be the gate by which men approach Christianity. . . . Having adopted our civilisation, Japan must adopt our religion, or she cannot grow into a great nation. . . . Japan has Confucianism. But Confucianism grew out of, and has ever been associated with, a different type of civilisation from that which Japan has adopted. Japan needs a religion one of whose leading characteristics is individuality. . . . Japanese society has elected not to receive Christianity, but individuals receive it, and in my opinion will continue to do so. . . . It is quite impossible for Oriental civilisation to overcome Occidental civilisation. What is the principle that gives to our Occidental civilisation its pre-eminence? It is individuality—the importance attached to each member of the community. Japanese family life is anti-progressive, and implies the existence of feelings and practices that must be regarded as drawbacks. The desire to preserve the family line leads to the use of concubines—an evil with far-reaching consequences. Moreover, the Japanese family system is responsible for a large amount of servility. The system teaches the subjection of relations to each other to an extent that crushes all the independence out of the minds of a large section of the nation. The Japanese will find that our western civilisation is not complete without Christianity and the principles to which it has given birth.

Under the title of "Government and Religion," Mr. Shimada, the editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, has, in a series of articles, been discussing the policy which ought to be pursued by the Government in the matter of religion. As there seems to be no small amount of uncertainty both in official and non-official circles as to the measures which it is desirable the Go-

vernment should adopt for meeting the altered situation which the operation of the new treaties is bound to create, and as Mr. Shimada is one of the leading advocates of the adoption of a liberal policy, his observations are worth transcribing in an abbreviated form. Mr. Shimada expresses surprise at the action of the Diet during its Thirteenth Session in reference to the Sugamo prison episode and at the constant anti-Christian, pro-Buddhist, or pro-Shintō agitations that have been made during the past 12 months. These things show, says Mr. Shimada, that the party which is in favour of shutting the country against foreigners is by no means extinct. The Occidental civilisation which we have adopted is evidently a very fragile thing, and may be compared to the blossom of the juniper tree which the slightest change of temperature causes to wither. Unless we can devise some means of giving greater stability to what we have taken the pains to introduce into this country, our reputation as a nation entitled to rank high in the world will never be established. The advocates of Government interference with religion in any shape or form fail to read the spirit of the times in the West and fail to comprehend the meaning of our Constitution. Such books as that of Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō's "The Conflict between Education and Religion" are on the wrong track, and display a fundamental misconception of the leading principles of enlightened Constitutional Government. . . . Whatever allusions of a mere formal kind to God and to religion Western Constitutions may contain, and whatever indications of a certain amount of still existing connection between Church and State there may be in these documents, our Constitution is most pronounced in the opposite direction. It is specially worthy of notice that the Emperor in promulgating the Constitution made no attempt whatever to connect the government of the country with religion by any allusion to a religious basis for the authority which His Majesty wields. The introductory words of the Constitution are significant. "Whereas, We make it the joy and glory of Our heart to behold the prosperity of Our country, and the welfare of Our Subjects, We do hereby, in virtue of the supreme power We inherit from Our Imperial Ancestors, promulgate the present immutable fundamental law, for the sake of Our present subjects and their descendants." . . . "The rights of sovereignty of the State, We have inherited from Our Ancestors, and We shall bequeath them to Our descendants, neither We nor they shall in future fail to wield them in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution hereby granted." Article 28 provides that "Japanese subjects shall, within limits not prejudicial to peace and order, and not antagonistic to their duties as subjects, enjoy freedom of religious belief." What room is there for controversy on this subject? And what call is there for all the fuss that is being made about according to religions the title of *Kōnin-kyō* (Publicly-acknowledged Religions). All religions that are professed in this country are evidently acknowledged by the law of the land. Freedom of religious belief means surely freedom to adopt any religion one pleases. The clamour for Government interference is dictated by a consciousness of weakness on the part of Buddhists and Shintoists, who fear the consequences of further competition

* Professor von Koeber is speaking of the students as a whole. He is doubtless aware of the fact that there are a few professing Christians among the students.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

† This seems to be a very singular statement for Professor von Koeber to make. It is possible that he has been misunderstood. We can hardly conceive that any educated man would venture to espouse such a bigoted theory at the close of the Nineteenth Century.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.)

with Christianity. Whatever government patronage these religions have obtained in the past has invariably ended in corrupting them. They do not prosper among us because they are out of harmony with our innermost feelings and aspirations as a nation. . . . But I do not advocate any crusade against either Confucianism, Buddhism, or Shintō. It is better to allow them to die a natural death. I am in favour of no efforts being made to push this religious doctrine or that, but of allowing men to make their own selection in a quiet and unconstrained manner. . . . As for the class of writers who argue in favour of a narrow national, anti-foreign policy, who do nothing but express regret that we have borrowed anything from the West, it is impossible to exaggerate the harm they are doing. They are dwarfing the life of the nation, poisoning the minds of those who pay attention to them, recommending a return to barbarism. In the modern literary world there are no greater transgressors than these writers.*

Dr. Morita Kumato, a well-known Professor of the Dōshisha, died on February 22nd last after a short illness. The following is a record of his life. He entered Captain James' Kumamoto school in 1871, and graduated there in 1875, after having confessed the Christian faith. He then entered the Dōshisha and was further instructed in Christian doctrine by Messrs. Nijima, Learned, and Davis. He graduated at the Dōshisha in 1879 and was employed there as a teacher till 1889, when he went to America and studied philosophy at the Yale University under Professor Ladd. He subsequently (in 1892) received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from that University for an original essay on Oriental Philosophy. He returned to the Dōshisha as a teacher in the Divinity College, but later severed his connection with that college, and devoted himself to teaching literature and philosophy and laboured to establish a special Literary and Philosophical Department connected with the Institution to which he had given all his best days. He was engaged in making arrangements for the carrying out of this scheme when he was overtaken by the illness which carried him off at the early age of 42.

The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* publishes some observations of the late Count Katsu on moral feeling and attainments which are of considerable interest because quite unconventional. We give a few extracts, as far as possible in the Count's own words:—At the beginning of the Meiji era there was nobody that approved of the course I took, not even my own wife and children, but this did not concern me one whit. I had made up my mind that there is a clear path of duty for every man and that path I determined to follow. I did not trouble myself even with the question, who is going to complete my work after I am gone? It is not for a man to concern himself about such problems. I felt that as long as I was not directly instrumental in causing my own death nothing mattered. I could work as hard as I liked. . . . I have come to the conclusion that there is nothing in the

world to be compared to mental energy. Without this other mental qualities accomplish little.* It is amusing nowadays to hear people talking about the power of a meat diet or some other kind of nourishing food. But the men who go in for this kind of living are mostly lacking in mental energy, and hence accomplish little. Then there are some who are everlastingly preaching the necessity of doing everything according to rule—so many hours for sleep, so many for work, and so many for exercise. All things great and small are prescribed by people of this kind, and they think that by all their minute calculation and their distribution of time they are going to work miracles, ignorant of the fact that it is man's mental energy that is the prime motor of all effective action, and that no tinkering with subsidiary forces or organs will make up for spiritlessness. . . . When I was about 20 years of age I commenced to study the Zen doctrines at the Kōtokuji, in Ushijima. While in company with a number of priests I sat in religious meditation, the head-priest would come along with a big stick in his hand, and after casting his eyes around would suddenly strike one of us a heavy blow on the side, which rolled the victim over on the floor. The meaning of this was plain to us all. Under pretence of being absorbed in religious meditation, we had allowed our thoughts to wander off to money, to feasting, to women. This blow dealt to one of our fellows served to remind us of our own delinquencies and we instantly turned our thoughts into the right channels again. But the effects of even this severe method of awakening wore off, and after a few years I failed to take any notice of the occurrence. For four years I practised severe religious austerities, learnt how to concentrate my thoughts on one subject and how to deny myself those things that men call pleasures, and was all the better for the discipline. After having undergone privations of no ordinary kind, the inconveniences and trials of everyday life seemed trivial to me. It is comparison that makes things appear light or heavy. Thanks to the indifference to earthly things which I learnt during those four years, I was able to meet all the great crises of my life with an unperturbed mind. Though often threatened with the assassin's dagger, I did not swerve from my course one inch on that account. I only concerned myself with my duty. Whether I succeeded or failed was not my affair. As long as I followed my ideal, success and failure were alike indifferent to me. I emptied my heart of all special desires, and just went on acting in the way that seemed to me right, and as a result of all this I have lived to see the nation survive the struggles of her new birth and to see her grow with all the vigour of healthy youth. I have come to the conclusion that no great thing can be accomplished by persons whose minds are worried by small affairs. Hence the

* There is a remarkable similarity between what Count Katsu says here and that oft-quoted observation of Sir Thomas Powell Buxton. "The longer I live the more I am certain that the great difference between men, between the feeble and the powerful, the great and the insignificant, is energy—invincible determination—a purpose once fixed and then death or victory! That quality will do anything that can be done in this world, and no talents, no circumstances, no opportunities, will make a two-legged creature a man without it."—[WRITER OF SUMMARY.]

cultivation of perfect mental composure under the most trying ordeals should be the object of all who are desirous of carrying out any great purpose. This perfect calmness in the midst of the most exciting events has always characterised the best generals.* . . . It is utter forgetfulness of self, and utter indifference to what fate may be in store for one—it is thorough absorption in the cause to the promotion of which one's whole life and energy are devoted that produces the calm equanimity of which I have spoken above. . . . The end of all knowledge and all attainment is to know how to get rid of self and become lost in the contemplation of greater subjects. (*Mattaku satori no kyokudo wa muga* [無我] *gori hoha nashi*. "The actual *ne plus ultra* of knowledge is no other than thorough disinterestedness.") Men may speak of principles or of moral systems, but a final analysis resolves them all into perfect unselfishness. . . . There are many different opinions on religious and moral subjects. I am not for setting one against the other. As regards myself I listen to all others have to say without opposition, and after careful thought adopt what I think worthy of adoption. . . . A man who fears death is not worthy of being called a man. But on the other hand to be in a hurry to die is a great mistake. Japanese are very sensitive, and hence often wish to escape from their troubles by means of death. On the other hand when there is nothing to vex them they fear death. Neither state of mind is to be commended.

The Kumiai Churches have been celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the sect. *Apropos* of this, No. 815 of the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* gives a history of the remarkable progress made by the sect during a quarter of a century. Some fifteen or sixteen years ago, says the organ we are quoting, the most advanced of Japanese Protestant sects as regards the number of converts was the Ichi Kyōkai (United Presbyterian Church). At that time their adherents more than doubled those of the Congregationalists, as well as those of the Episcopalians and Methodists. During the following seven or eight years the progress made by all the sects was extraordinary, but that of the Kumiai Churches was specially so. They far out-ran the Episcopalians and Methodists, and came up to the level of the Presbyterians. The chief causes that contributed to this may be set down as follows:—(1) *The presence in our midst of men like Mr. Nijima.* (2) *The impetus given to religion by the graduates of Capt. James' Kumamoto School*, many of whom entered the Dōshisha and gave a new tone to that institution. (3) *The establishment and work of the Dōshisha*, which may be regarded as the 本山 *honsan*, or headquarters of our sect. (4) *The adoption of nationalistic principles by the sect.* In this we were one with the Nihon Kirisutokyō Churches, which from very early days preached unsectarianism and freedom from foreign control. The other churches aimed at perpetuating Occidental forms and ceremonies, and, notwithstanding that some members

* The allusion here is evidently to Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō and other learned promoters of the Nippon Shugi movement, and accounts for the extreme aversion with which Mr. Shimada is regarded by this school of writers.—[WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.]

* In confirmation of this remark it is said that Wellington was never calmer than when to others the difficulties of his situation seemed insurmountable, and that throughout his long career he never once displayed the faintest sign of flurry.—[WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.]

of these churches desired to sever their connection with the foreign Mission Boards, they were unable to effect their purpose to their heart's content, though in some cases they reduced the closeness of the relationship considerably. As out-and-out advocates of the entire independence of native churches of any and every kind of foreign interference the Kumiai Kyōkai stands alone. Their adoption of nationalism as a guiding principle has undoubtedly had much to do with their success. But the Kumiai churches have suffered from the weaknesses incident to their virtues. Champions of freedom of thought and inquiry, the Christians belonging to this sect have lived to discover that in no body have there been more frequent changes of belief on the part of individuals. (*Shinkō no ugoki wa, shinkō jiyu no huikei mottomo hiroku katsu Nihon teki naru ga yue, Nihon no chikagoro no fūchō ni kansuru tokoro mottomo ōki ga yue to sesarubekaranu*). The unsettled state of belief which is manifest everywhere is the unavoidable result of the extent of the liberty allowed. Considered in this connection the failure of the Dōshisha is by no means difficult to explain. The history of our sect during the past 25 years is full of lessons which call for earnest attention on this festive occasion.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

There is evidently a great deal of hesitation on the part of Japanese business-men about taking up the concession for the Sōul-Fusan railway. The line ought to pay. After the Sōul-Chemulpo road, it must be considered to have the best prospects of any railway in the Peninsula, for it traverses populous districts, and should command a large amount of goods and passenger traffic. But the Japanese look askance at it. Journalists advocate its construction and go so far as to assert—as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* does in a recent issue—that the State should step in and furnish the necessary assistance; but, judging from present appearances, there is very little chance of any practical step being taken. The fact is there is no money in Japan for such enterprizes; nor is it easy to see when there will be any money. Seven per cent. can be obtained at home on unimpeachable security, and there is no occasion to go abroad for a doubtful six. Tokyo journals talk of public spirit, and suggest that a political obligation devolves upon the people not to be altogether left out of the railway race in which the countries of the West engage so eagerly. Political obligations of that nature have never been recognised by private capitalists in the history of the world. Japan lacks financial strength to equip herself with railways, and it seems extravagant that she should think of undertaking to equip other States. Want of money is crippling her in all directions. It is very well for her to aim at being the England of the Far East, but—as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* shrewdly remarked in a recent issue—she differs from England in one essential respect, namely, that, whereas the British Government is fully occupied trying to keep up with the enterprise of its own people in Asia and Africa, and in fact, all parts of the world, the Japanese do nothing abroad without governmental assistance, govern-

mental initiative, or governmental inspiration. If we dig deep enough into the strata of human achievements we invariably come to the bed-rock of gold. Money is indispensable in everything. If Japan were richer, she would be playing a very different part just now. It is a great pity for her sake that the cutting up of her big neighbour can not be deferred until she is ready to pay for a place at the dissecting table.

The discussion about the opening of Pyōng-yang is still in progress. Sōk-ho-chōng, which the Korean Government desires to substitute, is a comparatively insignificant place, some 12 or 14 miles distant. It has no commercial recommendation. The Japanese Government is said to have originally asked that not only should Pyōng-yang be thrown open, but also that mixed residence should be allowed everywhere within the limits of the town. The latter proposal was modified, however, in deference to objections advanced by Korea, and it was considered sufficient, for temporary purposes at all events, that the quarter adjacent to the Ta-dong river should be assigned for foreign residential purposes. But the newly adopted attitude of the Korean Government threatens to upset all these arrangements. As to the probable cause of Korea's objections, the only theory advanced is that Russia opposed the opening of Talien to foreign trade, since such a step would have interfered with her designs upon Liaotung, so she now wants to prevent the growth of large foreign interests at Pyōng-yang. That is a Japanese journalistic theory. We do not pretend to pronounce any opinion on its correctness.

The Korean Government has shown a disposition to retract its promise about the opening of Pyōng-yang to foreign trade. It proposes to substitute Sōk-ho-chōng. There is a great difference between the two places. Sōk-ho-chōng is an insignificant and squalid town, with no redeeming feature except its water facilities. Pyōng-yang is an important commercial mart, and there are already over a hundred Japanese merchants settled there, and they, as well as others, have made various preparations in confident expectation of the opening of the port. The Tokyo Government is consequently unwilling to permit the proposed substitution, and Korea will doubtless be held to her original engagement.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Among the various matters which find a place in the China Blue Book recently issued by the British Government is a note taken regarding the "excellent state of order and cleanliness" in which the Japanese left their quarters at Wei-hai-wei, and Admiral Seymour adds that "a large quantity of furniture was also left behind for the use of our officers and men, which has much contributed to their comfort on taking up their new duties." For this courtesy and consideration Sir E. Satow, our Minister to Japan, formally thanked the Japanese Foreign Minister.

Sir Claude Macdonald, the British Minister to China, is suffering from heart disease. The story of his being affected with varnish-poisoning is denied.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* says that the four-cent letter rate—ocean penny postages—was forced on Hongkong by Downing

Street, and declares that Hongkong rate-payers have to contribute to the cost of the ammunition granted annually to the Shanghai Volunteers, while Shanghai does not pay anything for the Inspecting Officer who goes up every year.

Mr. George Jameson, C.M.G., lately British Consul General at Shanghai, has joined the board of the Peking Syndicate.

According to the native correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* at Peking, China is now ruled by two Manchus—namely, the Grand Secretary Jung Lu and the Assistant Grand Secretary Kan Yi. The Empress Dowager defers implicitly to the advice of these two men, who are clever enough to give the credit and responsibility of all their decisions to the Empress Dowager. The great ambition of Jung Lu is to be proclaimed Grand Generalissimo of the forces of the whole Empire, and he has been working his best to bring the 70,000 or 80,000 men under his special command in Chihli province up to the best state possible, as far as within him lies, in regard to modern equipments and discipline. Hence he does not often interfere in purely civil departmental matters, these being generally left to Kang Yi, who has the reputation of being a bigot and the bitterest enemy of the Reform Party. Jung Lu, who is more of a soldier, being the nearest living relation of the Empress Dowager, has naturally the most influence over her. He is much less of a bigot, and has hitherto always counselled moderation and effectually prevented the sword and fire policy of Kang Yi against the Reform Party—and against all foreigners, for that matter. Jung Lu, therefore, possesses more popularity amongst the masses than any half-a-dozen mandarins put together in Peking.

Another European has died at Shanghai from hydrophobia. Police Constable Ellefsen, on the 22nd of March, was bitten by an undoubtedly rabid dog in the compound at the Hongkew Station. Every precaution possible was taken, and he was never told that it had been proved that the dog was suffering from rabies. Mr. Ellefsen was a native of Germany, had only been some twelve months in the Municipal service, and was greatly respected by all who knew him.

A Shanghai contemporary mentions that an Edict of the 23rd April with reference to the projected conservation of the Yellow River, approves of the recommendation of the Board of Revenue to move the inhabitants living in the vicinity of the proposed works to some higher ground, some distance away, in order to leave the reclamation districts clear, and that the sum of Tls. 400,000 be transmitted before the middle of May next to the Governor of Shantung, for the purpose of purchasing sites for building houses as well as arable land for the people transported in this connection. Further, that another sum of Tls. 600,000 be paid to the said Governor before the middle of July next to be used in the purchase of materials for the proposed works. These two sums, which will aggregate one million two, are to be drawn without delay and transmitted at the appointed dates to their destination by the various Viceroys of provinces from their respective reserve funds by law established. Any delay in sending said amounts will be punished with a double penalty, as this is a matter which concerns the safety of the lives of millions of the inhabitants of the province of Shantung. Similar punishments will also be given to such officials as are entrusted with the purchase of land for the transported inhabitants and for materials, who shall be found to have been guilty of dishonesty. As soon as the above-noted purchases have been made the Board of Revenue undertakes to have ready the balance of two million taels required for the preliminary conservation works as reported upon by Li Hung-chang and his colleagues.

The following extract from the China Blue Book is very interesting, being a striking example of the way in which the Taungli Yamen delighs to work. It is contained in a despatch

from Sir Claude Macdonald to Lord Salisbury dated October 17:—"I ascertained on very good authority that one of the Ministers who came with Prince Ching to see me on the 5th Oct. had stated that it was entirely due to my initiative and advice that Legation guards had been sent for. He also told my informant that M. Pavloff, Russian *Chargé d'Affaires*, had stated at a meeting which he had with the Tsung-li Yamén on the 4th inst. that he personally was averse to the bringing up of these guards, and thought it a great mistake, but that he was obliged to order them up as I had ordered up mine. This being so diametrically opposed to what M. Pavloff had said at the meeting of the foreign Representatives, I called upon him and informed him of what I had heard. He denied altogether having used such language, and said that at his meeting on the 4th the Yamén had told him that I on the previous day had made use of similar language, but he had informed them that this could not be, as all the foreign Representatives in this matter were unanimous. I am convinced that M. Pavloff did not make use of the language stated, and that this was only one more attempt of the Tsung-li Yamén to play off one Legation against another."

Mr. B. C. George Scott, H.M.'s Consul at Tientsin, goes in Canton as Consul-General, and is succeeded at Tientsin by Mr. W. R. Carlen.

A fatal fire occurred at Shanghai on April 5th. It broke out in a wine shop, No. 54, Rue du Consulate, and was caused presumably by carelessness in leaving hot ashes. When the alarm was given it was found that the inmates had their retreat cut off from below, and four men jumped from a window. Two sustained a fracture of the hip, one was severely bruised, but the other was unhurt. Five houses were destroyed, and among the ruins the charred remains of a native lad were discovered. Only one of the houses was insured, the amount being Tls. 6,000.

The Ichon-fu correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*, writing under date of April 10th, gives some interesting details of recent German movements in Shanghai. He says:—

As indicated in my last letter, and confirmed by my telegram of the 3rd instant, the anti-foreign disturbances at this place have at length roused the German Government to action with startling effect. On the 30th of March a cruiser landed a number of troops, variously stated at from eighty to one hundred and forty, at a point near Jihchao city. They marched to the city only to find the gates closed. According to all classical precedents as found in the *Three Kingdoms* and other standard works, they should then have sat down, after soundly cursing the city and its officials, and entered into prolonged negotiation. What did these unconventional Barbarians do, however, but promptly insert a "long thin thing" through the crack in the gate and saw the bar of the gate in two, after which they rudely shoved the gate wide open and marched into the *hsien yamen*, where they proceeded to make themselves very much at home, and at latest accounts seem to be in no particular hurry to leave.

SWIFT RETRIBUTION.

At the same time they landed a force of fifty or sixty men about one hundred and fifty li further south and thirty li north of Ch'ing'ho. These proceeded at once to the village of Hanchiat'sun, one hundred and fifty li from the coast and seventy li south-east of this city. This was the place where the three Germans were attacked, as related in my last letter. They notified the people that they intended to burn the village, which they proceeded to do as soon as the inhabitants had fled. It seems that they burned about half of the place, which is a large and rather wealthy village. Next day they went back to the coast. They sent on to this city two proclamations in Chinese, one of which announced that they proposed to occupy Jihchao until the pending cases are settled, and the other stated their purpose to burn Hanchiat'sun in retaliation for the attack upon the Germans.

THE OFFICIALS

here were very much frightened, and, as is usual under such circumstances, came to the foreigner for advice. We urged them to settle the pending cases at once, as the only possible means of securing the return of the Germans to

Tsintao. The officer in command of the few troops which were here is strongly anti-foreign. He proposed to go out and meet the enemy. He thought that a few words from him would turn them back, but if they would not listen to reason then he would be compelled to use force! When the people heard that the Germans had gone back to the coast they at once concluded that they were afraid to face the redoubtable Major who made the above striking proposition.

Yesterday and to-day troops have been coming in from T'engchow and Chelon. There are now about two thousand soldiers in the city.

RUMOURS

of all kinds are flying about, and the feeling on the street is not as friendly as we would like to see it. In spite of the fright and profuse promises of the officials, we do not seem to be any nearer to getting our various cases settled than we were a month ago. The fatuous blindness of these men is almost past belief. Verily, whom the gods would destroy they first make mad, or, to answer the purpose even better, hopelessly conceited.

The *Universal Gazette* has received advice stating that recently a number of foreign troops, (probably Russians) rather more than 1,000, marched into the city of Shengk'ing, the capital of Moukden. The local officials being neither aware of their nationality nor their object in entering the city offered no resistance, but reported the matter to the acting Military Governor.

Sir Nicholas Hannen has confirmed the report of the Registrar as to the damage inflicted by the *Cowrie* on the Indo-China Company's steamers *Esang* and *Sunwo*, when the latter were recently at anchor in the Shanghai River. The Registrar (Mr. E. H. Burrows), sitting with Mr. C. Murray Adamson, of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co., as Assessor, fixed the damages payable by the *Cowrie* at Tls. 29,098³¹/₁₀₀ with costs.

The latest news to hand concerning the rebellion which once more threatens to break out in the old quarter, Kansuh, among the Mahomedans of that district, confirms the impression we have always entertained that these periodical outbreaks form part of Russia's frontier programme. Nothing so simplifies matters for the Muscovite policy as insurrections along any border on which its attention is concentrated, and it has long been an unwritten article of faith that without Russian assistance, supplies or instigation, these outbreaks which have cost China so much trouble might never take place. Russian emissaries have now been discovered in the act of supplying the Mahomedans with arms, and it is reported that near at hand is a large Russian force. The Governor of Kashgaria has appealed for help to the Viceroy at Lanchow, and begged him to send troops to his assistance. A much larger force of Russians is in the neighbourhood of Kashgaria than is generally supposed, but of course it must not be pictured that they are well disciplined troops. They are just the raw material which Russia uses under the stirring influence of the thong when occasion serves.—*P. & T. Times*.

Our senior Shanghai contemporary, in the course of a recent leading article on the growth of a war-party in Peking, says:—"Whatever they may ultimately do, the Pekingese are at present only discussing the expediency of offering more than passive resistance and protest, if the Kiaochow gambit be tried again: there is still time for counsel to be heard. We know that foreign advice in China, even when sound and disinterested, often rubs the sore where it should bring the plaster. In our matter-of-fact English way of looking at things instead of theories we ignore that most precious of all Chinese possessions—Face. Of two policies a Chinese will deliberately choose the worse if it but saves "face" with his contemporaries; what posterity may deem of his wisdom, his honour, or his patriotism, is a secondary consideration. This is the stumbling-block of every Chinese statesman and, therefore, of Chinese policy; they see the better but follow

the worse. Practically the way to secure the adoption of anything in this crumbling old Empire is, firstly, to persuade the officials that their "Face" is assured and, secondly, that their interests are safe.

BICYCLE ROAD RACE.

A road race in connection with the Nippon Bicycle Club took place on Saturday afternoon from Fujisawa to Kodzu, a distance of about 18 miles, for the Kirin Cup presented by the Kirin Brewery, the trophy having to be won three times before it passes into the possession of the owner. Out of thirteen entries eight competitors were started by Mr. McGowan at 2.45 p.m. about one mile from Fujisawa. Poole had a fall before he had gone half a mile, but got on his wheel again and caught up the others before they had gone far. Crossing the Banyu River, Irwine and Scott were well ahead, with Leonard Eyton and Mason a quarter of a mile behind and the rest still another quarter of a mile to the rear. Scott and Irwine were well together till within about a mile of the finish; but, going down the steep hill before reaching Kodzu, Irwine was leading. Scott then lost what chances he had by running into a child and being in consequence thrown off his machine. The loss of time occasioned by the accident, with the attendant apologies and compensation, made the result certain for Irwine. Scott, however, came in second, with Mason third and Eyton next, the rest straggling in. All had tumbles more or less, and Curtis, who ran into a cart, was practically out of the race most of the way. The road was thick with dust and very loose, and the riders had to face a strong south-westerly gale, two facts which explain the time not being better. The handicapping gave great satisfaction. It should be mentioned that the police, who had been notified of the race, took an immense deal of trouble in keeping the road clear of traffic, and the streets of Oslo, the principal place traversed, were lined with constables. The smaller prizes were given by the Club. The Kirin Brewery's Japanese Agents, the Mediji, sent a copious supply of beer for the use of thirty riders and officials. At the conclusion of the race many of the Club members returned to Tonosawa, and remained there overnight.

The officials were as follows:—H. B. Haskell, Referee; J. L. O. Eyton, P. Peacock, R. Ward, and T. M. Laffin, Judges; K. Kingdon and Geo. Hood, Scorers and Time-keepers; H. Arai, T. M. Laffin, K. Kingdon, W. H. McGowan, and Geo. Hood, Handicappers. Details:—

Start.	Finish.	Handicap.	Result.	Actual Time.
P.M.	P.M.	m.s.	m.s.	m.s.
1. W. B. Mason.....2.45	3.44.00	3.45	3.40.15	0.59.00
2. H. V. Irwine.....2.45	3.41.12	3.30	3.40.42	0.56.12
3. L. Eyton.....2.45	3.44.21	3.30	3.40.51	0.59.21
4. H. A. Poole.....2.45	3.46.36	4.30	3.42.06	1.01.36
5. J. M. Scott.....2.45	3.42.21	4.30	3.42.21	0.57.21
6. J. Eyton, Jr.....2.45	3.48.57	4.30	3.44.27	1.03.57
7. B. Dunker.....2.45	3.49.11	4.00	3.45.11	1.04.11
8. A. Kingdon.....2.45	3.48.56	3.30	3.45.26	1.03.56
9. E. Powys.....	...	3.15	...	...
10. D. Roberts.....	...	3.30	...	...
11. A. M. Wall.....	...	4.30	...	...
12. K. J. Kawata.....	...	5.30	...	...
13. W. B. Mason—Vins.	...	7.00	...	...
14. H. V. Irwine.....	...	...	...	...
15. L. Eyton.....	...	...	...	...
16. H. A. Poole.....	...	...	...	...
17. J. M. Scott.....	...	...	...	...

1. Best time made by H. V. Irwine, 56 min. 18 sec.

2. Second time made by J. M. Scott, 57 min. 21 sec.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE NAGOYA YORO-IN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As no printed information about this Home has been circulated for over a year, during which time rumours of trouble about the property, involving a lawsuit, have gone abroad, some of our friends are probably wondering how we are getting along.

The usual Annual Report has been printed, and is being sent out, but we now wish to give a little information which was not available when the report was written, especially about the trouble above mentioned.

In order that it may be understood how the suit arose, a few words as to the tenure of the property would seem advisable, and so we give the following brief history of the matter.

In the spring of 1892 a plot was bought as a site for the Home, which had been brought into existence by the great earthquake of the previous autumn, and the purchase was registered in the names of two members of the Seikokwai, who, to prevent the possibility of its being used by them or their heirs for their own benefit, mortgaged it for its full value to two other members of the same church. This course was recommended as the simplest and safest by a legal gentleman, a Christian, then living here, and at the end of the same year, when the building was erected, it was secured in the same way to two other Christians as yet unconnected with the Home. The property was thus placed in the hands of six persons who were considered reliable, but it soon became evident that one of the legal owners was anxious, if possible, to use it for his own advantage. There seemed, however, no way in which he could do so, and it was hoped that he would come to a better state of mind, especially as his attitude towards the Yoro-In seemed to be prompted by personal ill-feeling towards some of the other church members connected with it. This man's name is Ueda and the other man in whose name the property was registered is called Ito. No change having taken place in Ueda's attitude during five years it was considered advisable that his connection with the Yoro-In should terminate, so in the autumn of 1897 he was approached with the object of inducing him to quietly transfer his interest in the property to another. He expressed willingness to do so if Ito would do the same and asked for a little delay in order that they might consult together about it. A little later, however, Ito brought us a notice from the court that an application had been made by Ueda's creditors to have the Yoro-In property sold to pay his debts. Action of some kind was thus made necessary and we first tried to arrange the matter quietly by conference with Ueda and his creditor. The creditor's claim amounted to about 500 yen, and he would only consent to withdraw the matter from court on condition that we would pay him half the amount at once and guarantee that the remainder would be paid later on. Such a proposition, we felt, could not be entertained and so nothing could be done except to defend the Yoro-In in court. A barrister was engaged, and, after consultation with others, it was decided that the best way to proceed would be for all those having connection with the Home to elect one of their number "In Cho" and conduct the case in his name. The judges, however, would not admit that this "In Cho" had any legal status, and so the case was dismissed. They kindly intimated, however, that if the case had been brought in the names of all those having connection with the Home it would have been received. This was done, but we still did not feel very confident of success, as a Christian judge in another city kindly examined the evidence and expressed his opinion privately that we had very little chance. He advised us, however, to consult another lawyer, of wider experience than the one we had retained, and when we laid the matter before this man he, feeling deeply the disgraceful character of Ueda's action, kindly offered to do what he

could without remuneration and seemed to be quite hopeful of success. This was encouraging, and it is probable that this man's clear presentation of the facts of the case had much to do with the favorable verdict given in July last.

Ueda's statement in court was that the property had been bought by him for his own use with the assistance of a kind foreigner and that he had lent it to the Yoro-In while it was convenient for him to do so, but that he could do this no longer on account of financial difficulty and consequently wanted it returned to him; that Ito had no real interest in the property and was conspiring with the Yoro-In people to defraud him. He was, able, however, to produce no evidence whatever to substantiate these statements, and, after hearing them, the judge advised his lawyer to withdraw the case, saying that the existence and work of the Yoro-In for seven years could not be questioned, and that it was very difficult to imagine that a missionary and a lot of Christian people like those connected with the Yoro-In could be guilty of such an offence as they were charged with. This advice, however, was not taken, and the case went on. The evidence we were able to furnish was most complete and satisfactory in every respect, and our only fear was that some legal technicality might prevent the judges deciding the matter in accordance with the facts, as they evidently desired to do.

That anxiety, however, proved to be groundless, judgment being given in favour of the Yoro-In in July last, and the Court of Appeal, to which the case was carried, has just reaffirmed the decision of the lower court, so, we hope, the end of the matter is now at hand. We shall have to wait for six weeks, the time allowed for carrying the matter to the Supreme Court, before everything can be finally settled up, but we earnestly hope that no further appeal will be made, and we invite all friends of the Home to unite with us in giving thanks that the institution, provided by their kindness for a few of the destitute aged people and orphans of this district, has not been allowed to suffer serious loss at the hands of unprincipled men.

There are probably some amongst us who have doubts and fears as to how institutions established and maintained by foreigners would be likely to fare at the hands of Japanese judges should an appeal to the courts be necessary. To such the decision given in this case will be interesting and help to increase confidence, showing, as it does, that such matters are not decided from a purely legal standpoint only, but that the question of equity is taken into consideration and carries weight.

We not only defended the Yoro-In against Ueda but brought an action to have the property removed entirely from the control of all those originally entrusted with it, and this having been done, it can now be placed in the hands of legally constituted Trustees and secured against further difficulty of the kind we have experienced.

The judgment given against Ueda with costs, but I understand this does not include lawyers' fees, so that, although we have gained the case, it has cost us something. Probably 150 or 200 yen will be required to reimburse the outlay in connection with the case, and to meet this very little has yet been provided. As the Report for 1898 shows, during the whole year funds were very low, and, without counting legal expenses, we closed the year a little in debt for the first time. This year, so far, just about enough has come in to supply daily food, and as for obvious reasons, as little as possible was spent on repairs last year, the Home now requires a thorough overhauling which will cost, at least 100 yen. We look to God in supply what is required with the same faith in which the work was begun, while, at the same time, we feel that it is but right to tell His people, as nearly as possible, how matters stand. The work of the Home is now going on very satisfactorily and there are good prospects that the work of porcelain painting will soon provide for the support of the larger boys. Friends could help greatly by sending orders for such

porcelain ware as they require to the Yoro-In. Almost anything in that line can be supplied at very moderate prices.

Commending the above to your earnest consideration.

Believe me, yours very faithfully,

J. COOPER ROBINSON.

Nagoya, April 15th, 1899.

JAPANESE HOTELS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As the subject of the charges at Japanese hotels is being brought before the public just now, and as I think I may say I have had more experience of travelling alone in the interior during the last ten years than any other lady from the foreign settlements, perhaps a few words on my personal experiences on the subject under discussion may be useful to your readers.

When I say travelling alone, I mean of course without any companion of my own station, but, as I am not conversant with the language, I have always been accompanied by my house-boy for the time being. On arriving at any Japanese hotel for the first time, he—knowing the sort of rooms I prefer, and am in the habit of occupying—goes in first and inspects the accommodation, and if he considers it suitable, he asks the price of the rooms per night, for myself and for him, so that when I am taken to them, I know exactly what I shall have to pay for the rooms alone, without extras.

The tariff for the best rooms in a Japanese hotel has been gradually increasing during the last four years, for the best hotels throughout Japan have formed themselves into what they term a "Confederacy," and have established a uniform scale of charges, and every hotel so combined has the title "Japan Confederacy Hotel" above its gate in addition to the special name by which it is known. The hotels in the "Confederacy" are only the best in each locality.

As a fair sample of all others, I may instance the "Momiji-ya" at Miyajima, called also the "Confederacy Hotel." When I first stayed there during the time of the Japan-China war, now about five years ago, I was charged one yen per day for one of the pleasantest rooms. I did not revisit the place for two years, when I found the same room was raised to a yen and a half per day. The next year it was two yen, and I asked laughingly how much more I should find it on my next visit, but found the tariff stationary when there during Easter just passed. At all hotels of the same standing as the "Momiji-ya" the charge is now a uniform one of two yen per day of twenty-four hours per person for room without extras if a foreigner, and one yen for second-class Japanese accommodation, including two meals per diem.

Like hotels in other countries, the accommodation varies somewhat, although the charges are fixed. And they also resemble Japanese semi-foreign hotels in this respect—that if two persons (say two lady friends) occupy the same room, the same charge is made for each, although a slight reduction is made if the stay is beyond one night. For instance for two in one room the nominal charge is four yen per night, but they will take three yen and a half if asked to do so. Of course special arrangements can be made for a stay of some days, or by the week. Foreigners taking their own food, and a servant to prepare it, are not charged extra for the use of kitchen or cooking apparatus.

At one hotel I halted at, about two years ago, in a place little frequented by foreigners, when my servant asked the price of the room for a day and night, he was met by the following naive remark: "Will you please ask your mistress what she is in the habit of paying for her room at other Japanese hotels, for we have never had a foreign lady staying here before, so we do not know what charge to make!" At that time the ordinary tariff was one yen and a half per diem for such accommodation as they were giving me, so I of course named that price, and they were quite satisfied.

With respect to baths—of course a foreigner

does give much additional trouble, because he or she must not only have water specially heated, but must also have the sole occupation of the bath-room for the time of his or her ablutions. But as the arrangements of the bath-house are all under the control of the bath-man, I always make my servant tell him that I am willing to pay him 20 *sen* a bath for the additional trouble he may be put to, and I have invariably found that, upon that understanding, I am always provided with hot water, a clean tub, and absolute privacy—and politeness, even to the extent of being asked at what time I would prefer it;—but, being aware that the sole use of the bath for one person might probably clash with the arrangements of the house, and cause inconvenience to the numerous Japanese guests, I always say that I will suit my time to the convenience of the house, so far as possible.

As to the question of *chadai* or tea-money, being aware that it is a Japanese custom, I invariably give a small amount over and above the hotel bill, arranged upon the following scale—if I stay one night, 50 *sen*; if two nights, one *yen*;—if a few days or a week, two *yen*; and I have invariably found, after making this addition to the charge for the rooms, settling for any extras supplied, as beer, eggs, bread, milk, etc.—paying the bath-man as stated above, and giving a small *doucou* to the waiting maid—at a scale of 20 *sen* for one day's attendance, up to 50 *sen* or a dollar for a longer stay, that I am not only escorted to the door with great politeness and *empressment* and with many requests to "Please come again"—but every assistance given me in transporting my luggage to station or steamer, and, in several instances in the North of Japan, a servant of the hotel has been sent travelling with me to the next stage on my journey—and in all cases, with a letter from the landlord of the hotel I am leaving to the proprietor of the best hotel in the next town I am going to, recommending me to their best attention.

Surely a few *sen* here and there, judiciously laid out as above, which cannot be called needless squandering, is well spent, if it purchases attention and politeness wherever one goes, and leaves a good name behind one, making the way easy for the next foreigner who arrives.

It is true that at several hotels I have been politely refused admission on the plea that the house was full; and at one hotel in the North my boy has been told that they would much rather not have foreigners, though they were always glad to see me—proving that, in these instances, those who had preceded me had not left a favourable impression behind, for which I had to pay the penalty by having to go farther to seek accommodation.

My argument is that those who cannot afford or are not prepared to lose the trifling additional outlay that will ensure civility, and a cordial welcome, had better remain at home and not travel in Japan.

The suggestions that the hotels throughout Japan should be classified, and also that every hotel should be provided with a fixed tariff for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class accommodation, translated into English, are excellent, and would save an immense amount of chaffering, and probable ill-feeling on the part of both hotel proprietor and foreign traveller.

It is quite true that high-class Japanese do not show the same hoary temper (almost amounting to rudeness) that is ordinarily exhibited by foreigners when they cannot get exactly what they require at hotel, for I was cognizant of a case in point within the last fortnight when staying at an hotel at Tadotsu, a sea-port town in the Inland Sea, on the Island of Shikoku. A Japanese military officer, evidently a very well-bred man, had, it appeared, sent word before his arrival to secure himself a certain room, and when he came he found it was otherwise occupied. He naturally showed a little temper and annoyance on first finding this the case, but after listening to the apologies of the proprietor his manner immediately altered, and he exchanged bows and courtesies with the landlord with perfect good-humour;—the little

scene was translated to me by a travelling companion who understood Japanese perfectly and who was greatly struck by the gentlemanly urbanity of the officer on receipt of the landlord's explanation.

All this proves that a little tact will go a long way in Japan, as in all other countries.

Apologizing for taking up so much of your space,

I am, sir, yours, etc.,

EMILY S. PATTON.

142 A Bloff, April 28th.

FEMALE EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As a sincere admirer of the typical women of Japan—not the class introduced to the reading public by Pierre Loti or Clement Scott, but the very different type depicted by Miss Bacon in her charming little book "Japanese Girls and Women" some years ago, and again quite recently by Mrs. Hugh Fraser, widow of the late British Minister to Japan—I heartily endorse the sentiments given to your readers in your translation in Saturday's *Mail* of the controversy between the *Yiji Shimpō* and the *Fimmin* on the subject of Japanese female education.

As far as the writer's personal observation has gone, the Americanized Japanese woman—I say Americanized because it rarely happens that a Japanese girl is sent to Europe for her education, the United States being so near at hand, and also American influence through the mission schools being brought to bear in determining the locality where a Japanese girl is sent to receive a foreign education—is all that the *Fimmin* paints her, as stated in your article;—"a being with a vulgar self asserting demeanour, in unsuitable foreign clothes, altogether a most unpleasant *ensemble*."

No well-wisher to Japan would deny to its women the advantages accruing from a more liberal education than they are at present acquiring through the antiquated routine of the arts of flower arranging, the tea ceremonial, etc., etc., and when they shall have succeeded in gaining a good modern education upon European lines that will be in harmony with the requirements of their distinctive nationality, it will be a matter of congratulation to all thoughtful persons who have the future interests of Japan at heart.

But while to the smattering of all the European arts and sciences is superadded the total loss of their own native retiring grace, and when in its stead is adopted a certain assertiveness and self-assurance which does not sit ill upon Western women, but is as unsuited to a Japanese woman's carriage as Western garments are to her figure, then can the indignant only grieve at such a perversion of all that is most charming in Japanese woman-kind.

The adoption of foreign manners may tend to add to the attractiveness of Japanese girls with a certain class of foreign men, but it certainly does not enhance their charms in the opinion of men of their own nation, it being a well-known fact that at the present time Japanese men are showing a decided reluctance to select wives from their country-women who have been "Europeanized," though perhaps "Americanized" would be the more correct expression.

Whoever in the near future will be able to solve satisfactorily the important problem of what should constitute the most suitable educational curriculum for the women of Japan, will deserve to be rated as one of the truest benefactors of the nation. That such an one may soon arise is the earnest hope of yours, etc.

EULALIA.

April 30th.

CHARGES AT JAPANESE INNS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—With regard to charges at Japanese inns when patronised by foreigners there are, as with regard to almost anything else, two sides. You are certainly right in saying that

the foreigner is likely to exact more service and must expect to pay more. No one will object to this, as little as a foreigner who weighs 175 lbs. will object to paying more to his *kuruma*-man than a Japanese who weighs but a hundred pounds. It is not against any fair charge that my objection was directed in my recent letter in the *Japan Times*. But is it fair to charge more than twice to a foreigner than to a Japanese when both fared exactly alike? Is it a fair charge to ask *yen* 1.50 and more simply for the room, meals and everything else charged extra, when at the same hotel the charge to a Japanese guest is fifty *sen* for room-rent and two meals? If the excess is called the *chadai* which the hotel-keeper makes sure of, fearing he would not receive one otherwise, it certainly is an exceedingly generous one. In the vicinity of Kyoto, as well as in other parts of Japan in which I have travelled for almost fifteen years, I have never met with this discrimination in charges; the foreigner is charged the same as the Japanese, and he cheerfully gives a generous *chadai* for any extra services he may have demanded. These abnormal extra charges in Japanese inns stand on the same level with the higher charges made to foreigners by many of the merchants in interior cities. There is a Japanese saying to the effect that a foreigner has to pay double, a man with a beard four-fold, or something in that line. The common Japanese tradesman is not at all averse to taking advantage of a foreign customer, nor is the Japanese hotel-keeper. We are accustomed to it, but it certainly is not productive of good feeling.

Assuring you that I shall not trouble you again with this matter, and thanking you for your courtesy,

I remain, yours, respectfully,

"ADJUTOR."

THE BOOKSHELF.

Over-seas Library: London, T. Fisher Unwin, 11, Paternoster Buildings. *The Ipans*, R. B. Cunningham Graham; *The Captain of the Locusts*, by A. Werner; *In Guiana Wilds*, by James Rodway. Price 1s. 6d. each.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin is a publisher of much enterprise and acumen. His latest idea is an "Overseas Library," which will deal with purely Colonial literature. That is, the editor will strive to get, if possible, descriptions of colonial life true to the special local colour and atmosphere of the district, and writers who may create artistically truthful pictures of their surroundings. The Editor prefaces the new venture with the following introductory note:—

Where are the "Ends of the Empire?" and which are the Over-Seas? At "the Ends" of one Empire may arise the beginnings of other Empires to come. It is notorious that wherever an English-speaking community settles and opens up new lands, it speedily speaks for itself as a centre; and so rapid is the growth of the great Colonies, that Ministers to-day writing despatches to dependencies over-seas, receive their answers from nations to-morrow.

But, great as is the growth of the Empire and the enterprise of its peoples, the new native-born literatures take years to germinate and generations to arrive. Thence comes it that often we do not understand the atmospheres of the new English-speaking peoples, and often misunderstand the problems, the ambitions, the attitudes befitting them as new races. And while the British Empire grows richer daily in patriotic fervours, in speeches, in splendour, in cant, and in the oracular assurances of statesmen, the English people seeks to understand its cousins by the interchange of cablegrams, by debates, and by all the ambiguities of official memoranda.

It is, however, the artist's work to bring the people of his nation and their atmosphere before the eyes of another. It is the artist alone, great or small, who, by revealing and interpreting the life around him, makes it living to the rest of the world. And the artist is generally absent! In the case of the English in India, ten years ago, while the literature of information was plentiful, the artist was absent; Mr. Kipling arrived and discovered modern India to the English imagination. And to-day, in the midst of a gene-

ral movement for Empire expansion, with talk of Federation, Jingoism, and with the doing of real work, artists in literature are generally absent, the artists who should reveal the tendencies, the hidden strength and weakness, the capacities of the new communities.

The aim of "The Over-Seas Library" is purely experimental. It proposes to print literature from any quarter that deals with the actual life of the English outside England, whether of Colonial life or the life of English emigrants, travellers, traders, officers, over-seas, among foreign and native races, black or white. Pictures of life in the American States will not necessarily be excluded.

"The Over-Seas Library" makes no pretence at Imperial drum-beating, or the putting of English before Colonial opinion. It aims at getting the atmosphere and outlook of the new peoples recorded, if such is possible. It aims at being an interchange between all parts of the Empire without favour, an interchange of the life of the English-speaking peoples, and of the Englishmen beyond seas, however imperfect, fragmentary, and modest such records or accounts may be.

The Editor will be glad to receive any MSS. addressed to him, care of the Publisher, Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, 11, Paternoster Buildings, London, E.C.

The idea is excellent, and the editor maps a virgin field. Many a good and well-told story of life as lived by the Westerner in the islands of Japan lies undeservedly buried in the old files of local newspapers, and if some of the writers were to give permission we feel sure a very readable addition could easily be made to Unwin's Over-seas Library—an addition that would be welcome to residents here as well as to dwellers in other lands afar.

The first volume of the series is by that well-practised writer and traveller R. B. Cunningham-Graham. It deals principally with South American life, and several of the sketches are very well worth the trouble of reading. Of the *Captain of the Locusts* little need be said beyond stating that the book takes the reader into Central and Southern Africa, and gives some stories that throw a vivid light upon the causes that sometimes lead to "native outbreaks." *Guiana Wilds* may be described as an ethnological romance of a typical young Scotchman who becomes, by force of circumstances, decivilised, and mates with a native woman. The author of *In the Guiana Forest*, has here ample opportunity for the display of his intimate knowledge of the wild scenery of British Guiana and the weird customs of the Guiana Indians.

We wish the new Overseas Library every success.

A Mariage de Convenance. By C. F. KEARY, Unwin's Colonial Library; London, Fisher Unwin.

Mr. C. F. KEARY (Mr. H. Ogram Matuce) apparently had three objects in writing this "novel": (1) To induce a soft-hearted and soft-headed public to buy it; (2) to show that he has at various times presented Cook's companions at hotels in the Riviera, Vienna, the Tyrol, and other resorts; (3) to prove that he knows certain words of French, Latin, Greek, German, and Italian, or—at lowest—that he possesses three-and-sixpenny dictionaries of quotations in those languages.

The literary deities of these days are, with a few brilliant exceptions, so unutterably dull and uninteresting that we are not at all surprised to learn that Mr. Keary is on the whole a success. While Miss Marie Corelli retains her position as a popular idol, we cannot be bewildered at any possible exhibition of perverted taste on the part of the British public. In fact, we should not be astonished if "A Mariage de Convenance," slipshod, illiterate, and deadly dull as it is, should achieve a success that would have made Dickens or Thackeray envious.

The writer, in his introduction, truly remarks that "speaking broadly, every one writes a novel or novels at the present time," and that "those few who remain outside the ranks of the novel-writers do so from choice; they see that the thing is so easy to be done that it is not worth doing." If Mr. Keary's work be novel writing we most cordially admire the sagacity and the humanity of those who remain

outside; pure indolence is a positive virtue compared with the industry which produces light literature of this kind.

Of the plot of "A Mariage de Convenance" we can say little. We have read it through with more attention that it deserved, and can only gather the vague idea that the chief personage is a certain cad named Arthur Norris, alleged to be very clever and to have won University distinctions, though the internal evidence of his cleverness is rather weak. He marries his cousin; meets a German opera singer; runs off with her; quarrels with a man who pays her addresses, and involves himself in a shooting affair. Probably if we read the book a second time we might gain a clearer idea of the story, but there are some tasks which pass the bounds of human patience, and this is assuredly one. A collection of patent pill testimonials, printed on good paper, would possess as much sustained interest as this work. The author has followed the most vicious of all styles of construction—that of narrative in letter form: "From Peter Wilkin to Simon Walker," "From John Smith to William Brown," "From same to same," &c., &c. This is surely the most hideous invention authors have ever hit upon. Even in a master hand, like Smollett's, it worries, and teases, and irritates the reader to an extent that mars half the force and vigour of the writing. Wilkie Collins is readable not because, but in spite of, his vices of construction. But these were men who could write, who could give reality to a character and vividness to an incident. When a man can do neither, when his work is redeemed by neither vigour, wit, nor individuality, when his idea of style is to tessellate a monotonous ground-work of weak English with little tags and phrases of weaker French—then, to add to all this the obscurity of the letter form of narrative is not merely injudicious; it is, in the literary sense, absolutely criminal.

It seems absurd to attempt to criticise seriously a book of this kind, but we understand that "A Mariage de Convenance"—how the title grates each time one writes it—has passed through several editions; it was originally published in 1893, and is now reproduced in popular form. This indicates something like popularity, and Mr. Keary may probably, by dint of "personal paragraphs" and "illustrated interviews," be a great literary light before long. Now-a-days, a man may have ears as long as Bottom's, and yet become a literary Midas, possessing the long ears still, though the public fail to see them.

Seeing, then, that Mr. Keary, if he dines with the right critics and makes love to the interviewers, may possibly become a star of some magnitude, we may be excused if we dwell a little longer on his production. As regards style, Mr. Keary appears to have about as much command of English, French, and German as in the proud possession of a head waiter at a Swiss Hotel. Of Italian he knows a few words, and those he uses. He remembers something of Greek and Latin, like the majority of educated people, and therefore he never lets any character say "Good-bye" or "Farewell." It is always "Vale, vale, maxime vale." He devotes nearly a whole page to demonstrating that he is familiar with the Greek original of our English word "asylum." The dialogue in which he brings out this majestic fact—that asylum comes from *asylon*—has nothing to do with the plot, and is redeemed by no suspicion—or, as Mr. Keary would no doubt say, *suspçon*—of wit. It is simply introduced to show that the author knows the word.

But it is in French that Mr. Keary excels. There is a perfect archipelago of italics on every page. So happy, forceful, and epigrammatic is our author in his Gallicism that we are forced to conclude that he must have spent at least a fortnight at Dieppe or Boulogne-sur-mer after leaving the School of Stratford-at-Bowe. He seems, however, to distrust himself still in the elegant but tricky language of Chateaubriand, for he seldom makes long excursions into it, and when he does the results

are disastrous. For instance, in trying to say "Love makes the world go round" he spells *Monde "Mond."* And what can we make of this sentence: "*But la vie est comme ça?*" Is "*but*" English or French? Presumably English, but Mr. Keary italicises it.

It is not often, however, that Mr. Keary is so venturesome. He generally follows the well-worn path of the Bow Bells noveletist, who talks about Lady Arabella's tiny *mouchoir*, who calls silk stockings *bas de soie*, and substitutes *papier à lettre* for note paper. Mr. Keary uses such phrases as this:—"These are my amusements;" "I am quite *bouleversé*;" "I was a little *empressé*;" "with much *dépit*;" "*its* *magacent* as it is;" "a suspicious *crainitif* look, &c." The following sentence is typical:—

But if I were to let my regrets for the past interfere with my enjoyment of the present it would only embroil me with my present "wife" and not in the slightest degree benefit *l'autre*.

This is supposed to be written by an English character. Could any man be capable of using so poor a halfpenny worth of French to such an intolerable deal of Anglo-Saxon? After 34 words of English it is difficult for any tongue to slip naturally into the foreign idiom, and certainly no sane man would make such an effort for the mere sake of appearing to his friends in the light of an ignorant prig.

Mr. Keary's characters consistently describe themselves and their surroundings as *triste*; they fear they are *de trop*; they are disturbed by the *va et vient* of visitors; they have a *mauvais quart d'heure*; they are *éprix*; they experience *contretemps*; they are *miserable*, and so forth. Surely a Board School boy of sixteen would scorn such tawdry vulgarities of style.

Scraps of Latin, most of them of the kind used with such effect by aldermen of second-rate provincial boroughs, make an imposing appearance in this novel, and there are extracts from German poets, though we have a shrewd suspicion that the author's command of the latter language is not great, for his specimens are generally limited to *Ja* and *Nein* and a few interjections which can be readily found at the end of any German accident. To do Mr. Keary justice, however, we should quote one phrase which exhibits him in the light of a scholar: "I am studying these eyes and voice from a purely external and artistic (*Ästhetisch*) standpoint." "These eyes and voice," by the way, is a typical specimen of the writer's English. When we add that there are in the book bits of other languages which we cannot presume to identify, our simile of a Swiss waiter cannot be said to be inexact.

Mr. Keary's English, probably not strong originally, has suffered by his foreign excursions. "It is this accursed insignificant sprite of an imagination *who* plays you false." A grovelling slave to grammatical propriety would say *which*, since the antecedent is a neuter substantive. "We are not at San Remo, for this letter, any more than Rome, is not finished in one day." That sentence is truly a thing of beauty. "I think I shall take to writing a novel, as par example." Is "par example" French or English, or half and half? And here is an elegant phrase—supposed to be written, too, by a young lady of good social position—"it makes me blush inside and outside." Mr. Keary italicises it, as if he had said a good thing. But to give anything like an adequate account of the absurdities and crudities of this popular success would mean practically reprinting the whole novel.

And this is a book which has run through several editions. Of the reading public which can devour such fare we can only say, to follow Mr. Keary's practice (the style is not at all hard when you try)—"*Bon dieu! Quel appetit!*"

Notes on the Nicaragua Canal, by Henry Isaac Sheldon; Chicago, A. C. McClurg and Company.

We can recommend this little book as a timely and thoughtful contribution to the discussion of a question of world-wide interest. Its style is as unpretentious as its title. Mr. Sheldon has not brought to bear any of the

cheap devices of sensational book-making; and those who look for "picturesque" descriptions after the style of American special correspondents will do well not to read his "Notes." But for a serious reader, desirous of learning the plain facts, and of gauging intelligent American feeling on the question, the book is of decided value. Mr. Sheldon has spent some time in Central America, has visited the chief points of the suggested Nicaraguan route, has read and digested authorities and statistics, and places the result of his investigations before the public in a succinct and interesting form.

It is, perhaps, well to point out before proceeding further that Mr. Sheldon is evidently an American of Americans—practical, shrewd, and intensely patriotic. Though his facts may be relied on, it is not always safe to follow his inferences, and there are many points on which an English reader is likely to join issue with him. Mr. Sheldon is for a canal which shall be all American. It must be constructed with American money, America must have the principal control of the district through which it runs, it must provide work for American engineers, it must use American materials, and must earn dividends for American shareholders.

This is perhaps too narrow a view of what is essentially a world-problem. But still the question is a vital one for the United States, and a citizen of that great country may be pardoned for taking the line Mr. Sheldon has adopted. The Western States of America are stunted in their growth, and the Eastern States, great and prosperous as they are, are placed at a disadvantage, by the want of convenient water communication. Of Trans-continental railways, there is no lack—railways that are a model to the world, and that place San Francisco and New York as close together, for many purposes, as London and Paris were a century ago. But railways, after all, do not wholly compensate for the lack of water communication. California is one of the States most favoured by nature. Its soil is of inexhaustible fertility. Its climate is among the best in the world. It produces splendid wheat and the finest fruit. But not a bushel of its wheat crop goes as far as the Atlantic coast, for wheat cannot bear the cost of several thousand miles railway journey. California has been opened to American enterprise for 50 years. Yet in 1890 the population of the whole state, 1,000 miles in length, was little more than that of the single city of Philadelphia. And this is perhaps the most prosperous of the Pacific States. Oregon and Washington are far less developed; their population is scanty; their industries trifling; and their agriculture, though prosperous as far as it goes, leaves vast room for development. Undoubtedly their isolation has much to do with this. The distance between, say, San Francisco and New York, by way of Cape Horn, is so immense that there is, as regards carriage of the majority of commodities, nothing to compete against the Trans-continental Railways. They have and always will have a monopoly of land transit; a new competitor may produce frantic "rate-cutting" for a time; but the competitors eventually become allies; and rates go up again. To quote Mr. Sheldon, "twenty-five years' trial has demonstrated that if railroads are to be the sole means of communication, the development of the Pacific States will be very slow."

What, then, would be the effect of the Canal? It would shorten the water passage from the Pacific seaboard to New York to about 4,700 miles—by no means a formidable voyage to modern steamships, and offering possibilities of most advantageous competition with the railways. But this is but one of the advantages America might fairly anticipate. Another, of great importance to her as a rising manufacturing nation, is the ease of access the canal would give her to the Far East, a share of whose markets she so greatly covets. At present the great manufacturing centres in the Eastern States are very disadvantageously placed *vis-à-vis* Europe, as regards Oriental trade. And, yet again, the possession of an Asiatic dependency, the new spirit of expansion and "imperialism," and the responsibilities that spirit may be the

means of occasioning, bring within the range of possibilities circumstances which may render the canal of immeasurable strategic advantage. Confronted with a more resolute and better equipped enemy than Spain, the United States Government might be made to feel very keenly the inconvenience of a run of 15,987 miles if, as in the case of the *Oregon* last year, it should require to call a squadron from the Pacific to the Atlantic seaboard. A canal over which it had control would enable the Navy Department to concentrate its force on any given point at extremely short notice.

There is no doubt, therefore, that a strong case may be made out for aid from the American Treasury in the construction of the canal, though Mr. Sheldon is talking rather boldly when he says that "the canal may so develop our trade with Eastern Asia that a single year of that trade will exceed in volume the total cost of its construction." The mind of America is, however, by no means unanimous. The Pacific Coast and Southern States are naturally in favour of State aid; the Western inland States are inclined to regard such a scheme with complaisance; but in the East there is a good deal of opposition, most of which comes under the heading of vested interest. The Central States again, are, if not indifferent, at any rate impartial; their interests are not directly affected, and they can afford to take a broad and unprejudiced view.

Mr. Sheldon gives a very interesting account of his journey over part of the suggested route. The distance across from ocean to ocean is about 170 miles; the surface is level, and the Nicaragua lake—92 miles long and 34 broad—can be utilised as part of the water-way. The idea of a canal at this spot has occurred to scores of old speculators from the time of the *Conquistadores* onward, and as early as 1849 the founder of the Vanderbilts was granted a concession and made a preliminary survey. Between 1849 and 1857, while the Californian gold fever was at its full height, Vanderbilt placed steamers on the Lake and River of San Juan, ran coaches to connect with the Pacific coast, and provided a more efficient substitute for the dreary Horn voyage or the adventurous trans-continental ride.

A company formed for the purpose of cutting a canal at this point has been in existence since 1889, and has up to the present expended 4½ million dollars, chiefly on preliminaries, though the beginning of the canal has been excavated on the Atlantic side. Mr. Sheldon is disposed to recommend that full recognition should be made by the State of all this outlay, and that on the company giving its consent to the action of Congress, it "should have back at once stock and bonds for all its cash outlays to date." He admits this sounds rather generous; but argues that there is a "special case" for the company's complete indemnification.

Mr. Sheldon gives some very interesting facts and figures relating to the conditions of labour. He is decidedly optimistic, despite the gloomy experience of the French a few leagues away at Panama, as to the question of sanitation. The authorities which he quotes in support of his contention are, it must be admitted, thoroughly practical experts. So far the men employed by the company have enjoyed remarkable immunity from disease, but what will be the case when the excavations are seriously commenced remains to be seen. The French did well enough at Panama before they commenced to dig, and then the fever germs made their appearance. The source of danger, it would seem, lies below the surface of the soil. The climate of Nicaragua cannot be called unhealthy for the tropics; and the country is swept by strong trade-winds, which tend to cleanse the air of fever-generating miasmas.

Mr. Sheldon discusses at length the estimates of cost, variously placed at 70 million, 133 million, and 150 million dollars. As to revenue he says:—

As the conditions are so similar, it is necessary, in taking a broad view of probable earnings, to consider the business transacted by the Suez Canal. The results there shown are more helpful

than mere estimates; they are ascertained facts. That company deals with the world's commerce, just as will be done in Nicaragua.

In 1895 its business amounted to 8,440,000 tons. It had then been in operation twenty-five years. The first year, 1870, its business was only 436,000 tons; in 1871, 760,000 tons; in 1872, 1,100,000 tons, and there has been a fairly steady increase ever since, up to the amount in 1895. During all this time the volume of the world's commerce has steadily increased. Not only has trade more and more adjusted itself to the Suez route, but also the aggregate amount of trade has become much larger.

Some allowance should be made for the advantages possessed by the Suez Canal as a now well-established route. Taking its business eight years ago may be a fair offset for this item. The amount for 1888 exceeded six million tons. The earlier Suez tolls were \$2.77 per ton, which have been gradually reduced to \$1.77. Freight and passenger charges the world over have been greatly reduced the past twenty years, and traffic is not prepared now to stand heavy charges in any direction. A moderate tariff will be in every way desirable. A favourable, but approximate, estimate of the possible revenues in Nicaragua would be as follows: With tolls at \$1.50 per ton at the outset, and a business of at least six million tons after the canal is fairly in operation, a gross income of nine million dollars would be obtained. Administration, maintenance, and operation for 1895 cost the Suez Canal about one million eight hundred thousand dollars. Taking into account all the dam and embankment work at Nicaragua, as well as the heavy rainfall, an allowance of three million dollars as an annual average for expenses may be fair, leaving a net income of six million dollars. An undertaking of this character is to be gone into only as a long-term investment, and the earnings for the first few years after it is completed are not to be considered as sufficient for a final judgment. The earnings will come later on. It is also to be noted that the Nicaragua Canal is likely to be used by sailing-vessels as well as steamers, which is not the case with the Suez Canal.

This is surely rather a rosy view. It must be remembered that the Suez route will still be the most convenient for European vessels trading to the Far East and to Australia, and the volume of that traffic is enormously greater than that of any other ocean highway. Mr. Sheldon hopes great things for American trade as the result of the cutting of the canal:—

It will create lines of communication which do not now exist at all,—opening the way for new trade of European nations with the Pacific, and leading our own country up to a commerce which is now unthought of,—a commerce which will come when the necessities of our hungry skilled workmen shall compel us to seek new markets for the manufactured goods which our own country cannot consume. These markets will be found not only along the western coasts of Central and South America, but also in Australia, China, and Japan.

And again:—

In building up a foreign trade, our natural course will be to begin with the countries where we shall meet least competition. In order to be profitable, trade requires to move along the lines of least resistance. Our geographical situation is such that we are the natural producers for all countries bordering on the Pacific Ocean. The relative distance of European manufacturers, as compared with our own, gives us a great advantage. The idea of trying to sell much of our products to China and Japan is new to our people; but those countries are entering on a career of great development, and why should not the American people have a share in supplying their wants? The trade reports tell the story of their awakening. The purchases of Japan from foreign countries, expressed in their silver, were:—

In 1885 \$ 28,000,000

In 1894 113,000,000

China bought from foreign countries:—

In 1885 \$132,000,000

In 1894 243,000,000

We have not been alive to this demand. Of Japan's purchases abroad of \$113,000,000 in 1894, we sold her only \$11,000,000. We excelled in paying money to her, however, for in that year we bought of her goods amounting to \$43,000,000. Of China's purchases from other nations of \$243,000,000 in 1894, we supplied only \$10,000,000. We were good buyers, however, taking \$25,000,000 of her products. Our diplomatic agents report that with more alertness and enterprise we could have furnished to Japan, and at a reasonable

profit, sixty per cent. of all her foreign purchases in 1894.

The impetus the canal will, it is hoped, give to American cotton-growing is touched on:—

The new buyer of cotton in Japan. That country is going strongly into the manufacture of cotton goods, such as are used by the people of the warm countries, and now not only exports these goods to China, but undersells the English manufacturers in their own dependency of India. It is impossible for the latter to sell the Manchester goods in Calcutta and Bombay as cheap as those now brought from Japan. The Japanese legation in Washington writes me that in 1894 their country purchased from other nations 142,000,000 pounds of cotton, costing \$9,550,000. Of this only 14,000,000 pounds, costing \$1,340,000, was bought in the United States. The remainder came chiefly from British India and China. We are told, too, that the Japanese mill-owners much prefer the cotton from the United States, if it were to be had at the same price, our cotton being cleaner and with a better fibre. Its cost in Japan is, however, against it, owing to the freight rates made necessary by the long journey around Cape Horn. The saving of distance by a Nicaraguan canal from New Orleans to Yokohama will be almost one half.

Mr. Sheldon deals at length with the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty and the question of Great Britain's possible attitude. He treats the contentions of England very cavalierly, and comes to the conclusion that "the possible claims of England to joint control of the canal under the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty should be ignored. These claims could never be allowed, and we would probably hear little of them after we had constructed the canal with our own money and were in full possession." He claims that the case of the Nicaragua Canal is not on all fours with that of the Suez Canal; there are no irresistible arguments for its neutralisation; it should and must remain under the control of the United States and of Nicaragua. "The Monroe doctrine is the settled policy of the United States. . . . It will be impossible for Great Britain to maintain the provisions of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty at this stage of the development of the United States." Mr. Sheldon is most emphatic in his conclusion that no European nation must have a voice in the matter. He cannot or will not admit that there are arguments on the other side.

Of the descriptive part of the book we should like to speak did space permit. Without any attempt at fine writing, the author gives excellent sketches here and there, wedged in among statistics and arguments, of the life of the Nicaraguans and of the characteristics of their country. His book is altogether most interesting, and the capital photographs with which it is illustrated add considerably to its value.

YOKOHAMA DOCKS.

An event of considerable interest in the history of the port of Yokohama took place on Monday morning, when the new docks were formally opened. The Dock Company had issued a large number of invitations, and at nine o'clock, the hour fixed for the commencement of the proceedings, a numerous company, consisting chiefly of Japanese officials and merchants, had assembled. Just after nine the hospital ship *Hakui Maru*, which has been chartered to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, entered Dock No. 2, and those present watched with interest the process of putting into position the great shores intended to support her when the water was drawn off. The exhaustion of the water occupied about two hours, at the end of which time visitors were free to go on board, or to inspect the big ship from the bottom of the dock. In No. 1 Dock, meanwhile, the *Kawachi Maru*, one of the big European liners of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, was already dry-docked, and a great many filled up their time by wandering over the ship and inspecting the handsome cabins and saloons. At 11 a.m. the opening ceremony took place, speeches being delivered in Japanese from a small platform at the head of Dock No. 1.

Baron KAWADA TATSUROKU said:—We are

now celebrating the opening of the new dock. Taking a retrospect of the last 20 years we see that Japan has made gigantic strides in navigation, and her mercantile marine has increased greatly. Naturally the construction of docks has become very necessary, but generally speaking the Japanese are not so far advanced as to be able to construct docks as private undertakings; and I think some credit is therefore due to our company. With the assistance of those interested, and with the diligent help of experts, we completed the building of No. 2 dock in April, 1897, and commenced business with one dock. The size of ships entering the harbour, however, is constantly increasing, and the necessity of a larger dock was urgently felt. With this in view, we pressed forward the construction of No. 1 dock, and succeeded in completing the work by April of this year. It was in May, 1894, that the survey of the dock site was first undertaken, and since that time no less than 1,200,000 yen has been spent, with the result that the organization of our staff is in good order. I hope we shall meet the public requirements, and contribute to the facilitation of navigation by providing further dock facilities and enlarging the works.

Governor ASADA remarked that even a naturally good port without docking facilities was altogether unsatisfactory, and upon the excellence of its ports the trade and prosperity of a country largely depended. Yokohama was in itself an excellent port, but it was not complete without docks, and he congratulated the company on its enterprise and far-sightedness.

Admiral MORI, Harbour Master, said navigation had made phenomenal progress, and, Japan being the chief maritime country of the East, the progress or decline of her navigation greatly affected her advance as a State. Serviceable docks were most important both in peace and war, and the advance of enterprise in this direction was most desirable. The company would endeavour to meet the increasing requirements of the port.

Mr. UMEDA, Mayor of Yokohama, also added a few congratulatory remarks.

Mr. OTANI KANEI, Chairman of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, said Yokohama was the centre of Japanese maritime enterprise, and it was deplorable that up to recently it had lacked proper docks. He congratulated the company on its enterprise. Good docks were necessary for the continued prosperity of a port, and he attributed the prosperity of Hongkong largely to its being provided with commodious docks which made it a centre of navigation in the East. Japanese Navigation had made a phenomenal advance since the Japan-China war, and now there were few waters where Japan's ships did not ply. Their urgent duty to day was to add to the national power and to increase the national resources, and do this there was no other course than to promote foreign trade. He congratulated not only the company, not only Yokohama, but the country at large on its possession of these fine docks.

An informal dinner was the next item of the programme, and at the conclusion all the workshops were thrown open to guests; while not a few watched with interest the *hakunori*, or feats of skill by a number of coolies on floating barks of timber.

The two docks will be able to accommodate all vessels of ordinary size. No. 1 will dock ships of 503.110 feet; its length on blocks is 483.699 feet; the width of the entrance 93.625 feet at top and 75.550 feet at bottom; the draft 27.107 feet; and it takes five hours to pump it clear of water. This dock has only just been opened. It is much bigger and more commodious than No. 2, which was opened in April, 1897. The length of the latter, on blocks, is 351.025 feet; it can take vessels up to 364.200 feet in length; the width of the entrance at top is 60.830 feet and at bottom 45.220 feet; its draft is 26.590 feet; and it takes 2½ hours to pump out all the water. Both docks are very solidly built, and are in every way a credit to the contractors, to the Dock Company, and to Yokohama.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It is announced in the *Official Gazette* that Japan's delegates to the International Oriental Association this year will be Professors Hozumi and Tsuboi, two of the most eminent men she has to send.

We observe that the Governments of Austria and Germany have appreciated

the labours of Dr. Lönholm in Japan. The former has conferred on him the decoration of the Iron Crown, and the latter that of the Crown.

The *Chiuo Shimbun* has received a telegram from its special correspondent in Peking, announcing the death of His Excellency the Viceroy Liu Kun-yi, Southern Superintendent of Trade in China. It is expected that his office will be conferred on Chang Chi-lung.

Yamagata Prefecture has been visited by quite a serious calamity. A large conflagration occurred in Yonezawa on the 28th ultimo, and another in the town of Yamazawa on the following day. Of the two the former appears to have been much the more disastrous, but exact details of the damage done are not yet forthcoming.

It is stated that the herring catch during the first part of the present season in Hokkaido has been exceptionally fine. No less than half a million of *hoku* have been taken, which represents 5 million yen, at 10 yen a *koku*. That is for only one third of the season, so that hopes are entertained of a total catch worth 10 million yen.

It is alleged that the Emperor has been advised to increase the pay of military and naval officers from the rank of Captain downwards, and that the new schedule will be published in a few days. This appears to be an unavoidable measure. The pay of officers in the junior ranks of the two services was always very small, and has become quite inadequate since the appreciation of commodities.

The trial of two water police-constables for ill-treating a female prisoner in order to wring a confession from her, was concluded in the Tokyo Local Court on the 28th ultimo. Ogawa, who had beaten the woman with an iron bar, received a sentence of two months' imprisonment with hard labour, and Kobayashi, who had used a hempen rope, was condemned to 2 days' confinement. Both men appealed.

The latest scheme with reference to Tokyo harbour is to have it at Haneida; that is to say, at the mouth of the Tamagawa. The cost of constructing it, according to that plan, would be 30 million yen, and the engineering difficulties would be comparatively small. The only trouble is that a harbour 10 miles distant from Tokyo could scarcely be called Tokyo harbour. The *Fiji Shimpō* justly ridicules the idea, and urges that, even though three times as much money be required, the mouth of the Sumida is the only proper site.

It appears that the Mexican emigration scheme is not turning out successfully. Thirty-seven Japanese were sent thither, and an area of 12,500 acres of land was taken up, but the soil proves to be hopelessly unproductive, and out of the thirty-seven immigrants, no less than thirty-five made their way to the Japanese Legation, a distance of 250 miles, in search of aid. Tokyo newspapers state that unless the families of the immigrants join them by next spring, the allotment of land will be forfeited. The matter is therefore causing much anxiety in Japan, especially to Viscount Enomoto, who has been the head and front of the enterprise.

Lieut Meyer, of the 12th U.S. Infantry, committed suicide by jumping overboard from the transport *Sheridan* two days before the steamer's arrival at Manila.

It is reported that Messrs. Macgregor, Gow & Co., the well-known London shipping firm, intend shortly to conduct their own business in connection with the Glen Line in the East.

In addition to macadamized roads, says a Chinese report, Legation-street, Peking, is about to be lighted with electricity, and a Japanese engineer has been entrusted with the work.

The second day of the Spring Races will be honoured by the presence of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor. His Majesty will give a handsome prize to the winner of the fourth race of the day. The band of H.M.S. *Barfleur* has been engaged.

Some of the Volunteer Regiments in the Philippines are now armed with the Krag-Jorgensen rifle. This is a change much needed, for the Filipinos with their Mausers usually made it hot for the Volunteers, whose Springfield rifles are of little use over a long range.

The Foreign Department has received a telegram, dated the 1st inst., from Consul Shimidzu at Vancouver, stating that 57 emigrants to British Columbia who arrived on the 25th April per steamer *Empress of China* were refused admittance on the ground that they were contract labourers.

The Railway Works Bureau invite tenders for a supply of Portland cement to the amount of 20,000 casks, to be delivered at Yokohama; and two lots of copper wire for electric lighting, to be delivered at Shimabashi. Tenders to be opened on the 18th inst. Mr. Zushi, Director of the Accountant Section, is to be in charge of the contract.

There have been several instances near Manila of mutilation of American dead by the Filipinos. The invariable practice is to strip the bodies naked and then mutilate them. Considering the claims of the Filipino leaders to rank with the highest civilised nations, this brutal conduct of the Filipinos is somewhat strange, remarks the *China Mail*.

On Monday a boy, eight years old, son of Mr. R. W. Borthwick's *jinrikisha* man, while climbing a tree near Dr. Wheeler's house, fell on the ground, his head striking a stone. He was lying unconscious, when Mr. J. B. Coulson passed by, and immediately had him carried in to Dr. Wheeler's for medical treatment. The boy was afterwards taken to Dr. Rokkaku's Hospital.

On the 17th April, the Provost guard raided a house in Manila that turned out to be a recruiting office of the insurgent Government. A Colonel, two captains and several subordinates were captured, together with evidence in the shape of books and papers that in proof conclusive. The place had been under police surveillance for some time. It is said that one of the prisoners is the Filipino general Pio del Pilar.

The Russo-Chinese Railway Company has given orders for the building of six swift ocean steamers, intended for a regular line to run between the terminus of the Manchurian Railway of Tientsin, Port Arthur, Shanghai, and Nagasaki. Two of the steamers are to be built at Newcastle, one at Greenock, one in Holland, and the other two in Germany. The vessels will carry both passengers and freight, making fortnightly trips.

Captain John Tracy Willoughby, a mining engineer, and recently of Matabeleland, has just made a voyage out to Nagasaki from Cardiff as an A.B. before the mast of the British ship *Terrisdale*. Out of work and wishing to do something he shipped just for the experience as much as anything. He has since gone to Hongkong on the *Doric*, whence he returns to the Cape.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By HOMER B. HULBERT, A.M.

CHAPTER V.

A GREAT COUNCIL—THE KING DECIDES TO MOVE TO HAMHUNG—THE NEWS IN CHINA—THE KING FINDS DIFFICULTY IN LEAVING PYEONG-YANG—A PARLEY IN THE CHANNEL OF THE TA-DONG—THE KING LEAVES THE CITY—THE KOREANS REVEAL THE POSITION OF THE FORD—THE JAPANESE ENTER PYEONG-YANG—THE CROWN PRINCE GOES TO KANG-WUN PROVINCE—THE KING PUSHES NORTH—KOREANS IN DESPAIR—THE INDEPATIABLE YU SUNG-NYONG—SONG DA-OP BRINGS THE QUEEN TO THE KING—KATO PUSHES INTO HAM-OTUNG PROVINCE—NIGHT AT THE GRANARIES—KOREAN REVERSES—A KOREAN BETRAYS THE TWO PRINCES—A TRAITOR PUNISHED—BRAVE DEFENDERS OF YON-AN—THE KING GOES TO EU-JU—CONCLAVE IN THE SOUTH—GENERAL OF THE RED ROBE—HIS PROWESS—HE RETIRES—DISASTER AT KOM-SAN—A LONG CHASE—JAPANESE DEFEATED AT KEUM-NYONG.

On the second day of the sixth moon the King called a great council to discuss the advisability of his staying longer in Pyeong-yang or of moving further south. One said, "If someone is left to guard this city it will be well for the King to move north," but another said, "Pyeong-yang is a natural fortress. We have 10,000 soldiers and plenty of provisions. If the King goes a step from here it will mean the destruction of the dynasty." Another voice urged a different course; "We have now lost half the kingdom. Only this province and that of Ham-gyung remain to us. In the latter there are soldiers and provisions in abundance and the King had better find there a retreat." All applauded this advice excepting Yun Du-su, who said, "No, this will not do. The Japanese will surely visit that province too. Ham-hung is not nearly so easy of defence as Pyeong-yang. If the King is to leave this place there are just three courses open to him. First, he can retire to Yung-byun in this province and call about him the border guard. If he cannot hold that place he can go to Eu-ju on the border and ask speedy help from China. If necessary he can go up the Yalu to Kang-gye, still on Korean soil. And if worse comes to worst he can cross into Chinese territory and find asylum at Kwan-jun-bo although it is sure that he could hold out for a few months at Kang-gye before this would be necessary. I know all about Ham-hung. Its walls are of great extent, but they are not high and it is open to attack from every side. Besides, if he retreats northward from that place he will find nothing but savage tribes. Here he must stay." But all cried out as with one voice that the King must go to Ham-hung. General Yi Hang-buk insisted upon the necessity of going north to the Yalu and imploring aid from China even if it became necessary for the King to find asylum on Chinese soil. But in spite of all this advice the King on the sixth of the month sent the Queen on toward Ham-hung and gave orders to General Yun Du-su to hold Pyeong-yang against the Japanese. His Majesty came out and seated himself in the Ta-dong summer-house and addressed the people saying, "I am about to start for Ham-hung, but I shall leave the Crown Prince here and you must all aid him loyally." At this the people raised a great outcry. It looked as if the people would all follow the King from the city. They did not want the Prince to stay, they wanted the King.

By this time the rumors of these things had gone ahead into Liao-tung. The form which the news assumed there was that the King of Korea had fled north to Pyeong-yang, but it was only a blind, as the Japanese and Koreans had formed an agreement to invade China together and the King had made a pretence of flight so as to keep the Chinese unsuspecting until the Japanese should reach the Yalu. This report caused a great deal of anxiety in the Chinese capital and the Emperor sent General In Se-ink, who was stationed in Liao-tung, to inquire into the truth or falsity of the report. General In immediately set out for Pyeong-yang, and on his arrival sought an audience with the King. It was granted, and the General, having learned the exact state of affairs, started post-haste back to Nanjing to report to the Emperor.

On the right day of the sixth moon the van of the Japanese army arrived on the bank of the Ta-dong opposite Pyeong-yang. But there were no boats and no way of crossing, so they went into camp to await the arrival of the main body of the army. No Jik was ordered by the King to take the ancestral tablets, as he was about to leave the town. The people were enraged at this, for they thought it would mean the immediate pillage of

the city by the Japanese and consequent hardships and dangers to them. So the crowd armed itself with clubs and stones, and as the tablets were being carried they struck the equipage down and loudly insulted No Jik, who had it in charge. They said, "In times of peace you are ready enough to steal the government revenues, and it is for this reason that all this trouble has arisen. You call upon us to protect the city, and then run away yourself when danger approaches." Lashing themselves into a fury by their own words, they threw off their clothes and prepared to strike down every man who should come to the gates with a view to running away. Meanwhile the old people and the children besieged the palace with their prayers, saying, "We are all here to protect the city and, if the King leaves, it will be the same as handing us over to slaughter." In the eagerness of their importunities they even pressed into the outer court-yard and were stopped only by the statement that the King was not going to leave. Yu Sung-nyong came out and sat down before the crowd, and, addressing an old man, said, "You say that you desire to protect this place and the King, and you say well, but how is it that you so forget yourself as to come in this bold manner into the King's apartments and raise this disturbance?" The people, partly through shame and partly because it seemed evident that the King was not about to leave, returned to their homes.

That night the Japanese caught a Korean and sent him across the river with a letter to the King in which they said, "We wish to meet Yi Dok-hyung and have a parley with him." This seemed to be a proper thing to do, so Yi entered a small boat and was sculled out to the middle of the river, where he met Konishi. Without wasting any words in mere formalities the latter said, "The cause of all this trouble is that Korea would not give a safe conduct to our envoys to Nanking, but if you will now give us an open road into China all the trouble for you will be at an end." To this Yi replied "If you will send this army back to Japan we can confer about the matter, but we will listen to nothing so long as you are on Korean soil." Konishi continued, "We have no wish to harm you. We have wished such a conference as this before but have not had a single opportunity before today." But the only answer the Korean made was, "Turn about and take your troops back to Japan." The Japanese general thereupon lost his temper and cried, "Our soldiers always go ahead, and they know nothing about going backwards," and so the conference was broken up, each returning to his own side of the stream.

The next day the King succeeded in getting away from the city, and made his way towards Yung-byun, Generals Yun Du-su, Kim Myung-wun, and Yi Wun-ik being left to guard the city and oppose the passage of the enemy. The Japanese camped beside the Ta-dong and waited as they had waited beside the Im-jin "for something to turn up." They did not have to wait so long as they did beside the Im-jin. The Korean generals, Kim Myung-wun and Yun Du-su, were not without courage and skill, and they conceived the scheme of crossing the river at night at the ford of Neung-ni-do, a little above the city, and falling upon the enemy with a picked body of troops. It would be difficult to disprove that in the face of such odds and such a vast disparity in equipment, this plan showed the highest courage not only in the generals but in the common soldiers. The fact that the attempt failed and failed disastrously may reflect upon the judgment of the leaders, but it can never impeach their bravery. The fording of the river, always a difficult and slow operation at night, consumed more time than had been anticipated, and by the time the devoted men reached the Japanese outposts it was already dawn. They were now in a desperate situation. There was nothing to do but to retreat, but the retreat was itself a cause of disaster, for it revealed to the foe the position of the fords; and thus it happened that a miscalculation as to time made the Koreans the instrument of their own destruction, even as they had been at the Im-jin.

The Japanese now knew that they had everything their own way. After a hearty breakfast they shouldered their arms and made for the fords. They swarmed across in such crowds that the defenders were driven back before they had shot a dozen arrows. The two Korean Generals, making a virtue of necessity, opened the Ta-dong Gate on the river side of the town and told the people to escape for their lives. The soldiers threw all their heavier arms into the pond called Pung-wal-su and fled by way of the Po-dong Gate. The Japanese did not pursue, but took quiet possession of the town and settled down. Here again they made a grand mistake. Their only hope lay in pushing on at full speed into China, for even now the force that was to crush them was being collect-

ed, and every day of delay was lessening their chances of success.

The King was at Pak-ch'un when the news of the fall of P'yeng-yang reached him, and he was in feverish haste to get on to Ei-jin, saying that if worst came to worst he would cross into Chinese territory. But he added, "As I am told that by leaving Korean soil I shall abdicate my royal right I wish the Crown Prince, in case of General Ch'oe Heang-wun, to go to I-ch'un in Kang-wun Province and there gather about him an army and hold the fortress as long as he can." This order was immediately carried out, and the Prince started for Kang-wun Province while the King pushed on northward to Ka-san. He arrived at that place in the middle of the night. It was pitch dark and there were no lights and the rain was falling in torrents. The royal escort had dwindled to less than twenty men. Here the report was received that a Chinese force was about to cross the Ya-lu, and so the King stopped at Ka-san waiting their approach. Yu Sung-nyong was hurrying from town to town trying to get together provisions for the Chinese army that was coming to Korea's aid, but as fast as he got it together the people rose in revolt and stole it all. Some days passed and still the expected army did not appear, so Yi Dok-hyung was despatched as envoy to China to solicit aid from the Emperor, and His Majesty called together his little court and said, "If necessary I shall be obliged to cross the Ya-lu and find asylum on Chinese soil. If so which of you will go with me?" For some moments there was a dead silence, and then Yi Hang-bok, the same who had aided the Queen in her flight from the palace, spoke up and said, "I will go with you." The truth of the matter is that when the King left P'yeng-yang the courtiers all gave up the kingdom for lost and were ready to desert the King the moment there was a more favorable opening.

With tremendous toil Yu Sung-nyong succeeded in getting some provisions together and he transported it all to Ch'ong-jin, but when he arrived at that place he found a crowd of people assembled in front of the royal granary armed with clubs. He charged the mob and scattered it, caught eight of the leaders, and beheaded them on the spot. He then went to Kwak-san and secured further supplies and also at Kwi-sung and held it in readiness for the Chinese army when it should appear.

We will remember that the King had fully determined to go across into Ham-gyung Province, but at the last moment he had been dissuaded because of the difficulties that might arise if he were compelled to retreat further still. Being now urged to go on to Ei-jin, he replied, "Yes, I must do so, but what about the Queen, whom I sent forward into Ham-gyung Province?" The brave Prefect of Un-san made answer, "I will go and bring her to Your Majesty." So he set out across the country to find the Queen, and all the records tell us that he brought her faithfully to the King at Pak-ch'un. This short mention does this brave man scant justice, for even in these days a journey across the northern part of the peninsula is an arduous undertaking, especially in summer. But not only so; he was to find a Queen, beset perhaps by enemies, and bring her safely across that wilderness to the King, who by that time might be far across the Chinese border, while the country behind him swarmed with a half-savage enemy. This prefect, whose name is Song Da-op, must have been a brave, energetic, tactful man whose will was as strong as his loyalty was deep.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAM RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE DREYFUS CASE.

Saigon, April 28.

The *Figaro* publishes the deposition of M. M. Paléologue, an official of the Foreign Office, dated March 29th, which establishes that the translation of the despatch of Panizzardi (Italian Military Attaché), contained in the secret portfolio of the Minister of War, is a false despatch, and that the translation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs is rigorously correct.

Mr. Lebre, Keeper of the Seals, has opened an inquiry into the *Figaro's* publication of the deposition of Mr. M. Paléologue, of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, before the Court of Cassation.

Saigon, May 1.

The Court of Cassation has heard Colonel Dupaty de Clam and Captain Cuignet. It is believed that the examination of witnesses has now been terminated.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN AGREEMENTS.

The agreement between England and Russia with regard to railways in China has been signed.

May 3.

The re-opening of Parliament took place peacefully. By request of the Prime Minister, M. Dupuy, all interpellations relating to the Dreyfus affair were postponed until after the delivery of judgment by the Court of Cassation.

FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Fighting continues round Calumpit. The Filipinos are harassing the Americans.

FILIPINOS SUING FOR PEACE.

The Filipinos have sent officers to Manila to ask for a suspension of hostilities.

THE FIRST OF MAY.

Saigon, May 2.

The 1st of May has passed in Paris amid the greatest calm. The capital wore its habitual aspect.

Saigon, May 3.

The first of May passed without any incident in France and abroad. Suspension of work was insignificant.

THE PATRIOTIC LEAGUE.

Saigon, 4th May.

The Correctional Police have condemned to a fine of 16 francs the Secretary of the League of Patriots.

SHANGHAI SETTLEMENT.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT EXTENDS THE LIMITS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, May 4.

The extension of the present municipal limits of the Shanghai Anglo-American Settlement has been granted in satisfactory terms.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

BRITISH CABLE SUBSIDY.

London, April 28.

The *Times* reports that the Government has decided to contribute an early subsidy to the full amount recommended by the Cable Committee, as guarantee for the construction of the all-British Pacific cables.

AUSTRIA AND CHINA.

At the Hungarian Diet, the Premier stated that there was no present intention on the part of Austria to acquire any territory in China.

THE COPPER MARKET.

An enormous rise in the price of copper has taken place, due to the American ring dislocating the trade.

FRANCE & GERMANY FRIENDLY TO ENGLAND.

Speaking in Birmingham, at the banquet of mechanical engineers, Mr. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, said that the general appearance in Europe was much more tranquil than a few months ago, and that Great Britain had made friendly settlements with Germany and France. He also hoped that the country was making one with Russia.

MORE FIGHTING IN SAMOA.

Renewed fighting is going on at Apia between large bodies of King Malietoa's partisans and the rebels.

COGHLAN INCIDENT SETTLED.

London, April 29.

Captain Coghlan has been reprimanded, and the incident is closed.

DISASTROUS CYCLONE IN AMERICA.

A cyclone has visited Kirksville and Newton in Missouri. It destroyed 400 houses at Kirksville, and it is believed that 75 lives have been lost and 1,000 persons injured.

NEW SOUTH WALES LANCERS IN LONDON.

The New South Wales Lancers have arrived and marched through London, going to Aldershot. They have met with a splendid reception.

THE THOUSAND GUINEA STAKES.

The result: Sibola, Fascination, and Must.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN AGREEMENT IN CHINA.

London, April 30.

The *Morning Post's* St. Petersburg telegram states that an agreement between Great Britain and Russia regarding railways in China was signed yesterday. Russia binds herself not to attempt to obtain or assist another Power to obtain any railway or similar concession in the Yang-tsze valley, while Britain makes a similar pledge regarding Manchuria. The existing enterprises in spheres of interest are safeguarded.

London, May 1.

Speaking at the Royal Academy banquet, Lord Salisbury said he believed that the Anglo-Russian agreement would prevent, in all likelihood, the collision of British and Russian interests in future.

London, May 2.

The German press welcomes the Anglo-Russian agreement, as a guarantee for peace. Some French newspapers hold the same view, but others question whether Russia has not ignored the French interests, while the English Press is somewhat reserved pending the publication of the details.

London, May 3.

The preamble to the Anglo-Russian Agreement states that Russia and Great Britain agree to uphold the integrity and independence of China.

The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, speaking in the House of Commons, has promised to lay the text of the Agreement before Parliament as soon as received, and added that there are stipulations protecting the Newchwang Railway.

TRANSVAAL QUESTION.

BRITISH PRESS DEMANDING ACTION.

UITLANDERS EXCITED.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S STATEMENT.

English newspapers, including the Radical organs, are unanimously demanding action by the Imperial Government in response to the petition of the Uitlanders to redress grievances.

Numerous meetings are being held by the Uitlanders at Johannesburg demanding political rights.

The Krügerite organs insist that the agitation is all manufactured, as prior to the Jameson raid.

Mr. Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that President Krüger had been informed that the dynamite concession would be a breach of the Convention.

PRESIDENT KRÜGER OPENS VOLKSRAAD.

President Krüger, in opening the Volksraad, hoped that, during the present session, he would be able to submit proposals

regarding the franchise, the mining rights, and the dynamite question.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, has announced his intention of receiving the Uitlanders' petition, and commented upon the unprecedented circumstances under which it is presented.

Both the *Times* and the *Standard* insist that it is impossible to disregard the situation which is endangering the general welfare of South Africa.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN AGREEMENT.

London, May 4.

The *Times* reports that the Anglo-Russian agreement provides for the maintenance of a British chief engineer and financial controller for the Northern Railway up to Shanghaiwan, beyond which the road will be under Chinese control.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

A despatch to the *New York Herald* says that the province of Luanprabang has been ceded to France, in exchange for Chantabun, which has been abandoned by the latter country and constituted into a neutral zone.

QUEEN VICTORIA LEAVES NICE.

H.M. the Queen has started homewards.

BRITISH BUDGET.

The budget has been read a second time.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta 2	May 8
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern 3	May 8
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 3	May 9
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	May 10
America	C. & O. Co.	Coptic 4	May 11
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Th. May 11	May 11
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	May 11
Canada, Ac.	C. P. R. Co.	Kim. of China	May 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Kim. of Japan	May 11
America	T. & K. E.	America Maru	May 11
Hongkong	T. & K. E.	Nippon Maru	May 11

- 1 Left Hongkong on the 10th ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 3rd inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 20th ult.
4 Left San Francisco on the 28th ult.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe, via S'bad.	M. M. Co.	India	May 10
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	May 10
Shanghai	N. V. E.	Yamashiro Maru	May 10
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	May 11
America	P. M. Co.	China	May 11
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	May 11
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	May 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Kim. of China	May 11
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	May 11
Hongkong	T. & K. E.	America Maru	May 11
Canada, Ac.	C. P. R. Co.	Kim. of Japan	May 11
America	T. & K. E.	Nippon Maru	May 11

CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 418.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to K 6	1—K takes R
2—Kt to Kt 5 ch	2—K to Q 4
3—Q to Kt 4 mate	
2—R to Q 4 ch	1—P takes Kt
3—Q takes B mate	2—K takes B
3—Q to Kt 5 mate	if 2—K to B 4
2—Q to Q 7 ch	1—B takes B
3—Q takes P (Kt 2) mate	2—K takes R
2—P to B 4 ch	1—Kt to B 6
3—Kt to B 5 mate	2—K takes R
etc.	etc.

Correct solutions received from W.D.C., Wil. and East Anglia.

President K.üger (Tokyo). Your solution is incorrect.

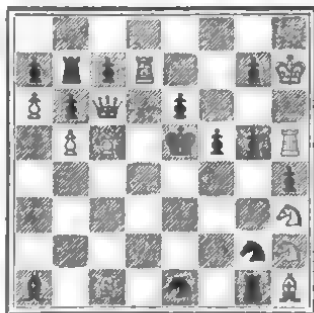
1—Q to Kt 5 ch 1—K takes R

2—Q to K 2 ch

If now 2..... K to Q 4, there is no mate.

PROBLEM No. 421.
By ST. JOHNSON, Sweden.
Elegant and Difficult.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 504.

THE GREAT CABLE MATCH.

In the fourth International Match between the United States and Great Britain, the Americans won three, drew six, and lost only one game. We give below the solitary lost game. It will be seen that Black had a good game, probably the better game, after his 25th move and up to his 31st move. After that, White's game improved. Even then it was believed by many that Pillsbury could draw; but Blackburne played fine Chess in the ending, compelling the American to resign.

FIRST TABLE.

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE.

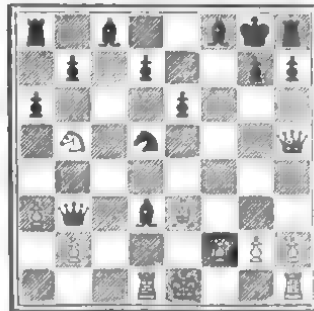
White—Blackburne, England. Black—Pillsbury, U.S.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	34 Kt x B	Q QB3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	35 K Kt 3	P R 3
3 B B4	Kt B3	36 P R4	P QR4
4 P Q3	B B4	37 Q B3	Q K3
5 B K3	B x B	38 P B4	P K5
6 P x B	Castles	39 P x KP	Q K4ch
7 Kt B3	P Q3	40 Q B4	P x P
8 Castles	Kt QR4	41 Q x P	Kt x P
9 B Kt3	Kt x B	42 K B4	Kt Q6ch
10 RP x Kt	Kt K5	43 K x P	Kt x P
11 Q K x Q	P KB4	44 Kt K3	K B2
12 P x P	B x P	45 K B3	Kt Q6
13 P R3	Kt R3	46 P K5	P x P
14 P K4	B K3	47 P x P	K K2
15 Q K3	P R3	48 P Kt6	Kt K8
16 Kt KK5	B B3	49 Kt Q5	Kt B6
17 Q Kt3	P B3	50 Kt B4	Kt Q5ch
18 R B2	Q K4	51 K K5	Kt B6ch
19 Q K KB3	B Kt3	52 K R5	Kt Q5
20 Q K3	R x R	53 K K5	Kt B6ch
21 R x R	R KB3	54 K K4	Kt Q5
22 Kt Q x R	R B3	55 K R5	Kt x P
23 R x R	P x R	56 K K5	Kt Q5
24 Kt KB3	Kt B2	57 Kt R5ch	K B q
25 Kt B3	P KB4	58 K B6	Kt B6
26 P x P	B x P	59 Kt B4	Kt R7
27 P KKt4	B B5	60 Kt Q5	Kt K5ch
28 Kt K4	P R3	61 K K5	Kt K4
29 Kt Kt3	P Q4	62 K R6	Kt B6ch
30 K Kt2	K B q	63 P x Kt	K x P
31 P B3	P B4	64 K K5	K K3
32 Kt R4	Q Q3	65 K B4	P R5
33 Kt (R4) B5	B x Kt	66 K Q3	& after five moves, Black resigned.

END GAME.

The young and rising player, Marshall, champion of the Brooklyn Chess Club, the other day played one of a series of games with the well-known amateur, Johnston, at the Manhattan Chess Club. In the course of the game—Marshall had to concede the odds of a knight—the following complicated position was arrived at:—

BLACK.



WHITE.

It was White's turn to play, and he proceeded with Kt to Q 6. There was a good number of onlookers, and at first they thought that all was over with Marshall. They expected the rejoinder B takes Kt, overlooking entirely the continuation 2—Q to K 8 ch, B to B: 3—B to B5, threatening mate on the move. When Black looked over the position he seemed to have detected the threat, and the game proceeded in the following manner:—

1—Kt to Q 6	1—P to K Kt 3
2—B takes Kt	2—B takes Kt
3—B to K 8	3—B to Kt 5 ch
4—K to B sq	4—Kt takes B ch
5—P takes Kt	5—Q to B 5 ch
6—K to Kt q	6—P to K 4
7—R to B sq	7—Resigns.

It will thus be seen that the move 1—Kt to Q 6 was really very ingenious and sound, and the whole combination indicating Marshall's wonderful judgment of position.

GAME No. 505.

This is the second game in the match by correspondence between the chess clubs of Vienna and St. Petersburg which was begun in December, 1897. The first game was beautifully won by Vienna.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Vienna.	Black—St. Petersburg.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4
2 P QB4	Q Kt B3
3 Kt QB3	P x P
4 P Q5	Kt R4
5 Q R4ch	P B3
6 P QKt4	P QKt4
7 Q x Kt	Q x Q
8 P x Q	P K5
9 Kt Q x Q	P x P
10 P K4	P K3
11 Kt K3	Kt KB3
12 P x P	P x P
13 B Kt2	B K3
14 B x Kt	P x B
15 Kt K2	R B q
16 Kt B4	R B4
17 R Q x Q	P H6
18 P R6	B Q3
19 Kt (B4) x P B7	Q B7
20 R B5	B x Kt
21 Kt x B	R x Kt
22 R x P	K K2
23 P Kt3	R QR4
24 B K2	B K4
25 Castles	KR Q x Q
26 P B4	B B6
27 R B3	KR Q3
28 K Kt2	P B4
29 R K3ch	K B q
30 B B5	P R3
31 B B4	R Q5
32 B K3	R x R
33 R (B2) K2	R K5
34 R x R	P x R
35 R x P	R Q3
36 R B4	R Q2
37 R B6	K K2
38 K B3	B B3
39 K K4	B Q5
40 B R4	R K2
41 R Q6	B Kt8
	Abandoned as drawn.

JANOWSKY AND SHOWALTER.

These two masters are playing another match of seven games up for \$250 a side, and \$100 offered by the Brooklyn Chess Club. When the mail left the score stood; Janowski, 1; Showalter, 2; Draws, 1.

From later advice received, we learn that Showalter won his match by a score of four to two. When the Frenchman congratulated him on his victory, the American very gallantly admitted that "sometimes the best men does not win."

NOTES.

Arrangements have been completed for the international cable chess match between Columbia, Harvard, Yale and Princeton and the British universities of Oxford and Cambridge, which was to be played April 21st and 22nd. Baron Albert de Rothschild of Vienna was to act as referee and was to settle all differences which cannot be adjusted by the umpires. Mr. John Henniker Heaton, M.P., who has been active in furthering cable matches between the legislative bodies of the two countries, was to act as umpire for the Americans at the British Chess Club. The British umpire had not yet been named.

W. E. Napier, Brooklyn's youthful chess prodigy, while in England a few weeks ago, gave evidence of his remarkable prowess on the chessboard to his kinsmen across the sea. The day after Napier's arrival in London he visited Simpson's Divan, the famous resort of chess-masters, and met F. J. Lee, who suggested playing a game, which they did. Napier scored a signal victory after a hard struggle, in which he retained the whip hand throughout. When the bout was over Lee, who is considered next to Blackburne and Burn among the English native players, asked his youthful opponent's name. When informed he did not suggest another game, for Napier's fame had preceded him, and his astonishment at the young stranger's ability at once vanished.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Candia, British steamer, 4,195, W. H. Houghton, 27th April.—London via ports, Kobe, 26th April, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 27th April.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 26th April, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Solace, U.S. Transport, 2,362, Capt. Dunlop, 28th April.—Manila, 22nd April.
Banelder, British steamer, 1,958, Sarchet, 29th April.—London via ports, Kobe, 28th April, General.—Comes & Co.
Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, F. R. Evans, 30th April.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 12th April, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Indus, French steamer, 2,337, Chevalier, 30th April.—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 29th April, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 1st May.—Vancouver, B.C., 17th April, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Glaucus, British steamer, 3,350, J. Barwise, 1st May.—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 30th April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Gask, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 1st May.—Hongkong via ports, 30th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878, Birch, 2nd May.—Hongkong via ports, 30th April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantton, 4th May.—Hongkong via ports, 2nd May, Mails and General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 4th May.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe 3rd May, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Moore, 29th April.—Australia and New Zealand via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, Joseph Pullford, 30th April.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 1st May.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 2nd May.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Gask, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 2nd May.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, R. Nunome, 2nd May.—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. de B. Lockyer, 3rd May.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Undaunted, British steamer, 2,026, Elcoate, 4th May.—New York via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Solace, United States Transport, 2,362, Captain Dunlop, 4th May.—Honolulu via San Francisco.
Glaucus, British steamer, 3,350, J. Barwise, 5th May.—Hankow via Kobe and Moji, Belfast.—Butterfield & Swire.
Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantton, 5th May.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer **Rohilla**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Tomi, Mrs. Philip, Mrs. Pudsey Dawson, Mr. Michalitschka, Miss Michalitschke, Mr. Lo Chui Char, Mr. Li Lai Cheun, Mr. Cooper, Miss Cooper, Mr. J. P. Wilson, Miss Parsons, Miss Parsons, Master Parsons, Mr. J. W. Hepworth, Mr. Tuely, Mrs. Tuely, Miss Tuely, Mr. Waddell, Mrs. Waddell, Miss Waddell, Mr. Benson, Mrs. Benson, Miss Benson, Miss A. Benson, Mr. G. F. Taylor, Mr. E. Palgrave, Mr. Maddock, Mr. Simpson, Mr. L. Richards, Capt. A. D. E. Shelley, Miss Carbough, Miss Dobie, and Mr. Cartwright, in cabin; 16 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Nippon Maru**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Mr. R. Midzutani, Mr. H. Hamada, Mr. K. Morimura, Rev. R. Buxton, Mr. S. O., Mr. A. Brogowki, Miss Brogowki, Mr. H. Muller, Mr. J. S. C. Siegfried, Miss Siegfried, Miss Alice Siegfried, Mr. Henry Young, Mrs. Young, Mr. A. S. Goodwin, Mr. S. Hani, Mr. K. Hirayama, Mr. W. E. Wead, Mr. J. Filcott, Mr. W. A. Johns, and Mrs. Johns, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Miss J. N. Merrill, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Com. M. Forsyth, U.S.N., Mr. W. J. Cowin,

U.S.N., Lt.-Com. W. H. Everett, U.S.N., Dr. C. T. Hibbett, U.S.N., and Lt.-Com. Keary, R.A., in cabin.

Per British steamer **Gask**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. E. McGill, Mrs. C. P. Low, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Norris, Mr. T. R. Goldkoop, Mr. and Mrs. A. List, Mr. H. C. Brushfield, Mr. Peter Ivanof, and Capt. R. C. Jackson and servant, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Damon, and Mr. J. W. Brown, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Sir James Poole, Miss S. Blackmore, Rev. and Mrs. Rapalje and child, Mr. L. G. McNair, Mr. R. C. Edwards, Count von Spee, Mr. C. F. Gardner, C.M.G., Dr. J. T. Maclean, Miss Emma E. Barnes, Rev. and Mrs. T. P. Haggard and 3 children, Mr. H. C. Warburton, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Carlin and 5 children, Miss E. Warley, Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, Dr. and Mrs. R. C. Beebe and 3 children, Rev. and Mrs. T. J. Atwood and 2 children, Mr. V. H. Muller, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Baker, and Mr. and Mrs. O. Kawakami and child, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Empress of Japan**, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss E. F. Stoddard, Miss E. Stoddard, Miss C. Stoddard, Miss C. Jensen, Mr. E. Hamilton Holmes, Mr. P. E. F. Stone, Mr. J. H. Baigate, Mr. J. Black, Capt. M. Gillivray, Mr. and Mrs. Hecker, Mr. S. Strauss, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Ching Shee, child and 2 native servants, Mr. J. C. Budd, Dr. Alex. Reimce, Mr. R. R. Martin and native servant, Mr. A. L. Koch, Mr. C. R. Shaw, Mr. E. Ross, Mr. C. W. Deaving, Mr. and Mrs. Uley, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. S. W. Cartwright, and Mr. O. Donell, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Gask**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Rev. J. Abbott, Miss A. Abbott, Rev. and Mrs. T. J. Atwood and two children, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Alford, Mr. W. R. D. Beckett, Mr. J. W. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Beebe and three children, Miss Barnes, Miss Blackmore, Col. Cornwell, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Carlin and five children, Mrs. Calhoun, Rev. E. Chatterton, Mrs. L. P. Cushing, Lord Chichester and valet, Lady Chichester and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, Mr. J. V. Diefenbach, Mr. and Mrs. Damon, Mr. R. C. Edwards, Mrs. Flavel, Miss Nellie Flavel, Miss Katie Flavel, Mr. Thos. Grant, Mr. C. F. Gardner, C.M.G., Rev. and Mrs. T. P. Haggard and three children, Mr. and Mrs. O. Kawakami and child, Mr. D. K. Ledboer, Mr. V. M. Muller, Dr. J. T. Maclean, Mr. A. Michaletschke, Miss Michaletschke, Mr. L. G. McNair, Mr. Jas. Phelby, Sir James Poole, Miss Preston, Mr. and Mrs. E. Sterling Postley, Rev. and Mrs. Rapalje and child, Count von Spee, Mr. S. J. Speck, Mr. L. A. Stout, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney M. Smith, Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, Mr. J. M. Woods, Mr. H. C. Warburton, and Miss E. Wharley, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is still no real movement in yarns or grey shittings, and very little business in fancy cottons and woollens. White shittings are enquired for, but at inadequate prices. Turkey reds are dull.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shittings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$8.60 to 9.90
Grey Shittings—9 1/2 yds, 43 inches	3.00 to 3.40
Y. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 41 inches, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shittings—21 yards, 14 inches	3.00 to 3.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italians and Saleens Black, 52 inches	PER YARD.
	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	10.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.35
Cloth—Pilot, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.55
Cloth—President, 54 @ 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloth—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb per lb	0.62 1/2 to 0.75
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 21 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-4 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—20 to 30 lb, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.80
Turkey Reds—18 to 20 lb, 24 1/2 yards, 31 inches	2.45 to 3.45

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIECE.
No. 16 1/2, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.50
No. 18 1/2, Singles	Nominal
No. 38 1/2, Singles	41.00 to 44.00
No. 42, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
No. 42, Doubles	43.50 to 45.50
No. 250, Plain	61.00 to 65.00
No. 250, Plain	80.00 to 81.00
No. 250, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
No. 250, Gassed	77.00 to 80.00
No. 250, Gassed	90.00 to 95.00
No. 300, Gassed	117.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.	PER PIECE.
American Middling	\$10.00
Indian Broad	18.50
Chinese	20.00 to 21.00

METALS.

An extensive business has taken place in bar iron and steel, and there has also been some movement in galvanised corrugated sheets.

	PER PIECE.
Round and square 1 inch and upward	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.90 to 5.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.70
Galvanised iron sheets	10.50 to 11.75
Wire Nails, assorted	6.75 to 7.00
tin Plates, per box	6.40 to 6.70
Pig Iron, No. 3	5.80 to 6.20
House Iron (8 to 10 inch)	5.25 to 5.50

KRAOSENH.

The market has been very irregular, and quotations are nominal.

American	\$1.25
Russian	2.80
Langkat	3.10

SUGAR.

The market has a firm tone with higher prices generally for China and Manila; prices for Formosa unchanged.

	PER PIECE.
Brown Taka	\$1.90 to 1.90
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.20
Brown Cane	3.90 to 4.30
Brown Java	4.90 to 5.80
White Java and Formosa	6.70 to 7.00
White refined	7.90 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Some business has been done, chiefly for Europe. The high prices that prevail check transactions for the United States.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Flatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Flatures—Extra, Coarse	Nominal
Flatures—No. 1, Fine	\$1.80 to 1.90
Flatures—No. 1, Coarse	Nominal
Flatures—No. 2, Fine	1.10 to 1.70
Flatures—No. 2, Coarse	Nominal
Flatures—No. 3, Fine	1.00 to 1.50
Flatures—No. 3, Coarse	1.00 to 1.10
Comm. 2nd class	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	1.100
Re-reels—No. 2	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakodan—Extra	Nominal
Kakodan—No. 1	Nominal
Kakodan—No. 2	Nominal
Kakodan—No. 3	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

Practically nothing has been doing, the quality of stock being very poor. Quotations are really nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Nonshi—Flatures, Best	\$125 to 136
Nonshi—Flatures, Good	110 to 125
Nonshi—Oahu, Best	125 to 130
Nonshi—Oahu, Good	110 to 120
Nonshi—Oahu, Medium	
Nonshi—Shimizu, Best	
Nonshi—Shimizu, Good	
Nonshi—Bushi, Best	Nominal
Nonshi—Bushi, Good	no stock
Nonshi—Bushi, Medium	
Nonshi—Joshu, Good	
Nonshi—Joshu, Fair	
Kibiso—Flatures, Best	90 to 100
Kibiso—Flatures, Second	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 30

TEA.

There have been some new arrivals and small purchases have been made at prices ranging from 35 to 40 yen. The quality, however, so far is inferior to last year's early arrivals, and buyers are holding off in the hope of lower prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	Nominal
Finest	Nominal
Fine	
Good Medium	
Medium	35 to 40
Good Common	
Common	

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARK LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Urr's List.]

Yokohama, May 4.

Iron Works can be had at yen 210. Grand Hotels are steady at yen 225. Club Hotels can be had at yen 95 and Japan Breweries at yen 135 ex dividends. Oriental Hotels are wanted at yen 120. Offers of Nagasaki Hotels are wanted. North & Raes are in demand at yen 200. Belts have sellers at yen 9.50. Langfeldts are wanted at yen 147.50. Hyogo Gas are obtainable at yen 170. Steam Laundries again fetched yen 65. Japan

Brewery Debentures—a small lot can be had at yen 108. Oriental Hotel Debentures are procurable at yen 108, and Y. U. Clubs at yen 108. Brett & Co. Debentures are in demand at yen 102. Nagasaki Hotel Debentures can be had at yen 100. Kobe Clubs are steady at yen 50.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd. \$50	200 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. \$100, Old	325 N.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50	255 ex div. S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd. \$100	255 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. \$100	95 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. \$100	230 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Yara), \$100	230 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 100	200 S.
North and Nao, Ltd. \$100	90 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. \$100	950 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd. \$100	247.50 S.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd. \$100	170 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co. Ltd., yen 50	65 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 1/2% Deb., \$100	200 S. & S.
Kobe Club 4% Deb., \$50	50 S.
Yokohama United Club 1/2% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 1/2% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 1/2% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 1/2% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Reserve Fund.—, yen 10,000; 1 yen 3,300 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property	
1 yen 17,770.80; 4 yen 16,108.44.	

N.H.—S. Sellers, R.—Buyers, S.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, May 4

Silver from London 1/2 higher and no alteration in rates, which close for the mail per S.S. *Empress of India* as under.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2 0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2 1/4
— 6 months' sight	2 1 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	263
On America—Bank bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	110
— Private 4 months' sight	114
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4 1/2 dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	5 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	76 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
On Silver (London)	28 1/2

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Very valuable private collection.
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January 1st, 1898.

17.



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and rest for tired, worn-out parents in a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, and a gentle anointing with CUTICURA, the great skin cure.

The only speedy, safe, permanent, and economical cure for the most distressing of itching, burning, bleeding, and scaly skin and scalp humours of infants and children. CUTICURA REMEDIES are guaranteed absolutely pure by chemists of the highest standing, and may be used from the moment of birth.

BABY SOAPS For preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, scalp, and hair of infants, and eradicating the first symptoms of distressing rashes, nothing so pure, so sweet, so wholesome, as CUTICURA SOAP, the greatest of skin purifying and beautifying soaps, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and laundry. For pimples, blotches, red, rough, oily, mothy skin, dry, thin, and falling hair, red, rough hands, it is simply incomparable. It produces the whitest, clearest skin, the softest hands, and most luxuriant hair. Absolutely pure, delicately medicated, exquisitely perfumed, surprisingly effective.

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VERANDAH, BALCONIES, BANDSTANDS, ARCADES, KIOSKS, CONSERVATORIES, ROOFS,
RAILWAY STATIONS, BARRACKS, FACTORIES, PUBLIC WORKS, MARKETS, &c.

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has no connection, so always look for above signature in blue.

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and Export Ollmen generally.

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46ins.

May 8th, 1898.

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MELLIN'S FOOD

For INFANTS and INVALIDS.

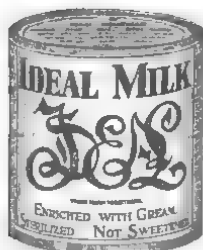
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15.

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NOT SWEETENED.

A Perfect Substitute
for Fresh Milk.

Superior
in quality to
every other
brand of
Unsweetened
Milk.

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The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach,
Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations,
Bilious Affections.



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Sold throughout the World.

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The Physician's Cure
for Gout, Rheumatic
Gout and Gravel; the
safest and most gentle
Medicine for Infants,
Children, Delicate Fe-
males, and the Sick-
ness of Pregnancy.

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Non-freezing & Ordinary Hydrants
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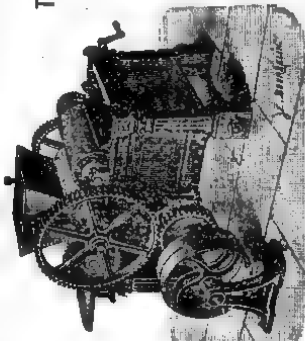
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[VOL. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	409
Police and Foreigners.....	410
An Angry Journal.....	410
Emphysema.....	411
Land Tax and Land Rent.....	411
Lakes and Forests.....	412
Charges at Japanese Inns.....	412
The "Chitose".....	412
General Viscount Kawakami.....	412
Minobu.....	412
Japanese Silk Fabrics in France.....	412
Conservatism in Education.....	412
The Yokota Affair.....	413
Nikko Restorations.....	413
Marriage of the Prince Imperial.....	413
Tokyo.....	414
Senators Agree.....	414
Japan Tea Dealers.....	414
Superstitions Once More.....	415
Official Establishments in Japan.....	415
Development of Railways during the Past Three Years.....	415
Formosa Bandits.....	415
German Demands in China.....	416
Captain Coghlan.....	416
Maltreatment of a Prisoner by the Water Police.....	416
Garden Party in Tokyo.....	416
Judicial Officials and Foreign Languages.....	416
Leading Articles:—	
Japanese Education.....	417
The Taxation of Foreigners.....	418
The Sendaï Affair Connected with Mr. Snyder.....	419
Japan's Foreign Policy.....	419
Land and Marine Transport to Hokkaido.....	419
Meeting of Chief Public Prosecutors.....	419
Monthly Summary of Japanese Current Literature.....	419
Progressists in Sendaï.....	420
A Study of Kenaitism.....	420
Correspondence:—	
Religion and Education in Japan.....	424
Moral Standards of East and West.....	425
Endowed Theology and Japanese Christianity.....	425
Japan and Religious Education.....	425
China.....	427
How Capt. Stornaway Abducted the Russian Admiral.....	428
The Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1896.....	429
Bank of Japan.....	431
News of the Week.....	431
Telegrams.....	431
Cheque.....	432
Latest Shipping.....	432
Latest Commercial.....	434

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE VOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POUVEA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH, 1899.

DEATH.

On the 13th March last, LUCY ALCOCK, relict of the late Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE question of the Crown Prince's marriage is again being mooted.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY gave a big ball at the Public Hall, Yokohama, on Tuesday.

CAPTAIN BOISSIERE has been appointed naval attaché in the French Legation at Tokyo.

THE Brazilian Envoy, Senhor Henrique Lisboa, was received in farewell audience by the Em-

peror on the 22nd, and afterwards, in company with his wife and daughters, by H.I.M. the Empress.

It is suggested that Mr. Hoshi Tora should supersede Mr. Yano as Japanese Minister to Peking.

THE N.Y.K. has decided to order 3 steamers of 6,000 tons, and over 15 knots, to be placed on the North Pacific line.

It has been arranged that Mr. Takahashi Shin-kichi will be appointed in October president of the Japan Industrial Bank.

MR. J. L. O. EYTON, aged 54, had a bicycle race with a young Japanese rider last Sunday from Yokohama to Oiso and won easily.

THE Germans are demanding the erection of a Church, the payment of an indemnity, etc., before they will consent to retire from Ichou.

THE Russian Minister, with several of his staff, is paying a lengthy visit at Nagasaki. He will make a tour of the adjacent provinces shortly.

DURING the absence of Marquis Yamagata, Premier, who is now away in Kyoto, Marquis Saigo, Minister for Home Affairs, is acting for him.

ON Monday morning several cars attached to a Nagoya train on the Sanyo Railway upset near Amishima Station, and three persons were injured.

THE Americans are making a steady advance northward of Manila, putting down the rebellion. Aguinaldo retreats faster than the American advance.

VISCOUNT MIURA has been several times assaulted during his political tour in the north-eastern provinces, and now goes about with a strong police escort.

THE Rev. W. J. White was installed Worshipful Master of the Tokyo Lodge on Friday evening, in the presence of a large assemblage of the Brethren.

COUNT AND COUNTESS KURODA gave a very enjoyable garden-party at Mita on Thursday in honour of their daughter's marriage to a son of Viscount Enomoto.

SOME difficulty is being experienced in docking H.M.S. *Victorious* at Yokohama. All her heavy guns have been removed and most of her equipment, in order to lighten her.

MR. CHINDA, Minister to Holland, and Mr. Okashi, Minister to Brazil, who are leaving for their respective posts, were received in audience by H.I.H. the Emperor on the 24th.

A HOKKAIDO hunter named Imano recently shot a large bear measuring about nine feet, in the recesses of a mountain, three and a half *ri* from Oiaru. He also captured three cubs.

AT present a clever thief is paying special attention to bartenders in Tokyo. He visits them as a client, and, taking advantage of any possible opportunities, steals their watches, clothes, &c.

THE French Academy of Science has granted

to Major Marchand, for his journey across Africa, the grand prize of 15,000 francs, which constitutes a recognition of the highest devotion to science.

ON the arrival of a down train at Kobe the other day a human head covered with blood was found near the wheels. It proved to be that of a man who had been run over near Sumiyoshi Station.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, in defending the vote for the barracks in South Africa, stated that an enormous increase, in both offensive and defensive forces, by the Transvaal, formed the sole reason for increasing the British garrison.

AN old woman, aged 96, mother of one Miura Kihachiro, belonging to the village of Kuji, Rikachu Province, has 96 children, grandchildren, and descendants. They have been increasing of late years at the rate of about 10 per annum.

A DECREE has been issued authorizing the opening of works of railway construction from Haiphong to Vietri, and from Hanoi to Vinh, with the exception of the section from Ninh-binh to Quang-yen, which crosses the rivers of the delta.

Le Figaro states that an agreement has been effected between the King of Siam and M. Doumer, Governor-General of Indo-China, in virtue of which French will be taught in public schools, while the question of Luangprabang has also been satisfactorily settled.

SECOND Captain Murakami has been appointed naval attaché to the Japanese Legation in Paris; Commander Ota and First Lieutenant Saiho to the Legation in London; First Lieutenant Hirose to the Legation in St. Petersburg; and First Lieutenant Akiyama to the Legation in Washington.

THE Japan Red Cross Society's ship *Kasai Maru*, sister ship of the *Hakui Maru*, which has arrived at Yokohama, is reported to have left Glasgow on the 21st. These ships are to be chartered to the N.Y.K. during peace time, and will be placed on the Hongkong-Vladivostok line.

THE births and deaths last month in Tokyo reached the following totals:—Births, 2,914 (1,473 males and 1,441 females); deaths, 2,129 (1,117 males and 1,011 females). The marriages numbered 933 (an increase of 215 compared with the preceding month), and the divorces 205 (an increase of 27, as compared with the preceding month).

DURING the first three months of this year the number of ships added to the Mercantile Marine of Japan was as follows:—January—steamers 5, sailing ships 180; February—steamers 6, sailing ships 182; March—steamers 9, sailing ships 205. The *Hongkong Maru* (6,063 tons), the *Tatsukami Maru* (2,691 tons), the *Daijin Maru* (1,649 tons), and the *Futami Maru* (3,840) are the largest of the new acquisitions.

POLITICAL TOPICS.

Mr. Akabane is gazetted to the post of Counsellor of the Foreign Office, in addition to the position of Minister Plenipotentiary *en disponibilité*. That means, of course, that his appointment as Vice-Minister has been given up, for the present at all events, a fact which our readers are already acquainted. There seems to be very little doubt that Mr. Takahira will become Vice-Minister.

Viscount Aoki's enemies have drawn in their horns. The *Asahi* offers an explanation which is intended to be a Partisan shaft for the Minister. It makes out that inasmuch as the main cause of the difficulty was the Viscount's disagreement with his subordinate, Mr. Tsuzuki, who is Count Inouye's relative, the Count felt constrained to support the Minister since opposition would have been attributed to partizanship! That is an entertaining interpretation. Are we to understand that the vehement attacks made by a section of the press upon Viscount Aoki's foreign policy were due simply to friction between him and the Vice-Minister of the Department over which he presides? If that be so, the confession, instead of being a parting shot for Viscount Aoki, is a suicidal stroke for his enemies. While professing to write grave criticisms in the interest of the nation's foreign relations, they were simply expounding the cause of a Vice-Minister in a personal quarrel with a Minister. We suspect that no one is more disgusted with all this talk than Mr. Tsuzuki himself.

The *Yorosu Choho* has a story worthy of its most savoury traditions, and that is saying a great deal. It makes out that Mr. Hoshi Toru has obtained a sum of thirty thousand *yen* from the Minister for Foreign Affairs by intimidation, the Minister having secretly subscribed twenty thousand to pay the expenses of the new political party, and having thus provoked the wrath of the Constitutional leader. To cap the tale, the *Yorosu* alleges that Mr. Hoshi has pocketed the thirty thousand *yen* himself. It goes without saying that the *Yorosu* does not believe a word of these falsehoods. It has the honour of being the most reckless and depraved journal in Japan. We presume that no one finds it worth while to invoke the law against such a newspaper. The pity is that journalists themselves do not possess some power like that vested in the benchers of England, for it would be very much in the interests of journalism in general that a paper like the *Yorosu Choho* should be "unfrocked."

Count Okuma comes in for a good deal of abuse because he has espoused the cause of reduced taxation. He is accused of stirring up the ignorant rustics to rebel against the Land Tax, and the Progressist leaders are charged with resorting to improper intimidation because they have announced that no person who is not a member of the *Gensō Domei* (League for the Reduction of Taxation) will be eligible for any posts of honour which the League may have power to secure—i.e., membership of the Lower House of the Diet, or of provincial assemblies, or of party committees and so on. The latter accusation seems to us to be mere froth. No political party casts its votes in favour of persons who do not support its platform.

As to Count Okuma and the rustics, the charge sounds somewhat antiquated when we remember that all the political parties, including that which now attacks the Count, employed their parliamentary strength a few years ago to obstruct legislation and block the passage of the budgets as well the necessary increase of the Navy and the reform of the prison system, solely for the sake of getting the Land Tax reduced. But there certainly is one weak point in Count Okuma's armour. It was by the Cabinet to which he belonged that the second part of the programme of armament expansion was adopted, and since that programme is responsible for the expenditures involving increased taxation, Count Okuma's former action and his present position are difficult to reconcile.

As a feature of general fiscal policy, too, it seems most regrettable that any public prejudice should be excited against the Land Tax, for that is the form of impost most consistent with the soundest principles of modern political economy. Neither do we believe that the condition of the agricultural classes suggests any symptom of suffering from heavy fiscal burdens. A very conclusive proof is furnished by their conduct in the matter of rice. They have large stores of rice on their hands at present, but they can afford to hold it in the hope of enhanced prices and big profits, instead of realizing forthwith at fairly remunerative figures. The consequence is that there has been little or no export, comparatively speaking, and the season for transactions of that kind is now nearly over. A plentiful harvest this year may prove an embarrassment rather than a blessing to the farmers, but in the meanwhile men who can hold tens of millions of *yen* worth of rice locked up in their granaries can not be much distressed about paying their taxes.

It is stated that when Mr. Takahira is appointed to be Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, he will be succeeded at the Legation in Vienna by Mr. Makino, at present Minister in Italy, and the latter's successor will be Mr. Oyama, now a Minister Plenipotentiary *en disponibilité*.

The *Mainichi Shinbun*, in large type, double headed, announces a crisis in the country's foreign affairs; conferences between Viscount Aoki and Marquis Ito, and Viscount Aoki and Count Okuma, and a general state of unrest and anxiety. For a staid, sober journal like the *Mainichi* that kind of sensationalism is strange. The crisis is wholly imaginary.

In connexion with the rumours recently circulated about ministerial instability, Mr. Hoshi Toru has been interviewed. The gist of his remarks was that perpetual dissatisfaction, in some form or other, existed among the members of the Constitutional Party, but that they did not want to share administrative power with the present Cabinet. They had a fair cause of complaint about the Regulations for Official Appointments. Doubtless, however, something would be done to mitigate their discontent in that matter, and, for the rest, their prime object was to have their policy adopted by the Government. Success in that respect would be the reward they chiefly desired for supporting the ministry. The expectation of the Party was that it would bury the present Cabinet in due time, with all becom-

ing ceremony, and would then possess a large reversionary title to the official property of the deceased.

POLICE AND FOREIGNERS

As a result of investigations made by order of the Department of Justice, instructions have been issued to the police which are not only excellent in spirit, but may also have the very desirable result of educating a discretionary disposition among the force. The instructions are to the effect that in dealing with foreigners when the latter pass under Japanese jurisdiction, the police must endeavour to distinguish, and treat leniently, difficulties resulting from differences of language, or of customs, and must show as much consideration as possible towards persons arrested. The police are already a very civil and fairly efficient body of men, but they have one great fault: they stick too closely to the letter of the law instead of exercising a wise discretion. The object of the police in England is to preserve good order with a minimum of arrests and penalties. They try to avoid making prisoners as far as possible. The Japanese carry that rule to still greater lengths in the case of drunkenness. Disorderliness is a rare accompaniment of drunkenness in Japan, and so is complete incapacity. Seldom or never does one see a drunken Japanese defying the world or embracing the gutter, and short of the former condition or the latter arrests are not made. We have often thought that the police err on the side of leniency in that matter. For the rest, however, their disposition is to shun the responsibility of ever putting any liberal construction on the law, and it will be a decided gain if the orders recently issued have the effect of leading them to exercise their own judgment more freely.

AN ANGRY JOURNAL

In straits for some stick to beat the Cabinet, the *Yomiuri Shinbun* does a little "swearing at large," and falls foul of Dr. Myers in the process. It calls the Doctor a *Goro-tsuki*, which is the Japanese equivalent of "loafer," and manufactures a very choice list of charges against him, as that he obtained from Liu, the President of Formosa's ephemeral republic, a number of bogus titles to real estate which he afterwards held in *terrorem* over the Japanese authorities, compelling them not only to recognise their validity, in some cases, but also to employ him as adviser at two hundred *yen* a month, and that he has now found his way to Tokyo to practise further sinister manoeuvres. On reading this very pretty specimen of reckless abuse we were at first disposed to think that some enemy of Dr. Myers had obtained access to the columns of our distressed contemporary, but closer scrutiny shows that the Cabinet is the real object of attack, and that the *Yomiuri's* purpose is to bring the Ministry into contempt first by falsely representing them as intimidated by Dr. Myers, and secondly by depicting Dr. Myers in such colours that to be intimidated by him is to be contemptible. The *Yomiuri* would pay dearly for its romantic tendencies were it published in a country where the Law Courts could be induced to punish libel adequately.

EMPHYTEUSIS

There is some agitation, apparently with reason, against the Civil Code and the Law of Operation of the Civil Code in the matter of emphyteusis. An emphyteuta is a person who uses the land of another to carry on agriculture or cattle raising. The 278th Article of the Civil Code says that the duration of an emphyteusis is from 20 to 50 years, and if it is created for more than 50 years, it must be reduced to 50 years. But the 47th Article of the Law of Operation of the Code says that an emphyteusis created before the taking effect of the Code shall be valid even though its duration exceeds fifty years, but that if its period—i.e. its remaining period—exceeds fifty years from the day when the Civil Code takes effect, it shall be reduced to fifty years from that day. The critics claim that there is a conflict between these two articles, since the one declares that if an emphyteusis is created for a longer period than 50 years it must be reduced to 50 years, and the other says that however long it may have been running before the operation of the Code, it may have a further lease of 50 years' life. We fail to detect the contradiction ourselves. What the Law of Operation does is simply to provide that the Civil Code shall not have retrospective effect. But the serious objection urged is that the new law will operate most inconveniently with regard to the tenure of land in many parts of the empire. It is claimed that considerable tracts of land now under cultivation have been rendered arable under a dual arrangement, by which one party supplied the capital, the other the labour, and both acquired an equal right to the land, the capitalist, however, being registered as the owner, and the working farmer as the perpetual tenant in consideration of a certain division of the produce. What is to become of this kind of tenure under the new Code? Will the registered owner,—i.e. the original capitalist or his descendant,—be entitled to say to the representative of the original reclaimer, "Your right of perpetual tenancy shall now be reduced to a fifty-years' emphyteusis?" That would certainly be a hardship. We presume that in other directions also the working of the Code will be found more or less at variance with existing conditions.

LAND TAX AND LAND RENT.

For the purpose of comparing the present special system of land rents in the Foreign Settlements with the general system of land tax that would be applied were foreigners and Japanese on the same footing, we recently published some partial figures which seem to have attracted a good deal of attention. It will be worth while, therefore, to complete the estimate, so that our readers may be able to see exactly what would be the effect of abolishing land rents and substituting a land tax the same as that paid by Japanese subjects.

SETTLEMENT OF YOKOHAMA.

Area of land in foreign occupation.....	Tsubo.
Total sum paid originally by foreigners	Yen.
for this land	101,278
Land Rent now paid annually under special system	36,068

These figures bring out the interesting fact that the land in the Settlement passed into the possession of the foreign settlers

at an average price of 85 *sen* per *tsubo* approximately. It must be now worth fully fifty times that amount. We proceed, next, to consider the figures that would apply under the general fiscal system:—

Taxable value of the land in the Yokohama Settlement.....	Yen.
Imperial Land Tax that would be leviable on the above at the present rate of 5 per cent.	894,005
Prefectural Land Tax	44,700
District Land Tax	7,371
Relief Fund	3,175
House Tax	607
House Tax	7,144
Total	62,997

We have included the House Tax in the latter category, as it forms an item in the general fiscal system. But inasmuch as the House Tax will be leviable on buildings in the Foreign Settlement after the Revised Treaties go into operation, it does not constitute a factor of differentiation between the special and the general systems. Hence the ultimate results stand thus:—

Taxes that will be payable after July on account of land and buildings in the Foreign Settlement of Yokohama under the present special system.....	Yen.
Taxes that would be payable under the general fiscal system	43,212
Difference in favour of the special system	62,997
Difference in favour of the special system	19,785

BLUFF LANDS OF YOKOHAMA.

Area of land in foreign occupation	Tsubo.
Total sum paid for the same	Yen.
Ground Rent now paid annually	103,293
.....	23,534

This land, it will be observed, came into the hands of the original purchasers for 55 *sen* per *tsubo*, approximately. The figures under the general system would be:—

Taxable Value of the Bluff lands	Yen.
Imperial Land Tax (3.33 per cent.)	165,655
Prefectural Land Tax	5,466
District Land Tax	1,405
Relief Fund	603
House Tax	114
House Tax	1,278
Total	1,278

Noting, as in the case of the Settlement lands, that the House Tax will be leviable after July although the special system remains in force, our final result with regard to the Bluff is:—

Taxes that will be payable under the special system after July on Yokohama Bluff lands in foreign occupation ..	Yen.
Taxes that would be payable under the general system	24,812
Difference in favour of the general system	8,866
Difference in favour of the general system	15,946

Grouping together the Settlement lands and the Bluff lands, we find these figures:—

Total taxes that will be payable after July on Settlement and Bluff lands under the special system	Yen.
Total taxes that would be payable under the general system	68,024
Total advantage derived by the Yokohama community by remaining under the present special system of land rents	71,863
We now pass to the case of Kobe:—	

SETTLEMENT OF KOBE.

Area of land in foreign occupation	Tsubo.
Total sum paid originally by foreigners	Yen.
for this land	39,988
Annual rent now paid under special system	120,438
.....	15,000

It appears from these figures that land in the Kobe Settlement cost its original occupants 3.01 *yen* per *tsubo*, which is three and a half times the corresponding figure for Yokohama.

The figures under the general fiscal

system would be:—

Taxable value of land in Kobe Settlement	Yen.
Imperial Land Tax (at 5 per cent.)	198,160
Prefectural Land Tax	9,908
District Land Tax	884
Relief Fund	990
House Tax	69
House Tax	2,239

Total

Area of land occupied by foreigners in the extra-Settlement area at Kobe.	Tsubo.
Area of land	9,117
Annual rent under the present (special) system	Yen.
Taxable Value under the general system	2,211
Imperial Land Tax (at 5 per cent.)	37,585
Prefectural Land Tax	1,870
District Land Tax	168
Relief Fund	187
House Tax	12
House Tax	236

The final results in Kobe's case, therefore, are as follow:—

Total taxes that will be payable after July on Settlement and extra-Settlement Lands in Kobe under the special system	Yen.
Total taxes that would be payable under the general system	19,686
Difference in favour of general system ..	16,572

For Tokyo we have the following:—

TOKYO SETTLEMENT.	Tsubo.
Area of lands in foreign occupation	Yen.
Price paid by foreigners for this land	25,642
Annual rent now paid (under the special system)	43,148
Taxable value under the general system	7,180
Imperial Land Tax	91,171
City Land Tax	4,558
District Land Tax	502
House Tax	276
House Tax	1,714

Total taxes under general system

Hence in Tokyo's case the final result is:—

Taxes payable after July under the special system	Yen.
Taxes that would be payable under the general system	8,894
Difference in favour of general system ..	7,140

For the remaining Settlements, Osaka, and Nagasaki we have:—

OSAKA SETTLEMENT.	Tsubo.
Area of land occupied by foreigners	Yen.
Total price paid by foreigners for this land	9,937
Annual rent now paid (under the special system)	39,297
Taxable value of the land	4,150
Imperial Land Tax (at 5 per cent.)	37,903
City Land Tax	1,595
District Land Tax	259
Relief Fund	113
House Tax	9
House Tax	229

Total taxes payable under the general system

Hence in Osaka's case we find this result:—

Total taxes payable after July (under the special system)	Yen.
Total taxes payable under the general system	4,379
Difference in favour of the general system	2,205

NAGASAKI SETTLEMENT.

Area of land in foreign occupation	Tsubo.
(For this land no payments were originally made.)	Yen.
Annual rent paid under the special system	25,494
Taxable value of the land	Yen.
Imperial Land Tax (at 5 per cent.)	7,943
Prefectural Land Tax	67,556
District Land Tax	3,378
House Tax	441
House Tax	221
Relief Fund	2,845
Relief Fund	39

Total taxes payable under the general system

Hence in Nagasaki's case our result is:—

Taxes that will be paid after July (under the special system).....	Yen. 10,788
Taxes that would be payable under the general system.....	6,944

Difference in favour of the general system 3,844

Collating all the above results we have the following table:—

	Taxes under the present system. Yen.	Taxes under the general system Yen.
Yokohama	68,044	71,863
Kobe	19,686	16,572
Tokyo	8,894	7,140
Osaka	4,379	2,205
Nagasaki.....	10,788	6,944

Totals 111,771 104,724

Thus it appears that if the general system of taxation were applied to all the Settlements, the foreign communities would be gainers to the extent of 7,047 yen. It is a small matter, arithmetically speaking, but the figures are certainly worth publication in view of the belief which seems to be entertained by some Japanese that the foreign residents enjoy an unfair advantage over their Japanese competitors by holding their lands under a special system. It will be remembered that the *Keisai Zasshi* recently discussed the subject, and in very emphatic terms urged either that the foreigners should be bought out, or that new ports should be opened with the object of depreciating the value of the land at the present ports and thus inducing the foreign occupants to sell it to Japanese. Probably when our contemporary finds that foreigners will be paying actually more after July on account of their lands than they would have to pay if they were brought under the general system of taxation operative throughout the rest of the empire, it will see that the drastic measures recommended by it are decidedly superfluous.

LAKES AND FORESTS.

A correspondent writes:—"A plan is on foot to drain the beautiful lake at Kawaguchi, on the northern flank of Fuji. The peasants will suffer, but some speculator expects to make two thousand yen. At least, that is what I hear. Furthermore, I am told that Professor Burton condemned the project when first mooted some years ago. . . . People do many wrong things despite excellent laws. For instance, the deforestation that goes on in the Government woods is woeful, simply because the staff of foresters is insufficient to stop depredations on the part of the neighbouring peasantry. Possibly such foresters as there are, connive at the depredations. The laws are good, I understand, but their enforcement is very faulty. One who travels much, as I do, can not but be alarmed at the progress of deforestation in this country. Izu is ruined; the Nakasendo is half ruined; the Mibu district is being ruined; the same is true of other regions, and all during this single Meiji era. Under the Shogunate the laws were observed; now they are not. It is surely a very grave question, for the agriculture of the country and the control of the rivers are bound up with it." It is strange that no Japanese of influence takes this subject under his special care. In every session of the Diet, and periodicaly in the newspapers, an agitation is got up about the State Forests, but their unproductiveness and mismanagement are the cry, not their denudation.

CHARGES AT JAPANESE INNS.

A few days ago there appeared in the columns of a local English contemporary a letter condemning, in somewhat severe terms, the charges made by Japanese inn-keepers when foreigners use their inns. This letter has elicited from the *Fiji Shimpō* certain editorial comments which appear so just that we reproduce their gist. Our contemporary points out that foreigners are entirely mistaken if they imagine that the fixed tariff of prices—in other words, the items set forth in the bill—covers the expenditures made by a Japanese guest at an inn. He gives in addition a *chadai*, or *douceur*, which adds very materially to his outlay. The foreigner does not understand that custom, and therefore makes no attempt to comply with it, and the consequence is that inn-keepers include the *chadai* in his account, which thus becomes apparently much larger than it would be were it for a Japanese. In the second place, there is the fact that the foreign guest gives incomparably more trouble than the Japanese. The better the social status of a Japanese traveller, the more courteous he is; the less exacting are his ways, and the greater consideration does he show for all around him. But the opposite is true of a foreigner. Intentionally or unintentionally, he always makes himself very obtrusive, takes up a great deal of room, and demands a great deal of attention. It can not be called exorbitant or unfair that some additional charge should be levied from him. The *Fiji* nevertheless recommends that the *chadai* system should be abandoned, being an equivocal and inconvenient custom, and that all charges should be final.

Our own experience leads us to endorse every word written by the *Fiji*. Indeed, our contemporary might have gone much further. It might have pointed out, with truth, that the presence of foreign guests at an inn generally has the effect of deterring Japanese custom. We do not mean to assert that the average Japanese gentleman dislikes staying under the same roof with a foreigner. What we mean is that when accommodation is given to foreign guests the routine of the arrangements at the inn is dislocated: the bath has to be specially prepared; the kitchen is put to unwonted uses, and the house in general is pervaded by an atmosphere of disagreeable bustle. Such is not always the case, of course, but any of our readers who have travelled much in Japan will endorse our remarks. Directly and indirectly the foreigner takes up more room and requires more service than the Japanese, and must expect to pay more. The ultimate explanation is that Japanese inns are not adapted for accommodating foreigners. At a hotel built and run in Western style, the nationality of a guest makes no perceptible difference. But the average foreigner does not fit comfortably into a Japanese inn.

THE "CHITOSE."

The new second-class cruiser *Chitose*, which was built for Japan in the United States, arrived at Yokosuka on the 20th instant. She left San Francisco on the 21st of March, and came under easy steam *via* Hawaii. The *Chitose's* armament has been sent out from Lord Armstrong and Company's factory, and will be placed in the ship at Yokosuka.

GENERAL VISCOUNT KAWAKAMI.

Universal regret is caused by the intelligence that General Viscount Kawakami is dangerously ill. He is suffering from some trouble of the heart, and Doctors Baelz and Hashimoto are in constant attendance. Tokyo journals say that the Viscount fainted seven times on the 22nd instant, and that the Emperor sent a Chamberlain to enquire about his condition. Viscount Kawakami is Vice-Chief of the Head-Quarter staff. It was upon him that the duty of planning the campaigns against China devolved, and he has often been called the Moltke of Japan.

General Viscount Kawakami's condition was slightly more hopeful on Tuesday, but he has had more than one alarmingly severe attack of spasms of the heart. It is said that his malady dates from the war of 1894-5, when very onerous duties devolved on him as the most active member of the Head-Quarters Staff, and that it was greatly aggravated by the loss of his daughter, to whom he was deeply attached. No marked cause for uneasiness presented itself, however, until the 19th instant. On that day the Viscount attended the graduation ceremony at the Seijo Gakko, a very lengthy affair, involving the delivery of an address. Subsequently he received a visit from the Minister of Finance, who consulted with him for several hours. That night some painful symptoms were developed, and on the 22nd he had an access of spasms which lasted for two hours. It is feared that, even though immediate danger be averted, the distinguished officer's condition will be such as to necessitate complete rest.

MINOBU.

It may interest some of our readers to hear that an exhibition of the art treasures of the Minobu temples will be held for three weeks, beginning on May 2nd. The shortest way to reach Minobu is to go to Iwabuchi station on the Tokaido line; sleep at the Tani-ya inn, and engage a *jinrikisha* with two men for the 13-*ri* ride to Minobu—feasible in one day—up the perfectly lovely valley of the Fuji-kawa. The return journey may be made by boat down the rapids in from 3 to 5 hours. There is probably no very great collection of art treasures at the temples, as they were burned down within the past 30 years, but they certainly have some fine pictures, especially a few from the brush of the great Kano Motonobu, who is said to have spent 3 or 4 years at the place. The temples themselves are very fine. A full description of them is given in the Guide-Book.

JAPANESE SILK FABRICS IN FRANCE.

The *Official Gazette* publishes a notice that certificates of origin (*seisan genchi shōmei-shō*) must accompany all Japanese fabrics of pure silk imported into France, from the 1st of next August, *habutaye* excepted. The document will have to be signed either by the local government office of the Prefecture where the fabric is manufactured; or by the Inspector of Customs at the port of export, or by the French Representative in Japan. A certificate signed by a local government office must have the endorsement of a French Consul.

CONSERVATISM IN EDUCATION.

The opinion has often been expressed in these columns that whatever anti-foreign feeling exists in Japan finds its foster-parent in the educational staff of the country. It is impossible to suppose that the rudeness so often displayed by students towards foreigners would long survive any resolute effort on the part of school-teachers to correct it. But the school-teachers of Japan are probably among the worst of their class in the civilized world. To expect them to be men of competence and high attainments would, of course, be extravagant, for the salaries they receive are not sufficient to remunerate a common labourer. A slight improvement has been effected in their pecuniary condition during the past two years, but it is insignificant, and unless the present opportunity is seized to apply a remedy, things will probably drift on in their evil groove for years to come. When we say "the present opportunity," we allude to a Bill passed by the Diet last session, in the sense that the Treasury should lend to elementary education such assistance as would tend to raise the number of school-attending children from 66 to 88 per cent. of the school-age total. It was a vaguely phrased measure, and there is some discussion now about its meaning, as it will have to be put into operation from April 1st, 1900. Some people maintain that the idea of the Diet was to relieve parents from the burden of paying school fees. The fees paid on account of the children—66 per cent.—now attending school aggregate 3,360,000 *yen*, and if the per-centage of attendance rose to 88, the fees would amount to 2 million *yen*. Hence, according to this interpretation of the Bill, the State should put its hand into its pocket to the tune of 4 million *yen* on account of the schools, and elementary education should be absolutely free for all children of school-going age. But that would not do anything for the teachers. They would remain just as they are now, incompetent, miserably remunerated persons, with a mere smattering of knowledge, quite unable to command the respect of their pupils, and thus indirectly responsible for the scholastic insubordination which disgraces Japan. Hence, many publicists contend that whatever increase of State aid is granted under the Bill, should go to procuring a better class of teachers. Others again, think that physical education is the great desideratum of the time, and would have the Treasury devote funds to meet that want. In short, the sum of the matter is that the educational system stands in need of improvement all round, and the public are perplexed to determine which of its defects should be remedied first.

Under such circumstances it is surely singular that a strong objection should exist to permitting foreigners to engage in educational enterprise in Japan. A resolution recently adopted by the Yokohama Educational Society, and submitted to the Government through the Society's president, Mr. Otani Kabei, would, were it embodied in a law, have the effect of excluding foreigners from the whole field of general education, and of restricting them to the sphere of technical education alone. Of course the motive of this conservatism is an apprehension lest foreign influence in education should undermine the nation's patriotism and loyalty to the

throne. It is an extravagant fancy. The *Fiji Shimpō* pertinently asks whether parents refrain from sending a child to school lest scholastic discipline should have the effect of impairing its filial love, and reminds its countrymen that patriotism is an instinct not so easily eradicated. We should not, for our own part, attach much importance to isolated expressions of opinion like that of the Yokohama Society, seeing that the strongly liberal tone of some of the leading vernacular papers indicates the existence of a wholesome sentiment in other quarters. But it is stated that among the queries submitted by the Department of Education to the High Educational Council, there is one suggesting that no person unfamiliar with the Japanese language should be allowed to establish a private school. That, as the *Hochi Shimbun* justly points out, seems to be directed against foreign educational enterprise, and, of course, if such a spirit exists in official circles, the outlook is not re-assuring. The *Hochi* denounces the authorities in the strongest terms for suggesting such a restriction: calls them old-fashioned, narrow-minded, pusillanimous and what not. Is it quite certain, however, that the proposed qualification would exclude foreigners, or even embarrass them? Foreign co-operation in Japanese education may be said to be confined to the missionaries, and the missionaries make it their business to acquire the Japanese language. Of course, the expression *kokugo ni tsū-tatsu suru koto wo shōmei suru* (furnish proof of familiarity with the language of the country) might be interpreted so as to exclude all foreigners, for no foreign sinologue, even the most learned, could pass an examination of a drastic nature in the Japanese language. But would it be so interpreted? We do not think so. Possibly this proposal is a sagacious compromise intended to deprive conservatism of its mischievous potentialities while not exciting it by radical opposition.

A far more serious question, to which we have often alluded in these columns, is the tendency to discourage private educational enterprise. Among the suggestions submitted to the Educational Council are the following:—

Children of school age, who have not fulfilled their public scholastic duty, shall not be permitted to enter any private schools with the exception of those qualified to take the place of public elementary school.

Persons who establish private schools must have obtained certificates of competence as teachers.

The former of these proposals would virtually eliminate private enterprise from the field of elementary education, since no child would be permitted to enter a private school until he had completed his course at a public elementary school. The second would make it impossible for men like Mr. Okura Kihachiro to establish a commercial school, or Mr. Fukuzawa to establish a *Keio Gijyuku*, or Count Okuma a *Semmon Gakko*, or Mr. Nishima a *Doshisha*. It is not conceivable that the Authorities have any desire to impose such restrictions, but there can be no question that their attitude towards private education is singularly illiberal.

THE YOKOTA AFFAIR.

Any of our readers who retain a recollection of the stormy incidents that preceded the fall of the Okuma Cabinet, must be very familiar with the name of

Mr. Yokota. When Mr. Sone Arasuke held the portfolio of Justice, he adopted drastic measures to purge the Judiciary of its antiquated and imperfectly qualified elements, and Mr. Yokota lent active assistance in carrying out this reform, one result of which was the promotion of Mr. Yokota himself to the post of Chief Public Procurator. These things happened on the very verge of Mr. Sone's retirement, and some of the Judicial officials who had suffered by the reform submitted a strong protest to his successor, Mr. Ohigashi. They complained specially of the part played by Mr. Yokota, and the new Minister of Justice endorsed their protest by removing Mr. Yokota from the Chief Public Procuratorship to the inferior position of Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Court of Appeal. Mr. Yokota carried the case to the Cabinet, and for a considerable time it seemed probable that he would triumph over the Minister. In the end, however, some indiscreet language used by him when addressing the Minister led to his removal from office as a disciplinary measure, the original dispute being thus left unsettled. Mr. Yokota has now been relieved from disciplinary punishment, and appointed Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Appeal Court. In other words, he gets the office which he refused to accept when its acceptance involved a step-down from the higher post of *Kenji Sōchō*. Of course it is one thing to obtain a good appointment after having been placed on the Retired List in disgrace, but it is quite another thing to descend from a higher to a lower post without being convicted of any fault.

NIKKO RESTORATIONS.

Restorations on a somewhat expensive but still insufficient scale are to be undertaken at Nikko, according to vernacular journals. A sum of 200,000 *yen* will be spent, at the rate of 40,000 yearly; half being furnished by the Treasury, under the provisions of the Law for the Preservation of Ancient Shrines and Temples, and the remainder coming out of the Hoko-kai, a private society organized for the purpose of conserving Nikko. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that this outlay will not be enough for any interior restorations, and that the money will barely suffice to strengthen the foundations and repair the exterior of the buildings. We read our contemporary's remarks with some surprise, for very considerable repairs have been made within the past five years.

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.

It is stated that the marriage of the Prince Imperial will take place next November. The Prince will complete his twentieth year on the 31st of August. The reigning Emperor was only 16 years and three months of age at the time of his marriage, and had then been on the Throne for nearly two years. His Majesty's first child—a Prince who died on the day of his birth—was born just before he had completed his twenty-first year. The marriage of the Prince Imperial has been deferred considerably beyond the time usual in the Japanese Imperial family. We presume that ill-health has been the cause of the delay. Nothing is generally known as to the lady upon whom the Imperial choice has fallen.

TOKYO.

There is a big scheme of harbour construction on the tapis in Tokyo. The detritus carried down by the Sumida River is the chief cause of the shallowness of the present harbour, and must always constitute a great difficulty. What is proposed, therefore, is virtually to abolish the Sumida by deflecting its course into the Nakagawa somewhere in the neighbourhood of Senju, and filling up the bed from Senju to Tsukiji. By filling up the bed it is not meant that the water communication now furnished by the Sumida would be destroyed, but only that the river would be reduced to the dimensions of a large deep canal. The area of the reclaimed land, a wide belt running through the most populous parts of the city from end to end, would be very great, and its value enormous. But how seriously such a scheme would affect the citizens: directly affect the thousand of persons now living along the banks of the Sumida and deriving their livelihood from the river; indirectly affect the whole of the middle and upper classes whose existence, without the broad, placid river of multitudinous memories, would be deprived of so many compensations for the toil and toil of city life. We do not attach the least credence to this scheme, for our own part. The Tokyo folk are great in planning but very small in practice. When they have remedied some of the innumerable defects which render their city a disgrace to Japan, one may be disposed to believe in their earnestness about really formidable enterprises.

The Tokyo Municipality have determined to send to America and Europe a commission charged with the duty of inquiring into a long list of matters—urban administration, education, sanitation, hospitals and asylums, communications, road-making, drainage, and so on. The catalogue of cities to be visited includes six in the United States, five in Great Britain, three in France, two in Belgium, two in Germany, one in Holland, two in Austria-Hungary and one in Italy. It is a very pretty scheme, and it has obvious advantages. One is that no steps need be taken to effect any improvements in the present wretched condition of Tokyo until the commission returns, and as 22 cities have to be visited, and extensive investigations must be undertaken in each, the commission, unless its trip is to be a mere junketing, must devote at least a year, and a half to its work. Meanwhile Tokyo will remain *in statu quo*, and a complete answer to all complaints will be that the commission's report is in process of compilation. Then, by the time the commission returns, the men that sent it will be out of power, and their successors will be able to pigeon-hole the report with perfect grace.

But is it possible that any necessity for such a commission exists? Does not Japan possess a number of engineers who have not only been fully educated in all the matters which the commission is to investigate, but have also completed their education in several of the great cities which it is to visit? Are there not innumerable books accessible explaining with the utmost accuracy of detail all the points the commission has to consider? And if Japan's engineers are not competent to undertake the necessary works, and her experts are unable to obtain the

desired information from books, would it not be far more practical, expeditious and economical to employ two or three qualified foreigners?

We mention above a rumour to the effect that a scheme was on the tapis for diverting the greater part of the Sumida River's volume into the Nakagawa, above Senju; reducing the former river, below that place, to the dimensions of a canal, and thus permitting the successful dredging and deepening of the space within the forts, which is at present kept perpetually shallow by the detritus of the Sumida. Another project is now spoken of as having been suggested by Mr. Furuichi, the well-known Chief-Engineer of the Home Department. It is to fill up the whole fore-shore from the Shiba Detached Palace to Shinagawa by dredging the bay in front. The Tokyo newspapers which give this information do not explain what Mr. Furuichi proposes to do with the Sumida River, the whole source of difficulty, but they tell us that the area of the reclaimed land would be eight hundred thousand *tsudo*, which, at 100 *yen* per *tsudo*, would represent eighty million *yen*. Even after the amplest allowance has been made for roads, canals, &c., there would certainly remain four or five hundred thousand *tsudo*, and as the total expenditure would not exceed 30 million *yen*, a substantial margin is in sight. Pending the sale of sufficient land to cover the initial outlay, harbour and wharfage dues might be levied to pay interest, and the Government's assistance might be invoked.

If the Tokyo people had even a moderate degree of enterprise, they would have possessed a harbour long ago. Perhaps they are wakening up at last. But we doubt it. At all events, they ought to be able to manage their own business without assistance from the Treasury. There is no reason why the whole nation should be obliged to put its hand into its pocket because the people in the capital want to enjoy a larger measure of prosperity but have not the courage to procure it by their own exertions. Another point is that if heavy harbour dues and wharfage charges are to be levied in Tokyo, shippers will certainly prefer Yokohama.

SENSATIONS AGAIN.

It is the unexpected that always happens. We certainly should never have imagined that an eminently sober journal like the *Mainichi Shimbun* would suddenly begin to cut sensational capers of a most extravagant nature. But our solemn contemporary has struck a new vein and seems determined to exploit it for all that it is worth. The other day it published an announcement in huge type to the effect that some great problem of foreign policy had suddenly presented itself for solution, and that the wit of all the country's leading statesmen was required to avert a crisis. That was a cautiously vague item of news. The *Mainichi* now becomes more explicit. It has discovered a colossal mare's nest in which certain giant eggs of gold are being incubated by Viscounts Katsura and Aoki. At Naka-Kozaka in Joshu there is an iron mine which the Government tried to work some years ago, but without success. Then it occupied the attention of Mr. Maruyama, and ultimately it came into the possession of a speculator called Ogura, who, with the assistance of another

speculator, Kaida, is trying to sell it to the Government for 10 million *yen*. The Minister of War and the Minister of Foreign Affairs are promoting the scheme, and it is pretty certain that they will bleed the Treasury to the extent of 5 millions at any rate, a part of which will go to defray the organization expenses of the new political party!

Does the *Mainichi Shimbun* credit that nonsense? If so, it really ought to put up its shutters and advertise its plant for sale, because its capacity to supply the public with intelligence has disappeared. If it does not credit it, then the verdict about its condition must be still less complimentary.

JAPAN TEA DEALERS.

A meeting of representatives of all the tea-growers and tea-dealers in Japan has been held at Yamada in Ise, and various resolutions have been unanimously passed. The first is that steps must be taken to protest against the heavy duty which Canada talks of imposing on Japanese tea; the second, that Japan must send consuls to Canada; the third, that delegates must be sent to Canada and the United States in the interests of the tea trade; the fourth, that the duty imposed last year by America ought to be abolished; and the fifth, that efforts should be made to obtain a reduced scale of charges for the transport of tea by steamer and railway. The *Asahi Shimbun* is very severe on these proposals. It says that for Japanese provincials to get up an agitation with the idea of influencing the Canadian or American Governments is like dropping medicine into a man's eye from a room upstairs; that any steps now taken by the Tokyo Foreign Office will be as futile as beginning to spin a rope for a thief after he has escaped; and that sending consuls to Canada and America for the purpose contemplated will be as though one should try to sever a stream of water with a sword. The original fault rests with the negotiators of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty who agreed that the British colonies should be excluded from the Treaty's purview, and with the bunglers who placed France in a position to discriminate against Japanese silk fabrics.

That is pungent criticism, at any rate. But, however just it may be with regard to Japanese diplomacy in Paris, it has no basis of facts in the case of England. There seems to be little doubt that a bad mistake was made by the Japanese Representative in France, but, as to the inclusion of the British Colonies in the Treaty, the thing was impossible. Even supposing that the positions had been reversed, England being the one to apply for Treaty Revision and Japan the one to concede it, there would still have been no possibility of making the document binding on the British Colonies. They are absolutely independent of the mother country in matters of tariff. Does not the *Asahi* know that some of the British colonies actually exclude British manufactures by means of a protective tariff? How, then, could England compel them to grant to Japan privileges which they deny to herself.

Hiroy Tomijiro, a junior officer of the N.Y.K. has been arrested. He stole *yen* 324 in cash and *yen* 4,108 in cheques from an office safe.

SUPERFICIES ONCE MORE.

A feeling of uneasiness with regard to superficies seems to have been again engendered by the recent discussion between this journal and the *Japan Times*. We do not see any valid reason for such a feeling. The original doubts about superficies had reference solely to its nature. Was it or was it not a method of land tenure which might fairly be regarded as the equivalent of an English building lease; that it to say, a lease for such a lengthy term of years as would warrant the erection of expensive buildings on the site? That point, we imagine, has been settled to the satisfaction of every-body, and that point is not touched at all by the recent discussion. What the *Japan Times* and the *Japan Mail* discussed was the authority under which British subjects will enjoy the privilege of superficies after the revised treaties go into operation. That they will enjoy the privilege is not queried in any manner by the writer in the *Japan Times*. Upon that fact it is well to insist, for the general public seem to have misunderstood it. Neither is the nature of superficies disputed, nor are any doubts raised as to the right of British subjects to enjoy it. The whole problem is, will they enjoy it by grace of Japanese legislation, or will they enjoy it under the German Treaty as most favoured nationals? We allege that they will have the dual right; the *Japan Times* says, "No; they will have the legislative right only." The practical difference between the two contentions is that, according to our view, British subjects can not be deprived of the right so long as the Treaties remain in force and so long as superficies is among the forms of land tenure recognised by the laws of Japan; whereas, according to the view of the *Japan Times*, they have no treaty claim to the privilege and may be deprived of it by independent legislation. Of course the proposition advanced by the writer in the *Japan Times* sounds a little alarming, but, when considered carefully, it is found not to suggest any cause of disquietude. For, in the first place, whether the Government of Japan admits or denies that land tenure for commercial purposes falls within the purview of the most-favoured-nation clause in a treaty of amity and commerce, there certainly can not be any reasonable fear that the Japanese Government, while granting the privilege of superficies to German subjects under the explicit provisions of the German Treaty, will attempt to withhold it from British subjects. That would be an act of manifestly unfriendly discrimination, against which the British Government would be justified in entering a very strong protest, and it would moreover be an act entirely contrary to the proved sentiments and uniform traditions of Japan. In the second place, even if the right of British subjects to enjoy the privilege depends solely upon Japanese legislation, it is nevertheless a right not at all likely to be disturbed. The provisions about superficies were included in the laws of Japan, not for the sake of foreigners, but for the convenience of the Japanese people. Superficies is found in the original Code, promulgated ten years ago, when the Japanese Government was prepared, and had shown its willingness, to grant by treaty to foreigners the right of land ownership, and before any question about

the tenure of land by aliens had arisen. In order to deprive British subjects of the privilege of superficies by legislation, it would be necessary to remove the right altogether from the laws of Japan, for since the Treaty promises national treatment to the British subjects in Japan, the privileges conferred by Japanese laws upon Japanese subjects are, speaking generally, enjoyable by British subjects, and it would be impossible for the Diet to pass a law declaring that, although the form of land tenure called "superficies" continues to exist for the convenience of the Japanese people, it should be denied to British subjects. It follows, therefore, that even if the contention of the *Japan Times* be admitted, superficies will continue to be enjoyable by British subjects so long as it remains a legally recognised institution in Japan, on the one hand, and so long, on the other, as the Japanese Government is not disposed to resort to special legislation at the cost of great inconvenience to the whole Japanese nation for the purpose of setting up most unfriendly and unfair discrimination between British subjects and German subjects. With this two-fold protection, surely we may all sleep soundly.

OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENT IN JAPAN.

Statistics published by the Government show that the number of civil officials employed in the administration of State affairs—local officials included but those of the Imperial Household Department excluded—and the amount of their salaries during twelve years ended 1897, have been as follow:—

Year.	Number of officials.	Total of yearly salaries.
	Nin.	Yen.
1886	40,737	9,625,800
1887	44,076	10,525,440
1888	45,558	11,016,588
1889	46,407	11,189,748
1890	50,353	12,001,784
1891	48,979	11,254,361
1892	49,143	11,452,252
1893	45,617	10,761,164
1894	46,203	11,035,496
1895	46,698	11,405,425
1896	57,502	14,516,262
1897	65,502	17,104,226

It is noticeable that while the number of officials has increased by 32 per cent., the total of the yearly salaries has grown by nearly 78 per cent., and that whereas the average annual pay of officials was 236 yen in 1886, it was 261 yen in 1897. If to the above figures we add the number of military officers, namely 10,009, approximately, who are in receipt of yearly salaries aggregating 4,900,000 yen, and the number of naval officers, namely, 4,000 approximately, whose salaries aggregate 1,700,000 yen, we find that the total personnel is 80,000, approximately, and that the total salaries are 24 million yen. This means that each unit of the population pays about 57 sen for the support of the officials and the naval and military officers. The year 1886 witnessed the sweeping administrative reforms introduced by Count Ito; reforms which involved an immense reduction in the personnel of the administration and in the total amount of administrative salaries. Thenceforth until 1896 no remarkable change took place, but contemporaneously with the adoption of the *post-bellum* programme the number of officials increased by 40 per cent. and the amount of their salaries by 50 per cent. The *Nippon*, discussing

the figures of the above table, seems disposed to attribute these changes to the introduction of constitutional government, and noting also how greatly the prices of all the necessities of life have increased of late years, asks what it is that men find to admire in parliamentary institutions. Certainly the experience of all countries shows that constitutional, and especially republican, government has the effect of augmenting public expenditures, and Japan's case is not likely to prove an exception. But the responsibility for high prices and increased administrative expenses can not fairly be laid to the door of constitutionalism in this country as yet.

DEVELOPMENT OF RAILWAYS DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS.

At no time, says the *Mainichi*, has Japan made such marked progress in extending her railways as during the past two years. It is not a question of increased traffic, but only of added mileage. According to the latest investigations, the mileage of state and private railways open at the end of the 31st year (1898) totalled 3,406 miles, which figure, compared with that for the 28th year (1895)—2,272 miles—shows an increase of 1,134 miles, or 33.3 per cent. Such rapid development is without precedent, and will probably not be equalled in the future. The following table gives the figures for the various railways throughout the empire:—

	At end of '95. Miles.	At end of '98. Miles.
Government Railways ..	593	773
Sano Railway	10	10
Ota Railway	—	12
Hokuryetsu Railway	—	84
Nanto Railway	—	32
Kawagoye Railway	18	18
Sobu Railway	31	72
Narita Railway	—	25
Toyo-kawa Railway	—	13
Kwansei Railway	82	145
Kyoto Railway	—	6
Nara Railway	21	37
Kaya Railway	—	6
Kiwa Railway	—	13
Koyu Railway	—	10
Hakkoen Railway	—	39
Senjiki Railway	10	27
Nanyo Railway	—	6
Sanyo Railway	191	278
Hoshin Railway	18	49
Chugoku Railway	—	35
Tanaka Railway	204	204
Nippon Railway	618	852
Uyeno Railway	—	21
Ganyetsu Railway	—	17
Chuyetsu Railway	—	18
Koto Railway	27	27
Ome Railway	13	13
Hama Railway	—	27
Zasu Railway	—	7
Omi Railway	—	12
Sangu Railway	24	26
Biei Railway	—	11
Osaka Railway	45	45
Naniwa Railway	—	15
Nakata Railway	—	39
Nishinari Railway	—	4
Tokushima Railway	—	12
Iyo Railway	10	23
Doyo Railway	—	12
Hantan Railway	31	30
Kinshu Railway	178	309
Total	2,272	3,406

FORMOSA BANDITS.

We learn from vernacular newspapers that the number of bandits who made act of submission in Formosa from January 1st to the date of most recent advices was 2,297; namely, 1,414 in Taichiu and 883 in Lianan. It seems to be doubtful, however, whether these men are all sincere, and at any rate, a great many others continue to defy Japanese authority.

GERMAN DEMANDS IN CHINA.

A telegram published by the *Chuo Shimbun* and dated at Peking on the 26th, says that Germany has made the withdrawal of her troops from Jitchiau conditional on the building of a Church at Ichou by the Chinese Authorities. The latest intelligence about Germany's doings in Shantung carried us down to the 20th instant, when she was said to have withdrawn the force stationed at Ichou but to have left 120 men at Jitchiau. Apparently she has determined not to complete the evacuation without exacting a substantial concession from China.

China presents just now such a miserable spectacle of helplessness and pusillanimity that it is very difficult to sympathise with her. At the same time to compel her to erect, at public expense, places of worship for an alien faith which the vast majority of her people abhor, is a form of humiliation that thoughtful men can scarcely approve. Christianity and politics are ill-matched companions, nor do the interests of the former seem to be really promoted when the armed forces of Occidental States are employed for its propaganda in the Orient. It is scarcely possible to conceive any necessity more painful to a nation than to be called upon to build, with its own hand and at its own charges, edifices for the honour of strange gods, and if these arbitrary exactions provoke retaliatory outrages, who can be surprised? It seems to us that the policy of European Powers towards China is travelling in a vicious circle. The punishments imposed upon her, instead of being deterrent, are calculated to become incentive of fresh offences. Injury involves exaction and exaction provokes fresh injury. There can be only one ending—the complete overthrow of the Chinese Empire. Probably that will be a happy ending so far as the Chinese people are concerned, but the stages by which it is being reached constitute the worst record that civilization ever wrote for itself.

CAPTAIN COGHLAN.

Captain Coghlan, whose extraordinary utterances in New York have been made the subject of international complaint, does not enjoy a very high reputation in the United States' naval service, we believe. He is said to be a "jingoo" of very pronounced type, and moreover to be equipped with a vocabulary which renders his expressions of opinion more forceful than picturesque. Still naval officers, when they attain the rank of captain, are expected to exercise some discretion of speech and they are usually so circumspect in that respect that whatever allowances be made for Captain Coghlan's idiosyncracies, his extraordinary recklessness can only be regarded as an after-dinner episode, especially since it was coupled with the recital of ribald doggerel. We have heard some expressions of surprise that the German Representative in Washington should have thought it worth while, or even dignified, to take official notice of an incident. Certainly he might have waited to see whether the American Secretary of State would not take action of his own accord. That would have been the more graceful course, and we shall not be surprised to find that the haste shown by the Ambassador has en-

gendered some ill-feeling in America. But failing spontaneous action on the part of the United States' Government, we do not see that the Ambassador could have had any alternative. An officer is an officer under all circumstances, and the State whose commission he carries is responsible for his public acts so long as it does not disavow them.

What really happened at Manila between the Americans and the Germans will probably remain a mystery for some time. Two statements have been made, one by Americans, the other by the Germans. The former is to the effect that arms were conveyed to the Filipinos with the active connivance and assistance of German naval officers, and that when the American Admiral objected, his German colleague pretexted ignorance of what had taken place; an explanation which seemed so incredible in view of the strict discipline maintained in German ships that it greatly provoked Americans. The German story is that Admiral Dewey, having accused the German officer of assisting the Filipinos to obtain arms, signified his intention of searching the German vessels for contraband of war, whereupon the German Admiral steamed out of Manila Bay and returned with his ships cleared for action. Neither tale is credible in its entirety, but with embody testimony to the fact that the source of difficulty was the conveyance of arms to the Filipinos. At all events, the incident is closed, and nothing could be more regrettable than its renewal through the after-dinner effervescence of men like Captain Coghlan.

MALTRTREATMENT OF A PRISONER BY THE WATER POLICE.

The two constables of the Water Police who recently beat a servant woman to make her confess a crime which she had not perpetrated, have been committed for trial, one being detained in custody, and the other entrusted to the care of his friends. Punishment has also fallen upon the Superintendent who erroneously reported the loss of his watch, and thus brought the woman into trouble. The Superintendent's case seems rather hard. He missed his watch, imagined that it had been stolen, suspected his servant, and did what most men would have done under the circumstances, gave information to the police. Afterwards he discovered that he had himself misplaced the watch, but, in the meanwhile, the woman had suffered. The code of vicarious responsibility is distinctly severe in Japan.

Quite a sensation seems to have been caused by the recently reported example of official misconduct. Day by day, the Tokyo journals have alluded to the trial of the two water-policemen who are accused of beating a servant girl until she confessed the theft of a watch which had never been stolen at all. One of the constables is supposed to have used a *futte*, or short metal mace carried by policemen in former times, and the other wielded a hempen rope. Both denied the assault, but the fact that the girl had made a confession though she was wholly innocent, and the fact that bruises were found on her body by a medical man, constituted an ugly case against the police. The girl has put in a certificate showing that she was unable to work for 10 days and that she had to apply medi-

cine to her injuries for over two weeks. The law says that striking and wounding so as to incapacitate a person for any period not exceeding 20 days, shall be punishable with imprisonment with hard labour for not less than one month and not more than one year. That is the sentence hanging over the head of the constable who used the mace. The other man, he of the rope, stands charged with a misdemeanour only, and can not be sentenced to more than 10 days' confinement. We have already explained that the police inspector who imagined his watch had been stolen, and who caused the servant-girl to be arrested on suspicion, had to resign his post, though the beating took place entirely without his cognisance.

GARDEN PARTY IN TOKYO.

On the 26th instant a garden party was given by Count and Countess Kuroda at their residence in the Mita suburb of Tokyo to celebrate the marriage of Miss Kuroda to the eldest son of Viscount Enomoto. The guests numbered several hundreds, and included Her Imperial Highness Princess Kanin, nearly all the Cabinet Ministers, the Foreign Representatives, and the majority of the leading residents of Tokyo, Japanese and foreign. Count Kuroda is well known for his love of what may be called the urban style of Japanese garden; that is to say, a garden in which landscape effects are less considered than rare and curious trees, fantastic rockeries and potted shrubs. The Mita garden contains a remarkable display of nature's freaks in the way of quaint or picturesque stones, and of art's achievements in the form of trees which, having been for centuries subjected to expert control, have grown into strange shapes, combining the crabbedness of age with the capriciousness of youth. There was also a large and interesting collection of *sekisho*, or miniature pot-rockeries, for which the Japanese are famous. Music, dancing, feats of legerdemain, and other amusements were provided for the amusement of the guests, and refreshments were served in a separate building.

JUDICIAL OFFICIALS AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

It is urged by the *Fiji Shimpō* that foreign languages should be included in the subjects of examination for public procurators and judges. This recommendation is based on the hypothesis that a good deal of business in which foreigners are concerned will come before the Courts after the Revised Treaties go into operation, and on the fact that in order to make progress in juristic knowledge competence to study foreign works on jurisprudence is essential. The *Fiji* seems to us to overstep the legitimate mark in this matter. We do not know of any country where such knowledge is required of judicial officials. No doubt it would be a good thing that Japanese procurators and judges should possess a working knowledge of English, or French, or German, but to make the attainment compulsory would be scarcely fair.

Warren's Circus, which appears to have done exceedingly well at Manila, Hongkong, and Shanghai, intends coming on to Japan in about three weeks' time.

JAPANESE EDUCATION.

THE question of foreigners in Japanese education is on the tapis in a very practical manner. There has been submitted by the Department of Education to the High Educational Council now in session, a set of proposals which are intended to form the basis of legislation, if approved by the Council. Among these proposals some have obvious reference to the contingency of foreigners taking part in education, and others are independently interesting. We have already alluded to one of the proposals, namely, that no person not conversant with the Japanese language shall be permitted to become a teacher in a private school, unless the instruction is to be given in some special subject. When this proposal came before the Council for discussion, Mr. HOZUMI moved that a further qualification be imposed, namely five years' previous residence in Japan, but the motion was rejected. Dr. KUMAMOTO then moved that a clause be inserted disqualifying all foreigners as founders of private schools in Japan. This suggestion seems to have been prompted by the Doshisha affair and the incidents growing out of it. Mr. EBARA SOROKU strongly opposed it. He asked whether such a restriction was imposed in any country, and he denounced the idea as bigoted, small-minded, and contemptible. Happily the Council rejected the motion.

Then followed the discussion of the Department's 9th proposal, namely, that any person establishing a private school must have a teacher's certificate. Mr. HOZUMI moved that this be amended so as to make the restriction apply to the principal of a school, not to its founder, but, strange to say, the Council rejected the amendment and adopted the original proposal. The object of such a law is quite obscure to ordinary minds. Looking at the question as outsiders, we observe that nothing is more conspicuously lacking in Japan at present than private enterprise in the field of education. In Europe and America munificent contributions are made every year by private individuals for the endowment or equipment of colleges and schools. In Japan there is comparatively little evidence of such a spirit. Count OKUMA and Mr. FUKUZAWA are conspicuous exceptions, and of late the action of Mr. OKURA KIHACHIRO set an example which might have borne fruit. But now we have the High Educational Council, and apparently the Department of Education also, stepping in to check any repetition of these public-spirited acts. What conceivable reason is there to require that the founder of a private school must be qualified to discharge the duties of a teacher? Founders of schools are generally men of wealth who have not the remotest intention of undertaking

pedagogic functions. They merely give their money, and leave the teaching to others. If this proposal is to be interpreted according to the ordinary rules of language, it must be described as one of the most mischievous and ill-advised measures ever conceived.

The Council was then asked to consider a proposal with reference to the qualifications of teachers in private schools, kindergartens, schools for the deaf and dumb, &c. Its gist was that any teacher, not duly provided with a certificate of competence, must furnish proof of his scholastic ability (*gakuryoku*) and of his good conduct (*hinkei*) to the Governor of the Prefecture where his duty lies, or to the Minister of Education. Presumably such a regulation is considered necessary in Japan. At all events it was passed by the Council, though to us it looks like very grandmotherly legislation. The standard of qualifications for elementary school teachers in Japan is so low that to have satisfied it constitutes no guarantee of pedagogic competence.

The most interesting and important proposal of all related to religion in education. It ran thus:—

In elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and all other schools whose curricula are fixed by law, as well as in schools which enjoy special privileges from the Government, no religious instruction must be given, nor must any religious exercises be performed.

Mr. EBARA SOROKU denounced this proposal in strong terms, and was strenuously supported by Mr. KAMADA of the *Keio-Gijuku*. Both gentlemen argued that such a veto was the worst kind of bigotry, and must have the effect of destroying national morality. Mr. EBARA is reported to have contended that religion is absolutely essential to the lower orders of the population; a strange argument, much more objectionable for the sake of what it implies than commendable for what it advocates. However, Mr. EBARA'S speech would probably read differently if we had it in full. In spite of the resolute opposition offered by these two distinguished publicists, the Council adopted the proposal as it stood, and there is therefore much reason to fear that it may ultimately be embodied in the laws of the land. If so, it will be the very worst piece of legislation ever adopted by Japan. Our readers will perceive that the gravamen of the proposal is contained in the words "as well as in schools which enjoy special privileges from the Government" (*seifu no tokken wo yetaru gakko*). That refers to private schools which, although not in receipt of any aid from the State, conform their curricula to the officially prescribed standards of public schools, and are consequently placed on the same footing as the latter in respect of exemption from conscription. To put the matter succinctly and concretely, a law embodying the above restriction would make this declaration to Japanese parents:—"You must

choose one of two courses. Either banish religion altogether from the education of your children, and by so doing secure for them exemption from conscription until they have completed their studies and reached the age of 27; or include religious instruction in their education and thus expose them to the risk of being drafted into the ranks of the Army at 20 years of age." Is it possible to conceive a more terrible alternative? Fancy a conscientious father who believes in GOD, in a future state of existence, and in an eternity of happiness or misery—fancy such a father having to purchase his child's exemption from military service by ruling religious instruction out of his life! It is perfectly right and proper that religious teaching and religious exercises should be forbidden in schools which are supported, partially or wholly, by the proceeds of general taxation. That is an essential result of the principle of freedom of conscience. No man should be obliged to contribute to the maintenance of a school where a creed is taught that he does not himself embrace. But the schools in question are private schools; schools which receive no manner of State aid, but which, in virtue of their pedagogic standard, are entitled to rank at least as high as public schools. Thus the announcement which the Department of Education and the High Educational Council contemplate making to the nation is, "You shall banish religion from the school life of your children or pay the penalty of exposing them to conscription. You are not only required to pay taxes for the support of schools where religion in every form is nominally tabooed" (nominally, not really, as we shall presently show), "but you are also forbidden to establish private schools of your own where your children may be taught the faith you cherish, for if you establish such schools we shall take your sons away when they reach the age of 20, and make them serve as conscripts." There is only one name for such legislation. It is semi-barbarous. The men who drafted the proposal and the men who voted for it stand on precisely the same plane of civilization as did the Inquisitors of Spain. Few parents possessing any earnest convictions would not prefer to be laid on the rack rather than to see religious influences banished from their children's lives.

That is the moral side of the argument. Japan may rest assured that if she adopts this step, she will be hopelessly degraded in the eyes of the civilized world. The finger of scorn and pity will be pointed at her as a nation of narrow-minded bigots, three hundred years behind the time of which she claims to stand abreast.

It seems almost a sacrilege to add anything to the broad, moral condemnation of this cruel legislation, but we observe with astonishment that its palpably un-

constitutional character is not denounced by any of its numerous Japanese critics—and happily they are numerous. Yet, beyond question, it is a gross violation of the Constitution. The 28th article of the latter says:—"Japanese subjects shall, within limits not prejudicial to peace and order, and not antagonistic to their duties as subjects, enjoy freedom of religious belief." How can it be pretended for a moment that a father enjoys freedom of religious belief when he is forbidden to have any religious instruction given to his children except at the cost of letting them be drafted into the ranks of the Army? Freedom of religious belief hampered by such a condition is a mere farce. It is perfectly well known who are the Japanese educationists responsible for this monstrous legislation. They are the so-called *Daigaku-ha* (University Section), as opposed to the *Meikei-ha* (High Normal School Section) and the *Mombu-ha* (Educational Department Section). They are the men whose shibboleths are *chū-kun* *aikoku-shin* (loyalty and patriotism) and *hokusei hoson* (eclectic nationalism). At the head of all the qualities essential to a good subject they ostentatiously place "loyalty." Where is their own "loyalty?" What respect can they have for an EMPEROR whose Constitution they thus trample under foot? Do they expect to educate a sentiment of loyalty among the youth of the nation when they, the elders, set the example of flagrantly violating their SOVEREIGN'S most solemn ordinances?

Of course we well understand that this project is directed chiefly against Christianity. Buddhism is at present moribund. It has a huge body of priests; it has magnificent temples, and it levies enormous sums from the people for its support; but it grossly neglects the first function of religion, namely, the cultivation of a high moral standard among the young people of the land. A creed which has no place in the hearts of the nation's children is a creed with one foot in the grave. Very different were the Buddhists of former times; the men who made Japan's civilization. Education was practically in their hands. The school was a part of the temple; the priest was the village pedagogue. The statesmen who planned the Restoration of 1867 were great in many ways, but they made one stupendous error: they drove the priesthood out of the sphere of education and they provided nothing to fill the moral vacuum thus created. As for the priests, they tamely accepted the situation. They failed to see that the disestablishment of their creed and the confiscation of their revenues were mere pin-pricks compared with the deep stab their religion received when it was banished from the child life of the nation. They have never made any attempt to recover their old position, and their apathy

amounts to a public confession that no Buddhist parent need believe sufficiently in Buddhism to include its doctrines, its precepts, and its service in the education of his children. Buddhism receives no new hurt from this uncivilized and disloyal legislation for which the Department of Education and the High Council of Education are prepared to be responsible, since Buddhism has already consented to be eliminated from the schools and is quite content to purchase military exemption by self effacement. As for *Shinto*, it has no part in the discussion. It is a cult, not a creed. Its sphere is in the cemetery not in the life of the people. But the Christians believe that children should be brought up in the path of Christianity. They have established schools for that purpose, and they would rather suffer any material sacrifice than be compelled to make no provision for the moral education of their sons. It is against the Christian then, that this legislation is directed. The leaders of the "University Section" believe that Christianity can not exist side by side with loyalty and patriotism. They have set up a religion of their own; a religion based on the heavenly ancestry of their sovereigns and the divine origin of their land. They have an indisputable right to that religion. If they sincerely believe in it, they are just as much entitled to profess it and to preach it as the followers of the Nazarene are to assert his godhead and to proclaim his gospel. But they have no manner of right to make it the compulsory religion of the schools, public and private, to the exclusion of all other creeds. That, however, is precisely what they are doing. They have taken steps that their own doctrine shall be taught in the schools under the ægis of a law which professes to interdict all religious instruction. Thus they violate the EMPEROR'S Constitution while professing to make loyalty the principle of their lives; they violate the laws which they have themselves framed, and they reduce their country to the low level of mediæval intolerance. It is a sorry spectacle for the friends of Japan to have to witness, and we observe with the sincerest satisfaction that not one leading journal in the country endorses such procedure.

THE TAXATION OF FOREIGNERS.

SOME interesting problems are under discussion with regard to the taxation of foreign residents after the Revised Treaties go into operation. Chief among these problems is the levying of the Business Tax. Reference to the Business Tax Law shows the following provisions:—First, according to the 13th Article, returns of businesses liable to taxation must be sent in to the Authorities by January 31st every year. From this Article it would seem that, since a busi-

ness can not possibly be taxed before data for assessing its liability are in the hands of the Authorities, there can be no taxation before February next. Such is said to be the view entertained in some quarters. But it is open to query, inasmuch as the returns furnished in January are not necessarily intended for purposes of future taxation only. They may also be designed to show the taxable transactions of the period prior to January. That, indeed, would be so in the great majority of instances, and it is possible that the figures sent in during January next may be taken as bases for collecting taxes from August 4th of the preceding year. The second provision which suggests food for reflection is contained in the 21st Article of the Law. It says:—

Taxes shall not be collected on newly established businesses until the year after their establishment. In the case of the following newly established businesses taxes shall not be collected until the third year after the year subsequent to their establishment:—banking, insurance, warehousing, manufacturing, printing, transport (land, water), landing, docks and wharfs.

What is meant by a "newly established," or "newly opened," business for the purposes of this Article? Obviously the intention of the exemption granted to newly established businesses is to enable them to attain a stable position before being subjected to fiscal imposts of any kind. On the other hand, it is technically possible to assert that a business must be classed as "newly established" when it is registered for the first time. From that point of view all the businesses carried on by foreigners in this country would be "newly established," according to legal phraseology, from the time of their registration, and as they can not be registered before August, some of them would not be liable to taxation before August 1900, and some not until August 1902 (N.B.—1903 would be the third year after the year subsequent to registration, according to English reckoning, but 1902 is the year according to Japanese arithmetic). This view also is said to be taken in some quarters, but it is not a view for which foreigners are at all likely to contend, since it involves an evident subterfuge. The Law refers to businesses newly established in the sense of being actually commenced *de novo*, not in the sense of being registered for the first time. Thus, when the Law went into operation originally, businesses already existing were brought immediately within its purview, whereas businesses freshly started were granted exemption. The trades and occupations carried on by foreigners in this country are, for the most part, old established affairs, and there will be no disposition to save them from taxation by a quibble obviously opposed to the intention of the Law. Some among them will doubtless be entitled to temporary exemption, but they will be the exceptions.

The last question raised has reference

to the Prefectural, City and District Land Taxes. It is alleged that the Central Government sent to the Governors of Kanagawa, Hyogo, and so forth instructions that these taxes should be levied from the date of operation of the Treaties, but that the Governors objected on the ground that the Local Land Taxes must be regarded as an outcome of the Imperial Land Tax, since their maximum rates are fixed with regard to the latter, and consequently where the Imperial Land Tax is not levied, Local Land Taxes can not be imposed. This story appears to us to be unworthy of credence. In the 18th Article of the Anglo-Japanese Revised Treaty, it is provided that when the Foreign Settlements are incorporated with the Japanese Communes, "existing leases in perpetuity under which property is now held in the said Settlements shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatever, other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property." The form of these perpetual leases is fixed by Convention, and the charges to which the land is liable are clearly set forth, namely, so much for rent and so much for foreign policing. It does not appear that any other imposts may be levied on the land.

THE SENDAI AFFAIR CONNECTED WITH MR. SNYDER.

So many conflicting reports have been spread in Sendai in reference to the manner in which the affair connected with Mr. Snyder ended—and some of them have, we understand, been circulated in Tokyo—that it seems important to state just what did happen. It appears that the chief promoters of the agitation were *soshi*, and that one very dangerous fanatic who calls himself the Avenger of Wrongs, Matsumoto by name,—he resides in Miyamachi—did actually threaten Mr. Snyder with violence in an indirect manner. Mr. Snyder informed the police of the threat and of the fact that Matsumoto had called at his house during his absence. In order to pacify the ignorant people whose animosity had been stirred up, Mr. Snyder was advised by his Christian friends and others to meet the father of the child whom he had bound and to make some kind of apology to him. The apologising was done by Mr. Hayasaka, Mr. Snyder's right-hand man, and the fact that it had taken place was proclaimed far and wide. The report that the Governor of Miyagi and the Mayor of Sendai called on Mr. Snyder and told him that his life would be in danger unless he apologised is quite false. Mr. Chikami, the present Governor of Miyagi, is far too shrewd a man and too well acquainted with international usages to be guilty of any such folly. The story that the matter was reported to the American Consul by the Japanese authorities is made out of whole cloth. The whole episode was very silly and would not be worth writing about were it not for the light it throws on the constitution of Japanese society in a large provincial town. It would be unfair to omit to note that the local authorities have done all

in their power to allay excitement and have taken steps to prevent, if possible, the recurrence of similar incidents by impressing on school teachers their obligation to instruct their pupils as to how they ought to conduct themselves towards aliens. The drunken policeman has been dismissed from the service. It seems to us that so long as that curse of modern society in Japan, the *soshi*, is paid by political leaders and is found residing in the midst of peaceful citizens always on the look-out for an incident which will bring his stout club into request on one side or the other, there is no saying what proportions a very trifling occurrence may suddenly assume. For these roughs believe in no half-measures and value their own lives little less than those of the victims of their violence. If Sendai report is to be credited, the recent political meetings have given a new impetus to *soshi* lawlessness in Sendai, and there is a feeling that Count Okuma had some warrant for classing his political opponents with semi-civilised American champions of lynch law or barbarous South Pacific tribes in respect of the language which they use and the practices to which they give their sanction.

But, as a matter of fact, neither of the political parties has a monopoly of this kind of thing, and, since the *soshi* have virtually disappeared from Tokyo, we may reasonably hope that they will not long find an asylum in provincial towns. England had her *soshi* not so long ago; Ireland has them still; they abound on the Continent of Europe, and perhaps it would be too much to expect that Japan should be entirely free from them.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

The *Fiji Shimpō*, with unflagging energy, sustains the strange campaign it inaugurated recently against the Foreign Office. It declares that Japan is now in a more dangerous position than she was even at the time of the Otsu incident, the peril being that, unless she adopts resolute measures, she will be pushed totally out of the Chinese arena by Western States. By "resolute measures" our contemporary means, of course, that Japan should not be content with a mere promise that no part of Fuhkien will be alienated. She ought to acquire a position such as will enable her to secure the fulfilment of the promise. In other words, she ought to obtain a naval base in Fuhkien. That would be a step in advance of any Far-Eastern precedent. Germany, Russia, England, France and even Italy, all had pretexts of some kind for the demands they made upon China, but Japan can not even point to an outraged missionary. However, the *Fiji Shimpō* is not troubled by any considerations of that kind.

We wonder whether this campaign will educate public opinion to results such as were reached in the case of Korea five years ago. There is a strong resemblance between the methods of the newspapers to-day and their methods then.

LAND AND MARINE TRANSPORT TO HOKKAIDO.

Arrangements have now been completed between the Japan Railway Company and the Transportation Company (Tsuun-Kaisha) for the overland carriage

of goods from Tokyo and other parts of the main island to Hokkaido, the connexion between Aomori and Hakodate being made by a service of good steamers. The transport of goods and passengers from the southern islands to the northern has hitherto fallen almost entirely to the ships of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and latter is expected to engage in sharp competition rather than allow its business to be diverted into other channels.

MEETING OF CHIEF PUBLIC PROCURATORS.

There is to be a meeting of all the chief public procurators in Tokyo, in order that instructions may be given to them in connexion with the operation of the new Civil and Commercial Codes, and with the inauguration of Mixed Residence. It was supposed that these officials would have been summoned simultaneously with the Local Governors, but the authorities have preferred to convene an independent meeting.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The hold which divination still retains on the minds of the uneducated in Japan is very noticeable in large provincial towns, where in street after street the well-known fortune-teller's signboard meets the eye of the passer-by. The *Fūsoku Gwahō*, which amid a mass of badly arranged and superfluous matter occasionally gives publicity to facts of considerable interest, in No. 184, under the title of *Yuki-uranai* (Snow Augury) furnishes an account of a number of popular notions as to the weather that may be expected when certain indications are present. It will be observed that many of these ideas differ little from those current in England among the conservative section of the agricultural classes, many of whom still consult "Old Moore's Almanac" and other weather prophets. All over Japan, says the *Fūsoku Gwahō*, heavy snowfalls are considered to be signs of an abundant harvest the following season. In Nara, Gifu, and adjacent provinces it is a common saying that the presence of a large number of small birds in the autumn corn and their eagerness to obtain food is an indication of a severe winter. In Kanagawa, Shizuoka, and Kōchi it is said that a fall of snow is preceded by the collecting together of a number of sparrows and by the screeching of a large number of hawks. In Niigata people say that early autumn tints are an indication of early snow. When the lemons are well covered with leaves as they hang on the trees, it is a sign that heavy snow will fall, say the inhabitants of Shiga, Fukui, and Shimane. The Shiga people assert that a heavy snowfall is indicated by the stags only roaring once in the autumn.

Many of the sayings given by the *Fūsoku Gwahō* are founded on silly superstition, but those which concern the habits of birds and animals doubtless contain more than a grain of truth, as there is little doubt that most animals and many birds are far more susceptible of subtle climatic influences than human beings. Farmers in England, for instance, are sure of coming rain, when sheep begin to feed at an earlier hour in the morning than is usual. In Japan even the sea is represented as furnishing data for forecasts of

the weather. In Fukui it is said that when sea water becomes clear about mid-autumn the winter will be mild, but if at the beginning of the winter season the water is still in a disturbed state a severe winter may be expected. The *Fūsoku Gwahō* quotes sayings connected with the appearance of certain autumn fruits that are said to indicate snow. Then rain on certain days is supposed to be a sign of continual snow falls. Itching of the feet and hands is said by the Hiroshima folks to prognosticate rain or snow. All these indications are studied by sharp diviners and relied on in the weather forecasts which, in return for small fees, they supply to anxious farmers.

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The following books deserve a passing notice. Dr. Inoue Enryō has published a little book entitled *Tetsugaku-hayawakari* (Philosophy Made Easy). It is written in a semi-colloquial style and is designed to be within the comprehension of persons of little education. It gives a short account of the different schools of philosophy and of the chief writers, and would prove a suitable text-book for elementary classes in schools. The work sells at 15 sen per copy at the Kaihatsusha, Nishiki-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō, and may be recommended to foreigners studying Japanese on account of its lucid and forcible style.

Mr. Owada Kenju, the lexicographer, has been for some time engaged on an elaborate work on Japanese literature, whose publication was announced for the end of last month. It professes to be a minute history of both ancient and modern literature, divided into five volumes, each volume being about 300 pages in length. Vol. I. deals with ancient literature; Vol. II. with the literature of the Middle Ages; Vol. III. with the literature of the last century; Vol. IV. with modern literature, and Vol. V. contains various chronological data and a glossary of the language used by the writers cited. The price of the work is 40 sen per volume and the title *Nihon-Daibungakushi* (A History of Japan's Greatest Books).

The *Seiyō Tetsugaku-Shōshi* (小史), by Dr. Nakajima, gives a history of western philosophy. Though called a "Short History," it extends over 1,100 odd pages, and is furnished with a large number of portraits. Vol. I. costs 1 yen 30 sen and Vol. II. 1 yen 70 sen. The Fuzambō, Omote-jimbōchō, Kanda, Tōkyō, are the publishers.

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In the *Shigaku Zasshi* (History) we read that the history of Japanese Art to be sent to the Paris Exhibition, the compilation of which has been entrusted to Mr. Fukuchi Mataichi, is approaching completion. Mr. Fukuchi has traversed the country, he tells a member of the staff of the *Shigaku Zasshi*, in search of specimens of the art of various ages and has had photographs taken of each *chef d'œuvre* that he came across in his travels. Among the heirlooms of the Nara Shōsōin he found several masterpieces which few people have been privileged to see. He has ready for publication more than a hundred photographs and 500 pages of printed matter. The history is divided into 3 periods. The first goes back to the dawn of history and ends with the Tembiō era (A.D. 729-748). The second begins with the Kōnin era (A.D. 810), and goes down to the fall of the Kamakura Bakufu, and the third covers the Ashikaga era and part

of the Tokugawa age. The manuscript of the book is now in the hands of the translator, and the work will be published in Japanese and French some time this year.

The *史學界 Shigakkai* (The Historical World) is a new monthly, covering about 100 pages and selling at 10 sen per copy, published by the Fuzambō. Its *raison d'être* is stated in its pages to be the collection of more general information on historical subjects than is wont to appear in the *Shigaku Zasshi*, the contributors to which are a set of specialists. The material published in the first number is classified under some 9 headings. But, whether the number of reliable writers on historical subjects in Japan warrants the establishment of a new organ is open to doubt. The *Shigakkai* does not profess to confine itself to Japanese history, however, but purports culling interesting chapters from the histories of other countries.

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In the *Taiyō* Mr. Omachi Keigetsu elaborates the theory that in most countries of the world civilisation originated in the south and worked northwards, and affirms that civilisation has always contained elements of weakness, which have resulted in the highly refined southerners being ruled by the lardy warlike northerners. It is well that we should recognise, says Mr. Omachi, that great refinement, taste for arts, and keen appreciation of luxuries have in the history of the world over and over again undermined those manly qualities the retention of which is indispensable to national independence. This is well expressed in our term 文弱, *bunjaku*, the weakness of refinement or exclusive devotion to literary pursuits. It is this principle that accounts for the fall of the ancient Greek and Roman empires; and in our own history the real cause of the substitution of the Fujiwara rulers by the Taira and of the overthrow of the Taira by Minamoto was that luxury and refinement gradually engendered effeminacy, the sure precursor of defeat in battle. The one reason why Kyōto and Osaka for so many centuries were never able to offer anything like a stubborn resistance to the usurpers of authority who attacked them was that they had for a very long time been the centres of Japan's civilisation, the home of refinement, art, and literature. It is only in an imaginary world that the pen is mightier than the sword. In the actual world it is not so. The theory that the north is destined to rule the south, says Mr. Omachi, is strikingly illustrated by the steady advance of Russia towards the Chinese capital. While China is boasting of her literary tastes and attainments, giving out to the world that she alone is truly civilised and all the world is barbarian in comparison with her, piece by piece of her empire is being snatched from her by the less refined but warlike Cossack and the ambitious Teuton.

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The *Taiyō* gives an account of the Japanese School established at Foochow called the 東文學堂, Tōbungakudō. It is designed for high-class Chinese. Mr. Okada Kamejirō, who speaks Pekingese, is the principal teacher. Up till lately there have been 100 pupils in attendance, whose aim is to make themselves acquainted with learning by means of the Japanese language. But the change in Government in China affected the institution seriously, and the number of attendants

has dropped to 40. The course extends over three years, and graduates are to come over to Japan and conclude their studies here. The school was established by Chinese and receives no support from the Japanese Government. The *Taiyō* thinks it important to mention this, as it is commonly reported in Fuhchau that Japan has designs on the province of Fuhkien and that the school has been started as a training institution for officials. The *Taiyō* thinks that the Japanese Government ought to assist the school, as it is helping to extend the influence of the Japanese nation in China.

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The articles published in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* entitled "Japan as seen by Foreign Eyes," summarised by us a month ago, have been followed by a series entitled, "Foreigners as seen by Japanese Eyes," written by a man who signs himself "Tōa-gakujin." The following is a synopsis of his opinions:—The foreigners who come to the East are usually persons with a strong individuality, who take delight in differing from the majority of their fellow-countrymen. Foreigners are pig-headed and extremely independent. In this there is much to admire, but it frequently leads to impoliteness to Asiatics. . . . One point in which they differ from us is in the way they display their feelings on all occasions. It is a canon of Japanese ethics that emotions are to be suppressed and that no outward sign of the state of feeling must be given. There are those who say that foreigners have deeper feelings than Japanese because they display them on the most trifling occasions, but to us this constant display is often a proof of shallowness. Whether the display of emotion or its careful concealment is the better course to be followed is a matter of opinion on which Orientals and Occidentals differ and on which there is much to be said on both sides. To us it seems that a great many foreigners are extremely flippant and that there is a lack of genuineness about their gestures and their words. Speech, laughter, and gesture are often made to do service for the existence of real feeling. The foreigner, on the other hand, maintains that the Japanese is hypocritical in pretending not to feel what he does feel, and that this suppression of feeling leads to misunderstandings of various kinds. If foreigners go to extremes in one direction, it is certain that the Japanese do the same in another. And there is some reason in the complaint of foreigners that the Japanese are very difficult to understand on account of their aversion to the display of feeling. We are said to be lacking in feeling because we do not show it.

This difference of racial temperament shows itself in a very marked manner in intercourse between foreigners and Japanese, and not infrequently makes the society of foreigners absolutely distasteful to us. It is noticeable that the Japanese who get on best with foreigners are very seldom men of any strength of character, and the reason of this may be the radical diversity of nature to which we have referred.

Self-confidence is very highly developed among foreigners, and often leads a man to pursue a course of evil that would be avoided by an Oriental. . . . Speaking generally, the whole nervous system of the Occidental differs from that of the Oriental and makes intercourse between

Easterns and Westerns somewhat difficult. Foreigners are much more full-blooded than we are and their actions are much affected by this circumstance.

They are lacking in the diffidence that induces us to entrust delicate transactions to a middleman, or that leads us to seek a formal introduction before approaching a stranger on any business. They would consider it absolutely rude to send a middleman to transact very important business, and even the soliciting the hand of a maiden each foreigner undertakes for himself.

Coming to the subject of morality between the sexes there is a great difference between the East and West. In Japan the prostitute and the *geisha* do not lose their self-respect and their connection with other members of society in the way that is the case with the fallen woman of the West. Owing to the strictness of Occidental society, for the woman who has once gone astray there is, as a rule, no way back to social respectability. But in Japan many are the women who on the altar of duty to parents sacrifice themselves to a life of shame for a series of years and afterwards return to the bosom of their families with little or no disgrace attached to their names. The end purifies the means. But with the Western harlot it is total abandonment, the loss of all the qualities that distinguish other women. It is not that she likes the life, in most cases, but, driven to it at first for the sake of making a livelihood, she finds that society will not allow her to return to the paths of virtue. Accustomed to the stringent rules of Western society, the foreigner comes to Japan to find a diametrically opposite state of affairs, and as a consequence usually gives the reins to his desires.

It may perhaps be truthfully said that, with the exception of missionaries and married men, there are few foreigners that are living pure lives. We complain of the ineffectiveness of our Oriental systems of morality to restrain vice, but does Christianity produce better results? The foreigners who profess Christianity at home come out here and show by their lives that they are hypocrites. This lapse into licentious living is very manifest among members of the diplomatic corps.

Coming to money matters, the foreigner is keen in looking out for his own profit, and will allow neither blood relationship nor friendship to interfere with his gains. Where money is concerned he will often regard with suspicion persons who are quite honest. It is true that he has had to deal with some bad specimens of Japanese humanity, but the fact that he has trusted the men who have cheated him shows how little he is able to judge of character where Japanese are concerned. . . . But it is only fair to say that, while on the one hand among foreigners we are an absorbing interest in money-making, on the other there is a far-reaching charity, clarity that knows no distinctions of creed or race. . . . Of the missionaries that come to Japan, a great many are poorly educated, and the men who in addition to being learned have force of character are very few. A large number of the missionaries it would be well to ship off to some of the Southern Pacific islands, where the people are quite uneducated. The foreign professors that fill chairs at our University are mostly men who have no name in their own countries and come here to make a reputation, and look forward to obtaining

employment in Europe or America as a result of their labours here.

The writer starts with the intention of saying all that it is possible to say against foreigners and carries out his programme faithfully, as the above abstract serves to show, though he tells us at the end of his last article that he has by no means exhausted the list of Occidental defects.

There have been many fruitless attempts to place the study of sociological subjects in Japan on a reliable basis and to insure the collection and classification of facts in a scholarly manner. According to the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*, the Shakaigaku Kenkyu Kai (Sociological Investigation Society) promises to fulfil all reasonable expectations in this line. The Society is supported by a number of scholars whose reputation and zeal ought to guarantee success. The Society held a meeting in December last in the Education Society Hall near Hitotsu Bashi, at which various papers were read. Dr. Motora discussed "the Standard of Living" in Japan. Mr. Ogawa Shigejiro's subject was "Society and Crime," in which he traced the connection of social conditions and customs with crime. At a meeting held in January Dr. Tsuboi read an essay on "The Life of the Ainu," and Mr. Ukita Kazutami discoursed on "The Sociological Study of Society." The Society issues a magazine in which are published the papers read at their meetings and other articles. The magazine is called the *Shakai*. The first number appeared in February. It is not to be confounded with the *Shakai Zasshi*, now defunct, which was a short time before its decease amalgamated with the *Nihon Shūkyō*. The new magazine has the support of Dr. Takagi, of the Imperial University Literary Department, and a number of other learned specialists, and is said to have every prospect of success. The first number opens with a portrait of the father of modern Sociology, Auguste Comte, and contains the following contributions:—"Congratulatory Address," by Dr. Katō, on the founding of the Society; "On the limits of Sociological Inquiry," by Dr. Ariga; "Standards of Living," by Dr. Motora; "The State of the Poor in Japan," by Mr. Kure Bunsō; and "Methods of Sociological Investigation," by Dr. Takagi. Among the miscellaneous items, "The Effects of the New Civil Code on Family Life," and "The State of Society in China," are discussed. The investigators have a virgin soil to work on, and problems of great interest and importance await the solution which carefully collated facts alone can furnish.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* gives an interesting account of a *cloisonné* picture prepared by Mr. Namikawa Sōsuke for exhibition in Paris next year. As a work of art it is said to surpass anything that has been produced in the same line. The scene represented was designed and painted by Mr. Watanabe Seitei. It consists of a river of sparkling water running through prettily grouped pine-trees and oaks with towering mountain heights as a back ground, from behind one of which peeps the autumn moon. The dimensions of the picture are 4 ft. 8 in. by 3 ft. 2 in. (Japanese measurement). The following is Mr. Namikawa's account of the difficulties he encountered in executing his design. "Ever since August, 1897, I had been puzz-

ling over the details of the work of art I had decided to prepare for the Paris Exhibition. The rapidity with which the work was eventually completed was the result of months of careful study of every minutia affecting its success. The arrangement of the shades of light, which to a skilled painter might prove a very easy matter, in *Shippō-yaki* taxed all my powers. Some idea of the difficulty of the work will be given by my saying that I used some 300 different ingredients in mixing colours. Every tree, every branch, every twig, every leaf has its shade of colour. In order to make the colours of different parts of the picture faultlessly uniform, as they would be in nature, I had to be sure of using the same enamels, and to do this every enamel that had been used had to be labelled and kept separate from its fellows. I have been engaged in making *cloisonné* for 19 years. It is not a paying business. The number of enamels that have to be used and the extreme care required in mixing and baking means that there are many failures and consequent losses. To make up for these, high prices have to be charged for the successful articles. This being so, I have always looked forward to a time when Japanese *cloisonné* should make a market for itself in rich Western lands. Already I have innumerable customers, specially in Germany, where of late there are not a few persons who are prepared to lay out a thousand *yen* on a single article. I live in hopes that this Paris exhibit will open the eyes of Occidentals to the capabilities of the art."

In the pages of the *Tōyō Tetsugaku*, Dr. Inoue Enryō urges the importance of a chronological reform in Japan. The system of reckoning time in vogue for many centuries was borrowed from China, and began to be followed in A.D. 645, the Taikwa being the name of the first year-period. Since that time, says Dr. Inoue, there have been some 250 periods. Hardly anybody remembers them all, and consequently allusions to ancient history where dates are important often become quite unintelligible. Various substitutes for the present system have been proposed. Dr. Inoue discusses each in turn in the following manner:—(1) The present year is said to be the year 2,559, reckoned from the accession to the throne of the Emperor Jimmu. But nothing is known of the history of the first 1,300 years of this period; therefore the daily repetition of all these years is a useless task.* It would be advisable to start from the Taikwa era. (2) Foreign chronology should be adopted, in order to facilitate comparison of Japanese history with Western annals. But the birth of Christ is nothing to us as a nation. It may be said that the foreign method of computation was not decided wholly on religious grounds, but the events that took place at the beginning of the Christian era in Europe were of sufficient importance to make it desirable to make the supposed date of Christ's birth the starting point of a new era. If this be so it does not apply to us. Nothing in our history makes it desirable to settle on this special period as a starting point, and, moreover, to

* It is, we presume, too much to expect scholars of such a conservative type as Dr. Inoue to come to the conclusion which foreign critics have reached in reference to the highly mythological nature of all that the Japanese histories contain bearing on events supposed to have happened during those 1,300 years. [Writer of the Summary.]

adopt foreign chronology would go against the grain with the majority of us. I am quite opposed to any such measure. (3) There are specialists among our own writers who maintain that, in imitation of the Chinese, our early historians lengthened out the period that elapsed between Jimmu's accession and the Taikwa era, in order to make it appear that Japan was not to be beaten in point of antiquity. If, say, about five hundred years were subtracted from the present computation the beginning of the Christian era would be reached, and in that case it would be convenient to adopt western chronology. (4) It is proposed to make the eras correspond to changes in the Government. In opposition to this it is said that such an arrangement would be disrespectful to the throne. Those who are in favour of making changes of Government mark the lapse of time propose only five periods, namely the Nara, the Heian, the Kamakura, the Ashikaga, and the Tokugawa periods. (5) As during so many of the year-periods now in use no event of importance happened, it is proposed to drop out all but the principal ones, thus reducing the number to about 30. Thus in the Tokugawa era the Manyō, Bunkyo, Genji, and Keiō periods might all be included in the Ansei period. It would be advisable to retain the latter in preference to any of the others, as during the Ansei era some great events took place, such as the great earthquake, the assassination of Ii Kamei, &c. (6) In the whole history of Japan no age is so important as the Meiji era, say some. It has witnessed changes which are more fundamental than any recorded in the annals of the nation. Instead, then, of dating history from an event that had little influence on the destinies of the race, why not let this present era be raised to the dignity it deserves? And why not speak of all events as taking place before or in it? According to this arrangement the Meiji era would last as long as we exist as a nation. (7) There are those who would make the eras correspond to the reigns of the different Emperors or Empresses. (8) There are those who would let the era begin with the Taikwa period, and abolish all subsequent year-periods.

At a meeting held on February 11th at the Tetsugakkan I put these various theories to the vote, in order to see what amount of support they would obtain, with the subjoined results. For No. 1, there were 4 votes, and the others stood as follows:—(2) 0, (3) 0, (4) 12, (5) 7, (6) 80, (7) 2, (8) 2. It is thus seen that the majority are in favour of the Meiji era being made the starting point, the *ne plus ante*, as it were, in Japanese annals.

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Among the miscellaneous scraps of information published in the *Seikai-no-Nihon* is an amusing anecdote told by Marquis Saionji about Prince Bismarck. "The young are full of hope and ambition and love to think and talk of the future," says the Marquis. "With the old it is just the opposite. Their one delight is to review the past. In this respect there is no difference between the high and the low, the rich and the poor. Even with the greatest men there is nothing they love so well as to live the events of their lives over again in imagination, and recount their adventures to attentive listeners. This was eminently

the case with Prince Bismarck. When about 10 years ago I was Minister in Berlin, on the occasion of the German Emperor's birthday, Prince Bismarck gave a dinner to the diplomatic corps, and after dinner entertained us with a most lively account of the history of the Berlin Congress of 1878, his connection with it as President and all the political balls it had set rolling. I went away delighted beyond measure. A few days after I had occasion to attend a meeting at which several ambassadors were present. I alluded to the Birthday dinner, and said how interesting was that account of the Berlin Congress that Bismarck gave. 'Yes,' replied one of the Ministers, 'but I had heard it all before.' Whereupon another Minister who was present, in a low voice, chimed in, 'You gentlemen are fortunate indeed; as for me, I have heard it five times.'"

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There is in Japan a great dearth of books on commerce and industry, which is much to be regretted on account of the immense importance of these subjects to the nation at the present time. Mr. Nagata Ken-suke, Lecturer on Geography and History at the Commercial School, who is also connected with the Science Department in the Keiōgijuku, has lately published a book called *Shōgyō Shiyō* (史要), which covers over 200 pages, and, as its title indicates, furnishes a history of the most important developments of commerce. The first part of the work deals with Japanese Commerce and Industry only. In the latter part of the book is a concise account of Commerce and Industry in European countries, the United States, Australasia, India, and China. The work is issued by Maruzen and sells at 75 sen per copy.

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The *Seishinron* (Mind) by Mr. Sasaki Hidesaburō deals with several important modern psychological questions, especially with the location of the organ of thought and the connection of mind and body. The work is said to embody the results of some years of patient study. It is for sale at Maruya's at 28 sen per copy.

The number of medical works on technical subjects that appear from month to month is very large.

Of colloquial phrase books, English, French, and German, there are any quantity, but very few of these are reliable guides to the learner. When compiled by Japanese they consist too frequently of translations from phrase books published in Europe, by translators whose knowledge of the real meaning of the original is quite inadequate; when compiled by foreigners in not a few instances the Japanese is very lame and unidiomatic. In a work like that of Miss Perry's advertised by Maruya it is quite evident that the English comes from one source and the Japanese from another. Hence the manifest inequality between them. There is room for a larger and more scholarly work than any that is now offered for sale.

PROGRESSIVISTS IN SENDAI.

Count Okuma, Viscount Miura, Mr. Kono Hiroaki and a number of other leading Progressist politicians arrived in Sendai on the evening of the 17th. As a political party the *Shimpo-tō* is far better supported in Sendai than the *Kensei-tō*. Count Okuma was met at the station by all the local authorities, and the town of Sendai celebrated the occasion by a display of fire-works. As had been predicted by Mr. Hoshi

Toru, the Count did not speak at the large public meeting held on the 19th. A *Konshinkai* was called for the 18th, and on that occasion both Count Okuma and Viscount Miura delivered their message to their Sendai supporters. As this friendly gathering was not advertised in the papers, not a few persons anxious to hear what the Count had to say in reply to Mr. Hoshi Toru's vehement attacks, were not present at the *Konshinkai*, and had to rely on the reports of the speech given in the local papers, which were more detailed than usual. The chief plank in the platform of the party as revealed in the various speeches delivered on the 18th and the 19th was the reduction of taxation as much as possible and the taxing of trade and industry rather than land, where taxation is absolutely necessary. Count Okuma spoke for over an hour. Though his speech was somewhat conversational in style, its tone was dignified and he did not descend to any of the personalities in which his opponents had so freely indulged. Not a few of the prominent citizens of Sendai who heard the speeches of both leaders observed that that of Count Okuma was on a higher level and carried conviction with it to thoughtful people, though Mr. Hoshi's utterances were doubtless better adapted for captivating the unthinking masses. Count Okuma doubtless acted wisely in choosing not to appear at the Public Meeting of the 19th, for it was a very noisy affair and almost ended in a free fight between the partisans of the rival parties. What the Count had to say did not contain anything specially new or striking. The speech was chiefly devoted to reviewing events which have been repeatedly discussed in these columns, and which it would be wearisome to recapitulate at any length now. The Count said that after giving the whole subject of the increase of the land tax his most careful attention, he had come to the conclusion that the present is not an opportune moment for adding to the burden of the farmer. If the latter measure had to be resorted to, it should be only adopted as a last resource when all other available means of revenue had been utilized to the full. The party to which he belonged had the credit of reducing the amount of the land tax to be levied and that of itself was a satisfaction. In taxation the principle for which he contended was that care should be taken not to lessen the staple products of the country, not to increase the hardships of the mass of the people, and not to injure the future prospects of the nation. Surely the burdens of the lower classes were already heavy enough, without our increasing them further. It is an undeniable fact that in all the great countries of the world the present tendency is to tax the luxuries and not the necessities of life, to levy as few direct personal taxes as possible and to rely on indirect taxation as a source of revenue. . . . Already among Eastern countries we are the most heavily taxed. China's rates are far lower than ours, and as for India, though it has the reputation of being an over-taxed country, its taxes are as light again as ours. Among European countries Austria's land tax is said to be the heaviest, but even that is not more than half of what our farmers have to pay. . . . The opposite party has denounced us as a set of robbers because we have opposed the increase of taxation. It would be difficult to find men using such violent language outside of America, unless it be among the uncivilized tribes of the Southern Pacific islands. That there should be men of our own nationality unscrupulous enough to represent men to whom at various times His Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to entrust the management of the affairs of State as traitors to their country, because they have opposed a policy which they conscientiously believe to be most injurious to the country's highest interests creates unbounded astonishment. . . . Notwithstanding all the claptrap that passes for political oratory, and in spite of the existence of men whose minds are shallow and whose actions are weak, notwithstanding the utter absence of shame which characterizes so many who are anxious to figure as prominent politicians, this *seiji* age is not so bad as it is made out to be, and the men who are shaping its destinies are neither liars nor traitors. . . . Shallow.

mindful chattering have asserted that the object of our political tour in the North Eastern provinces is to stir up the farmers to revolt. Could any grosser falsehood be invented? What is there in our action to lead to an agrarian riot? Our action has been misrepresented by our foes. We are here to put it before you in its true light. Only men bereft of all feeling of moral responsibility, only the most flippant of politicians could invent such a report. . . . Undoubtedly the times are such that the reduction of taxes is a work of enormous difficulty. Our joining the comity of Western nations must involve increased expenditure in various ways, but I maintain that the government may be administered in a cheaper way than it has hitherto been done by employing fewer officials. My plan is to engage the services of the very best men the country can produce, pay them well, and expect them to work hard. By proper management the present expenditure might be reduced so as to make the increase in the postal rates and the extra land tax unnecessary. To show what is possible in the way of cutting down expenditure I will quote what happened in the 10th year of Meiji. When Okubo was Home Minister and I was Minister of Finance, Okubo proposed that the land tax be reduced from 3 per cent. to 2 per cent. I favoured the plan and it was carried out. At that time the whole revenue of the country did not amount to more than about 5 or 6 million yen, and the reduction of this tax necessitated a lessening of expenditure by one and a half million yen. . . .

But this reduction caused great indignation in the army, and led to an attempt to assassinate me. But we have survived all the troubles through which we passed and I feel that even with one leg the life of the last decade has been worth living. . . . There would be no difficulty whatever in reducing both the land tax and postal and telegraphic rates, and as for the reduction in the expenses of administration it ought to be carried out at once. We are not the only people who are suffering from excessive expenditures. Russia's proposed Peace Conference is dictated by the conviction that the strain of keeping up her armaments while she pushes forward her industry and commerce is more than she can bear. I have come all this way, old and afflicted as I am, to tell you that what our adversaries say is not true. We do not wish to cripple the country by the reduction of taxation. We see our way to doing all that is required for the safety of the empire and the development of the country's resources without increasing the burden of the class of producers on whom the present wealth and prosperity of the country principally depend.

Viscount Miura expressed his want of confidence in the present Government and dwelt more minutely on some of the topics treated by Count Okuma. He was followed by others. At the close of the meeting a resolution was passed in favour of reduction of taxation. The title of the meetings held in Sendai is the *20 Aoku Gento-kai* (The N.-Eastern Tax-reduction Association, not the Anti-Tax Association as stated in some Tokyo journals).

On the evening of the 18th, Count Okuma and Viscount Miura were entertained at the Yueni-Kwan by a Society which has for its object the construction of a harbour in Miyagi Ken, and by certain leading Sendai members of the *Shimpo-to*. On this occasion both the guests made speeches. Count Okuma dealt with the harbour scheme at some length, saying that it was a serious defect that there should be no good harbour for large vessels between Yokohama and Hakodate. The idea of making a harbour had been before various Governments during the past 20 years and the desirability of taking action had always been acknowledged. But there were financial and other difficulties in the way. He would recommend the local agitators on this subject to be a little more earnest. The Osaka folks had succeeded where the dead-and-alive Tokyo citizens had failed, and the harbour at the former place was in course of construction. It seemed to him

that the Sendai people were greatly lacking in enterprise. This part of Japan was far more backward than many other parts. The town of Sendai looked cleaner than he had seen it a decade ago, but the almost total absence of smoke from factory chimneys was very noticeable. They must not depend so much on the central government, but should help themselves more. Transport facilities throughout the country were in a very backward state, and there was considerable inequality of prices in North-Eastern districts owing to the imperfect means of distributing goods. One of the essentials of progress and proper development in every country was the existence of transport facilities which enabled markets to regulate themselves by sending commodities in from any part of the country where the supply was abundant. The Miyagi Ken folks seemed quite ignorant of some of the most elementary principles of trade and industry. An equal distribution of political power, general intelligence, and wealth was most desirable. The harbour was needed. He, the Count, could do with one leg, but the country could not do without harbours.

Viscount Miura managed to twist the harbour scheme so as to make it serve as an occasion for dwelling on the reduction of taxes.

Count Okuma and Viscount Miura returned to Tokyo early on the morning of the 19th inst.

The Progressist meeting held on the afternoon of the 19th was not so largely attended as that of the Liberals, which took place on the 10th. But the interruption to the speakers was of a far more determined character. On the whole the oratory was very poor. Only one speaker thoroughly delighted the audience and quieted all opposition, and that was Mr. Jumon Shinsuke, a local magnate, formerly Mayor of Sendai. The meeting began at 2.30. Mr. Sawa Bai, the editor of the *Sendai Shimbun*, the paper which took such a prominent part in the discussion of the local foreign taxation question, gave some details of the privations and hardships of the Miyagi Ken farmers and drew the inference that they were unreasonably taxed. Shouts of "Shut up!" were loud and constant. It was quite evident that the interrupters had attended the meeting with the intention of making a row and that they were of the *soshi* type. Their voices were often drowned by the noise made by their opponents. The next speaker was Mr. Sato Kiyoshi, of Miyagi Ken, a member of the Diet, whom Mr. Hoshi Toru affirmed had voted in favour of the increase of the allowances of members. This allegation Mr. Sato denounced as a base falsehood. This declaration was the signal for a great uproar and a well-known *soshi* was so unruly that he had to be removed by the police.

The 3rd speaker was Mr. Suzuki Manjiro, of Fukushima, who was followed by Mr. Kudo Kōkan, from Awamori. The speeches made by these gentlemen were of a very mild nature, and Mr. Kudo went fully into the subject of the purchase of private railways by the State. The audience heard them out, but the appearance of Mr. Hoshi Matsushiro on the rostrum was the signal for renewed disturbances. His subject was, "The wonderful meaning of the term Constitutional Government." But he had nothing to say of special interest to anybody and he committed the grave mistake of replying in angry tones to the comments of certain persons in the audience. This had the effect of lashing the meeting into a fury. A rush was made towards the platform by five or six youths—missiles began to fly about the building. The rostrum was invaded, the table overturned, chairs smashed. The police had a busy and an exciting five minutes, but after turning out five or six of the ringleaders, they succeeded in quieting the audience sufficiently for the proceedings to continue. Mr. Hoshi Matsushiro made another attempt to speak, but nothing would induce the meeting to listen to him any longer, and he retired amidst the hooting of his foes. His failure was largely owing to his utter want of tact. The

managers of the meeting did the right thing when they put forward an old man who has made a name for himself in these parts by the intelligent interest he had taken in agriculture. Mr. Jumon Shinsuke is an old friend and associate of the well-known Mr. Tada, of Tokyo, and is an earnest advocate of the adoption of improved methods of agriculture. He began his speech by saying that he was not specially interested in one political party or the other. He was a practical man and he had come to the conclusion that there was very little difference between the moles who worked under the earth and the Japanese farmers who worked above it—for both classes of animals were working in the dark. There were no people in Japan so backward as the farmers. The land tax bore heavily on them because they made so little out of the land compared with what could be made out of it with proper appliances. Barley that in Germany could be bought for 23 yen a *hoku* cost 48 in Japan, and was not equal to the German barley for brewing purposes even at that price. In no civilized country were farmers to be found whose life was as full of hardship and yielded so little result as those of this country. Mr. Jumon has a wonderful flow of language, in fact is quite a local Enchō in the way that he rolls out his sentences and heaps simile on simile in the most captivating manner. We venture to think there are few subjects, however distasteful to the audience, that Mr. Jumon could not render palatable.

After a heavy speech by Mr. Tanno Yasuji, Mr. Kono Hironaka in a short quiet address on the need of carrying into practice the resolution to which the party had come, brought the proceedings to a close.

A STUDY OF KENSITISM.

Many of the English journals have affected a very superior air in commenting on the Dreyfus case. The terrible wave of illiberalism, of race prejudice, of blind passion that has so disfigured France the last few years is made the ground for the complacent reflection that we are not as other men, i.e. Frenchmen; that our common sense is too profound and solid, our morality too deep-rooted, our self-respect too imperious, to render it possible for us to make of ourselves a spectacle so sorry and despicable.

How easy is it to see the mote that is in our neighbour's eye, and how difficult to observe the beam that is in our own. While the editors are penning their truly Pharisaical leaders, while the orators are making speeches which assume a monopoly of common-sense for England, and a large share of it for themselves, while we are assuring ourselves so complacently that in England there is no race feeling, no religious bigotry, no blood-thirsty passion, while Mr. Kipling tances his Jungo lyre to an air of mingled piety and boastfulness that is absolutely nauseating to a man of average modesty—while all this is going on, England herself is the scene of an agitation which makes a sober observer wonder whether after all progress has been only on the surface, and whether the crowd is much more reasonable than in the days of Titus Oates.

The mention of Titus Oates, by a natural association of ideas, brings us to John Kensit, the originator of the new "No Popery" cry with which England is now ringing. There is unfortunately no doubt that Kensit has been most widely successful in his appeal to the lowest passions and the most vulgar prejudices. The new crusade, as he has the impudence to style it, has supporters not only among the rabble of Clerkenwell and Bethnal Green, who see in it fine possibilities of amusement after their own heart, but grave middle-class men, sober people, who should know better; even a few aristocratic noodles, have been so misguided as to throw in their lot with this brazen brawler. The Kensit boom flourishes, and probably pays. From the description in the *Daily Telegraph* it would appear that one of the great meetings—that held at St. James's Hall—was attended by grave grey-beards and substantial men of business; that frantic cheers were raised for Ken-

sit; and that his appearance on the platform was greeted with most extraordinary enthusiasm. Kensit is even a possible candidate against Mr. Arthur Balfour at East Manchester, for Mr. Balfour's refusal to listen to the counsels of bigotry in regard to the Irish University question has saddened the Protestant "Stalwarts" against him. If East Manchester so loses its self-respect as to replace an enlightened, amiable, high-souled, and well-mannered politician like Mr. Balfour for a person of the Kensit calibre, it will certainly be not the first instance of electoral folly, but it will be truly one of the most striking.

Who is this Kensit? *Truth* has done some service in making known to the public his goings and comings before he emerged into the fierce light which beats upon the St. James's Hall platform. Kensit is a postmaster of Evangelical principles. Some years ago, he became convinced of the necessity of combating the pernicious Romanising influences in the Church of England. He published, with this righteous aim in view, a number of obscure pamphlets such as "The Priest in the Confessional," the character of which can easily be guessed from the title. Suffice to say that every filthy suggestion and foul innuendo was to be found in these books, which enjoyed much the same type of popularity as that class of gutter literature whose Paternoster Row is Holywell-street, and which is occasionally hawked late at night in the Strand. These pamphlets were supplied broadcast for a few pence, and no doubt brought the author a fair profit. At length, however, this game was stopped, and Kensit had to look for another means of obtaining a lucrative notoriety.

Fortunately for him, the supply of blockheads and fanatics never runs short. What says Robert Macaire to dear stupid Bertrand when he—Macaire—found company promoting too hazardous, and proposed instead to establish a new religion? "*Le jour de la société en commandite passe; mais les badauds ne passent pas; occupons nous de ce qui est éternel.*" Kensit, like Macaire, turned his attention to the eternal, and exploited the *badauds* for all they were worth.

He commenced to enter Ritualistic Churches during service, to shout insults to the clergy, to disturb the worshippers, to brawl and rave, and even to attempt to tear the candles and vases from the altar. He opposed rejection by physical violence, and the more disgraceful the "scene" the greater his satisfaction. Sweet, indeed, are the uses of advertisement. Kensit began to furnish the newspapers with paragraphs. A Kensit scene would often fill the placards of the lower-class papers. Then some occurrence, more scandalous than its predecessors, drew the attention of the graver journals to the agitation so artfully manufactured. Reviews and magazines began to publish condemnations and apologies; questions were asked in Parliament; Church dignitaries were forced into the arena. Kensit had succeeded. His fame, at first local, was now national.

There has been for some time smouldering in England a deep-seated, and on the whole a righteous, dislike to the innovations of the ultra Ritualistic clergy. It has displayed itself from time to time in strong protests to authority; and it is impossible not to sympathise to some extent with those who view with disapproval any tincture of Romanism in the National Church. But up to the time of Kensit these worthy people had for the most part conducted themselves generally with moderation, and always with decency. It remained for Kensit to turn sober law-abiding Protestant Churchmen into rowdies and profaners, or into the accomplices of rowdies and profaners.

How well he has succeeded is too evident. Kensit is now a name to conjure with. Kensit has, in a section of the Church, supplanted Christianity. The brawling party do not call themselves Churchmen, but Kensit's Men. They concoct and sing blasphemous rhymes which would be hissed at the lowest free-and-easy ever held at the Pig-and-Whistle or the Spotted Cow. The Salvation Army, in which reverence

is rather at a discount, would reject the profane and silly jingle which is called "The Battle Hymn of Kensit's Men." This specimen of what the mixture of cupidity and religiosity—it cannot be dignified by the name of religion—can be capable is taken from *Truth*:

The Church is in a awful state.
With Richelists and such:
The Pope 'e won't 'ave long to wait
For most of 'em—not much!
So Mister Kensit's took the 'ump
(And tightly too, says I),
And when 'e goes upon the stump
You'll see the leaflets fly.
Then pack your traps and clear the way; depart,
be gone, get hout!
And make no noise, or Kensit's boys 'il show you
'oo can shout.
No more of yer 'anky-panky, now, no more of yer
Romish rot.
For Johnny K. is hon the way to bust the bloom-
ing lot.

This is a noteworthy specimen of the quality of the New Crusaders. Can it be imagined that any men with an earnest religious purpose, with a particle of reverence for things which many people still consider holy—would express their views of a grave question of Church discipline in an affectation of the argot of White-chapel and Seven Dials? The mere fact of such a contemptible thing having been written and published by the Kensittes should make every sensible and high minded man separate himself from such a cause.

But worse follows. Another verse describes either an actual or ideal Kensit scene, and the plain inference is that all true Kensittes should go and do likewise. Kensit (or a follower) is supposed to have entered a church and commenced a protest. The clergymen mildly remonstrate.

"Sit down," says 'e. "I won't," says I.
'Then, verger, turn 'im out!"
With that I lets a Bible fly,
And lands 'im on the mont.
To stop 'is Richelistic row,
I knucked 'im off 'is perch;
And, there and then, we taught 'im 'ow
To desecrate a church.
Then pack your traps, &c.
My friends all stuck to me like bricks,
The 'ymn books flew like 'ail;
With one of them big candlesticks
I smashed the halter 'ail.
The idolaters set up a squall,
But soon they got the toe;
We made a 'olesome Gospel 'all
Of that galanty show.

So pack your traps, &c.

This is religion—this is Kensitism in 1899. The fact that such a man and such a cause can gain so much popularity at the very end of the most enlightened century in history may be amusing to the cynic, but it is surely rather saddening to a serious man. It is, one is almost inclined to say, infinitely more disgraceful in England than the Dreyfus affair to France. Tremendous interests are bound up with the final settlement of the Dreyfus affair—interests of vital consequence to France, and she may be pardoned if she has a little lost her head. But that, after all the scientists and philosophers have had their say, England should still be bitterly divided over the question of a few brass candlesticks; that the party who wish to call a "table" a "table" should go about seeking to break the heads of those who wish to call it an "altar"; that a few bars of music or a few yards of linen surplice more or less should be considered serious questions for presumably sane men to quarrel over—this is something of which England, the most free and enlightened country of the world, should be deeply ashamed. Most truly did Carlyle say of John Bull, "His religions, his Church systems, his Protestantisms, are of a kind unexampled in the world."

Indeed, there must be something extremely morbid in the mind of England—the popular mind, that is—just now. The nauseous rubbish poured out over Kipling—who, after all, is only a dexterous rhymester and tale teller who has had the good fortune to hit the popular taste—is not reassuring evidence of the mental man-

liness of the age. The recent exhibition of hysterics and self-advertisement would have been ridiculous if the fate of empires had been hanging on Kipling's life or death. Consider this drivel which *The Times* thinks worthy of publication:—

TO RUDYARD KIPLING, ESQ., FROM THOS. ATKINS.

There's a rag'lar run on papers, since we 'eard
that you was ill;
An' you might be in a 'ospital, the barracks is so
still;
We 'ave all been mighty anxious, since we 'eard
it on parade;
An' we 'aint no cowards neither, but I own we was
afraid.

An' we all prayed 'ard and earnest:
"O Gawd, don't take 'im yet!"
Just let 'im stop and 'elp us:
An' warn, 'Lest we forget!"

The sergeant said: "'E won't get round. It's
'three rounds blank' for 'im!
'E won't write no more stories!" And our 'opes
was bloomin' dim.
But you 'ad always 'elped T. Atkins, an' though
things did look blue—
Well! we ain't much 'ands at prayin, but we did
our best for you.

"'E mustn't die; we want 'im!
O Gawd, don't take 'im yet;
Spare 'im a little longer!
'E wrote 'Lest we forget!"

We 'eard that you was fightin' 'ard—just as we
knew you would;
But we 'ardly oped you'd turn 'is flank; they said
you 'ardly could.
But the news, 'as come this mornin', an' I'm writin'
'ere to say,

There's no British son more 'appy than your old
friend Thomas A.

"O Gawd, we're all so grateful
You 'ave left 'im with us yet,
To 'old us in, and 'alt us,
Lest we, Lest we forget!"

Tommy Atkins, we are afraid, is not too
much given to praying, but if he did pray he
would not insult "Gawd" by that particular
kind of twaddle. It would be the prayer of a
strong man, and not of that most miserable of
all "Gawd's" creatures—for we cannot think
God (properly spelled) could be responsible for
him—a modern newspaper Cockney dialect
poet. E.R.T.

CORRESPONDENCE.

RELIGION AND EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—We Germans feel often highly amused at the gross misstatements of German affairs which we hear in this country. This was the case when we got from day to day reports concerning an estrangement or even hostilities between the German and American navies in the Philippine waters, reports which were apparently untrue; this was the case, when in the Japanese Parliament the opponents of state-ownership of railways referred to the example of Germany, which was represented as favouring the private-railway system, though in reality there is in Germany scarcely one railway with normal gauge left in private hands.

To-day we have to complain of another gross misstatement made in the Higher Educational Council some days ago in favour of the deplorably retrogressive proposals of the Mombusho. I have it on good authority that Germany and France were represented as excluding religious teaching and worship from their schools. As far as Germany is concerned, exactly the contrary is true. Everybody pretending to be acquainted with her school-system ought to know that the whole instruction in her schools (especially elementary schools) is based on a religious foundation. In all her public schools up to the university, which is no school in the proper sense of the word, i.e. in elementary, middle, and higher schools, as well as in seminaries for school-teachers, religious instruction and worship are a vital part of the school curriculum.

As to France, which pays the salaries of her clergy from the exchequer, it is true that religion

is excluded from the curriculum of public, not private schools, but even there, if I remember correctly, an arrangement is made, by leaving out school instruction on Thursdays, so as to enable religious bodies to impart their religious instruction.

On the whole all the Western nations consider religious instruction as an important and indispensable factor of education, and it would be deplorable if Japan, by intolerant school-regulations on the eve of the enforcement of treaty-revision, should prove her difference from them.

I remain, yours truly, SCHILLER.
Koishikawa, April 25th, 1899.

MORAL STANDARDS OF EAST AND WEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It would be interesting if the gentleman with the long Latin name, whose personal experiences have been the reverse of mine and those of several of my missionary friends, would extend his testimonies in some of the other points of my recent letter. Perhaps he can give us the names of quiet, rural, American county-seats which are as abundantly supplied with inmates of dens of infamy as are the towns to which I referred,—Furukawa and Wakuya. And possibly he knows of American states in which as considerable traces of phallicism can be found as in Miyagi Ken.

In case the carative contraries cannot be found, would it not be in the interests of a fair statement of the case if the gentleman hereafter adds some modifying or limiting phrase to the name he bears?

Sincerely yours, E. C. FRY.
Sendai, April 18.

ENDOWED THEOLOGY AND JAPANESE CHRISTIANITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The letter of your correspondent "T.S.T." needs no lengthy reply from me, as it entirely fails to establish any points that invalidate the arguments stated in my letter of March 23rd, the subject of which was the misunderstanding between the Japanese Kumiai Christians and the American Board, the causes of that misunderstanding, and the lessons which it was designed to teach. "T.S.T." is, I take it, an American Episcopalian, and as such naturally does not feel disposed to figure as a champion of Congregationalism. But my letter has offended him and he attempts an attack on it on general grounds. The endowment of theology is evidently a term that is distasteful to "T.S.T." He and I live in different worlds and mix in different circles of thinkers, and hence it may be hard for "T.S.T." to even understand the point of view of his opponent on this occasion. I, on my part, must confess to considerable difficulty in apprehending on what it is that "T.S.T." wishes to insist in the first part of his letter. Surely he cannot mean to say that a professor of chemistry, history, or physics at a University is on a par with the Bampton Lecturer or a Professor of Divinity as regards liberty to teach what he pleases. Seeley when professor of history was at liberty to teach history in any way he pleased, and his lectures known as "The Expansion of England" contain many startling departures from the traditional methods of teaching history. Granted the competency of an ordinary teacher, it would be quite untrue to say that he is expected to defend or to perpetuate any special doctrine or theory in the way that the Christian miracles and the Divinity of Christ have to be preached and defended by orthodox ministers. It may be said that there are certain scientific truths which all scientific men acknowledge and teach, and "T.S.T." may believe that the theological inventions of Church fathers and fanatical early Christians are to be placed on a level with mathematically or experimentally demonstrated truths. But this of course the majority of thinkers even in so-called Christian countries

will not for a moment admit. From the point of view of the Christian minister of the Gospel the endowment of certain doctrines may appear to be the only feasible method of perpetuating them. The less the censorship exercised over men's minds the further do they go in the direction of heterodoxy. The appeal against established authority in the matter of religion is perpetual and world-wide. The questioning of ecclesiastical authority commenced with the Reformation. Protestantism demanded the right to reject the authority on which the giant Roman superstructure rested. But it found it necessary to set up something in its place. It created its own authorities. It interpreted the ancient fathers in its own way. But the principle of liberty of belief and conscience having been established, Protestants began to divide up into sects and subjects, and the right of one set of Christians to legislate for other sets was perpetually denied; and so the thing went on till to-day within the different bodies there are found ministers who differ from each other what used to be considered fundamental points of doctrine, and millions of laymen who, while they attend church for the sake of the music and the pleasant associations that old customs invariably possess for certain minds, no longer believe in any of the so-called supernatural elements of the Christian religion. "T.S.T." thinks that no one can be called "Christian" unless he accepts the dogma of Christ's divinity. But what right has he to draw any such line? Public opinion in Europe and America at the present time in every way possible champions the opposite opinion. The ordinary man of the world does not care a fig what doctrine a man believes or disbelieves as long as his life is straight, that is, as long as a man's conduct comes up to existing local standards.

"He can't be wrong, whose life is in the right" is the universal feeling of the majority of persons who are not paid to teach theology. A clergyman like "T.S.T." is not in a position perhaps to find out the real state of opinion on the uselessness of supernaturalism as a set of doctrines that are supposed to have converting power. The spirit of the age is so much in favour of liberty of belief that no ministers of any denomination that I know of venture to make a special inquiry into the doctrines believed or rejected by the lay members of their congregations. Judicious silence on the subject of personal belief has become the etiquette of Christian Society, and laymen are specially careful not to disclose to prying clergymen any of the secrets of their minds bearing on Christian doctrines. It has come to be a recognised principle that no man has any right to cross uninvited the threshold of his neighbour's soul and lift the veil that hides his "holy of holies" from the gaze of the vulgar crowd. The principle of non-interference as regards individuals and as regards churches of different denominations has been established. The limits of belief and unbelief can only be settled by each individual for himself or herself or by churches for those who are ready voluntarily to bow to the authority of those churches. That truth will fare badly under this system I cannot for a moment believe. I am one of those who think that the more it is sought to endow doctrines the less likely is it that they will prove by survival that they are the fittest. In matters where it is absolutely impossible that one educated, well-read man can know more than another, where clergy and laity are alike in the dark, to expect highly gifted men of great research who have read all that is worth reading on the subject of the future world to bow to the dicta of bishops, presbyters, or priests, or acknowledge these as the possessors of superior knowledge is quite ridiculous. What the Japanese Christians demanded of the American Board is after all only what millions of professing Christians have not only demanded but obtained, namely, the right to reject any doctrines of the foreign Christian missionary that may seem to them to rest on insufficient proof. This right was denied to them by the Board on account of the fact that the Board is the slave of the pernicious systems which Huxley and

hundreds of others have condemned—that of endowing certain dogmas of Christianity.

I am, yours, &c.

"OBSERVER."

April 21st, 1899.

JAPAN AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The fact that the Higher Educational Council adopted an article on the 22nd instant according to which all religious instruction and worship is to be absolutely excluded from all schools, public and private, having in any way any recognition from the Government, makes it expedient to touch upon the educational policy of the country in its bearing on religion.

A study of educational policy in respect to religion as pursued by prominent nations, seems to warrant the following statements:—

A.—In Europe the State interferes with religion in its favour. This is acknowledged for England. In Germany this is even more emphatically true. Religious instruction is imparted daily, it is obligatory in public and private schools and even where instruction is given in families, and through all grades from the beginning up to entrance into the university or technical schools. Religious instruction holds the first place in every curriculum and receives the most careful attention from educational authorities and teachers alike. The writer knows whereof he speaks from careful and thorough personal investigation and can produce proof on this subject. Every intelligent person, however, can readily convince himself of this fact if he does not know it yet. Emphasis is put here on this fact inasmuch as the Higher Educational Council, in its late discussion which led to the recommendation to abolish all religious instruction from schools, claimed Germany as a precedent for such action. The precedent is emphatically on the opposite side. In Japan, where the tendency of the people is toward English ideals, and where the ambition of the Government is set on German ideals, it would seem strange not to pay heed to this vital element in the moral training of both these nations. This element extends also into the naval and military training of both these nations foremost in everything, including a lofty ideal of patriotism and loyalty, while in England even the merchant marine is not exempt from religious services. In France, too, provision is made by the Government; not only is the clergy (Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish) supported by the State, but also one day a week outside of Sunday is allowed for religious instruction for all pupils of Government schools. The privilege thus accorded and publicly fostered is to be noted. To construe the fact that on other school days only secular instruction is to be imparted as a prohibition of religious instruction in its schools would be an argument singularly absurd,—would in fact miss the whole point. Yet as such it was construed in the question recently before the Higher Educational Council. Even if this Council could rely upon France as a precedent (which it can not), France with its false nationalism culminating but recently in a Dreyfus case, would be no ideal.

B.—In the United States the policy of non-interference is the one that prevails with the Government at large. The few cases of local conduct to the contrary, only prove this general rule; they are only exceptions arising from a mistaken interpretation or application, men at times trying to stand up so straight as to lean backwards.

C.—There is still another policy on this question conceivable, viz. that of interference against all religion, making a State's policy not simply non-religious, i.e., judiciously endeavouring to abstain from all interference, but anti-religious or atheistic,—putting the State in the attitude of a persecutor of religion, an attitude attempted by the French Reign of Terror a century ago. Of all modern countries, Japan seems to be the only one that is essaying this policy. If the recommendations adopted by the Higher Educational Council should become law, Japan would seem to proceed on this policy of educational interference against religion, with vengeance. From what has been said above, it will be seen that if she thinks she may quote France or even Germany as a precedent (as is reported), she is greatly mistaken as to both fact and inference. There is no such precedent in the present educational policy of the leading nations, and it would be difficult to find any in history outside of the Reign of Terror.

There are thus in brief three policies:—

1. What we may call interference in favour of religion, or the general European policy, with variation as to detail.
2. The United States policy—non-interference.
3. The Japanese policy (as advocated at least)—interference antagonistic to religion.

Now in studying what history has to say on the motive principle in national morality, it seems beyond the cavil of a doubt that the following position is true, viz., in all nations the real motive power making for the morality of the people in general has been a religious one. A religious sanction has been the only one ever found equal to the stupendous task of a nation's moral training. True, individuals have often claimed exemption, but (1) their claim has extended no farther than as individuals, and (2) their environments have wielded a powerful influence undetected by themselves, perhaps, while their very antagonism has been deeply rooted in and determined by the very religion they antagonize.

These theses may therefore be fitly proposed here:—

1. Japan is not likely to exempt itself at this juncture from this great law of history. It would not be profoundly, but likely the very opposite, to claim that religion is not to be the deep spring of action for a moral basis adequate to the great needs of Japan.

2. Japan's morals are confessedly weakening, if the testimony of keen and competent observers is to be admitted. Morality is losing its grip upon the people, and especially upon the young men. "The rising generation is devoid of the moral instruction that will give it tone and pure character. The present attempts to teach morality are without heart and without effect." Not even a noble and sufficient intellectual ideal is aimed at, while the affections and the will are left almost totally famished. The old forms and principles are proving themselves inadequate to control or even to seriously influence the modern mind of Japan, while on the other hand the temptations to immorality and self-indulgence under the influx of a material civilization are growing apace. So prominent an authority as Count Okuma is reported to have recently asserted that only a religious basis could secure the moral fibres which modern Japan needs.

3. Japan's need for its youth is therefore not to deprive them of all religious instruction and influence, or to shield them in ignorance from a basis which history has uniformly proved to be the well-spring of life for the morality of nations, even for its own in the past.

4. Japan in its educational policy is therefore emphatically not called on to interfere against religion. Its proper policy may be that of non-interference if there be a real constitutional or practical difficulty in adopting what is above termed the general European policy.

5. It can also be abundantly shown that, from a purely educational standpoint, the youth of Japan should not be kept in ignorance of the religious sphere. History, philosophy, literature, and science all demand that intelligent young men be not ignorant in this one subject alone.

6. Japan's constitution proclaims the principle of religious liberty. This principle must at the very least guarantee the government against interference antagonistic or detrimental to unoffending religion. If the European policy is unadvisable it can only warrant a policy of non-interference akin to that of the United States.

7. If Japan desires to sail along smoothly in the International Ocean her policy on this question ought not to thus diametrically distinguish itself from the chief voyagers in that same ocean. On the contrary her policy would seem to be dictated by the practice of these other voyagers. Japan is perhaps for well-known reasons peculiarly liable to clashing interests if she should attempt to pursue such a course. Conformity to the standards of the nations with whom she is so soon to rank on a plane of equality, rather than an illiberal course likely to handicap her, would seem to be a safe principle of educational statesmanship, as it is in other spheres. Interference against all religion in schools is opposed to the policy of all other nations. It is not proper perhaps to advert here to some possible vested interests that Japan would reasonably prefer to protect.

In conclusion, it may be asked,—why should Japan adopt this policy so opposed to the policies of the rest of the civilized world? That education of its youth in patriotism and loyalty, demands this is certainly an exploded and extravagant fancy. Are there deep reasons of state for doing so? If so, why are they not disclosed? Does history give a warrant for such interference? Is such interference in perfect accord with the privilege of religious liberty guaranteed by the constitution? Is it to the highest moral interest of the nation to debar its youth during the formative period of life under pain of very serious disability from all training in the deeper life springs of morality? Is it, to say the least, proper to put private schools under such disabilities as proposed, when their only sin is that they believe in religion strongly enough to act upon it?—this being their only

crime for which this penalty is to be visited upon them. Can Japan afford thus to despise the convictions or at least the policies of the rest of the world, now that she is reaching the goal of her aspiration to sit as full equal at the council board of the nations? Will she willingly handicap herself by a spirit of illiberality at this juncture? In this question, in which many foreigners (very many in other lands) feel is bound up so deeply the moral weal or woe of Japan, can Japan deliberately afford to foster a policy that deprives her rising generation of any moral training worthy of the name? We will let the philosophy of history speak here rather than the vagaries of a few speculative sentiments so cheap and current in these days of superficial materialism and agnosticism. Will such a step enhance the reputation of Japan for judicial fairness in the eyes of foreign nations at this time when the treaties are to put their nationals on a par with a nation that would antagonize all religious sanctions of morality to such an extent as to deem these worthy of severe exclusion from the training of its school population?

Thanking you for your courtesy, I am very respectfully,
H. M. LANDIS.
Meiji Gakuin, Tokyo, April 24, 1899.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The ball given at the Public Hall on Tuesday evening by the St. George's Society was largely attended. The band of H.M.S. *Barfleur* supplied the music.

On Tuesday evening Bro. A. Bellamy Brown was unanimously elected W. M. of the Orient Mark Lodge of Japan for the ensuing year. Wor. Bro. G. Hodges was re-elected Treasurer.

The old P. & O. steamer *Brindisi* has been renamed the *Dalny Vostok* since changing to the Russian flag. She loaded with coal at Nagasaki for Hankow, whence she takes tea to Odessa.

A New York despatch received by a firm in the Settlement states that, owing to the late furious tempest in the Atlantic, 8 English steamers, one American, and one German are missing.

The truth of the story about the discovery of the remains of Andrié and his companions is now out. It was invented by a Russian mine-owner as a joke, and, reaching the ears of a newspaper correspondent, was telegraphed all over the world.

A woman of 23, and her lover, named Ooka, aged 26, committed suicide in a house of ill fame at Eirakucho, Yokohama, early on Wednesday morning by cutting their throats with a knife. The woman was found quite dead, and the man in a dying state. He was sent to Yokohama Hospital.

The schooner *Kotsu Maru* (350 *roku*), with Captain Miyoshi Hikoshiro and a crew of four, was caught in a storm on her voyage from Tsushima to Tokyo the other day and capsized. Two persons were saved by a sailing vessel, but the other three, including the captain, are missing.

Captain Sueider (accompanied by his wife and daughter) and the crew of the German barque *Atlantic*, arrived in Hongkong in a Chinese junk, on April 14th, their vessel, which had sprung a leak, having been abandoned about 60 miles out. She experienced some very rough weather after leaving Sumatra.

A bicycle race took place on Sunday between Mr. J. L. O. Eytton, 53 years, 175 lbs., and Mr. K. J. Kawata, 24 years and 106 lbs. The course was from Sengenshita (Kanagawa) to Kodzu, about 32 miles. The roads were in wretched condition, and much of the journey had to be done on foot. Mr. Eytton, who won with ease, if the expression is allowable under the circumstances, lost his boots in the mud, and finished in his stockings.

About four o'clock on Sunday morning Mr. W. C. Read, who occupies a house on the Ishikawa Bluff, happened to wake, and saw a Japanese stooping over his bed. The burglar

bed on observing that Mr. Read was no longer asleep, and was out of the room in an instant. Mr. Read pursued him and fired three shots at the flying figure, but without effect. Two overcoats and a pair of shoes were the chief articles taken, and the overcoats were afterwards found a little distance from the house.

In the early morning of Saturday one of the servants found a down stairs room of the Yokohama N.Y.K. office full of gas. The man, whose name was Sakakibara, lighted a match, when an explosion followed, and the room was at once in flames, the windows, the maps on the walls, and other things being destroyed. The four persons who were in the room were injured about the head, face, etc., and one, Suzuki Nanjiro, was so seriously hurt that he had to be taken to the Jozen Hospital.

A barrister named Nakamura Kumataro, living at Sakumacho, Shiba, engaged a *jiriki* on Monday near the Shinmei shrine to take him home. The rider was greatly astonished when the *jiriki*—man, whose name was Tatsuji, took him to a dreary out-of-the-way quarter, and began to attack him, shouting out "You beastly fellow!" The barrister persuaded the man to accompany him to a police station and the matter became clear when it appeared that the coolie mistook his fare for a person who had run away with his wife.

In the French *Journal Officiel* a Decree has been published instituting a new Government Department, which is to be known as the "Colonial Office." The duties of this new department, which will be quartered in the Palais Royal, will be to collect and give information to the public concerning the French Colonies from an agricultural, commercial, and industrial point of view. Governors, administrators, and other Colonial functionaries, whilst on their leave in Paris, will attend at the disposal of colonists or commercial men. A library and a permanent exhibition will be attached to the office. M. Auricoste, an ex-Deputy, will be at the head of the new office, which will entail no fresh expense.

At a recent meeting of the Yokohama City Council, the principal topic for discussion was the reclamation of foreshores below the Bluff. A resolution was unanimously passed in favour of the application of Mr. Kiujiro Wakizawa and 35 others who propose to reclaim an area of 89,242 *tsubo* extending from the northern part of the Bluff to the boundary point between the city and Honmoku. This will have to be submitted to the Kanagawa Kencho for official sanction. One of the other applications was made by Mr. Oyamada Shinzo and two other Japanese of Tokyo, reclamation to the extent of 107,137 *tsubo* being contemplated by them. The third is by a number of Japanese of Tokyo, their project being to reclaim as much as 160,000 *tsubo*.

Says the *Nagasaki Press*:—By the firing of the salute in honour of the arrival of H.E. Vice-Admiral Dubassoff, of the Russian fleet, in the harbour on Thursday morning, the British ship *Torrissdale* suffered material damage from the concussion of the saluting cannon. Three pictures were thrown from the walls, glassware was broken, and other damage done. The captain was in the chart-room at the time and, fortunately, he opened the windows or else they, too, would have been broken. The three cabin port windows—of unusual thickness—were also demolished. It would seem advisable—if not more appropriate—to fire these salutes further down the harbour. By doing this complaint would be avoided and destruction to property rendered barely possible.

The Northern Pacific liner *Glenogle*, which left Tacoma for Yokohama on Sunday, the 23rd inst., has collided with the *City of Kingston*, which was on her way to Tacoma from Victoria, and the latter sank. The *Glenogle* is badly damaged and has put back to Tacoma. She is

likely to be considerably delayed. The agents here have no further details of the casualty. The *City of Kingston* was of American build, and 15 years old, and was the property of the Puget Sound and Alaska S.S. Co. She was of 117 tons register and her dimensions were: length, 246 feet, breadth 33.5 feet, depth 12.5 feet. Her speed was 18 knots and she was employed in running from Victoria to Port Townsend, Seattle, and Tacoma in connection with the Northern Pacific Railway. It is probable the collision took place either in darkness or in a fog, and as this steamer usually carried a large number of passengers it is more than probable that there was some loss of life.

The late Sir John Robert Mowbray was born at Exeter on June 3, 1815, being the oldest son of the late Mr. R. S. Cornish. In 1847 he assumed the surname of Mowbray by Royal license and six years later entered the House of Commons for the City of Durham. He represented this constituency until 1868, when the University of Oxford chose him as their senior member, a position he occupied uninterruptedly till his death. He was President of the famous Oxford Union Debating Society in 1836 and had a distinguished record at Christ Church. In politics a Conservative, he occupied in the administrations of 1858-59, 1866-68 the position of Judge-Advocate-General, and later became a Church Estates Commissioner.

Lady Alcock, widow of Sir Rutherford Alcock, who was well-known to a younger generation of foreign residents in Tokyo, Shanghai, and Peking, died on 13th March of pneumonia, at her residence, St. Margaret's House, Victoria-street, London. She married, first the Rev. John Lowder, British chaplain at Shanghai; and, secondly, in 1862, Sir Rutherford Alcock, who died in 1897. Mr. J. F. Lowder, of Yokohama, is her son. What an entertaining book this gentleman could write of Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock's experiences in Japan, for he was an eye-witness of the many stirring events that took place in Yedo, Yokohama, and Kobe when Japan was first opened.

Mr. Sim's steam yacht *Snowflake* ran upon a rock near Miyajima on Monday and partially sank. Mr. Sim was taking a party of foreigners down the Inland Sea, and about two o'clock on Monday afternoon, while the *Snowflake* was in charge of a special pilot, a native of Onomichi, she ran upon a sunken rock, about six miles from Miyajima. The dinghy went off to a neighbouring island and fetched sampans, in which all on board were safely taken to Miyajima. The nose of the yacht only had touched the rock, the after part being in deep water. At low tide—about five o'clock—she heeled over. The bow stood out of the water, but the after part, including the funnel, sank under water. The yacht has suffered no damage worth mentioning, the keel is not hurt, and everything portable had been taken out of her before she heeled over. Mr. Sim soon obtained the assistance of divers and lighters, and hoped to get the yacht off the rock by Wednesday.—*Hogo Evening News*.

CHINA NOTES.

The following special telegram, dated Peking, April 16th, appears in the *N. C. Daily News*:—An urgent telegram from Governor Jao of Kashgaria, to day, states that Russian emissaries (Andjanis) have been caught smuggling firearms to the Tunganis (Chinese Mussulmans) in the New Dominion, and that the near proximity of a large Russian force, west of Yengisar, has stirred the Turkis up considerably and serious trouble is anticipated. In Kashgaria only 1,500 troops of all arms are available, and of these 500 are Mahomedan cavalry whose loyalty under the circumstances cannot be relied upon. The Governor therefore expresses regret that his advice had not been taken last summer when the best troops were being sent to Peking. Further, that there are over 8,000 Russian subjects (Andjanis, Bokharis, etc.) in Kash-

gar city alone, and the Taotai (Huang) of that Intendancy reported that they are becoming more arrogant and hence he fears trouble, but has no troops sufficient to overawe these people, who in the event of trouble will surely be joined by the indigenous Turkis. Governor Jao therefore asks that Viceroy I'ao Mu of Lanchow be commanded to detach 5,000 of the 15,000 men under him in Kansu, and send them post-haste to Tihua (Urumtsi).

Dispatches recently received from Tihua (better-known to geographers as Urumtsi) the capital of Chinese Turkestan, report that Chang Yin-huan, the cashiered Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, was expected in that city from Hami, the first large Turkish city after leaving the Great Wall, some time during the middle of the present month of April. Further that, instead of being ordered to work on the military post roads between Tihua and Kuldja, as at first commanded, the latest edict of the Empress Dowager concerning ex Vice-President Chang is that he is to be imprisoned at Tihua until further orders. Judging from the barefaced manner in which bribes are demanded by those who just now "run things" in the Empress Dowager's Palace, one cannot help wondering how many tens of thousands taels were paid by the family of Chang Yin-huan in order to procure the edict exempting the aged ex-official from working as a convict on the military postroads, among the mountains of the Tianshan or Celestial range, leading from Urumtsi to Kuldja. In further comment on the sad case of the ex Minister, the *N. C. Daily News* says:—This, perhaps, is the first time in the history of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George in which a holder of the Grand Cross of the Order has been made a felon and driven into banishment; this high distinction having been bestowed upon Chang Yin-huan in 1897, when he represented his now equally unfortunate Imperial master Kuang Hsu at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It, indeed, there were no other excuse for interfering during the *coup d'etat* of September last, this fact alone could have been sufficient for the Minister of Great Britain to prevent this disgrace to an exalted order of his country.

The following notes from Peking are printed by our Shanghai senior contemporary:—It is stated that soon after his return from the Yellow River and his audience with the Empress Dowager Li Hung-chang presented a memorial resigning his post in Peking and praying that he be permitted to return to his native city to pass the remainder of his days. It is reported that the Empress Dowager is favourable to granting Li's prayer, but so far no edict has appeared on the subject.—Great secrecy has of late been observed in the meetings of the Grand Council, presided over by the Empress Dowager, who is assisted by Jung Lu, her nephew, every outsider, eunuchs and all, being ordered out of ear-shot during the deliberations. Hence there seems to have been considerable difficulty of late in getting reliable news of the movements of the Empress Dowager and her advisers.—The Peiyang Grand Army has been divided into Five Army Corps, viz:—The troops under the Generalissimo Jung Lu are now termed the First or Centre Army Corps; General Tung Fuhsiang's Kansu men, the Front or Second Army Corps; General Sung Ch'ing's Szechuan and Anhui men, the Rear or Third Army Corps; General Nieh Shih-ch'ie's g's North Kiangnan men, the Left or Fourth Army Corps; and General Yuan Shih-k'ai's Northerners and Kiangpoh men the Right or Fifth Army Corps. The total strength (on paper) is 100,000 men, but 75,000 is probably nearer the mark.

According to the *China Gazette* Sir Claude Macdonald, British Minister to China, is so dangerously ill that there is little hope of his return to Peking.

The *North China Daily News* understands that the local Viceroy proposes to employ in the Settlement Extension negotiations the notorious Yu Sai-wan, who has been "wanted" for some years by the police in Hongkong, and

with whom, it will be remembered, Sir Nicholas Hannen refused to sit in the Mason Enquiry some years ago.

Hongkong people think that the recent *fiasco* which attended the flag-raising over the Kowloon hinterland is to be attributed to the blundering of Mr. Stewart Lockhart. He should have known Chinese character better and made the necessary arrangements, say these critics.

The Empress Dowager has changed her time for attending to business in the morning from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m.

News has been received at Shanghai of the death at home of Mr. Edward F. Duncanson, formerly a partner in the firm of Gibb, Livingston & Co., and latterly in the firm of T. A. Gibb & Co., London. Mr. Duncanson, who was about 64 years of age, came to China at the end of the fifties and left Shanghai in 1868. He was one of the founders at home of the Shanghai Waterworks Company.

A Shanghai contemporary prints the following despatch, said to have been received by local mandarins from Chinanfu, the provincial capital of Shantung:—"A large force of Germans went, about ten days ago, to the village of Kzochiachuang, in the Lushan hills, near Kiaochow, and forcibly evicted the inhabitants. When this had been done, the Germans set fire to a part of the village and then left the place."—Another force of Germans is now in Jihchoo demanding the person of one Hsüeh Tien-tze, a townsman of that city, who is charged with having grievously insulted a certain Roman Catholic priest. The Germans, who have taken up their quarters in the magistrate's *yamen*, declare that they will not leave the city unless their demands are fulfilled.—It is stated by emissaries returned from Tsintao that the Germans are gathering a large force and quantities of ammunition and food supplies in that place preparatory to a general move upon Chinanfu, but this report must be taken with all reserve.

It is common talk amongst the Chinese in Hongkong that rewards have been offered for the heads of the Hon. Wei A Yak and Ng Shui Sang, who are accused of influencing the British Government to take possession of the Kowloon hinterland. The heads of several villagers are also threatened.

Peking as a news centre is a failure, says the Tientsin local paper. Reports concerning China come to us *via* London, Tientsin, or anywhere else. The reports we get here are few, and often either unimportant or unreliable. As a railway centre, we are not much more successful. Feng-tai—which is to be "one of the great railway centres of the world" some time in the future,—is a long weary ride from Legation Street, if one hires a cart. Bestride an animal, and the time may be reduced, if the beast is a rapid one. But for foreign passengers, most of us can take the trains to and from Ma-chia-p'u, one stage nearer to the city. The new road from the station to the Yung-ting gate is nearly ready for the wearing traffic of Peking carts, which will soon begin to tear it to pieces in accordance with ancestral custom. The electric railway—well, it has been so long in attaining its present development, that one dares make no prophecies. In the southern city, work on the stone roadway is being pushed, as if to make up for the long delay through the frozen months. As an educational centre, we may not be up to the mark set at Tientsin; but we hold our heads high. The report recently in circulation, concerning a lack of financial backing, that might lead to the closing of one well-known institution, appears to be absolutely without foundation. The faculty is being increased in numbers; the work is being systematized, and is progressing quite satisfactorily; and new courses and departments are planned. But the authorities are acting in accord with the wise maxim, *Festina lente*. As for other established institutions they are pursuing the even tenor of their way.

H. E. Liu, Viceroy of the Liang Kiang provinces, has lately been very ill, and an urgent

telegram has been sent to Choup'n for the well-known Imperial Physician, Ch'én Lien-fong, to come to Nanking with all haste to attend upon the Viceroy.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* has an article on the Foochow Arsenal, in commencing which it says:—"We believe we are correct in saying that Lord Charles Beresford made strong representations to the Peking Government that the management of the Foochow Arsenal should be taken away from the French and given to the English. The following was the plan concocted with Sir Claude MacDonald: An inquiry into the new French management of the Arsenal was to be demanded by the Empress. An unfavourable report would be made. The Arsenal would then be temporarily replaced in the hands of Chinese engineers, and afterwards given definitely to the English, who would undertake to construct for the Chinese Government a complete fleet. The "cavalry of St. George" would then play its customary part. We would be evicted from Foochow in virtue of the programme Lord Beresford was commissioned to apply when visiting all the coast defences of China. The English wish to take charge of all these defences, including the Foochow Arsenal." Our contemporary then goes on to refer to the organisation and resources of the Arsenal, and concludes as follows:—"Having been reneged by the French, England would like to derive the sole benefit. It is the eternal *Sic vos non vobis*. But we hope that the French Government will protect the work of our nationals. The Foochow Arsenal is a French glory which ought to remain French while rendering great services to China. If our Fokien establishment is endangered, we shall be driven out of the province, and from Shanghai to Canton the English will no longer encounter any obstacle. The intrigues which are going on about Foochow are graver than is generally supposed. It is not a question of whether a factory shall work or shall not work; it is the irresistible influence exercised upon the Chinese mind by the order, the clearness of conception, and the honesty of the French engineers that is at stake. One cannot but hope that this influence may continue to be exercised. An attempt is being made everywhere to substitute English influence. Shall we permit it?"

The Bank of China and Japan, Limited, presented the following report to the shareholders at the fourth annual meeting held on Monday, the 27th March, at the Cannon Street Hotel, London:—"The directors beg to submit to the shareholders a statement of the affairs of the Bank as at 31st December, 1898. A final payment was made to depositors in the Old Bank on 14th May, and their Committee, as advised you in our circular of 20th September, obtained their discharge from the Court on 27th July last. The Taotai of Shanghai, on 24th October, gave a decision adverse to the Bank in the test suits instituted in this Court against recalcitrant Chinese shareholders, but, on appeal, the Tsung-li Yamén have ordered the case to be reheard by the Viceroy of Nanking. In the suit in New York Courts, against an American shareholder, judgment in favour of the Bank for the amount sued for, with costs, was obtained on 3rd ultimo, but the defendant has appealed to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court against this judgment. The accounts as now presented show a result of £2,325 13s. 2d. to the credit of Profit and Loss Accounts, which sum it is proposed to carry forward. Deficiency Account has been reduced to £209,946 19s. 3d., a sum of £3,494 13s. 10d. having been recovered from Old Shareholders during the year. A Branch of the Bank has been opened at Singapore.

FIRE IN TOKYO.

A fire broke out at Aomono-cho, Nihonbashi-ku, Tokyo, at 4 10 a.m. yesterday. Six houses were wholly and four partially destroyed, beside two barns. A policeman sustained injuries.

HOW CAPT. STORNAWAY ABDUCTED THE RUSSIAN ADMIRAL.

[WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL" BY JOHN C. WERNER.]

My only comment on the following yarn, related by my voracious friend Captain Stornaway, is the one made by *Truth* in regard to the wonderful adventures lately chronicling in a popular magazine;

"Truth is stranger than Fiction,
But Rougemont is stranger than both."

"'Twas the second year I had the *Fly-by-night*," began Captain Stornaway, "when I carried out successfully an exploit which, if I had failed, would have sent me, *molens tolens*, to the yard-arm of a Russian man-of-war with a rope round my neck, or to one of the deepest mines in Siberia. Even now, after so many years have passed, I wake up sometimes during the night with a kind of creepy feeling, imagining myself in the hands of the White Bear. But I succeeded, and the result was something over twenty thousand dollars in my pocket. Would I try the same experiment now for the same money? Not for a Klondyke, I say emphatically.

My blood is getting thin, the bold, reckless spirit has left me, and the old man is only a wreck of what he has been, what is left of him. It is many years since this adventure happened; it was in what I may call the palmy days of sea-otter and fur-seal hunting. I left Yokohama early in the year, not with any intention of doing great strokes in hunting, but mainly to evade the temptations of the gilded temples of pleasure in Blood Town, and also to keep the hunters I had secured from being led away by unscrupulous captains of other schooners. I had good men that year, all Scandinavians. There were Hansen, Jansen, Nilsen, and Johnson; they were good men—none better, all but Johnson. He was a big, useless brute, untidy, and drunken, and played me afterwards some dirty tricks—but that is another yarn. Jansen was a Russian Finn and could almost make the wind blow—fair or foul—as he wanted it, and helped me considerably that way. I had Japanese sailors, as this happened before the embargo was put on Japanese shipping in the hunting schooners, and they were good men too; so I was well satisfied with my crew. Well, up to the beginning of October I had not done much; I had 22 otter skins, but no seal skins. I was really not very keen after otters; the skins were very low in the market and it took an immense lot of hard work to get enough to pay expenses. I wanted seals; the skins fetched a good price, and if I could succeed in making a raid on one of the rookeries I should make a small fortune.

About the 2nd or 3rd of October I arrived off one of the Northern Rookeries, and unexpectedly found myself almost in the middle of a hornet's nest. The Russian fleet were cruising in the northern waters that summer, and were anchored off the island when I arrived there early in the morning. They were at anchor inside the island, while I approached it from the outside, so we had it between us, and I think I saw them before they detected me and, of course, I altered my course at once. It would not have mattered so much even if they had seen me: in those days they were not so strict on the schooner, and as I had no fur-seal skins on board they would probably not have molested me. I must say for the officers on Russian cruisers that they are all perfect gentlemen—I ought to know if any one knows—and they perform their uncongenial task of seizing a hunting schooner unwillingly. But here was an effectual stop put on getting seals; nevertheless I was determined to get them in spite of the Russians, although I would perhaps have waited for a day or two. Fog had been hovering about us for several days, and that day it set in heavy, wet, and chilly. The fog was just what I wanted, so instead of putting to sea, I steered further in and dropped the anchor in 6 fathoms of water close under the southern point of the island. The seals were racing on shore, and thousands were swimming about the schooner, but I had given strict orders not to touch any of them. I wanted to have a clear ship if I should be boarded by anyone from the men-of-war. The sea was perfectly smooth where I was anchored, and we were riding as easily as if we were in Yokohama harbour.

It was just about 8 o'clock when I anchored, and after breakfast I lit my pipe and sat down on the grating aft for a comfortable smoke. I must have dropped off into the arms of Morpheus before I knew it—and slept on too with the fog settling on me like rain, for suddenly I woke up with a start, and, looking at the clock, realized that I had slept for over two hours. What woke

me up I could not imagine at first, as I was the only person on deck aft, but in a moment I perceived what had disturbed me. It was the sound of a boat being pulled through the water and evidently coming in this direction, and by the regular rhythm of the oars I could tell at once that it was a man-of-war boat, and I knew that I had a bad half-an-hour before me. I roused the boys up, and told them to send all the Japanese below and remain forward themselves; I would attend to the business aft. Slowly and haltingly the boat came along, as if uncertain of the course, occasionally ceasing pulling. It might have passed me by when an unfortunate creak from the fore boom brought a rough hail in Russian from it. I did not know what was said and remained silent, but Jansen volunteered the information that they wanted to know who we were. I told him to shut up, and mind that nobody could understand Russian on board here. But apparently they did not wait for an answer, but pulled right along, and here they were alongside of us, on the starboard side. It was a fine model of a boat, with a gilt streak and fancy yoke lines. It was manned by six sailors, and aft a tug, heavy man, all hair and epaulet, with his legs carefully covered over with a costly boot cloak. He seemed to be astonished when he saw the *Fly-by-night*, and after a long look over the schooner, aloft and below, he perceived me standing aft with my pipe in my mouth, and beckoned to me with his finger to come up to the sail. I leisurely knocked the ashes out of my pipe, and then, also leisurely, walked up towards him. He watched my movements impatiently, and said something to the man pulling the stroke oar—he coxswain, and then in English to me: "Russian, no?" I shook my head. "Who are you?" he continued, "what you do here? I must come on board; ladder, no?" I told him I had no ladder, but I would help him if he wished to come on board, and I called Johnson and Hansen, and with the assistance of the Russian sailors we managed to drag the burly gentleman on board. How he puffed and snorted when he got inside, evidently not used to exercise! He stood for a moment regaining his wind and looking at me with a decided frown under his shaggy eyebrows. "So, so," he finally began, "you come to steal seal, no? You come to rob Russian land, no? Ah, I make you one example! no more you can do it! I take you, so, so," and he spread out his hands. I stood meekly listening to him in silence, while a bright and daring three-cornered idea was quickly forming itself in my head. "Very well, captain," said I, when he had finished, "you have me, but I am no robber, I am not after seals, I am a sea-otter hunter; I have no sealskins, but I have a dozen otterskins. Come down in the cabin and I will make you a cocktail, and I will show you my otterskins." "So you have otterskins, good! you take them on Russian land, no? You take skins, I take you, ha, ha, ha!" and with this pleasant he followed me down in the cabin, after first giving some orders to his sailors, who all jumped on board, and dropped the boat astern.

I don't know if the promise of a cocktail made any difference in his feelings, but he seemed to be more amiable when he got down below. "I, Admiral"—(the name was a jawbreaker, and I have forgotten it)—he introduced himself, "I go ashore; I go back, I careless; I find the ship not; I have no compass; I go wrong; where my ship, you know?" "No, Sir," said I, "I am sorry to say I don't; I anchored here in the fog; it will soon clear up again and you will find the ship." "Ah yes," was his encouraging remark, "my sailors heave up your anchor and we sail up, no?"

"You will with a hook," said I to myself, and I felt almost inclined to murder him then and there. I dissembled, however, and, putting on a smiling face, asked the noble Admiral to take a seat, while I busied myself in mixing up the cocktail. He watched my movements somewhat suspiciously, I thought, but I mixed the ingredients quite openly before him; gin, a little water, sugar, maraschino (I happened to have a little), bitters, and essence of lemon; all these he saw me put in the tumbler, but he did not see me drop a big dose of opium in it. I shook up the mixture in scientific style and then offered him the glass; he took it and had a big sup, and smacked his lips, and then emptied the glass. I put a bottle of Three Star brandy before him, and asked him to help himself, I had business to attend to on deck. Taking a three-quarter-full bottle of gin with me I ascended to the deck, pleased that I had succeeded so far. The Russian sailors had hoisted the mainsail and foresail and were now going to haul in the kedge when I appeared. I called Jansen aft, and giving him the bottle, after I had mixed it as I wanted it, told him to give the Russians a big second

mate's nip each, but no more, and then throw the bottle overboard. I warned him against letting any of our own men have any of the mixture, and I cautioned him especially against Johnson, who would drink it even if he knew it was dangerous. I watched him as he poured out the drinks, which the sailors swallowed greedily; for a few minutes they were hilarious, but the stuff worked on them quickly and they were all sound asleep within ten minutes, stretched out on the deck. I looked down the cabin and there was the powerful Admiral with his head on his arms resting on the table, and breathing stertorously. Everything was safe so far; but supposing it cleared up, or some of the steam-launches were out searching for the Admiral and found him on board here in this state, where would I be then? I smiled to myself when I thought of it, and considered it all in the day's work; I was younger then than I am now, you see.

The boys looked at me inquiringly. I had not yet explained anything to them. "Up, and get all the kites on her," said I, "and let us away from here, and then I'll tell you everything; too much danger about these diggings." Within a few minutes' time we were off to the north-east with everything set, making over seven knots an hour. Next we brought the Admiral's boat up alongside and hoisted it in, and then I breathed more freely. It was now eleven o'clock, so you see it did not take us long to do the great work. I disclosed my plans to my hunters, or as much of them as I thought they needed to know; they were rather taken aback at my boldness, but none of them except Johnson had a word to say against it. They trusted in me implicitly. Johnson, like a big baby, began to cry and howl and protest that now they would all get hung, and not until the others had given him a few kicks did he stop; he was not so averse to taking his money when we returned to Yokohama, though. My passengers would sleep 24 hours, and by that time we should be 120 miles from here at least, and beyond danger, and I would then let them go—if the Admiral was reasonable. We stripped all the clothes, except the under clothing off him, and placed him in a more comfortable position in one of the banks. After Johnson had been crying so much I little expected to catch him going through the Admiral's pockets, but that was just what I did. I gave him a few severe slaps in the face, which set him crying again, and then ordered him on deck.

Both the wind and fog kept with us faithfully, and we were making fine headway; I was steering parallel with the land and had smooth water, and everything was lovely. Our dear Admiral slept the sleep of the just, but I barely shut my eyes the whole night. At noon the following day I kept the schooner in for the land, and at 2 o'clock I could hear the breakers. At 2 o'clock I took in all the light sails, and put the Admiral's boat over, and kept her astern. I had armed some of the sailors with rifles and the hunters had their revolvers in sight, and I had also cleared all arms out of the cabin, and at 2.30 o'clock I began to rouse the Admiral. I was the only one down in the cabin, but the hunters stood ready above, but I anticipated no trouble; he would feel too sick to do any kicking. We had pulled him out of the bunk and he was lying on the lockers, and his clothes were thrown on the table alongside of him. I kept splashing cold water in his face incessantly, until finally he began to gasp and sneeze, and then suddenly started up and roared out something in Russian. When he saw me, and then perceived his surroundings, he looked at me bewildered. His head presumably pained him, for he put his hands up to his forehead several times.

"Water, give me water," he begged humbly. He must have felt bad. I gave him a tumbler-full, which he drank with gusto. "You had a fit," said I, when I saw him looking at his clothes, "we had to take off your clothes, and you have slept nearly four hours."

"I—a fit—you lie!" was his answer, "where my ship? I sick! please call coxswain!"

"Your coxswain is sick too," said I, "and so are your sailors—sea-sick, I think!"

"You lie," he reiterated, "what you want? I like to go to my ship; you call coxswain, no?"

"Now, look here, Admiral, you are my prisoner, and you can not leave this schooner until you give me an order that will permit me to kill some on any of the islands."

"Prisoner!—I—I—You fool!" and he rushed up as if he was going on deck. I pointed the muzzle of my revolver at him. He was too sick to resist, and sank back on the seat.

"Suppose I sign no!" he asked, "what you do? kill me, no?"

"Ah, perhaps so," was my answer, "too far gone now to hesitate."

He considered for a moment, and then abruptly asked for writing materials. I put ink and pens before him, but told him he had to use his own paper, and write it as from the flagship. He nodded, and took several sheets of stamped paper out of his pocket book. He wrote slowly and pondered over the exact words to use; I watched him closely.

"I trust to your honour, Admiral," said I admonishingly, "to write what you promised to write; but I wish to tell you that one of my men can read Russian, so I hope that you do not meditate treachery, because he will read it!"

He paused when I said this; he had no doubt written out a consignment to jail, thinking that I, an ignorant sailor, would take it without further paucity. With a curse in Russian he tore up what he had written, and began again. When he asked me the name of the schooner I told him *Alexander*, Captain Carlson; that schooner just came in my thoughts. When he had finished he read it for me in English; it said that, for services rendered, all Russian subjects were ordered to assist me with all their power to get my schooner full of fur-seal skins. I passed the paper up to Jansen to read, and told the rest to wake up the Russian sailors and get them down in the boat, the Admiral was coming directly. In the meantime I assisted him to dress; he was fearfully sick, and I suppose the sailors did not feel any better. When he was dressed I offered him a nip of gin; he sipped a little of it, but it did not agree with him. Jansen had passed down the paper with the remark that it was all right, but I discovered later that he could not read it; how nicely I should have been fooled if I had taken the first paper. Finally word was passed down that the boat was ready, and with much trouble and difficulties did we get the portly gentleman down into it. I had passed a quantity of provisions into the boat, both solid and fluid; enough to last them for a week, and I advised the Admiral to pull right for the beach and land, as he would not be able to reach his fleet that day, and perhaps not the next. They were, at the nearest, 120 miles from the rookery; but after the Admiral was missed the vessels would surely disperse in all directions to look for him, and that was just what I was afraid of. If I had been caught I should have been shown no mercy, that was sure. While the boat was in sight I kept the schooner for the southward, but the fog soon hid her from my view and then I altered my course to the north-east and set everything I could carry. It was 90 miles to the next rookery and there I wished to be the next morning.

It began to clear up before daylight, or rather we were running out of the fog, and about the rookery it was clear as a bell. It was 7.30 o'clock when I anchored, and, perceiving a number of natives on the beach, I put one of the boats over, and with four men in her pulled for the shore; my men were all armed and I had my revolver handy. When I landed two tolerably well dressed and clean Russians came up and effusively shook hands with me; the rest stayed at a respectable distance.

I said interrogatively, "Governor." "Da, da," one of them answered, "speak little English." I presented the Admiral's note, which he took, and I can assure you I watched his face with some anxiety while he read it. It was evidently satisfactory, for he passed it to his friend, and they had a long talk over it. Finally he turned to me and asked me if I had any liquor on board; I told him I had some. He made me understand they had no more left ashore, and if I would give him five bottles he would fill my vessel in two hours; they had 2,000 skins in the salt house, all ready for shipping. I told him I would give him fifty bottles if he would do that. In a moment all was in a bustle; boats were hauled down to the water, and the skins began to come down before I reached the schooner. On board we had our hands full, getting everything up from the hold, but the boys worked with willing hands, and we were ready when the skins came alongside. The Governor came off with the skins, and I tell you he was delighted when I passed the bottles down into his boat. At 11 o'clock I had 2021 fur-seal skins on board, obtained without much trouble, and was off flying to the southeast with a fresh north-west breeze at my heels. I kept right out in the ocean for 206 miles before I considered myself safe, and then I kept away for Yokohama, where I arrived after a quick passage of seven days.

I had taken down the foretop mast and made several alterations in the look of the schooner before I got in, but nobody was on the watch for me, either then or later, nor were any curious inquiries made as to how I had got the skins. I only reported 1700 fur-seal skins and 22 otter skins on my arrival in case anything should be said further. The winter passed and I heard nothing about my adventure; but in March the Russian fleet arrived

in harbour, and I observed at different times boats and launches cruising among the hunting schooners. I had, however, most effectually altered the *Fly-by-Night*, and I am sure none of my visitors off the bleak northern islands would know her. I had a Japanese ship-keeper on board, but used to visit her almost every day. One day I had been on board for ten minutes, and was sitting on the grating all smoking a cigar, when suddenly a Russian steam launch came alongside and made fast. An officer was sitting in her, who politely asked me in good English if he had permission to come on board for a moment.

"Certainly," said I, "you are welcome, but I am really sorry to say I can not offer you any refreshment, as I have nothing on board yet;" I offered him a cigar, which he accepted.

"Are you Captain Stormaway?" he asked.

"Yes," said I, "I am the man."

"How many seal skins did you bring down?" he inquired.

"One thousand six hundred and ninety-eight seal skins, and twenty-two sea-otter skins," I told him.

"And where did you get them?" he asked.

"Ah," said I, "now you are asking too much!" He laughed, "Poor Russia!" he said.

"Aye," said I, "poor Russia indeed!"

I had observed that one of the sailors in the launch was taking careful stock of the schooner and of me, and surmised him to be one that I had entertained up north, but I pretended that I did not notice him. The officer said something to him, and they conversed eagerly together for a moment, but I was almost sure that I was not recognized; when he was on board I was roughly dressed, and, with my hair and beard all over my face, looked a different person from what I looked now. Anyhow, two British men-of-war were anchored close to us, and I had no fear. He asked a leading question—"Where is the schooner *Alexander* now?" and on my reply that I did not know, but probably she had returned to America, he left me. That was the last time I had any questions asked about my abduction adventure. As you know, my real name became tolerably familiar to them in after years.

I was told afterwards that the Admiral regained his ship in safety about the same time that I arrived in Yokohama, and that the fleet was immediately dispersed in pursuit of me. The Admiral was relieved that same winter and went home, and we never met again.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

BY HOMER B. HULBERT, A.M.

CHAPTER IV.

MUTUAL JEALOUSIES—FIRST KOREAN VICTORY—SUCCESSFUL GENERAL EXECUTED—PEOPLE DISGUSTED—ANOTHER GENERAL EXECUTED—OPERATIONS IN THE SOUTH—TROOPS MASS IN KONGJU—UNFORTUNATE ENGAGEMENT—TROOPS SCATTERED—NAVAL ENGAGEMENT IN THE SOUTH UNDER ADMIRAL YI SUN-SIN—A GREAT JAPANESE DEFEAT—JAPANESE ARMY CUT OFF FROM REINFORCEMENTS—THE TORTOISE BOAT—ANOTHER NAVAL VICTORY—AND ANOTHER—NAVAL CAMPAIGN CLOSES—ADMIRAL YI IS DECORATED—THE FALL OF YUNG-WUN FORTRESS—JAPANESE CHECKED AT THE IN-JIM RIVER—THEY SEEMINGLY PREPARE TO RETREAT—JEALOUSIES AMONG THE KOREANS—DIVIDED COUNSELS—KOREANS CROSS AND ATTACK—DEFEATED—KOREAN ARMY RETREATS—THE JAPANESE CROSS—JAPANESE JEALOUSIES—THEY SEPARATE—THE NEWS OF DEFEAT REACHES THE KING—A TRIFLING KOREAN VICTORY.

The wretched party strife among the Koreans was the cause of their weakness. No sooner did a capable man arise than he became the target for the hatred and jealousy of a hundred rivals, and no trickery or subterfuge was left untold whereby to have him degraded and disgraced. A particular incident will illustrate this. General Sin Gak had been associated with General Kim Myung-wun in the defence of the Han River, but when General Kim fled, after throwing into the river the engines of defence, there was nothing to do but to follow suite. General Sin retreated to a place of safety, but immediately began collecting troops from Kyung-gui Province, and he was also joined by a contingent from Ham-gyung Province. While the Japanese held Sml, large bands of them scoured the surrounding country for booty. One of these bands was trying to make its way across the hills to Ka-p'yung and Ch'un-ch'un, and had got as far as the Kyé Pass in the town of Yang-ju, when they found themselves face to face with the troops of General Sin Gak. A fierce fight took

place in which the Japanese, who were probably largely outnumbered, were severely defeated, leaving sixty heads in the hands of the Koreans. This promised to be the beginning of a series of such little engagements in which the Japanese army would be gradually weakened without being able to draw the Koreans into a large general engagement. The more so because the Japanese were dependent upon forage for their supplies.

But note the sequel. While all Kyung-gent was ringing with the praises of the successful general, and the people were beginning to see that all was not yet lost, a swift messenger was on his way southward from Pyeongyang bearing a sword and a letter ordering the instant execution of the traitor Sin Gak. The alleged reason for this was as follows. When General Kim fled from the defences of the Han, in order to cover his infamy, he wrote a letter to the King accusing General Sin Gak of having deserted him in his hour of need. General Yu Hong also recognized General Sin as a powerful rival and so added his prayers to those of General Kim that the traitor Sin be killed. The King knew no better than to comply with this request, preferred as it was by two of his leading generals, and the message of death was sent. But before the day was done came the news of the defeat of the Japanese by the forces under this same Sin Gak. The condemned "traitor" had stood up before a Japanese force and had taken sixty heads. The King was filled with remorse and a swift messenger was sent to stay the hand of the executioner. He took the road an hour after the death messenger and arrived at the camp of General Sin Gak—an hour after that loyal man had bowed his head to the axe of his royal master. Who knows but the feet of the second messenger had been made heavy by the gold of Sin Gak's rivals? History is silent as to this, but the suspicion is inevitable. This wanton act was looked upon by the people with horror and detestation, who saw their first successful champion cut down in the very hour of his success.

But another sword, this time of pure justice, was also prepared for General Yi Gak, who had fled from before the Japanese before Tong-nu. He made his appearance at the Im-jin River, doubtless thinking himself safe from criticism, but in this he was mistaken, for as he was the one who had first set the example of cowardice, he was arrested and put to death.

And now, as the Japanese are revelling in Seoul and the King is resting in Pyeongyang, and the Korean generals are busy massing troops at the Im-jin to dispute the passage of the Japanese, let us turn southward and witness some of the events that are transpiring there, for we must not think that the provinces of Chul-la and Ch'ung-ch'ung are at peace all this time.

When the Japanese army separated soon after leaving Tong-nu, one army division under Kuoda swept like a whirlwind westward across the north-western corner of Chul-la Province and through the entire length of Ch'ung-ch'ung Province on its way to Soul. Yi Gwang, the governor of Chul-la, got together some 8,000 men and hastened north to Kong ju, the capital of Ch'ung-ch'ung Province. Finding there that the King had fled from Soul, he gave up all hope of effecting anything, and, turning about, looked for the south again. But on the way he was met by Pak Kwang-on, who upbraided him severely, urging that if the King had fled northward there was all the more need of keeping on and offering him whatever support was possible. The governor humbly confessed that he had been hasty in his action, and turned about and went back to Kong ju, where he joined the forces of the governors of Ch'ung-ch'ung and Kyung-sang Provinces, who had arrived at that place. There were also General Yi Ok, the military governor of Ch'ung-ch'ung, and General Kwak Yung, the military governor of Chul-la. Each of the provinces had both a civil and a military governor. These three civil and two military governors met, then, in Kongju and joined forces. It is commonly reported that they had between them 100,000 men, but probably about half that figure would be nearer the truth. They formed a gallant array with their flaunting banners, and the people of the adjoining districts caught up arms and came and joined what seemed to them an invincible host. A Japanese force was found to be entrenched on Pui-du mun Mountain and Governor Yi Gwang was for making an immediate attack, but one of his aides said, "We are now so near Soul, there is no use in turning aside to attack so small a force. We had better push on to the defence of the Im-jin River." Pak Kwang-on, who had upbraided the governor for retreating, also said, "The road is very narrow which leads up to this position of the Japanese

and the woods are very dense. We had better be cautious." Being opposed thus the second time was more than his temper could endure, so the governor ordered Pak bound and whipped. The latter, thinking that it was an imputation on his bravery, after receiving a severe beating, seized his weapons and rushed headlong up the slope and attacked the Japanese. Many followed and the engagement became general. From morning till noon it continued, but the Japanese could not be driven out of their strong position in the woods. The Koreans began to lose interest in the battle and finally the Japanese, creeping down toward the Koreans in the underbrush and grass, suddenly rushed out upon them and cut them down by scores. Pak and several other notable men fell in the fight, but the main body of the Korean troops under Governor Yi Gwang moved on to Kwang-ryo Mountain, near the town of Su-wun, only eighty li from Soul. Expecting that the day would be a busy one, Governor Yi had his soldiers fed very early in the morning, and when day broke there, sure enough, was the Japanese force ready to engage him, and every few moments one or other of the Japanese braves would rush out from the lines, brandish his weapons and challenge the Koreans to come out and fight. So General Sin Ik, of the province of Ch'ung-ch'ung, advanced with his forces and engaged the enemy. In a few moments the superiority of the Japanese arms became evident. The panic-stricken Koreans fled before them like sheep before wolves. After an hour's time this considerable army, which was to have succoured the King, was thoroughly scattered, but it is probable that many of the soldiers figured later in the defence of the Im-jin River.

At the same time events were transpiring further south which were far more creditable to the Korean arms and which were the forerunner of the final expulsion of the Japanese from the peninsula.

A fleet of Japanese boats, bringing, as is supposed, the reserve of 60,000 men, arrived off the island of Ka-dok on the coast of Kyung-sang Province. At that time Admiral Wun Gyun had charge of all naval matters along the coast of that province. When he saw this vast fleet of ships his heart sank, and without more ado he prepared to scuttle his ships and flee by land, but fortunately there was good advice at hand, for one of his staff said, "Do not abandon all hope at once, but send and ask Yi Sun-sin, the Admiral of Chul-la, to come and aid you." A swift messenger was sent and the message was placed in the hands of Admiral Yi. One of his staff said, "No, let him guard his own coast and we will look after ours. Why should we go and help him?" But Admiral Yi said, "Is not Kyung-sang province as much the country of our King as Chul-la? How can we refuse to go to his aid?" So eighty boats were made ready in haste and sailed away to the island of Han-san, where the two admirals met and joined forces. The whole fleet sailed out of harbour together and made for the island of Ok-po, where the hostile fleet was moored. As soon as the enemy hove in sight Admiral Yi Sun-sin made directly for them and began grappling them. The Koreans had the advantage of the wind at their backs, for they shot fire arrows among the boats of the Japanese and soon had twenty-six of them in flames. It is said the sea was covered with the wreckage and with struggling human forms. So the remaining ships of the enemy turned about and crowded on all sail in flight, but Admiral Yi gave chase and cut down many more and scattered the rest, so that the expedition was an entire failure. This was the first of this great admiral's successes, and it illustrates the fact that the Korean warrior was not a coward when well led. The Japanese armies in Korea were thus cut off from their source of supply and reinforcement and thus a tremendous blow was dealt them. This victory may be said to have been the decisive point in the war.

It is probable that the soldiers in the Japanese army had been accustomed to short though sanguinary campaigns and had spent the intervals of leisure at home. But now this vast army was quite cut off from their home and was among strange scenes. It cannot be wondered at, therefore, that after a time discontent arose in spite of all successes, a discontent which, combined with other causes, finally drove them back to Japan.

Tradition says that about this time Admiral Yi had a dream in which a white-robed man appeared and cried, "The Japanese are coming." He arose, assembled his fleet, and sailed forth as far as the town of No-ryang, where he found a large fleet of the enemy. He used the same tactics as before, burning twelve of them and chasing the rest away. The main reason for his unparalleled successes on the sea was the possession of a peculiar war vessel of his own invention and con-

struction. It was called the *Kwi-sun*, or "Tortoise Boat," from its resemblance to that animal. There is no doubt that the tortoise furnished the model for the boat. Its greatest peculiarity was a curved deck of iron plates like the back of a tortoise which completely sheltered the fighters and rowers beneath. In front was a hideous dragon's head, erect, with wide open mouth, through which arrows and other missiles could be discharged. There was another opening in the rear and six on either side for the same purpose. On top of the curved deck there was a narrow walk from stem to stern and another across the middle from side to side, but every other part of the back bristled with iron pikes so that an enemy who should endeavour to board her would find himself immediately impaled upon a score of spear-heads. This deck, being of iron, rendered the ship impervious to fire arrows, and so the occupants could go into action with as much security as one of our modern battleships could go into engagement with the wooden war vessels of a century ago. In addition to this, she was built for speed and could easily overtake anything afloat. This made her doubly formidable, for even flight could not avail the enemy. She usually did more execution after the fight commenced than before, for she could overtake and ram them one by one probably better than she could handle them when drawn up in line of battle. It is said that the hulk of this remarkable ship (though others say it is only a *façade*) lies in the sand to-day in the village of Ku-mung on the coast of Kyung-sang Province. It was seen there by Lieut. Geo. C. Foulk, U.S.N. in 1884. The people of the town have an annual festival in its honour, when they launch a fleet of boats and sail about the harbour in honour of the great Yi Sun-sin and his "Tortoise Boat."

In the engagement last described the Japanese in their flight were so terrified by this strange craft, which pursued them and sank them one by one, that they stamped their feet and cried out that it was more than human workmanship. And indeed it was almost more than human of that century, for it anticipated by nearly three hundred years the iron-clad war ship. In this battle Admiral Yi was wounded in the shoulder, but made no sign. He urged on his men to the very last and finally, when they drew off, weary of slaughter, he bared his shoulder and ordered the bullet to be cut out.

Having thus brilliantly begun, and perhaps fearing last, if he should delay, some jealous rival might induce the King to take off his head, he pushed straight on to Tang-hang Harbour, where he encountered another fleet, among which was an immense three-decked ship, on which sat the admiral of the fleet, clad in silk and wearing a golden head-piece. The intrepid Yi made straight for this craft with his tortoise boat, and when near it called to one of his best marksmen to let fly a shaft at the man in silk. The arrow flew straight to its mark and pierced the man's throat. Seeing the fall of their chief, the whole fleet showed their rudders and made off as fast as they could go, but with the usual result. The next day saw Admiral Yi in Pyok-hang Harbour, where he lay at anchor while he sent out ships to reconnoitre and find out the position of the enemy. If anything was seen of the foe, guns were to be fired as a signal. So long the signal shot was heard far out at sea. The fleet put out in two divergent lines "like a fish-trap," as the Koreans say, and soon on the horizon twenty-six hulls appeared rising and sinking on the swell. As they neared they entered the two lines of the Korean fleet and were surrounded. As the result of this fight every one of the Japanese boats was burned and two hundred heads were taken as trophies. This remarkable naval campaign closed with the destruction of a few remaining Japanese boats that were overtaken near Yung-dong Harbour.

The reputation of Admiral Yi Sun-sin spread over the whole south and his praises were on every lip. His followers would go anywhere with him and scarcely seemed to know what fear was. Ere long the report of these splendid victories came to the ears of the King, and though Admiral Yi was not without detractors at court the King conferred upon him a lofty title.

In the fifth month the Japanese resumed active operations on the north and east. A powerful force was sent to the province of Kan-wun, which was straightway overrun. The governor, Kim Je-gap, hastily collected all the soldiers that could be found, and arms and ammunition, and went to the almost impregnable fortress of Yung-wun. The natural defences of this place were unexcelled by any in Korea. On three sides the approach was almost precipitous and a handful of men could hold an army at bay. Here the governor collected provisions in abundance and dug a well. Stones were piled on the top of the wall to be

thrown down upon anyone who should attempt to scale the height. The Japanese recognised the strength of the position and tried to get the governor to surrender without a struggle. A letter was sent up the steep slope and handed over the wall. It said, "You are doomed. Even if you hold out for two months you will then be taken. You must come out and surrender at once." The only answer was the headless trunk of the Japanese messenger rolled down the precipice before the eyes of the invading army. The next day the assault began. The besiegers swarmed up the sides of the slope, so that, to use the Korean figure, "the mountain-side was clothed with them." The garrison, though only 5,000 strong, found no difficulty in driving them back. That night the Koreans, wearied by the labours of the day and deeming it impossible that the Japanese should try to attack at night up those steep slopes, failed to set a guard; and in the early morning, before light, a little band of the enemy worked its way up the face of the precipice and reached the base of the wall. A few stones were displaced until a small aperture was made and the little band effected an entrance. They rushed into the camp with a terrific yell, cutting down the half-awakened and wholly terrified garrison. The gates were thrown open and in an hour the victory was complete. Governor Kim Je-gap refused to do obeisance and was cut down.

And now all eyes were turned toward the Im-jin River, where the King and people fondly hoped to be able to stop the invading host. Troops had been coming continually and massing on the northern bank of the stream at the point where the main road from Seoul to P'yeng-yang crosses it by ferry. Its great strategic importance was due to the fact that it was the only good place for a large force to cross. The troops massed here were nominally under the command of General Kim Myung-gun, who had so promptly deserted the defenses of the Han, upon the arrival of the Japanese. The Koreans had everything in their favour. The southern bank where the Japanese must embark is a high bluff pierced only by a narrow gully which would allow of only a few hundred approaching the immediate brink of the water at once, and consequently the army would have to cross little by little. The opposite bank, on the other hand, is a long flat stretch of sand, an ideal place for drawing up a defensive force, and every boat-load of the enemy would be the mark for a thousand arrows.

The Korean forces were numerous enough, they were brave enough, and their leaders were individually capable enough; but note the sequel. All the boats had been brought over to the Korean side, and so, when the Japanese arrived on the southern bank and looked down the high bluff, upon the assembled hosts of Koreans, and marked the difficulty of embarkation, the swiftness of the current, and the utter absence of boats or craft of any kind, they found themselves for the first time completely checked. An hour's resistance was all they had ever met before, but here was evidently a serious obstacle.

For ten long days these great armies sat facing each other across the waters of the Im-jin. They were ten days of exultation for the Koreans, and every day that passed raised the courage, or rather the self-confidence, of the Koreans, who forgot that it was nature and not they who held the foe in check. They did not dream for an instant that the Japanese were about to make them the instruments of their own destruction. When the eleventh morning broke something was seen to be going on among the Japanese, a great running about and carrying of bundles from place to place. In a short time the reason became apparent. The Japanese had given up further advance and were preparing to retreat toward Seoul. Smoke and flame showed that they were burning their camp, and soon the whole force was seen to be on the move back toward the south. To imagine the revulsion of feeling in the minds of the Koreans we should have to realize the deep humiliation to which they had been subjected, the heaps of slain they had seen, the losses in property, in homes, in relatives, in friends, which they had sustained at the hands of the ruthless invaders. Instead of being pursued they were to pursue. They would dog the footsteps of the retreating army, cut off the stragglers, worry the life out of the "dwarfs," as they called the Japanese, and finally give them a farewell kick as they left the port of Kusan on their ignominious homeward flight. Such must have been the common thought and purpose of the Koreans, and the thirst for revenge was simply unbearable. And here again comes to the front the fatal weakness of the Koreans. We have before remarked that the rise of the political parties lay at the bottom of the failure of the Korean arms against the Japanese. It has already been illustrated in

the case of General Sin Gak, who was executed through jealousy on the very day of his great victory. Here again it is to become apparent. While General Kim Myung-gun was nominally in charge of the defenses of the Im-jin he was far from being in full command of the troops massed there. A number of other generals were there, and each held his own troops in hand and each wished to distinguish himself and so step over the heads of the rest into the good graces of the King. This would mean pre-emption and wealth. There was absolutely no supreme command, there was no common plan, there was nothing but mutual jealousy and suspicion. A young general, Sin Gil-i, who knew nothing of war, was sure that the enemy had decamped, and he wanted to cross immediately in pursuit. But this was so manifestly absurd that even the common soldiers cried out, "You had better examine carefully and see whether the enemy has actually gone." For answer the young general had a few heads struck off, which shows he was something of a disciplinarian if nothing more. Then Gen. Yu Guk-yang expostulated with the young man, warning him that it was surely a trick to lure them across, but the young fellow drew his sword and made a lunge at the old general and charged him with cowardice. This no one could endure, so the aged general said "Coward, am I? Well I speak only for the good of my King; but I will be the first to cross and fall into this trap, and when you see me fall you will know that my advice was sound." So calling his soldiers, he ordered them into the boats and, throwing all caution to the winds and forgetting the best interests of his King for a petty vindication of his own bravery, he dashed across the river and up the heights. The young Sin Gil-i could do no less than follow, and when he had gained the heights beyond he found the words of the aged general true. A short distance away a half-dozen naked Japanese were dancing on the border of a wood, but when the Koreans rushed at them a countless multitude of Japanese who had lain concealed in the wood poured out, and in an instant the Koreans were surrounded. The aged general, having thus proved his claim to bravery, or rather foolhardiness, sat down and said, "Now has come the time for me to die." And die he did. It was of himself that he thought, and it was this all-prevailing selfishness bred of party strife that neutralised every good quality in the Korean army. It was not because they were not brave, nor because luxury had sapped the vitality of the noble class, but it was because no one would work with anyone else. It was because they saw in war nothing but the chance of personal advancement. And so each one deplored the successes and rejoiced in the failures of the other.

When the old general fell, the Koreans found themselves again, as in the battle in which General Sil Yip fell, between the Japanese and the river. Back they rushed, only to find that some of the boats had drifted away and others, being overcrowded, had sunk. Hundreds were driven into the water, while many, preferring a soldier's death, presented their necks to the swords of the Japanese.

But even yet all was not lost. A little wisdom and care might still have left the day unwon by the Japanese. They had a few boats to be sure, but not enough to be of any use in the face of the still large Korean force on the opposite bank. But here occurred the greatest mistake of all. The generals on the northern bank, witnessing the terrible slaughter of their confederates, not stopping to reckon the chances still remaining of successful defence, mounted their horses and gave themselves to flight. This was not mere cowardice. It was thoughtlessness and carelessness in large part, and it there had been one man in command of the whole defensive force who could witness the loss of a large fraction of his troops without losing his head, the Japanese would still have been as far from the northern bank as ever. The moment the soldiers saw the flight of their generals they raised a decisive shout, "The generals are running away," and forthwith they followed the example, as they had a perfect right to do.

The Japanese leaders, seeing the defenses of the river broken up by their successful stratagem, immediately crossed with their entire force, which Korean accounts reckon at about quarter of a million. The Korean accounts tell us nothing about the rivalry of the two Japanese leaders, Kato and Konishi, but among the Japanese it was notorious. It was impossible for them to march together for any length of time. It was this rivalry which had made them take different roads to Seoul, and it was now necessary for them to part again. This jealousy was another of the potent causes of the final failure of the Japanese. Had these two men worked together they could have marched straight on to the walls of Nanking without meet-

ing an enemy worthy of their steel. As it was they separated and scattered over the country, dissipating their power and thus frustrating the great design of Hideyoshi, the conquest of China. They cast lots as to their routes, and fortune favoured the younger man, Konishi, who drew as his lot the straight path north, where glory lay if anywhere. Kato had to be content with a dash into the province of Ham-gyung in the north-east. Another general, Kuroda, led a force into the western part of Whang-ha Province. All this took place in the fifth moon.

The King was resting secure in P'yeng-yang, trusting in the defence of the Im-jin River, when a messenger rushed in breathless, announcing that the Im-jin had been deserted and that the invaders were coming north by leaps and bounds. The town was thrown into a panic of fright, and, as the Koreans truly put it, "No man had any colour in his face." General Yi Li came hurrying in from the seat of war disguised as a coolie and wearing rough straw shoes. The King put him in command of the forces guarding the fords of the Ta-dong River, which flows by the wall of P'yeng-yang.

We must note in passing a trifling success on the part of Captain Wun-ho, who had been in charge of the ferry across the Han at Yo-ju. He had been called away into Kang-wun Province, but returned just in time to form an ambush at Yo-ju and spring out upon a company of Japanese whom he routed, securing some fifty heads. The Koreans say that from that time the Japanese avoided the Yo-ju ferry.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, April 22nd:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	...	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	...	14,528,125
Amount of convertible notes issued	...	171,985,640
Government deposits	...	36,920,506
General deposits	...	3,927,369
Exchange liability	...	489,448
Total	...	257,851,090

	Cr.	Yen.
Discount notes	...	24,293,364
Foreign discount notes	...	12,644,582
Loan to Government	...	22,000,000
General loans	...	51,444,509
Exchange liability	...	877,227
Government bonds	...	45,262,808
Property	...	1,791,628
Bullion and Specie	...	99,533,970
Total	...	257,851,090

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued... 192,789,490

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	...	97,022,106
Silver	...	—
Total	...	97,022,106

Securities:—

Government bonds	...	35,465,788
Government certificates	...	22,000,000
Government bills	...	10,442,485
Commercial notes	...	7,859,111
Total	...	75,767,384

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	...	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	...	11,761
Silver	...	—
General loans	...	3,311,199
Government deposits	...	3,995,176
General deposits	...	1,760,289

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE FRENCH LEAGUES.

Saigon, April 21.

The Correctional Police have condemned the accused members of the

Ligue de la Patrie Française to a fine of 16 francs.

FILIPINO SUCCESS.

The Filipinos have drawn the American troops into an ambush and captured 140.

INDO-CHINA RAILWAYS.

Saigon, April 22.

A decree has been issued authorizing the opening of works of railway construction from Haiphong to Vietri, and from Hanoi to Vinh, with the exception of the section from Ninhbinh to Quang-yen, which crosses the rivers of the delta.

THE COURT OF CASSATION.

Saigon, April 23.

The French Court of Cassation has recommenced the examination of some witnesses already examined by the Criminal Chamber.

HONOUR FOR MAJOR MARCHAND.

The Academy of Science has granted to Major Marchand, for his journey across Africa, the grand prize of 15,000 francs, which constitutes a recognition of the highest devotion to science.

POSTHUMOUS HONOURS.

Saigon, April 25.

The statue of Jules Ferry has been unveiled at Tunis, in the presence of M. Krantz, Minister of Public Works, M. Legrand, Under-Secretary of the Home Department, M. Mongest, Under-Secretary of Posts and Telegraphs, and various members of Parliament.

"THE FIGARO'S" REPORT.

Saigon, April 26.

The *Figaro* publishes the deposition of Captain Cuignet affirming that Dreyfus is the author of the "bordereau," and Du Paty de Clam the inspirer of the document falsified by Henry.

COLONEL DUPATY DE CLAM.

Saigon, April 27.

The Court of Cassation has decided to hear Col. Dupaty de Clam.

LEAGUE PRESIDENTS FINED.

The Correctional Police have sentenced to a fine of 16 francs the presidents of the Anti-semitic and the Plebiscitary Leagues.

AMERICANS IN PHILIPPINES.

In Manila the Americans continue to advance northwards, and have obtained possession of Calumpit, with a loss of eight killed.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION.

London, April 21.

The Sydney Council has passed the Federation Bill.

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

BIG REINFORCEMENTS.

Forty thousand American regulars are going to Manila. Their transports will soon be ready.

BRITISH POLICY.

The Duke of Devonshire, speaking at the London Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Government does not desire to participate in the crisis in China. It is endeavouring to secure a due share over unoccupied parts of the world and desires to draw closer the ties between the colonies and Britain. Hence the paramount duty is to make the Army and the Navy strong enough to defend not only Great Britain but the colonies and foreign possessions.

SCENE IN HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, April 22.

A slight scene occurred in the House

of Commons arising out of the discussion over the Indian Sugar Duties. Lord G. Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, replying to Mr. J. M. MacLean (Conservative member for Cardiff), stated that the exportation of Sugar from Great Britain to India averages 900 tons. Thereupon Mr. MacLean began reading figures traversing this and the Speaker ruled him out of order. Mr. MacLean persisting, a great uproar followed, during which he took a seat on the Radical benches. He afterwards quitted the House.

AMERICAN REINFORCEMENTS.

A CORRECTION.

Yesterday's message should read: 14,000 (not 40,000) Regulars are going to Manila.

THE CHINESE LOAN.

London, April 24.

The Chinese loan has been nearly twice covered in France and Belgium.

AMERICANS IN DEAD EARNEST.

FLYING SQUADRON AND NEW CAMPAIGN.

The Americans are forming a Flying Squadron for beginning a new campaign, the object being to clear the Filipinos from the jungle to the north of Manila.

FRANCO-SIAMESE AGREEMENT.

IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS.

Le Figaro states that an agreement has been effected between the King of Siam and M. Doumer, Governor-General of Indo-China, in virtue of which a French Staff will be employed in public works and the French language be taught, while the question of Luang-prabang has also been satisfactorily settled.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of the Right Hon. Sir John Robert Mowbray, Bart., father of the House of Commons.

SENSATION IN AMERICA.

A NAVAL OFFICER'S INDISCREET SPEECHES.

London, April 25.

A sensation has been produced in the United States by the speeches of Captain Coghlan, of the cruiser *Raleigh*, at New York, repeating and accentuating the menacing messages sent by Admiral Dewey to the German Admiral at the time of the battle at Manila.

Captain Coghlan has been reprimanded and ordered to rejoin his ship.

IRISH COUNTY COUNCILS.

IN FAVOUR OF HOME RULE.

At the first meetings of the new Irish County Councils on Saturday, many of them passed resolutions in favour of Home Rule and the Roman Catholic University.

GERMANY PROTESTS AGAINST COGHAN'S SPEECH.

GERMAN PRESS NOT EXCITED.

London, April 26.

The German Ambassador (at Washington) has strongly protested against Captain Coghlan's speech. Col. Hay, Secretary of State, has expressed disapproval of the speech and intimated that the Admiralty will take action.

The German press remains moderate, treating the speech as a post-prandial oration.

COGHAN'S OTHER OFFENCE.

NO DIPLOMATIC NOTICE TO BE TAKEN.

At the same banquet where he made the speech, Captain Coghlan recited a coarse ballad about the Kaiser, which the German Ambassador disdains to notice.

ENGLAND'S AFRICAN GARRISON.

CHAMBERLAIN DEFENDS INCREASE.

Mr. Chamberlain, in defending the vote

for the barracks in South Africa, stated that an enormous increase, in both offensive and defensive forces by the Transvaal, formed the sole reason, for increasing the British garrison.

THE COGHAN AFFAIR.

London, April 27.

Captain Coghlan has written to the Admiralty, disavowing his intention to insult the Kaiser or Admiral Diederichs.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Experiments across the straits of Dover have demonstrated that Marconi is able to localize wireless telegraphy and communicate with any desired ship or point to the exclusion of others in its vicinity.

ENFORCEMENT OF REVISED

TREATIES.

FAIR TREATMENT ASSURED TO FOREIGNERS.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. W. St. John Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs, stated that Japan had given assurances regarding reforms in Press Law and restrictions upon foreigners generally, and that there was no reason for fear that British subjects would not be fairly treated, when the new treaties are enforced.

THE TWO-THOUSAND GUINEAS.

The first three horses in the Two Thousand Guineas race were Flying Fox, Caiman, and Trident.

THE GERMANS IN JITCHIAU.

(FROM THE "CHUO SHIMBUN.")

Peking, April 26th, 6 p.m.

The German Representative has informed the Chinese Government, that if the latter consents to build a Church at Ichou, the German troops will be withdrawn from Jitchiau.

Some of the German soldiers stationed at Jitchiau attempted, a few days ago, to do violence to a Chinese woman, and, becoming enraged at the resistance offered by the people, killed two men.

(FROM THE "JISI SHIMPO.")

THE USUAL DEMAND.

Peking, April 26, 7.30 p.m.

It is rumoured that Germany has demanded of the Chinese Government mining concessions, the establishment of a church near Ichou, and an indemnity of \$80,000.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	—
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Kim, of Japan	M. May 1
America	T. & E. K.	Nippon Maru	M. May 1
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Indus	Tu. May 2
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Kim, of India	Th. May 4
Hongkong	T. & E. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. May 4
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	M. May 5
America	P. & O. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. May 9
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	W. May 20
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. May 22
America	P. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. May 27

- 2 At Nagasaki, in quarantine.
- 3 Left San Francisco on the 26th inst.
- 4 Left Hongkong on the 26th inst.
- 5 Left San Francisco on the 26th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

To	Line	Steamer	Date
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	—
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Kim, of Japan	M. May 2
Hongkong	T. & E. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. May 2
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	W. May 3
Shanghai	N. V. K.	Kobe Maru	W. May 3
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Kim, of India	F. May 5
America	T. & E. K.	H'kong Maru	Sa. May 6
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Indus	W. May 10
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. May 20
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	F. May 20
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. May 22
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. May 27

CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 417.

- WHITE.
 1—Kt takes P (B 6)
 2—Q takes R P ch
 3—R takes B P mate
- BLACK.
 1—Q takes R
 2—K takes Q (must)
 1—Q to Kt 5
 2—P takes K (must)
 1—Q to Kt 4
 2—K takes Q
 1—Kt takes B
 2—Q to Kt 5

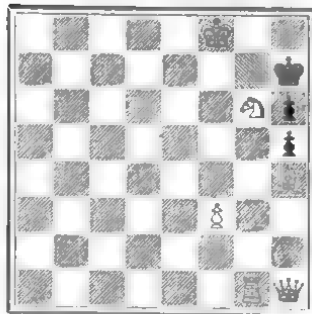
Correct solutions received from *Wii*, and *East Angles*.

This problem has puzzled some of our solvers. ■ takes B P was selected by some as the key-move. This is defeated by Kt to Q 5.

PROBLEM NO. 420

By LOYD.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

GAME NO. 502.

Played at St. Louis recently.

SCOTCH OPENING.

- White—Max Judd. Black—H. N. Pillsbury.
- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|------------|--------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1 P K4 | P K4 | 19 K R-q | B K3 |
| 2 Kt KB3 | Kt QB3 | 20 KR B-q | K B-q |
| 3 P Q4 | PxP | 21 P R4 | P R4 |
| 4 Kt xP | Kt B3 | 22 Q Q3 | B B5 |
| 5 Kt xKt | Kt PxKt | 23 P K6 | R K-q |
| 6 B Q3 | P Q4 | 24 PxP | RxBP |
| 7 P K5 | Kt K5 | 25 Q R7 | R K5 |
| 8 Castles | R QB4 | 26 Q R5 | P K3 |
| 9 Q K2 | Q R5 | 27 Q R6.h | K Ktq |
| 10 P KR3 | P KR4 | 28 Kt Kt5 | R K7! |
| 11 Kt Q2 | Q K6 | 29 R KKtq | BxR |
| 12 Kt B3 | P R5 | 30 RxB | R K2 |
| 13 B Q2 | R R4 | 31 Kt B3 | R R2 |
| 14 B B3 | B H4 | 32 Q R-q | R B2 |
| 15 B Kt4 | B QKt3 | 33 Q Q-q | R B7 |
| 16 B R5 | Kt xBP | 34 Kt K-q | R K P |
| 17 R Kt | Kt QB | 35 Resigns | |
| 18 BxB | RxB | | |

GAME NO. 503.

A WONDERFUL MATE.

EVANS GAMBIT.

- White—Max Lange. Black—L. Lange.
- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1 P K4 | P K4 | 11 P Q6 | PxP |
| 2 Kt B3 | OKt B3 | 12 B R3 | Kt B3 |
| 3 B B4 | B B4 | 13 Q xP | Kt K2 |
| 4 P QKt4 | BxQKtP | 14 Kt Kt5 | R KB-q |
| 5 P B3 | B R4 | 15 Kt QB3 | BxKt |
| 6 P Q4 | PxP | 16 QR K-q | BxR |
| 7 Castles | Kt B3 | 17 RxB | Kt Kt-q |
| 8 PxP | Kt xKP | 18 B K5 | P KR3 |
| 9 P Q5 | Kt Kt-q | 19 Kt K4 | P QR3 |
| 10 Q Q4 | Kt KB3 | | |

And Max Lange announced mate in five moves, which, Reichen says, must be considered one of the finest announced mates extant.

ZIG-ZAG PUZZLE.

By W. A. SHINKMAN, Grand Rapids, U.S.A.



White to move and capture the Black Knight with the King in 27 moves. The pawns and the Knight are not to be moved; the King must not pass over the central square commanded by the Knight; and the pieces are to be played according to the laws of Chess governing their movements.

NOTES.

The Yokohama chess season is now closed, but, as last year, the Secretary has set a room apart for play at his residence, No. 156-a Bluff, where members of the Y. C. C. will be welcome every Thursday evening from 8 o'clock.

Another match, of five games up, is in progress between Janowski and Showalter. Before beginning play in the fifth game of the series on Saturday, March 19, Janowski and Showalter agreed, as the score was two wins each, to play six games instead of five. At the time the mail left five games had been played with the following result; Janowski, 2; Showalter, 3.

The programme for the international chess congress, to begin in London May 30th, was issued recently. It provides for two tournaments, one a double round for the masters, not more than eighteen nor less than sixteen to compete, and the other a single round tournament for those not competing in the principal event. The prizes in the latter will be \$1,250, \$825, \$500, \$325, \$250, \$200, \$150 and \$100. In the main tournament the prizes will be \$350, \$250, \$150, \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$25. In the main event non-prize winners will receive \$10 for each game won from any of the three first prize winners, and \$5 for every other winning game. An entrance fee of \$25 is demanded in the two-round tournament, and both events will be conducted under the same rules and regulations which have governed similar contests in the past.

As the invitations will be issued only to masters of acknowledged reputation and prize winners in recent tournaments, the entry list will probably be made up something like this: America will be represented by Pillsbury, Steiner and Showalter; Austria-Hungary by Chigorin, Schlechter and Maroczy; France by Janowski; Germany by Lasker, Tarrasch, Walbrodt and Lipke; Great Britain by Blackburne, Burn, Mason and Teichman; Gumburg is not likely to play; Russia by Tschigorin, Aapin and Schiffer. Substitutes may readily be found in Maceo of Vienna and Cohn of Berlin, the latter an account of the fine score he made at Cologne last summer.

Sir Georges Newnes proposes to start a movement for a national chess testimonial to Blackburne to commemorate his victory over Pillsbury in the recent international cable chess match and his long service with the British Chess Club. Sir George announced the subject at a university chess dinner, at which the members of the British Chess Club, including Blackburne, were present.

A number of Chess enthusiasts at Boston, Mass., have formed a "Blindfold Chess Club," to encourage the study and practice of play sans voir.

German Universities are very strict, and seem to come down sharply on negligent students, chess players though they be. The *Riga Tageblatt* says that the world's chess champion, Emanuel Lasker, who during last term had taken up his mathematical studies at the Berlin University has just been struck off the lists of that University because he has not shown proofs that he has carried out any private reading during the winter. If the report be correct, says *Black Bishop* of Hongkong, it is not very creditable to the authorities. It is far more important to the world that Lasker should play chess than that he should read up Differential Calculus or produce a thesis on the Indivisible Concomitants of any number of Binary Quantics.

Mr. Lyons, secretary to Senator Deboe, of Kentucky, related recently an experience of Lasker when he played a "simultaneous" in Cincinnati. One of the players had secured a book of openings on his knees under the table, and when Lasker moved on his board and panned along he would hunt up the answer. Lasker had both eyes open and took in the situation. "What is this you have?" asked Lasker, peering over the table. "Ah! Cook's Analysis," and, making an odd-looking move, he ejaculated: "See if you can find an answer to that!"

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Andalusia, German steamer, 3,499, Schöller, 24th April,—Hamburg via ports, Shanghai, 17th April, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Marquis Bacquhem, Austrian steamer, 2,744, Wallushing, 21st April,—Trieste via ports, Hongkong, 15th April, General.—Browne & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 21st April,—Shanghai via ports, 15th April, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 22nd April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 4th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 23rd April,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 5th April, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, J. F. Allen, 23rd April,—Kobe, 22nd April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rathdown, British ship, 2,058, H. W. Dyke, 23rd April,—Port Royal, S.C., 21st Oct., Phosphate Rock.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Olsen, 24th April,—Kobe, 22nd April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

D. H. Watjen, German ship, 2,079, C. Wickr, 24th April,—New York, 3 d Dec.; Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Moore, 24th April,—Australia via Hongkong and Takow, 19th April, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nubeta, 25th April,—Kobe, 23rd April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, Joseph Palford, 25th April,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 23rd April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Undaunted, British steamer, 2,026, Elcoate, 25th April,—New Orleans via ports, Kobe, 23rd April, Cotton and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Columbia, American steamer, 1,689, T. H. Dubson, 26th April,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 24th April, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Yapa, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chellev, 26th April,—London via ports, Kobe, 25th April, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,781, J. S. Thompson, 26th April,—London via ports, Kobe, 25th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, R. Numoto, 26th April,—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 25th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Murakumo, Japanese Torpedo Boat Destroyer, 257, Fujimoto, 26th April,—Yokosuka, 26th April.

Olaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 27th April,—Kobe, 25th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 24th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, —, 24th April,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Co.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 24th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Andalusia, German steamer, 3,499, Schöller, 25th April,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 22nd April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,617, J. W. Wale, 22nd April,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, S. Tanji, 22nd April,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 23rd April,—Osaka via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Marquis Bacquhem, Austrian steamer, 2,744, Wallushing, 24th April,—Trieste via ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Kabara, 25th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salasia, French steamer, 2,089, Negre, 26th April,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Olsen, 26th April,—Osaka via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 26th April,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Columbia, American steamer, 1,689, T. H. Dubson, 27th April,—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

PASSENGERS.
ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Z. Amari, Dr. D. MacDonald, Mrs. A. C. Byer, Mrs. H. E. Averill, Mr. H. F. Dussel, Miss Lily Parrish, Mr. E. J. Cowan, Mr. A. Herbst, Mr. and Mrs. A. McLean, Miss N. M. Hill, Mrs. H. Tompkins and infant, Miss Ottilie Bryer, Mr. J. C. Dussel, Mr. E. J. Parrish, Mr. F. R. Fernald, Mr. Ed. Brandenstein, Dr. J. J. Giusti, Mr. T. Aoki, Mr. A. C. Bryer, Miss Ethelind Bryer, Mrs. J. C. Dussel, Mrs. E. J. Parrish, Mr. E. R. Smith, Mr. A. Adelsdorfer, Mr. J. R. Valle, Mr. H. Burnett, Mr. J. B. Millett, Mr. A. Mitchell, Mrs. Mitchell, Misses Mitchell (2) and maid, Mr. J. M. Haynes, Miss Haynes, and Miss M. D. Haynes, in cabin, For Kobe:—Mr. C. W. Clifton, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mrs. L. B. Smithers, and Miss Smithers, in cabin, For Nagasaki:—Mr. L. Bauer, Mr. C. R. Schleifer, and Mr. Henry Mett, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. H. A. Macray, Mr. L. W. Downey, Rev. Jas. Carson, Mrs. H. A. Macray, Rev. W. Drummond, Mrs. Jas. Carson, Mr. A. Campbell, and Mrs. W. Drummond and 2 children, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. C. L. F. Gee Wo, Rev. D. S. Hibbard, Mr. I. Laker, Mr. Chas. Sterling, Mrs. D. S. Hibbard, Mr. E. N. Bee, Mr. S. R. Price, Mr. H. E. Bostwick, and Mrs. S. L. Bee, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Savio* for Hamburg:—Professor Eckert and family, Mr. Orila, and Miss H. Engest, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Ward, Mr. W. Moxon, Mr. Mertens, Mrs. Mertens, Mr. J. W. Garrett, Professor L. F. Baker, Mr. F. S. Gay, Prof. S. Flexner, Mr. J. M. Flint, Mr. W. C. Duncan, Mr. Ashton Potter, Mr. Ali Kwa, Mr. R. G. E. Foster, Mr. M. Allen, Mr. C. W. Marshall, Mr. Gadelius, Mr. Overton, and Mr. McKay, in cabin; 1 Japanese, 8 Chinese and 4 children, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Haimon, Mr. C. Wismer, Mr. S. Paves, Mr. W. Vale, Mr. S. Parrelli, Mr. and Mrs. Duke Alcock, Lord Doumer, Mrs. H. J. Fardel, Master F. Fardel, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Bakes, Mr. Chin Shun, Mr. Shu E. Eey, Mr. Hu Wei Chi, Miss Vincent, Major Inouye, Mr. T. Nagai, Mr. I. Ichikawa, Mrs. M. Oda, and Miss M. Ichikawa, in cabin; Mr. S. Kojima, Mr. H. Hoshi, Mrs. K. Iwamoto, Mr. Y. Iwamoto, Mr. Yoo Yi, and Mr. Wang Su Ying, in second class; 54 in steerage.

Per American steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. Griggs, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. McGowan, Miss McGowan, Master McGowan, and Mrs. Woodworth, in cabin; 8 Chinese, and 7 Japanese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowachi Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. E. Lay, in cabin; Mr. H. Midsuta, in second class; 7 Japanese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Java*, from London via ports:—Miss Messer, Mrs. Edwards, 2 children and ayah, Mr. Black, Mr. Maheer, Mr. Stour, and Mr. Gutierrez, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamba Maru*, for London via ports:—Mrs. E. J. Barrie and two daughters, Capt. R. C. Tod, Capt. H. A. Lacy, Mr. John MacLachlan, Mr. Alex. Mitchell, Mr. T. Munton, Mr. P. Penroy, Mr. A. S. Brown, Mr. B. W. Drake, Mr. John Taylor, Mr. Victor E. Berg, Mr. John Adam, Mr. Edward Coope, Mr. H. Hovey, Capt. Page, Mr. James Smith, and Mr. Wm. Whitehill, in cabin; 13 Japanese, and 10 Europeans in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Campbell, Mr. L. W. Downey, Mr. J. B. Heinsken, Mr. Apcar, Mrs. Loring, child and ayah, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Bayne, Mr. Pedro Sick, Mrs. Averill, Rev. and Mrs. D. S. Hibbard, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Bunker, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hunter, Rev. and Mrs. Drummond and three children, Mr. H. Mett, Mr. A. Herbst, Mrs. Gibbons, Mr. S. R. Price, Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Irvine, Miss Davis, Miss Cass, Mr. W. A. Hadden, Dr. C. L. Gee Wo, Mrs. Smithers, Miss Bohm, Mr. C. S. Nicholson, Mr. W. Clifton, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mrs. C. P. Low, Mr. J. M. Haynes, Mr. H. E. Bostwick, Misses Haynes (2), Mrs. Jaques, Mr. and Mrs. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Byer and two children, Mr. E. N. Ben, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. M. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Cass and daughter, Mr. C. A. Scheffer, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. S. Wright, Mr. C. Sterling, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Carson, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Pflugst, Miss Callaghan, Mr. J. Bauer, Mr. I. A. Ryttenberg, Rev. C. H. Yattman, Miss Smithers, and Mr. C. V. Gutierrez, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. R. G. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Okoshi, 3 children and servant, Miss A. Okoshi, Mr. and Mrs. Chinda, Mr. and Mrs. H. Lisboa, Misses Lisboa (two), Mr. C. Lisbon, Mr. Alex. Donald, Mr. Peyre, Mr. Rodriguez-Azouiz, Dr. P. Ritter, Master Ritter and nurse, Field-Marshal Lieut. Von Eidenstein, Mr. J. Naudin, Mr. C. J. Strame, Mr. J. N. Knapp, Mr. F. Ballestracci, Mr. Olivier, Mr. Lambuch, Mrs. Lambuch, Mr. Lakser, and Mrs. M. Ono, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. A. G. Mosle, Belgian Consul, Mr. Carl Hedrich, Mr. and Mrs. G. Baker, Mr. and T. Hashimoto, Major T. Hashi, I. J. N., Mr. Chai Phen, Chinese Legation, Mr. H. W. Lea, and Mr. L. Le Champion, in cabin; Miss Take Fujita, in second class.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following were silk shippers per French steamer *Salasia*, for France, April 26:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	28
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	50
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	15
Gysin and Schoeninger.	12
Otto Reimers & Co.	13
Total	118

Following are the silk shippers per steamer *Columbia*, for Portland, Ore., April 27:—

	Bales.
Bavie & Co.	122
Vivanti Bros.	63
Otto Reimers & Co.	56
Kito Shokai	47
Total	288

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market for yarns is absolutely dull and lifeless, and not a single transaction is to be recorded. Grey shirrings present the same aspect, and fancy cottons and woolsens also show no sign of movement. Raw cotton is dull, Japanese buyers awaiting a further fall on the other side.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.64 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9 yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
1 1/2 yds. 24 yds. 32 inches	1.00 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yds. 34 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Arched, 24 yds. 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Baleens and Baleens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Woolen Cloth, 30 yards	10.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.34 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Capes, 24 yds.	
31 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloth—Filo's, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.64
Cloth—Prestiles, 54 to 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloth—Union, 44 to 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb per lb	0.62 1/2 to 0.75

	PER POUND.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lanes, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Curly Red—2 1/2 yds. 24 1/2 inches	
30 inches	1.00 to 2.80
Turkey Heads—3 1/2 to 4 1/2, 24 1/2 inches, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47 1/2

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
No. 16 1/2, Singles	137.00 to 18.50
No. 28 1/2, Singles	Nominal
No. 38 1/2, Singles	41.00 to 44.00
No. 42, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
No. 42, Doubles	43.50 to 44.50
No. 2 60, Plain	46.00 to 65.00
No. 2 80, Plain	40.00 to 81.00
No. 2 100, Plain	90.00 to 100.00
No. 2 60, Gassed	77.00 to 80.00
No. 2 80, Gassed	90.00 to 93.00
No. 2 100, Gassed	117.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$10.00
Indian Branch	18.50
Chinese	20.00 to 21.00

METALS.

The market has been rather more active, buyers having recognised the fact that they have to pay the equivalent of the prices now ruling in the manufacturing districts. Prices are firm with an upward tendency.

	PER POUND.
Round and square (1 inch and upward)	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 5.00
Sheet Iron	5.15 to 5.40
Galvanized iron sheets	5.75 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.25 to 6.50
1 in Plates, per lb	6.30 to 6.60
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.80 to 3.10
floor Iron (8 to 12 inch)	3.25 to 3.50

KROSENM.

Market quiet. Quotations nominally as last week.

American	\$1.26
Russian	2.20
English	2.10

SUGAR.

The market is steady, prices being nominally at last week's level.

	PER POUND.
Brown Toked	\$1.90 to 5.00
Brown Manila	4.90 to 6.50
Brown Mauritius	1.80 to 4.30
Brown Canto	4.90 to 5.80
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 6.70
White refined	7.30 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Very little has been doing in view of the enormous prices the Japanese are asking. There is practically no stock, and nothing will be doing till the new crop has come in. With regard to the new silk, a large business has been done "in arrive" in Shanghai and Canton. Quotations are nominally the same.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Flatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Flatures—No. 1, Coarse	Nominal
Flatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Flatures—No. 1, Coarse	\$1.10 to 1.50
Flatures—No. 1, Fine	1.10 to 1.50
Flatures—No. 1, Coarse	10.00 to 10.00
Flatures—No. 2, Fine	10.00 to 11.00
Flatures—No. 2, Coarse	Nominal
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 2	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakulas—Extra	Nominal
Kakulas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakulas—No. 2	Nominal
Kakulas—No. 3	Nominal
Kakulas—No. 4	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

Nothing has been doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Flatures, Best	\$125 to 136
Noshi—Flatures, Good	115 to 125
Noshi—Oahu, Best	125 to 130
Noshi—Oahu, Good	120 to 126
Noshi—Oahu, Medium	
Noshi—Shanghai, Best	
Noshi—Shanghai, Good	
Noshi—Shanghai, Medium	
Noshi—Shanghai, Fair	
Noshi—Shanghai, Poor	
Noshi—Shanghai, Very Poor	
Noshi—Shanghai, Worst	
Noshi—Shanghai, No. 1	
Noshi—Shanghai, No. 2	
Noshi—Shanghai, No. 3	
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TEA.

The *Columbia* took 25 piculs of new season's tea to America. There have only been a few arrivals, and it is too early yet to judge of quality, though it may be said that the tea this year is certainly no better than last. The prices, however, are lower.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Choicest	Nominal
Choice	Nominal
Finest	Nominal
Fine	Nominal
Good Medium	Nominal
Medium	Nominal
Good Common	Nominal
Common	Nominal

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 27.

A further rise of 1/2 in the London price of silver startled folks to-day, but rates on China have felt the effect only by a slight decline, whilst all gold rates have continued unaltered and very firm.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/00
— Bills on demand	1/00 1/2
— 4 months' sight	1/00 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	1/1
— 6 months' sight	1/1 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/00
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	1/00
On America—Bank Bills on demand	1/00
— Private 4 months' sight	1/00
On Canton—Bank sight	1/00
— Private 4 months' sight	1/00
On Shanghai—Bank sight	1/00
— Private 4 months' sight	1/00
On India—Bank sight	1/00
— Private 30 days' sight	1/00
Re. Silver (London)	1/00 to 1/00 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.
[Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, April 27.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations for day :—Sales of H. & S. Bonds at 267 per cent. premium, Sellers of National Bonds at \$22. Sales of China Bonds at \$82. Sellers of Hongkong Bonds at \$295. Sales of H. & W. Bonds at 325 per cent. premium, Sellers of H. & K. Bonds at \$86.50. Sales of Douglasses at \$55. Sales of India-China at \$69.50. Buyers of Put in Mines at \$7.25. Sales of South Mines at \$57.50. Sales of Hongkong Land at \$79.50. Sellers of Union Insurance at \$230. Sellers of China Traders at \$62. Sellers of H. C. & M. Steamships at \$29.50, and Buyers of Siam Insurance at \$4.50.

Put in Mines were placed locally and are wanted at \$7.25.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Iron Works are wanted at yen 205. Japan Brewery old and new shares are steady at yen 315 and yen 157.50 respectively. Grand Hotels are required for at yen 222.50. Club Hotels can be had at yen 95. Oriental Hotels are wanted at yen 115. Nagasaki Hotels are required for at yen 40. North & West have buyers at yen 200, and British sellers at yen 9.50. Langfeldts have buyers at yen 135. Hyogo Gas shares are on offer at yen 170. Japan Brewery Debentures are obtainable at yen 108. Y. U. Clubs and Oriental Hotel Debentures at the same rate, and Nagasaki Hotels at yen 100. Brett & Co. Debentures are wanted at yen 100 and Noble Clubs at yen 50.

Yokohama Kogyo & Iron Works, Ltd. \$100	205 H.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. \$100, Old	315 H.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50	157.50 H.
Grand Hotel, Ltd. \$100	222.50 H.
Club Hotel, Ltd. \$100	95 H.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. \$100	115 H.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Yokohama) \$100	40 H.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd. yen 100	100 H.
North and West, Ltd. \$100	200 H.
Brett & Co., Ltd. \$100	9.50 H.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd. \$100	135 H.
Hyogo Gas Co., Ltd. \$100	170 H.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd. yen 50	40 H.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 1% Deb. \$100	108 H.
Kobe Iron & Steel, Ltd. \$100	50 H.
Yokohama United Club 1% Deb. \$100	100 H.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 1% Deb. \$100	100 H.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 1% Deb. \$100	100 H.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 1% Deb. \$100	100 H.
Reserve Fund.—1 yen 10,000; 2 yen 1,000 equalisation of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property	
1 yen 17,770.80; 4 yen 10,208.41.	

N.H.—S. Sellers, H.—Buyers, S.—Selling, B.—Buying.
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Exquisite

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26th.

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17.

SKINS ON FIRE

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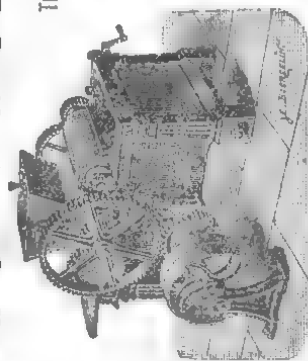
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YOKOHAMA, APRIL 22ND, 1899.

三月五十二日
明治三十二年四月二十二日

[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	385
Attacking the Foreign Office.....	386
"They Don't Know Us".....	386
An Invisible Agitation in Yokohama.....	386
New Political Party.....	387
Hanyang Iron Mine.....	387
Fukuoka-Yokohama Railway.....	387
Castle Gates in Tokyo.....	387
Special Capital Reserve.....	387
An Exponent of Japan's Foreign Policy.....	387
New Commercial Code.....	388
Yokohama and Kobe.....	388
New Japanese Settlements in China.....	388
The Sea of Bribes.....	388
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.....	388
Garden Party in Tokyo.....	389
Finance.....	389
Art Lottery in Tokyo.....	389
Individual Morality and State Morality.....	389
"The Floral Art of Japan".....	390
Mr. Dinsy.....	390
New Torpedo Destroyers.....	390
Japan Tea in Canada.....	390
Political Notes.....	391
Great Expectations.....	391
Difficult to Please.....	391
Foreigners in Japanese Prisons.....	391
The T. Sacco Menopoli.....	391
Metaphysical Lectures at the Imperial University.....	391
The "Libtose".....	391
Leading Articles:—	
Judicial Persons and Land-ownership.....	392
Superstitions and British Subjects.....	393
The Minister for Home Affairs and the Local Government.....	394
Mr. Hoshi Toru's benisei Speech.....	395
Miss Wheeler's Wedding.....	396
A Social Experiment.....	396
Asiatic Society of Japan.....	397
Baseball Match in Sendai.....	397
Correspondence:—	
A Reply to "Observer".....	398
Music in Yokohama.....	398
Dialoquy to the Emperor.....	398
Logic.....	399
News of the Week.....	399
Japan Baptist Conference.....	400
Kumiai Churches Conference.....	400
The Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1897.....	401
Social Conference.....	402
Bank of Japan.....	402
Telegrams.....	403
News.....	403
Latest Shipping.....	403
Latest Commercial.....	403

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FATISCE QUI DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POUERRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 22ND, 1899.

MARRIAGES.

On the 15th April, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., EDWARD BRANWELL CLARKE to JESSIE, eldest daughter of J. L. O. EYTON, of Yokohama. (No Cards).

On the 19th instant, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, and afterwards at Christ Church, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., GEORGE CONEY MURRAY, eldest son of the late Colonel Murray, of the Ordnance Store Dept., to MARY (May), daughter of Edwin Wheeler, M.D., of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Japan Railway, by official sanction, will raise its fares from May 1st.

THE torpedo destroyer *Yugiri* is stated to have arrived at Port Said on the 18th inst.

MR. DROSS is now on a visit to Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka, and other places in the neighbourhood.

THE cruiser *Akashi*, built at the Yokosuka dock, has gone through its trials with exceptionally satisfactory results. The officers gave

a banquet on the 16th instant on board to celebrate her completion. Admiral Ito was present.

MR. PROUNDER, of Kobe, is said to have petitioned the authorities for naturalisation as a Japanese subject.

THE Hongkong authorities have hoisted the British flag at Taipo-fu, after some resistance on the part of the population.

THE agitation which has been fomented in several Tokyo journals against the Foreign Office has apparently subsided.

ON Wednesday, Count Kawamura gave a delightful garden-party at his Tokyo residence to celebrate the recent marriage of his son.

THE trouble in Siam between England and America on one side, and Germany on the other, is on the way to being adjusted.

A DISPATCH from Utsunomiya states that on Saturday morning a down train on the Ryomo line was derailed and several persons were injured.

THE persons who had the honour to be invited to the Imperial Cherry Party numbered 1072, of whom 231 were foreign ladies and gentlemen.

A VERY pretty wedding was celebrated in Yokohama on Wednesday, when Miss Wheeler and Mr. G. C. Murray were married at Christ Church.

SEVENTY or eighty cetties of tea were sent abroad by the American steamship *City of Peking* on Wednesday as the first tea exports of this year.

A VERY successful "social" conference has been held this week at the Imperial Hotel at which the Rev. W. Imbrie made a telling speech.

DURING last month the Kanagawa Prefectural Office issued 176 passports for 234 foreigners (travelling inland). There were 100 English and 84 American.

TRAINING is steadily proceeding for the race-meeting next month, and the entries have already been announced. They are up to the average in number.

THE Spring Athletic Meeting of the Y.C. & A.C. promises to be very successful, considerable enthusiasm having been evoked during the training of the athletes.

COUNT OKUMA is touring the North-Eastern provinces, speaking at Sendai and other places during the week. "Retrenchment" is the watch-word of his party.

THE election of Deputies has taken place in Spain. The Government's majority will be 150. Sanguinary riots took place at Bilbao, Valencia, and Tortosa.

THE main office of the Formosa Bank will be opened in Taipei in October, and branch offices will be established in Amoy, Keelung, Tainan, and Kobe.

ON Monday, Mr. Sim's yacht *Snowflake* ran on a rock near Miyajima, Inland Sea, and sank. She was refloated later in the week and found to have sustained little damage.

THE whole number of applicants throughout the country for space for exhibits at the Paris International Exhibition is 1,934. Tokyo takes the lead with 337 applicants, Kyoto comes next with 386, Osaka with 154, Ishikawa Prefecture

with 118, and Aichi Prefecture with 109, the number in other prefectures ranging from 76 downwards.

MR. SHIMOSAKA FUJITARO, Secretary of the Finance Department, and Mr. Yagie Kazuyoshi, ex-director of the Yokohama Post and Telegraph Office, have been appointed organizers of the Formosan Bank.

FOREIGN travelling theatrical companies have not been seen in Yokohama for nearly a year, but the announcement is made that the Vivienne Dagmar Variety Company will appear at the Public Hall next week.

THE Czar has presented Mr. Asada, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, with the Cordon of the Order of St. Stanislaus, and Mr. Takehisa, the then Chief of Police, with the 3rd Cordon of St. Anne in connection with Prince Cyril's visit to Japan last year.

COLONEL UYEHARA, Captain Sakamoto, and Mr. Ariga, who have been instructed to attend the Peace Conference, left Shimbashi on Friday morning for Europe. Viscount Enomoto, Baron Ozaki, and high Civil, Military and Naval officials, numbering about 300, went to the station to see them off.

IMPERIAL Ordinance No. 154, promulgated on the 19th, provides that the faculty of the Police and Gaol Schools shall be composed of a president of *chokunin* rank, five instructors of *sonin* rank, a manager of the same rank, and four clerks of *kannin* rank, and that the Vice-Minister for Home Affairs shall hold *ex officio* the post of president.

A THIEF named Tanaka Kokiichi (34), was, a few days ago, arrested in Saitama Prefecture. He has been living at Chitose cho, Yokohama, and has perpetrated a number of crimes of a more or less nefarious nature both in Yokohama and Saitama Prefecture. In one case he entered the godown of a dyer at Shichichome Ishikawamachi, and secured clothing worth over yen 700.

THE Japanese Tea Traders' Union is to set up a tea-house, tea-store, and a museum in the International Exhibition to be held at Paris next year. It will be subsidized to the extent of yen 25,000 by the Japanese Government, and will receive a similar sum from the Formosan Government. Premises for the purpose are reported to have already been leased.

THE new building within the enclosure of the Department of Communications has been completed. This edifice is intended for a museum where European and American stamps, postal cards of every description, and all instruments and statistics relating to mail services will be exhibited. The authorities are now collecting the exhibits from various foreign Governments. The institution is to be thrown open to the public during the coming summer.

IN the British Budget as presented to the House of Commons, the estimated expenditure is £112,927,000, against a revenue of £110,287,000. It is proposed to reduce the annual fixed debt charges from 25 to 23 millions; to impose a stamp duty of five shillings per cent. on foreign and colonial stock; to increase the duties on the capital of companies; to impose a six penny stamp duty on letters of administration; and to increase the wine duties. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach stated that the increase of expenditures is mainly due to increased armament, and that if the increase in armament be continued the country must face a large increase in taxation.

ATTACKING THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

April 17.

We have alluded more than once to the attacks made by the press on the present holder of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. Tokyo journals have had a great deal to say on the subject. They speak about the Premier's want of confidence in the present management of foreign affairs; about Marquis Ito's similar uneasiness; about the discontent of the Liberals; about friction between the Vice-Minister and the Minister; about a compromise involving the retirement of both; about the Satsuma folks desiring to have Baron Nishi appointed; about the Choshu statesmen wanting Baron Ito; about the Liberals wishing the portfolio to be given to Mr. Hoshi, and so on.

Naturally the Opposition journals are conspicuously vehement in their criticisms, but the curious feature of the campaign is that not one of the critics has any specific charge to prefer against Viscount Aoki. In that respect the incident is unique. Nothing has happened. Japan has not suffered any humiliation. Her friendly relations with foreign States have not been impaired. Her interests have not been injured through diplomatic blundering. Her prestige has not been lowered. No defeat has been inflicted on her in negotiation with a Western Government. There is absolutely no platform of facts to support the artillery which the Minister's assailants train upon him, and they themselves make no attempt to show that their guns are loaded with anything but blank ammunition. Yet the discharge continues incessantly. It is infinitely discreditable to the assaulting journals' intelligence and to their sense of responsibility. We are glad to think that it would be quite impossible for such a thing to occur in England. No section of the British press could be induced to combine in attacking a Minister of the Crown without any tangible complaint to advance against him. But of course the Cabinet, not Viscount Aoki, is the object of the campaign. The *Kokumin Shimbun* justly reminds the critics that the policy of a Foreign Minister is not his own: it is the policy of the Ministry to which he belongs. Certainly it is, and the complaining journals are perfectly cognisant of the fact. Their onset is against the Cabinet. They turn the points of their weapons towards Viscount Aoki simply because they think that he represents the line of least resistance. We trust, for the credit of the Yamagata Cabinet, and of Japanese Cabinets in general, that this attack will not succeed. If men are to be driven out of office solely because a few hostile newspapers choose to raise an empty clamour against them, there can be no such thing as Ministerial stability in Japan.

April 19.

Rumour continues to be busy with the name of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The Tokyo newspapers—or, at least, several of them—insist that the portfolio will soon change hands, and opinions are divided between Count Inouye and Baron Ito Miyoji as Viscount Aoki's probable successor. Mr. Hoshi Toru is no longer spoken of. He is said to be unwilling to enter the Cabinet at present, and the Constitutional Party is therefore supposed to be advocating

Baron Ito's appointment. The *Yomiuri* naturally seizes the occasion to foster distrust of the Cabinet. It points out that ever since certain members of the Liberal Party preferred malicious charges against Count Inouye in the Lower House, the relations between the Party and that statesman have been strained, and that if the Count were now to assume charge of the Foreign Office, the Liberals could scarcely continue to cooperate with the Ministry. That is a strange assertion in the face of the fact that the Liberals co-operated with the last Ito Cabinet, in which Count Inouye held the portfolio of Finance.

April 20.

The talk about a change in the holder of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs is becoming less audible. In fact, it is now plain, as we surmised from the first, that no idea of making any change was ever entertained by the Cabinet, and that the rumour had its origin solely in a desire on the part of the Opposition to embarrass the Ministry.

As to the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Tsuzuki has apparently made up his mind to resign, but the idea that Mr. Akabane would succeed him does not seem likely to be realized. Things now point, it is said, to the nomination of one of the officials serving as Minister Plenipotentiary in a western country.

April 21.

Caricatures are the order of the day at present in the Tokyo world of journalism. Nearly every newspaper of importance has a political cartoon of some kind. As a rule the drawing is crude and clumsy, and the likenesses are miserable. A brilliant exception is the *Fiji Shimpō*. It has managed to secure a caricaturist of considerable power, who produces really capital likenesses of the statesmen and politicians whom he depicts. Still, it is all very embryonic. One would suppose that with so many artists available at small rates of remuneration Tokyo ought to be a paradise for pictorial journals; but either the clever draughtsmen will not undertake such work, or else—which is not improbable—the art of caricature is still undeveloped in Japan. Lying before us as we write is a picture evidently intended to represent Viscount Aoki sitting in the Foreign Office chair—"chair" (*isu*) is the expression used in this country as the equivalent of "portfolio"—and two figures, Baron Ito Miyoji, and Mr. Hoshi Toru, are hauling with their strength on a rope fastened to one leg of the chair. Without the annexed text it would be quite impossible to discover what the drawing means.

At all events, the cartoon is obsolete, for the Foreign Office incident is closed. The agitators have had their clamour for their pains. It seems probable, however, that considerable changes will be effected in the staff of the Department. The resignation of Mr. Tsuzuki, the Vice-Minister, has been accepted. He is appointed a member of the House of Peers, and Mr. Takahira Kogoro, now Japanese Representative in Austria, is expected to be his successor at the Foreign Office. Other alterations also are spoken of, but there is no definite information about them.

To receive an Imperial nomination to the House of Peers is now a very valuable prize. It means an income of 2,000 *yen* a year for life.

"THEY DON'T KNOW US."

A cry which periodically makes itself heard in the columns of Japanese journals is that foreigners know nothing about the Japanese, and are prejudiced against them through ignorance. One of our Tokyo contemporaries, recently discussing this theme, compared the average foreigner's acquaintance with Japan to the average Japanese's acquaintance with Turkey or Egypt, and the *Fiji Shimpō* now suggests that Japan should send some one to London to familiarize the British with her affairs and to correct all misrepresentations appearing in London journals about this country. Such a suggestion implies that the *Fiji Shimpō* does not know much more about London than Londoners, according to its view, know about Japan. An agent despatched to London for a purpose of the kind might effect something—every resolute and industrious man has it in his power to accomplish something under all circumstances—but the result of his efforts would scarcely be perceptible, and would, at any rate, be a mere drop in the ocean compared with the work already doing, and being daily done, to familiarize the people of Great Britain with things Japanese. Book after book is published in England about Japan; letter after letter discussing Japanese affairs is printed in leading British journals; the Japan Society of London are constant diffusers of information; numerous fine collections of Japanese art objects are to be seen in private houses and in public museums—very much finer collections than one can see in Japan—and Englishmen visit Japan in considerable numbers every year, taking home with them experiences and observations which subsequently serve us useful educators. We have no hesitation in saying that at least as much is known about Japan in England as the Japanese in Japan know about England.

AN INVISIBLE AGITATION IN YOKOHAMA.

It appears that the Yokohama community has held a meeting and resolved to petition for a postponement of the operation of the Revised Treaties, on the ground, first, that there is no proper accommodation for foreigners in Japanese prisons; secondly, that the preliminary examination of accused persons is held in secret; and, thirdly, that the Japanese Government is only now sending officials abroad to investigate matters which ought to be fully understood before jurisdiction is assumed over foreigners. These meetings and this resolution on the part of the community have entirely escaped the observation of the community itself, and, though smoke is generally accompanied by fire, we can not discover so much as a spark in the present case. The interest of the incident is enhanced by the facts that the Japanese Government is greatly perturbed about the attitude of the community, and that a section of the Opposition press declares the Government itself to be more or less responsible, because it has made so much fuss about the operation of the Treaties as to convey an impression that it looks forward to the event with considerable uneasiness. Any stick does to beat a dog. This is about as frail a stick as could be conceived, for the procedure attributed to the foreign community is wholly imaginary.

THE NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

The much-talked-of new political party seems likely to see the light of day after all. It came to the birth some months ago, but apparently there was not strength to deliver, and the public began to regard the project as a fiasco. Then a seemingly well-founded rumour was circulated that a principal plank in the party's platform would be the fostering and promotion of Japan's old-time creeds, *Shintô* and Buddhism. Of course such a project evoked strong condemnation in journalistic quarters, and it became pretty plain that the promoters must either abandon their religious tendencies or make a failure in their political enterprise. They chose the former alternative, and have now issued a manifesto in which no reference whatever is made to the religious question. But, indeed, it would be misleading to say that anything of any kind is definitely referred to in the manifesto. It is a beautifully invertebrate document, capable of being twisted into a shape to suit future convenience. Probably that kind of elastic drafting was necessary. Until the party holds its initial general meeting on the 1st of July, it will not be in a position to make any clear *exposé* of motives.

HANYANG IRON MINE.

There seems to be very little doubt that the much-talked-of Hangyang iron mine has been placed at Japan's disposal, and that supplies of ore will be drawn from it for the uses of the new Foundry. We can not locate the mine exactly from Japanese accounts. It appears to be situated at a place called Taiya, or Taiyan. The main point, however, is that it has been found to possess a practically inexhaustible supply of excellent ore, and as it is only 1050 miles by water from Chikuzen, where the foundry is to stand, whereas the Kamaishi mine is 1100 miles, the advantage is slightly on the side of the Chinese mine in the matter of accessibility. Rumour says that the Government is to spend 2 million taels on the purchase of the mine, and that the money will come out of the sum appropriated by the Diet last session for the purposes of the Iron Foundry, over and above previous grants. Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, writing in the *Keisai Zasshi*, strongly traverses the project, and asks how it can be claimed that the establishment of a foundry in Chikuzen will make Japan independent in the matter of iron manufactures, if she has to draw her supplies of metal from China. On the other hand, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* supports the scheme, but its principal argument is that, China having approached Japan and asked her to use the mine, the incident is differentiated from the acquisition of mining and railway concessions by foreign Powers in China, these being obtained virtually by *force majeure* in despite of China's objections. But, of course, that manner of reasoning does not touch the kernel of the question, namely, that, so far as Japan self-supplying faculty is concerned, it makes very little difference whether she obtains her supplies of iron from China and manufactures it at home, or whether she imports it from Europe or America in manufactured form.

On Saturday the *Fiji Shimpô* denied that any measures had been taken to purchase or lease the Taigan iron mine from

China. It is to be worked, our contemporary said, under the superintendence of Japanese experts, and this country is to obtain from the mine whatever supplies of iron are required for supplementing the ore from Kamaishi or other home sources.

On Sunday the same journal retracted the above statements, and explained that the Japanese Government has undoubtedly agreed to lend two million taels on the security of the mine. Taotai Shêng originally applied for the money, and, after some hesitation, the Treasury decided to advance it out of a sum of 4½ million *yen* which remains unappropriated from the Indemnity. The rate of interest will be 5 per cent.; the loan will run for 20 years prior to redemption; the money will be paid through the Bank of Japan and the Shanghai branch of the Specie Bank and the Peking Government is to become guarantor. Mr. Wada, who proceeded recently to China, had instructions to conclude the agreement, subject, of course, to ratification by the Tokyo Authorities.

FUKUSHIMA-YONEZAWA RAILWAY.

The State railway between Fukushima and Yonezawa has at length been completed. It was commenced in 1893, and the distance is only 26 miles, but the difficulties of construction are quite unprecedented in Japan. There are no less than 19 tunnels, one over a mile long, and there is a gradient of one in thirty. The total cost of construction has been 4,820,000 *yen*, or over 185,000 *yen* a mile, the heaviest outlay ever involved in building a Japanese line. Locomotives of special power will have to be used. The road has been officially tested, and, everything having proved satisfactory, it will be opened to traffic from the 15th of next month. As to its usefulness great things are predicted. Yonezawa is the central manufactory of a celebrated stuff known to haberdashers as *Yonesawa tsumugi*, and this will now be brought within easy reach of the principal cities. Moreover, communication between Fukushima and Yonezawa, which is impossible at present in winter, will now be open all the year round. Whether the line will prove a financial success may be doubted, however.

CASTLE GATES IN TOKYO.

It is stated that the Tokyo Police and the Municipal Authorities are considering the advisability of removing the old castle gates of Tokyo. The gates, as many of our readers know, are double, the inner being at right angles to the outer. They thus constitute a great danger to wheel traffic, for the solid and lofty masonry of their piers completely hides the intervening space from approaching vehicles. Many collisions and more or less serious accidents have occurred, and constables are now permanently posted to direct the streams of traffic. It would certainly be a great advantage from a purely practical point of view to have these obstructions removed altogether, for their original purpose has disappeared. But they have great archaeological interest, and for that reason there is talk of preserving the Sakurada gate, the Wadakura gate, and perhaps one other.

SPECIAL CAPITAL RESERVE.

Concerning the Special Capital Reserve of 50 million *yen* proposed by the Government and voted by the Diet last session, there is a good deal of discussion at present. The Reserve, which consists of money taken from the Indemnity, is divided into three portions, namely, 30 millions on account of the maintenance of the Navy, 10 millions for Education, and 10 millions for natural calamities. These sums are to be regarded as capital, the interest alone being regularly available for the purposes here indicated. But in case of emergency the capital also may be employed, provided that it is replaced from the general revenue with all possible expedition, so as to keep the fund at its original total, 50 million *yen*. In fact, the leading idea of the arrangement is to have a sum of at least 50 million *yen* always at hand as a war chest, and to use the interest on it, if necessary, for replacing worn-out battle-ships, relieving distress caused by natural calamities and assisting education. The question now under debate is, how can the fund be utilized so as to pay interest, and, at the same time, remain in the form of hard money suitable for defraying war expenses. The former condition could be satisfied by purchasing Japanese loan-bonds, but the fund would thus be converted into paper. If, again, the money be invested in British Consols, it would preserve its hard-money quality, but would not earn more than 2½ per cent. The French *Rentes*—of which there are 3 per cents. and 3½ per cents.—return a better rate of interest, and have not been subject in recent times to fluctuations so large as those suffered by British Consols. But it does not seem to be thought altogether satisfactory to invest the money in any foreign country. The tendency is to convert it into Japanese securities, and to trust to the possibility of floating a domestic loan in case of emergency.

AN EXPONENT OF JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

We have awaited with curiosity some expression of opinion from the *Fimmin* as to the foreign policy which Japan ought to pursue at the present juncture, for, although the *Fimmin* may not be the recognised organ of the Liberal Party, it is the only source from which we can derive an idea of the views entertained by the Liberals. It has just concluded a series of articles entitled "An analysis of Occidental policy." From a literary point of view they are not admirable articles by any means, and as specimens of conciseness they leave much to be desired. But the conclusions formulated by the writer are plain enough. He does not consider it possible that the much-talked-of agreement between England and Russia will be concluded in such a manner as to embrace the affairs of the Far East. The two Powers are barely able to remain at peace in Europe, Africa, and Central Asia, and it is inevitable that their conflict of interests in the Far East should ultimately involve them in strife. This is the era of parleying, but Japan would commit a fatal blunder if she shaped her course in accordance with the idea that the conferences will have a permanently amicable ending. Neither should she repose any faith in the hope of an

alliance with some strong Power. Alliances are not possible in practice except when a common enemy is in sight. Who is Japan's prospective enemy? She may regard a certain country in that light. But is it also the probable enemy of her would-be ally? She will certainly be hurt by the vivisection of China, however it takes place. She will suffer if Russia takes Manchuria. She will suffer if England takes the Yangtze Valley. She will suffer if Germany takes Shantung. The newspaper organs of public opinion in Japan are like persons afflicted with intermittent fever. They have regularly recurring accesses of apprehension, and on each occasion they renew their outcry about preserving the integrity of China or forming alliances with foreign States. But the plain truth is that Japan herself began the vivisection of China in 1895. Not only did she appropriate Formosa and try to appropriate Liaotung, thus setting an example to other nations, but she also demonstrated China's incapacity to resist being cut up. China's doom is sealed. If England has abandoned all hope of saving her, Japan also must resign herself to the inevitable. Of course the ultimate responsibility for the catastrophe does not rest with either England or Japan. It rests with China herself. "The ruin of Shin is the work of Shin," says the old proverb. Japan has nothing to do but to develop her strength and be prepared for every eventuality. She must rely on her own resources alone, and not look to any foreign Power for aid.

Side by side with these comments we may place the view of an eminently practical journal like the *Shogyo Shimpō*. It declares that China has already one foot in the grave, and that any attempt on Japan's part to save the huge empire's life would be like trying to arrest the fall of a big edifice by means of a single prop. There is nothing left for Japan except to follow the example of Western Powers. It is very unpleasant to her to see her neighbour cut up, but she must not shrink from swallowing a slice herself when the feast is spread.

NEW COMMERCIAL CODE.

Our readers have doubtless observed that the new Commercial Code, having passed the Diet in its 13th session, has been promulgated, and will become operative from the 16th of next June. A translation of this Code was prepared by Dr. Lönholm the year before last, on the supposition that the Code would be endorsed by the Diet in its 12th session and although that forecast proved erroneous, Dr. Lönholm nevertheless published his translation, believing that the Code would undergo little, if any, further amendment, and that the sooner it came into the hands of the foreign community the better. But on comparing the Code now promulgated with the Code submitted to the Diet in the latter's 12th Session, quite a number of changes are apparent, and Dr. Lönholm has considered it advisable to embody these alterations and additions in a pamphlet, which he proposes to distribute *gratis* to every one that purchased a copy of his original translation. It is a very considerate act on Dr. Lönholm's part, but we greatly doubt whether it will have any practical utility, for the changes, though several of them can scarcely be called material, are very numerous, and

no one will care to take the trouble of making repeated references to the pamphlet for the purpose of correcting the Code. Fortunately Dr. Lönholm has also published, an amended translation of the revised Code, and by procuring the volume business-men will be able to know exactly how the law stands.

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

There is a great deal of talk in the columns of the *Fimmin* about the prospects of commercial and industrial rivalry between the north and the south of Japan; in other words, between Yokohama and Kobe, for our contemporary regards these as the business centres of north Japan and of south Japan, respectively. What conclusion the *Fimmin* will ultimately come to we can not tell, for it has thus far published only one article of a series, but its first showing is unfavourable to Yokohama. It regards cotton and silk as the two chief factors in determining the condition of the two places, cotton for Kobe and silk for Yokohama. Now the figures showing the growth of the cotton-spinning industry are these:—

Year.	No. of spindles.	Produce in lbs.
1889	215,190	27,943,683
1893	381,781	88,889,533
1897	970,567	221,295,791

On the other hand, the figures for silk are:—

Year.	No of <i>koku</i> of cocoons.	Produce in lbs.
1889	1,184,680	11,480,608
1893	1,686,894	14,790,167
1897	2,124,238	18,057,800

It is seen from these tables that, whereas the production of cotton yarns increased nearly eight-fold in the nine-year period 1889-97, the increase in the produce of silk increased only 58 per cent., and on this difference in the rate of development of the two industries the *Fimmin* founds an assertion that Kobe promises to outstrip Yokohama as a business centre. To us the estimate seems very misleading, since it takes no account of the monetary values of the two productions. When we consider values, the case stands thus, adopting the *Fimmin's* basis:—The industry of which Kobe is the centre produced goods the value of which rose from 7 million *yen* to 55 millions in the nine-year period 1889-97, and the industry of which Yokohama is the centre produced goods the value of which rose from 68 million *yen* to 108 millions in the same period. Moreover, there is no prospect of any growth of the cotton-spinning industry, for the present, at all events, whereas sericulture develops steadily, and would find a certain market for its produce if only the methods of reeling were improved.

NEW JAPANESE SETTLEMENTS IN CHINA.

Negotiations have been going on for some time with China for the purpose of obtaining allotments of land to form special Japanese Settlements at Foochow, Newchwang, and Amoy. In the cases of Foochow and Newchwang, sites have actually been fixed upon, but the Amoy area is still under discussion. The Foochow Settlement, we read in a vernacular contemporary, is on a low-lying space of a hundred thousand *tsubo* by the side of the river Min, and the Newchwang site is an extension of the present Foreign Settlement.

THE ERA OF BRIBES.

Some of the Japanese newspapers are more than vehement in their attacks upon Mr. Hoshi Toru for his alleged statement that, Japan being now in the era of bribery, and having no choice but to pass through it as England did in the days of the Georges, members of the Diet should take as many bribes as are offered to them. We deem it very unlikely that Mr. Hoshi used any such language, for, though he is a singularly outspoken politician, never hesitating to call a spade a spade, he must have appreciated that an admission of the kind would constitute a deadly weapon of attack against him. Apart from the question of truth or falsehood, however, there is interest in criticisms like those of the *Osaka Asahi* as illustrating the most caustic methods of Japanese political controversy now-a-days. The *Asahi* declares that "moral depravity can go no farther, and that it becomes a problem to determine whether the utterer of such sentiments is a human being or a monkey. Naturalists might find the question decidedly interesting. Then there is the point of heredity. Mr. Hoshi is reported to be the son of a robber, and that would perhaps account for the peculiar views he takes of bribery. He does not reflect, apparently, that if this is Japan's era of the Georges, Marquis Yamagata must be the Walpole of the country, nor does he observe that the responsibility of rendering politics corrupt is thus placed on the shoulders of the Clan Statesmen. The *Asahi* concludes, however, that the responsibility ultimately rests with society, which has not strength or resolution to eradicate these evils."

That is pretty strong speaking. It reminds one of the celebrated passage of arms between Disraeli and O'Connell when the "Liberator" called the future leader of the Conservatives "a lineal descendant of the impenitent thief on the cross." Mr. Hoshi Toru probably regards it all with supreme indifference. He hits his adversaries with unmerciful strength whenever they give him an opening, and he takes their counter-strokes with indifference.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

A tone of some exultation is shown by Tokyo newspapers in announcing the fact that the steamers on the European service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are to call henceforth at London on their return journey. They have hitherto called there on their outward voyage only, and have avoided the place on their homeward trip by receiving their passengers and cargo at Southampton. But it appears, if our contemporaries are rightly informed, that the Company has been admitted to the Conference, and that its vessels will hereafter work in coöperation with those of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, a P. & O. boat alternating with a N.Y.K. one. The fact of the Japanese company's admission to the Conference is what affords so much satisfaction to the Tokyo journals. They regard it as the first public recognition of the Japanese people's competence to navigate the high seas side by side with Occidental experts—her *début* upon the "white-wood stage" (*hinoki butai*), which is the highest histrionic plane in Japan.

GARDEN PARTY IN TOKYO.

A very pretty garden party was given in Tokyo on the 19th instant by Count and Countess Kawamura at their Mami-ana villa. It need scarcely be said that the Satsuma element of society was largely represented, Prince and Princess Shimazu, Count Matsukata, Count Kuroda, and many other high officials of Satsuma extraction being present, together with a large number of naval and military officers, civil officials, prominent business men, and other leading residents of Tokyo, Japanese and foreign. The special occasion celebrated by the party was the wedding of Mr. T. Kawamura to Miss Okubo, daughter of General Okubo; but to this cause of congratulation were added the facts that Count Kawamura had attained his sixty-fourth year and his mother her eighty-first. Weddings in Japan are usually celebrated within the family circle only. There is no great gathering of acquaintances and friends to witness the ceremony itself, nor is it immediately followed by a breakfast and reception. The custom is to give a party at some later date—perhaps a month, perhaps two months subsequently—for the purpose of introducing the young couple to society. Such was the motive of Wednesday's party. The weather was perfect, just warm enough to enable the house and the garden to be thrown into one another, and there remained enough of cherry bloom to make a delicately tinted foreground to the noble prospect of city and sea which the villa commands. On the lower terrace of the ground the naval band played, and refreshments were served by a bevy of little maidens wearing picturesque costumes in bright colours, while in the building above, Japanese classical dances and music were performed.

Count Kawamura may be called the father of the modern Japanese navy. Though serving in the Imperial army at the time of the Restoration, when he distinguished himself so signally in the campaign against the Aizu men, maritime affairs seem to have attracted his attention from the first, and, shortly after the *Meiji* administration had been organized, he was transferred from the post of Vice-Minister of the War Department to be Minister of the Navy. In those days there were no political parties to keep everything in a ferment. Good men had opportunities to work out their useful ideas without fear of being driven from office before their projects had passed the stage of inception. Count Kawamura directed naval affairs for eight years, and laid the foundations of the fine service which now does Japan so much credit. Speaking to his guests on Wednesday, he described the circumstances under which the first band for performing foreign music was trained in Japan. On the occasion of a visit to an English war-ship in Yokohama harbour, the Count heard a band play, and was so much impressed by the music that he resolved to introduce something similar in his own country. That led to the engagement of Mr. Fenton, band-master of Her Majesty's Xth Regiment, which was then stationed in Yokohama, and in a few years the Naval Department had a band of competent musicians. A direct result of this enterprise was that Japan came into possession of her national anthem, *Kimigayo*, which may now be said to form a part of the people's every-day

life, and Count Kawamura remarked, with some emotion, that he never heard the strains of the *Kimigayo* without recalling the old days and the chequered circumstances amid which were born so many institutions now promising to attain a ripe manhood.

The party was in all respects an eminent success and the guests carried away a delightful impression of the old and the new picturesquely blended.

FINANCE.

The Treasury is understood to hold between 50 and 60 million *yen* worth of securities which have been purchased with funds taken from the Indemnity, and must therefore be sold, sooner or later, to meet outlays which would otherwise have been defrayed from the Indemnity. This account, according to recently published figures, stands thus:—

War Bonds purchased by the Bank of Japan in 1890 to ease the money market	34,495,000
Public Undertakings and Railway Bonds bought in by the Government	19,679,000
Debentures of the Industries Bank	2,461,000
Total	56,635,000

In addition to the above there are 20 millions *yen* worth—face value—of Chinese Loan Bonds, purchased as part of the last instalment of the Indemnity. Twenty millions have doubtless been transferred to the Imperial Estates Bureau, in accordance with the vote of the Diet, but there still remains a large volume of securities to be converted into cash. The sale of 5 million *yen* worth, just made to the Bank of Japan, seems to be a very natural transaction under the circumstances, but it is condemned by some critics, who maintain that such operations were not contemplated by the Diet when it increased the note-issuing capacity of the Bank from 85 million *yen* to 120 millions. The Diet's object, they say, was to place monetary facilities within reach of the mercantile and manufacturing classes, not to assist the Treasury in the management of its affairs, and they express surprise that, when seven or eight per cent. can be easily obtained for money in the open market, the Bank of Japan should be willing to purchase five per cent. bonds. For our own part, these criticisms appear to us to be the only strange part of the incident. It is quite certain that if the Bank found a demand for money on tolerably good security at seven or eight per cent., it would not lend its funds at five. But the point is that no demand of the kind appears to exist within the sphere of legitimate banking operations. There is a great and growing outcry for loans on the security of real estate and immovable property, but the Bank of Japan does not make loans of that nature, and the fact is that whereas it has a residuum of note-issuing capacity to the extent of some 35 million *yen*, no satisfactory means of investing the money present themselves. It is all very well to say that the Bank should assist merchants and manufacturers, but if merchants and manufacturers are not in a position to contract loans on negotiable terms, the Bank must look for some other method of employing its notes. By purchasing 5 million *yen* worth of Government Bonds, it makes a net annual profit of 1½ million *yen*; a sufficiently satisfactory transaction.

ART LOTTERY IN TOKYO.

An exhibition and lottery of Japanese drawings and paintings is announced to take place at the first meeting of the Ushigome Fine Art Association in Tokyo on Sunday the 23rd instant, from 8 a.m. There are to be 300 prizes, in the form of pictures by modern artists, which will be distributed by lot. We have not seen any of the pictures to be distributed, and are consequently unable to speak of their merits, but the affair seems to be *bond fide*, being modelled, apparently, on the lotteries held periodically by fine art societies in London. There will also be an exhibition of "rare works of ancient distinguished artists," and pictures will be painted in the presence of visitors at their request. The lottery takes place at 2 p.m., and the name of the salon is the Yoshikuma-ro, in Tansumachi, Ushigome. We imagined that such affairs were illegal in Japan. Certainly a great many foreigners retain unpleasant recollections of the national exhibition of 1891, which ended in a lottery that drew numerous subscriptions but was never itself drawn.

It appears that the idea of the exhibition announced by the Ushigome Art Society for the 23rd instant is not a lottery, in the ordinary sense of the word, nor is it suggested by the lotteries of similar Associations in Europe. What the promoters contemplate is to present to each visitor a souvenir of the occasion in the form of a picture painted by a modern artist. It is evident, however, that there must be devised some method of distributing the pictures, without consulting the choice of those who are to receive them, and for that purpose lots will be drawn, so that every one will have an equal chance of obtaining a choice drawing. The scheme is attractive, and as the tickets of admission are to be 2 *yen* each, the attendance is not likely to be inconveniently large.

INDIVIDUAL MORALITY & STATE MORALITY.

It is amusing to find the Japanese beginning to comment in very strong terms on the difference between the morality of individuals and the morality of States in the Occident. The individual European or American considers himself bound by a code of strict integrity in his dealings with others. He lays down very beautiful theories about the sphere of each person's rights and the obligation devolving upon each not to trespass on his neighbour's sphere. He is also courteous and considerate in his demeanour, and he subscribes to many sociological doctrines which make for the federation of mankind and the brotherhood of nations. But from the moment when his moral obligations cease to be personal and are shared by his nationals in common, all these fine principles are discarded, and the practical creed of the robber and the pirate is embraced. Moreover, he has one law for foreign States; another for himself. Thus, when Japan acquired Liaotung by conquest, three of the Great European Powers preached a sermon to her about the impropriety of her act, and about its danger to the integrity of China. She had to surrender the territory, and immediately one of three appropriated it. What had been wrong and vicious on her part became right and virtuous

on theirs. Their conduct towards China is another example. Why are they all so anxious to lend money to her? They place no faith in her promises. Her credit stands about as low as a great nation's could be. Yet they compete with each other to furnish funds for her use. The reason is that they thus establish a sort of reversionary interest in her possessions. They hope, in short, to make a great profit in the day of her partition. They are governed by motives exactly analogous to those of the usurer who lends money to a sick man, and will seize the very lid of his medicine pot when he comes to distraint the debtor's goods. The only remnant of conscience they possess is shown in their selection of euphemisms to disguise the nakedness of their methods. When they encroach upon the territories of another country and destroy its integrity, they pretend that they are "colonizing," whereas in reality they are simply stealing.

We take this pretty indictment from the columns of the *Asahi*. The trouble is that it cannot be gainsaid.

"THE FLORAL ART OF JAPAN."

We observe that Mr. J. Conder is about to publish a second edition of his beautiful work on the floral art of Japan. This book is a monograph. It has no rival, nor is likely to have one. Messrs. Kelly and Walsh invite subscriptions, offering the work at the singularly cheap rate of 12 yen a copy to those who subscribe. We do not understand how such a volume can be sold so cheaply, but presumably the cost will be much larger for buyers who fail to take advantage of the subscription rate. The prospectus of the second edition says:—

PROSPECTUS.

The author, in response to the demand for a second edition of his work "The Flowers of Japan and the Art of Floral Arrangement," now issues an enlarged and amended volume under the title of "The Floral Art of Japan." The original coloured illustrations have been replaced by others from the designs of Ogata Gekko, a leading painter of the Ukiyo-e (popular) School, executed with an attempt to preserve the soft and harmonious colouring for which the colour prints of Japan are famous. A considerable addition has been made to the outline plates to illustrate new floral designs of the Ikenobo and other styles. The text has been carefully revised and fresh matter introduced with the object of more fully explaining the details of the art treated of. The original form of paper binding has been given up on account of its liability to become soiled and frayed, and because of the difficulty of opening back a volume bound in this manner. The author has adopted instead a cloth binding of simple and tasteful design, the result being a volume both handsome and durable. The important changes and additions in the present addition make it a desirable acquisition to those already possessing the first edition.

To Subscribers the present edition is offered at Twelve Yen, but the cost will be increased after publication.

MR. DIOXY.

Mr. Dioxy has been entertained at the Shiba Detached Palace by the Minister of the Imperial Household and Baron Sannomiya, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs being among the guests. Another leading Tokyo journal has added its voice to the chorus of persons that urge the advisability of giving a hearty welcome to Mr. Dioxy, and we entertain no doubt that he will carry away with him a very appreciative conception of Japanese hospitality.

NEW TORPEDO DESTROYERS.

Some particulars of the race between the two torpedo-destroyers, *Shinonome* and *Murakumo*, are published by the vernacular press, but, inasmuch as there appears to be great uncertainty whether the vessels really engaged in a race, the event does not possess much interest. The *Murakumo*, with her Japanese crew, seems to have been making her way out leisurely when she was overtaken at Aden by the *Shinonome*, with an English crew. The *Murakumo* made very bad weather in the Indian Ocean, rolling through an angle of 34°, and getting some of her iron-work so hot that hands could not be laid on it. She reached Colombo on the evening following the *Shinonome's* arrival there, and left two days ahead of her competitor, but seems to have been quickly overhauled by the latter, for when she entered Singapore the *Shinonome* was leaving it. The *Shinonome* made Hongkong several days before the *Murakumo*, but was detained there owing to some trouble which involved a trial in the Law Court, the master being summoned by the German Consul for drawing a pistol on him. A fine of \$25 or a month's imprisonment was the result. The *Shinonome* ultimately left Hongkong on the 9th instant, and was followed by the *Murakumo* on the 10th, but it is claimed that the vessels were together when passing Chusan, and the *Murakumo* entered Saselo on the afternoon of the 14th, while the *Shinonome* reached Yokosuka at 5 a.m. on the 16th. It thus appears that the *Shinonome* can at least claim the credit of having made the journey in much less time than the *Murakumo*, but, on the other hand, it may be pleaded that honours are divided, since neither vessel gained any decided advantage over the other after racing openly commenced, assuming that it commenced at all.

It is said that the condition of the new torpedo-destroyer *Shinonome* did not prove at all satisfactory. She came out in charge of an English crew and reached Yokosuka at 5 a.m. on the 15th instant, but the Japanese Naval Authorities hesitated to take delivery of her, finding she had been treated very badly on the way out. We learn this from the *Fiji Shimpō*. The statement is couched in mysterious language. Reference is made to bad time made by the vessel between Hongkong and Yokosuka, as proving that she had sustained some damage, and naval experts are reported to have come to the conclusion that it is bad policy to have ships brought out by foreign crews, since they take no real interest in the vessel's condition. A strange notion, in our opinion. Any competent Englishman—and assuredly only a competent man would be chosen for such a purpose—can be relied on to bestow the best possible treatment on a ship entrusted to his care, whether she belongs to his own country or to a foreign state. If there has been an exception in the case of the *Shinonome*, it is an exception: that is all that need be said. The Japanese may certainly claim to be the most fastidious people in the world if they are not content with British seamen's management and care of vessels. Probably the *Fiji Shimpō's* version of this affair is greatly deficient in accuracy.

The Yokosuka naval authorities have formally denied the report published by several newspapers to the effect that

the *Shinonome* had been so badly treated by her British crew on the voyage from England as to make it difficult for the Japanese to take delivery. The delay of two days in taking over the ship was inevitable, the authorities say, and must have occurred under any circumstances. Tokyo journals are not altogether satisfied by the denial. Naturally they are reluctant to admit that the sweeping general deductions they drew as to the unwisdom of employing foreigners to bring out Japanese men-of-war were entirely groundless.

JAPAN TEA IN CANADA.

There is considerable indignation and excitement in journalistic circles because the Canadian Government is about to discriminate against certain Eastern teas, by imposing a duty of 2 sen per lb. on Japanese or Chinese green tea and 4 sen on Chinese black, whereas Indian and Ceylon teas will be admitted duty-free. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* makes use of this event as a stick to beat the Foreign Office. It declares that the Japanese tea trade is about to experience a serious set back in consequence of the incompetence of the country's diplomatists, and in proof of its charge it explains that if England's applications for an alliance with Japan had not been rejected, this misfortune would not have occurred. We do not wish to be impolite to our contemporary, but truly such talk appears to be mere persiflage. England has never sought an alliance with Japan, and consequently Japan has never been in a position to reject her overtures. Whether the existence of such an alliance would have affected Canada's fiscal policy is more than doubtful, for Canada in these matters thinks first of her own convenience and secondly of the mother country's interests. It is only within very recent times that she has adopted a comparatively liberal policy towards imports from Great Britain, and, if the British Government found itself for many years quite unable to influence her, the Japanese Government can hardly be blamed for failing. In truth the *Yomiuri* only invites ridicule when it advances such propositions; especially when it talks of England's having repeatedly sought an alliance with Japan. England is not in the habit of begging for alliances, and she has yet to experience a refusal such as our Tokyo contemporary alleges Japan to have given.

Of course this tax looks like a serious matter for Japan. It means an impost of 27 per cent. The green tea, pan-fire and basket-fire, sent by her to Canada every year aggregates 5½ million lbs., in round numbers, and its average price at the port of shipment is 20 sen per lb., or, say, 22 sen in the Canadian market. But will the consumption of the staple be seriously affected by an addition of 6 sen, or a penny half-penny, to the cost of each pound? Probably not. Canadian tea-drinkers are not likely to be greatly deterred by so paltry an increase of price.

A Canadian telegram was received yesterday by a Yokohama tea firm in the effect that the Canadian tea dealers are using their utmost efforts in favour of the imposition of a heavy duty on Japanese tea, and it is striking what immense expenses Ceylon tea dealers are incurring for the attainment of their object.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Count Okuma has paid his long-talked-of visit to Sendai, and has addressed a meeting of some two thousand persons. He was accompanied by Viscount Miura, who also spoke, and the chairman of the meeting was Mr. Kono Hironaka. The Count's Party have now definitely committed themselves to the policy of reduced taxation. That was the gist of the speeches delivered at Sendai, and it was also the drift of the solitary resolution adopted by the meeting:—

Without development at home there can be no expansion abroad. In an era of great affairs like the present, the husbanding of the country's strength is essential. But those in power pursue a merely temporizing policy, adopt no helpful measure, heap tax upon tax, and threaten to exhaust the national resources. Therefore, having regard to domestic and foreign conditions alike, we hereby resolve to make it our prime object to effect large economies in all the Departments of State.

Newspapers opposed to Count Okuma denounce the above platform as obsolete and entirely out of touch with the times. They ask how taxes already imposed are to be remitted, and what substitutes the Progressists propose to find if they cut down the revenue by reducing taxation. But, so far as we can see, what the Progressists advocate is the diminution of administrative expenditures. That is always a popular card to play, and it will make a strong game by-and-by in Japan.

On this northward trip of Count Okuma's there was an alarm that a plot had been formed to assassinate him. From the accounts published by Tokyo newspapers we can not discover exactly whether the Count's programme was changed in consequence of the discovery of the plot. The story is that a friendly gathering was arranged to be held at Otawara, in the Nasu district, and that Mr. Kimura, a member of the Party, proceeded to Utsunomiya to meet Count Okuma, and rode thence in the train with him as far as Otawara. Count Okuma did not alight at the latter place, however, and Mr. Kimura went alone to the meeting, where he received a telegram warning him of the plot and telling him to adopt every precaution. The telegram came from the office of the Party's Shimotsuke branch. Mr. Kimura at once wired the intelligence to Fukushima and Sendai, and a great deal of commotion ensued. From this story it would seem that the scheme—if, indeed, there was a scheme—had been planned with a view to the Otawara meeting, and that Count Okuma's accidental failure to attend the meeting dislocated the arrangements.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

In addressing the meeting of Local Governors now assembled in Tokyo, the Prime Minister gave the first place in his remarks to matters connected with the operation of the Revised Treaties. His Excellency did not speak with any explicitness. He confined himself to pointing out that, in the sequel of investigations made by the Committee organized for the purpose, various measures had been framed and passed by the Diet last session, so that the legislative preliminaries might now be regarded as complete. The

successful application of these laws must depend, however, on the intelligence shown in enforcing them. Marquis Yamagata consequently exhorted judicial, police, and jail officials to bring the greatest possible care to the discharge of their functions, and reminded the Local Governors that by intelligent administration on their part there might be created in the minds of foreigners a feeling of security which would tend materially to promote the smooth working of the new system.

The spirit of these remarks is, of course, precisely what might have been expected in any instructions issued by the Prime Minister. But it has often occurred to us of late that too much importance is shown officially with regard to the operation of the new Treaties. Quite an exaggerated mood has been educated among the people. They look forward to July as the inauguration of a new era, and are persuaded that a sensible effect will be at once produced on the market value of all property. There does not appear to be any definite idea how the appreciation is to be brought about; but that a number of foreigners will come upon the scene and compete keenly for land and houses, is now an article of established faith though the purpose of the competitors is quite obscure. In Tokyo the influence of this forecast is very palpable. Owners of land talk of *yen* where they formerly spoke of *sen* only, and house-holders not only ask enormous rents, but regard themselves as so completely masters of the situation that they scorn the notion of discharging the obligations ordinarily devolving on landlords. There will be a rude awakening. No tide of pent-up energy waits to flow out of the Settlements when the ancient barriers are broken down. The Japanese will find all things jogging along in their well-worn grooves without the slightest symptom of a novel departure.

DIFFICULT TO PLEASE.

The *Fiji Shimpō* is certainly in a rather captious frame of mind at present. The other day it had a strong article, complaining that Japan is not known or understood by Englishmen; that her credit is consequently mediocre; and urging that some one be despatched to London for the purpose of correcting this state of affairs by voice and pen. But now, referring to the telegraphic news of last Thursday that *The Times*, in a leading article on Japanese finance, had expressed confidence in Japan's ability to repay any loan she might require, our contemporary opines that the great journal's utterances will not produce any considerable effect on the prospects of Japan's loan. What would satisfy the *Fiji*, we wonder, if *The Times* does not satisfy it? It then goes on to repeat statements which were published in these columns two years ago, and have been repeated again and again since that time, namely, that the important measures to be taken for rendering Japanese securities popular in Europe is to lengthen the period prior to redemption as well as the period of redemption, or, still better, to make redemption depend upon the convenience of the holder, as is the case with British Consols. Japanese financiers understand these things perfectly well, and understand also, what the *Fiji* does not mention, that some security should be given against the taxing of the bonds.

FOREIGNERS IN JAPANESE PRISONS.

It has been definitely settled, we understand, that pending the transfer of the provincial prisons to the Central Government and the re-organization of prison administration, foreigners held under warrant of arrest or incarcerated for offences after July next will be lodged in the consular jails at the open ports, which buildings will pass into the possession of the Japanese Government by purchase on the abolition of extraterritorial jurisdiction. Some of the Japanese prisons are much finer and more commodious edifices than the old consular jails, but, on the whole, it seems to be thought desirable that the latter should be employed for this purpose, as they have always served for the imprisonment of foreigners, and no exception can justly be taken to their arrangement and accommodation.

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

Attention is called by the *Shoggo Shimpō* to the fact that the law authorizing the Government to extend the tobacco monopoly to all imports of the staple will become operative from the 15th of September next. There has been some uncertainty whether, in carrying out this new arrangement, the Finance Department would employ its own staff, or whether it would farm the monopoly to two or three great dealers. The latter course seem to have been decided upon, in view of the fact that the Government officials and *employés* are without the necessary experience. The point made by the *Shoggo* is that all the tobacco imported by private dealers may be refused entry, unless it has passed the customs before September 15th. Any cargo coming to hand after that date will have to be re-exported unless it has the good fortune to be taken over by the official monopolists.

METAPHYSICAL LECTURES AT THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

Professor Ladd, of Yale University, one of the most distinguished of modern philosophers, has been engaged to come to Japan and deliver a short course of lectures—covering one month, we believe—at the Imperial University in Japan. The prospect is alluded to in enthusiastic terms by the *Fimmō*, which claims that America now leads the world in the science of psychology, and that Professor Ladd is one of the three greatest Americans in that field. Those propositions might be challenged, perhaps, especially the former, but there can be no doubt that Professor Ladd is one of the most eminent men of the time.

A correspondent writes:—"It is too much to say that Professor Ladd has been engaged to come to Japan. That would be a big expenditure for the purpose. But he is coming on a second visit to Japan, on his own account, and he has been engaged to lecture for a month on psychology."

THE "CHITOSE."

The 2nd-class cruiser *Chitose*, which has been constructed at San Francisco, arrived at Yokosuka on Thursday. She left San Francisco on the 21st ultimo, and came *via* Hawaii.

JURIDICAL PERSONS AND LAND OWNERSHIP.

WE find the following in an exchange:—

A nine years' resident writes from Japan to *Engineering* on a note that appeared in that journal on the criticisms of the *Japan Mail* on the memorial to Lord Salisbury by British residents in Kobe. After dealing with these he proceeds:—

Your contributor goes on to draw attention to Dr. L. LÖNHOLM's "Digest" on the condition of foreigners under the new treaties, and congratulates the author on the clearness of his explanation and his successful avoidance of technicalities. These excellencies I readily admit; but I do not admit that he is altogether a safe or trustworthy guide, and I would strongly advise those of your readers, whose interest in the subject is sufficient to prompt them to the wearisome task, to verify every statement of that "Digest" (which, by the way, cost the International Committee of Yaku-hans some 3,000 yen) from Dr. Lönholm's own translation of the new Civil Code, not forgetting the earlier laws which govern it.

For example, Dr. Lönholm states that "a partnership or company created in Japan under the Japanese law and duly registered becomes a Japanese juridical person, distinct from its individual members, even though some or all of its members are foreigners. . . . Thus, although John Doe and Richard Roe as individuals cannot hold land separately or jointly, the firm of Doe and Roe organized under Japanese law might do so. The consequence is that any foreign firm established in Japan under Japanese law may own land like a Japanese subject, but a partnership or company organized in a foreign country under foreign law, even though it has established a branch office in Japan, would not be allowed to own land." (The italics are Dr. Lönholm's own.)

Now, what does the Code say? Article 36, "The existence of foreign juridical persons other than States administrative districts and commercial companies is not admitted, but this does not apply to such foreign juridical persons as are admitted by law or treaty. Foreign juridical persons admitted under the provisions of the preceding paragraph have the same rights as the same classes of juridical persons existing in Japan; but this does not apply to such rights as foreigners cannot enjoy, or so far as special provisions are made by law and treaty."

And what does the law say? Article 2 of the Regulations relating to Mortgage and Hypothecation of Land. Notification No. 18 of the sixth year of Meiji (A.D. 1873), prohibits the sale or hypothecation of land to a foreigner. Is not this one of the "rights that foreigners cannot enjoy?"

Until a test case has actually been tried, I, for one, shall regard Dr. Lönholm's dictum with reserved respect, and shall not, even as a "juridical person," invest my money in Japanese land.

This "nine years' resident" writes in a manner which strongly recalls the style of the Kobe Memorial. Just as the drafters of the Kobe Memorial, on the strength of a supposed discovery that an act of bad faith had been committed by Japanese officials fifteen years ago, did not hesitate to declare that the Japanese Government's fulfilment of its pledges depended chiefly on the precautions observed to hold it to them, so the Kobe "nine years' resident," having discovered, as he imagined, an inconsistency between Dr. LÖNHOLM'S translation of the Civil Code and Dr. LÖNHOLM'S digest of it, recommends that, before accepting the accuracy of the digest, every statement contained in it should be verified by reference to the Code itself, "not forgetting the earlier laws which govern it." That is a fine wholesale method of impugning Dr. LÖNHOLM'S competence, and of course we are prepared to find that the author of such sweeping verdicts himself furnishes an example of the faults he detects in others. It might have occurred to him, had he considered the matter with even a modicum of the atten-

tion required by such questions, that a skilled jurist, having undertaken to prepare a digest of a body of laws, was not likely to commit himself to a statement diametrically opposed to the clear provisions of one of those laws. He might have conjectured that, whereas the privileges granted to foreigners by the Code are plainly differentiated from privileges interdicted by law or treaty, Dr. LÖNHOLM was not likely to explicitly include among the former a privilege clearly falling within the latter category. But he does not seem to have reflected at all, and the result is that he commits himself to a blunder of such dimensions that, taking it in conjunction with the confident method of the statement, his readers are treated to quite a quaint spectacle. He quotes an article of the Code relating solely to "foreign juridical persons" and complacently applies it to Japanese juridical persons! "Foreign juridical persons admitted under the provisions of the preceding paragraph," says the Article quoted, "have the same rights as the same class of juridical persons existing in Japan; but this does not apply to such rights as foreigners can not enjoy, or so far as special provisions are made by law or treaty." Now individual foreigners, as "Nine Years' Resident" justly points out, are forbidden to acquire land in Japan by purchase or hypothecation, and his inference is that "foreign juridical persons" are consequently subject to the same veto. But has Dr. LÖNHOLM, has any competent authority, ever hinted that a foreign juridical person will possess the right of owning land in Japan? Of course not. There never has been any question of foreign juridical persons. Dr. LÖNHOLM has pointed out a privilege enjoyed by Japanese juridical persons, and has asserted his opinion that since individual foreigners are permitted by the new Codes to organise themselves into Japanese juridical persons, and since from the moment of their registration as such, the nationality and even the individuality of their members are entirely merged in their legally acquired juridical capacity, therefore they become entitled to all the privileges granted by law to Japanese juridical persons. A foreign juridical person—that is to say, the juridical person designated in the article which the Kobe writer quotes—is a certain kind of personality constituted in accordance with the provisions of foreign laws and registered in a foreign country. Among such foreign "persons" the Japanese Code provides that recognition shall be given in Japan to three kinds only, namely, States, administrative districts, and commercial companies. Any one of these organizations, though not originally registered in Japan or constituted in strict conformity with Japanese law, can obtain recognition in Japan for business purposes, can sue or be sued before Japanese tribunals in its capacity

of a juridical person, but can not become a Japanese juridical person. If any one is sufficiently credulous to imagine, as the Kobe critic imagines, that the Civil Code of Japan is drafted so carelessly as to mean Japanese juridical persons when it speaks of foreign juridical persons, he will do well to read Art. 49 which says:—

The provisions of Art. 45 (3), 46, and 48 apply where a foreign juridical person has established an office in Japan; but as to facts arising in foreign countries, the period for registration is computed from the time when notice thereof is received.

When a foreign juridical person first establishes an office in Japan, third persons need not recognise the existence of such juridical person, until registration has been effected at the place of its office.

This Article will probably help the Kobe writer to understand that a foreign juridical person is not a Japanese juridical person, and that provisions explicitly referring to the former are not necessarily applicable to the latter.

What we have thus far written is sufficient to show that in quoting Dr. LÖNHOLM'S translation of the Code as contradicting Dr. LÖNHOLM'S digest, "Nine Years' Resident" has simply made his own mistaken interpretation of the former the basis of an erroneous criticism of the latter. As to the main question itself, namely, whether a Japanese juridical person composed of foreigners may own land in Japan, the difficulty which evidently stands in some people's way is that if Smith or Brown separately has no right to own land, Smith plus Brown collectively can not have it. But the fact is that, so soon as Smith and Brown combine to form a partnership, and register themselves as a juridical person, there is created in the eyes of the law a new entity absolutely unconnected with the units constituting it. By referring to the Civil Code it will be seen that the names of the individuals forming a juridical person are not among the matters registered. The law, in fact, knows nothing about the individuals. It knows only the names and domiciles of the managers, who may or may not be members of the association constituting the juridical person. Consider, for example, the case of a partnership or company organized in accordance with the sanction embodied in the diplomatic note accompanying the German Revised Treaty. It is laid down in that note that the presence of foreigners in a partnership does not invalidate the latter's right to own land as a juridical person. Nothing whatever is said as to the proportion of foreigners to Japanese: there may be a dozen foreigners to one Japanese. Does the land-owning right of the association depend solely on the presence of one Japanese among its members? If so, the juridical person is constituted by the one Japanese member, a plainly absurd conclusion, for, according to law, an association for purposes of profit or public utility can alone become a juridical person, and it goes without saying that one individual

can not be called an association. Hence, since an association of one Japanese with several foreigners derives its title to the status of a juridical person from the presence of the foreigners, it certainly is not debarred by their presence from enjoying the rights of a juridical person. Or, again, it is easy to conceive a purely Japanese association employing foreign managers only. Then, if such an association acquired the ownership of land in its capacity of juridical person, the only names of individuals appearing in the register of ownership would be those of the foreign managers, for the managers represent the juridical person *vis-à-vis* the law. The broad fact is that a juridical person exists in the eyes of the law quite independently of the individuals composing it. Whatever rights it possesses are derived from its recognition and registration as a juridical person, and have nothing whatever to do with the personality or nationality of its members. The first point which people sharing the views of "Nine Years' Resident" have to demonstrate, in order to establish their proposition, is that foreigners alone can not constitute a juridical person in Japan. Nothing of the kind can be demonstrated. Any association of foreigners formed in Japan for purposes of profit or public utility, in accordance with the laws of Japan, can be registered as a juridical person and thereby becomes an entity which the law distinguishes altogether from the units composing it, and which acquires, in its capacity of a legal entity, rights entirely independent of its members as individuals. Land-ownership is among those rights. If these assertions do not carry conviction, we invite attention to the three conclusions involved in their negation; first, that foreigners associating themselves in Japan with the object of gain or public utility can not obtain legal recognition as a juridical person; secondly, that a juridical person legally recognised in Japan acquires no rights except those already possessed by its individual units; and thirdly, that the law differentiates juridical persons in respect of their units. Perhaps if sceptics like "Nine Years' Resident" would employ their own recipe, namely, to verify every one of their statements by reference to the new Civil Code, they would begin to perceive that this problem of juridical persons shares the fate of superficies in being obscured solely by its novelty.

SUPERFICIES AND BRITISH SUBJECTS.

THE *Japan Times*, reverting to the above subject in an interesting and carefully reasoned article, traverses the arguments recently advanced by us, and arrives at conclusions which, however ably stated, do not appear to be fairly deducible from our contemporary's data.

There are two points at issue. The first is, whether British subjects are entitled, under the provisions of the Revised Anglo-Japanese Treaty, to enjoy in Japan the form of land-tenure legally designated "superficies;" the second, whether, supposing that such a privilege is 'not secured for British subjects by that Treaty, it accrues to them, as most-favoured nationals, under the German-Japanese Treaty.

The former question is purely one of interpretation. In the English text of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, it is laid down that British subjects may "lease land in Japan for residential and commercial purposes." Now, as the writer in the *Japan Times* justly says, the tenure of land by superficies and the tenure of land by lease are distinguished in Japanese law. The former is the greater privilege, and since the minor can not contain the major, the right to be a lessee is not capable of being extended so as to cover the right to be a superficies. Leasing, therefore, is the only form of land-tenure secured to British subjects by the strict terms of the Treaty.

We quite admit the force of that line of reasoning. Let us follow it a little more closely, however. And first let us abide by the English language in construing the Treaty, conceding, of course, to the term "lease" its widest significance in that language consistently with the laws of Great Britain. Now in England land may be obtained, and is constantly obtained, on building-leases, which run for very lengthy periods, the commonest being 99 years. Such a form of land tenure is plainly brought by the Treaty within reach of Japanese subjects in Great Britain. Again, as our contemporary truly notes, the Treaty is reciprocal. In other words, its British negotiators were entitled to assume that, whatever privileges of land-leasing it conferred on Japanese subjects in Great Britain under British law, corresponding privileges would be conferred, as far as possible, on British subjects in Japan under Japanese law. Superficies is the form of land-tenure in Japan corresponding, for all practical purposes, to the English building-lease. It may, indeed, correspond exactly to the latter, since a superficies may be simply a hirer of land for a lengthy but fixed term of years in consideration of paying an annual rent. But he may also differ from an ordinary lessee, since he can acquire the right to own land by payment of a lump sum at the outset. We recognise the difference. We recognise that, in one of its forms, a superficies is more than a lease. But we recognise, also, that it is absolutely distinct from ownership, and that it fulfils the essential character of a lease since it secures the reversion of the land to its owner after a fixed term of years.

Now, with these facts before us, what we ask is this:—Can it be justly claimed

that, whereas the Treaty confers on Japanese subjects in Great Britain the full rights of land tenure provided by British law for building purposes, the corresponding rights provided by Japanese law for the same purpose are not conferred on British subjects in Japan, simply because Japanese legislators happen to have employed a terminology ampler than, though in no fundamental sense different from, the British terminology? We do not think that such a claim can be justly advanced.

Suppose, in the second place, that we agree to abide by the Japanese language in construing the Treaty. Then the case becomes even worse for our contemporary. For if we have to interpret the Treaty by the exact provisions of Japanese law, we have a right to expect that the terminology of the Treaty will be in strict accord with the terminology of the law. But there is no such accordance. The law uses two terms to express land-tenure as distinguished from land-owning. They are *chijō-ken* (superficies) and *chintai-shaku* (lease). The Treaty uses neither. Its term is *kari-ukeru*, the common every-day expression for "obtaining on hire." Have we any right to assume that the Japanese drafters of the Treaty intended to refer to *chintai-shaku* as distinguished from *chijō-ken* when they employed neither the one word nor the other, and that they expected the Treaty to be interpreted in the most explicit and restricted sense of the law though they made no attempt to identify their own phraseology with that of law? We do not think that any such assumption can be justly made.

Then, there is another phase of the argument. The British Treaty secures to the subjects of the contracting parties the right to "own or hire and occupy the houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops, and premises which may be necessary for them." It appears to us that if the ownership of a house or manufactory be limited to a term of 20 years—as would be the case were its so-called owner unable to obtain any longer title to the land on which it stands—, then the privilege of ownership becomes almost illusory. Most assuredly no sane person would think of investing capital in the construction of a factory if he could not certainly look forward to retaining possession of it for more than 20 years, and since the only way of extending his title beyond that limit is to obtain a superficies of the site, we are forced to conclude that the framers of the Treaty never contemplated the denial of the right of superficies. Our contemporary contends that commercial business may be, and is, successfully conducted in premises rented under leases of even less than 20 years' duration. We fully admit the fact. But our argument was not directed to the possibility of carrying on business in temporarily occupied premises. Our argument was directed to the signi-

ficance of the explicit Treaty privilege "own houses, manufactories, warehouses, &c." We do not claim that the ownership of buildings is essential to the transaction of trade business. What we claim is that to promise the privilege of owning buildings under laws which restrict the period of ownership to twenty years is almost an abuse of terms, and that, since superficies is the sole device explicitly provided by the laws of Japan for giving practical value to the ownership of buildings by securing to their owner a lengthy tenure of the site on which they stand, the privilege of becoming a superfiary of land is virtually included in the privilege of owning buildings. If, when the time came for putting this Treaty into operation, it was found that British subjects could not legally own buildings in Japan for more than 20 years, the *bona fides* of the Japanese negotiators might be called in question. It might be said to the Japanese Government:—"You promised that British subjects should enjoy the privilege of owning houses, as distinguished from hiring them. You subscribed an Article providing that they might 'own or hire' houses, factories, and other buildings. Yet it appears that, for the purpose of implementing this Treaty, you sift your laws so as practically to reduce ownership to mere hiring."

It is not our intention for a moment to query Japan's right of modifying or rescinding her laws as she pleases. There we are at one with our contemporary. We endorse its words:—"No one would think of denying the absolute right of Great Britain to do away at any moment with any of her land titles of a higher dignity than leases, notwithstanding the provisions of Art. III. of her Treaty with Japan, and our contention is nothing more than that Japan enjoys the same liberty of action in respect of superficies." If that be indeed our contemporary's only contention, there is no difference of opinion, for our own unique claim is that so long as superficies exists in the laws of Japan British subjects are entitled to become superfiaries under the Treaty and throughout its duration. If no such form of land-tenure as superficies were created by the laws of Japan, its creation would certainly not be necessitated by her treaty with Great Britain. But since such a form of land tenure has actually been created by the laws of Japan, is not denied to foreigners by any of those laws, can not—as we think—be shown to be excluded from the purview of the Treaty, and is manifestly consistent with the spirit of the Treaty, we are constrained to count it among the Japanese institutions which the Treaty brings within reach of foreigners.

In admitting Japan's right to modify or rescind her laws as she pleases, we add the proviso that she is bound by good

faith not to change them in such a sense as to render her treaties illusory.

All this, it will be observed, concerns the rights directly secured to British subjects by their own Treaty. There remains the independent question whether they are entitled to share in the right of superficies secured to German subjects by the German Treaty. The most-favoured-nation clause seems to supply an affirmative answer. It provides that, in everything concerning commerce and navigation, British subjects shall enjoy any privilege, favour, or immunity granted to other nationals. It appears to us that since the land-tenure mentioned in the Treaty is explicitly stated to be for commercial purposes, and since the Treaty itself is "a treaty of commerce and navigation," it would be fair to assume that any expansion of the privilege of land-tenure may be classed as a privilege that concerns commerce. The writer in the *Japan Times* takes a different view. His contention is very interesting. We quote it:—

The proper functions of the new most-favoured-nation clause are merely to secure participation in privileges relating to commerce and navigation which have been granted to a third Power, but which have not been specifically provided for elsewhere in the Treaty itself. The clause is precautionary only, and so far as privileges and immunities are secured by direct engagements it is without value or effect.

We cannot admit that the right to lease land for commercial or any other purposes is a matter of commerce within the meaning of Article XV. of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty. But, that point apart, the right to lease land is already specifically and fully provided for by Article III. which assures national treatment, and to admit that the right, under such circumstances, comes within the purview of the most favoured nation clause, would consist as little with the recognized rules of interpretation which give preference to special over general engagements, as it would with the views which Her Britannic Majesty's Government frankly expressed some years ago on this subject.

We frankly admit that this view is quite new to us, and we are not at all sure that we apprehend it correctly. Our contemporary's assertion seems to be that the most-favoured-nation clause relates only to matters which are not specifically provided for in the treaty. Even on that hypothesis there appears to be an inconsistency. For if, as our contemporary contends, land-lease is quite distinct from superficies, and land-leasing alone is contemplated by the Treaty, then surely it follows that superficies is an independent privilege, and, as such, should fall within the purview of the clause? Would it be within the competence of Japan to grant exclusively to French or Italian subjects the privilege of owning land for the specific purpose of erecting silk-filatures or silk-weaving factories? If not, we can not see how it is within her competence to grant exclusively to German subjects the privilege of superficies for commercial purposes. And if, again, because the question of land tenure is specially provided for in the Treaty, it is *de facto* excluded from the general engagement contained in the most-favoured-nation clause, would it not follow

that all expansions of the privileges definitely guaranteed by the Treaty are beyond the purview of the most-favoured-nation clause, and may consequently be granted to other nationals but withheld from British subjects? This doctrine enunciated by our contemporary seems to involve serious perplexities. As to the point that the leasing of land for commercial purposes is not a matter of commerce, we presume that the writer in the *Japan Times* has authority for his statement, but to us it appears that to lease land and a warehouse for storing goods is as much a matter of commerce as to keep a shop for selling them.

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND THE LOCAL GOVERNORS.

Marquis Saigo, Minister of State for Home Affairs, addressed the following suggestions to the local Governors in conclave on the 17th instant:—

1. The various sections of the Police Department have hitherto lacked uniformity of nomenclature. Definite designations ought to be given to them as follows:—Section of Police Affairs; Section of Peace Police; Section of Sanitation. In cities and prefectures where it is necessary to establish a separate section for the management of high police affairs, measures may, of course, be adopted to that end.

2. As mixed residence will surely be productive of incidents involving foreigners, it is advisable that steps be taken by the Police Department or by principal police stations, to distribute, at the charges of the locality, constables entrusted solely with the duty of interpreting, so as to obviate practical inconvenience.

3. In special ports of export or other places where incidents connected with maritime matters may be expected to occur frequently, it may be necessary to extend the sphere of the watch-places or out-offices hitherto in existence. Suitable arrangements should be made in future with that object.

4. Police affairs in general require the utmost celerity in their management, and police duties have no limits of time for their discharge. Officers of police should therefore be required to establish their abodes in the vicinity of the stations to which they belong, in order that their services may be immediately available in emergencies. The superintendent of a station, in particular, should consider it an absolute obligation to live within its compound or in its immediate vicinity, so that, by placing himself in a position to attend to affairs under his control without distinction day and night, he may secure the utmost celerity in the discharge of his functions, and be prepared at all times against loss of time in any matter which presents itself for his decision.

With this in view official residences may be provided for the Superintendents of the main and branch stations in so far as local finances permit, and, as for the other members of these stations, lodging expenses may be granted them to secure the propinquity of their residences to their offices, thus enabling them to be expeditious in the discharge of their respective functions.

5. In districts where the services of special experts are liable to be required for inspecting locomotives, steam engines, buildings, or engineering works, the police department may find it necessary to appoint such experts permanently, and suitable arrangements must be made for that purpose. Should a city or prefecture find it financially impossible to adopt measures of the above kind, provision should be made for obtaining the services of experts as a temporary measure, so as to avoid inconvenience in practice.

6. The buildings now used for detention or preliminary enquiry are various in form and construction and their appointments are far from being complete or uniform. These differences are quite incompatible with the uniform treatment of prisoners. Reforms are absolutely indispensable with regard to arrangements as well as furniture in general. Moreover, accused persons or defendants are sometimes examined in the superintendent's office, no steps being taken to provide a separate room for such a purpose, although, the police enquiry being conducted after the manner of a

preliminary examination of criminals, it is absolutely necessary that the superintendent's office should be distinct from the place of trial. In police stations where courts for preliminary examination have not yet been established, steps should be taken for their establishment.

7. The necessity for telephonic communication in police affairs admits of no question. Measures have at last been taken to secure the installation of telephones in several places, but this advantage is not yet universally enjoyed. Arrangements ought to be made in every police station with a view to securing greater efficiency.

8. Some police ordinances may in certain localities be found incompatible with the actual condition of the country, while there may be a great many which will require to be re-issued in different form. Measures therefore should be taken at this juncture to investigate their nature, and take necessary steps to adapt them to existing conditions.

9. As affairs relative to judicial police were originally meant to be adjusted by police inspectors, they should in no case be entrusted to ordinary policemen except in the absence or illness of the former, or in other unavoidable circumstances. In the selection of policemen performing duties on behalf of inspectors the utmost discretion must be exercised.

10. Great caution must be observed to guard against abuses of power in summoning persons, and any indiscretion of this description will render the officer responsible liable to official censure. When summonses are necessary, the parties directly involved only shall be called on to appear, so as to prevent interference with the liberty of the subject as far as possible.

11. After the operation of the Revised Treaties no difference can be made between natives and foreigners in the execution of laws and ordinances, but since through the difference in their language and customs many foreigners may unwittingly violate laws and regulations, the police must treat them with urbanity in the case of minor offences and explain to them in what respect they are in error. Instructions on this point shall be given to all the officials and men under their control.

12. As foreigners are allowed, by virtue of their treaties, to enjoy the privileges of buying their own nationals in suitable or convenient places established in conformity with their own religious customs, arrangements shall be made to secure that they shall suffer no inconvenience whatever in this respect after the Revised Treaties go into operation.

13. In landing places, railway stations, public gardens, and all other places likely to be frequented by foreigners, policemen who understand foreign languages should be stationed.

14. The Japanese language shall be used for all public announcements issued by the executive authorities, except in the case of notices, placards, &c., which may have a direct relation to foreigners. Directions and precautionary notices on road sides or in the parks or other public places shall be written in foreign as well as Japanese characters.

15. As complaints with regard to the malpractices of coolies frequenting foreign vessels are heard from time to time, suitable regulations for their control must be established.

16. It is not improbable that the custom still exists of demanding unreasonable fares for vehicles or *sampan*. Proper steps must be taken to correct such abuses.

17. In the neighbourhood of thermal springs in the country it seems impossible to prohibit altogether the mixed bathing of men and women, but this point should not be overlooked in future with a view to the strict maintenance of public morality. Foreigners, in particular, are likely to regard the practice as an evidence of social degradation, and can hardly avoid being disgusted; and this is especially important as foreigners coming to Japan in most cases visit the hot springs in the country. A policy of gradual reform must be adopted.

18. With regard to the control of newspapers and of public morality, instructions have already been made by the Superintendent of the Police Bureau after conference with the judicial officials, and if the existing regulations be rigorously enforced the publication of matter dangerous to public morals may be effectually prevented. Upon the receipt, in future, of an intimation in favour of prosecution from the Superintendent of the Police Bureau, steps shall be immediately taken to confer with the Public Prosecutor, in order that the utmost discretion may be observed in the proceedings.

19. Japan having joined the International Union for the Protection of copy-rights, the translation, reprinting, or publishing of foreign works belonging to any country connected

with the Union must be regarded as an act tantamount to false publication, except in the case of books for which a definite period of grace has been secured by procedure in accordance with Articles XLVIII., XLIX., and L., of the Law. The countries belonging to the Union at present are as follows:—Germany, France, England, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Norway and Sweden, Haiti, Luxemburg, Monaco, Montenegro, and Tunis.

With regard to procedure prescribed in Articles XLVIII., XLIX., and L., of the aforesaid Law, an ordinance shall be issued by the local authorities in the sense of ordering the use of an official seal or the grant of certificates permitting the reproduction of books, or the use of machines or utensils for that purpose, or for translation or republication. In Tokyo the Metropolitan Board of Police, and in other places the Police Department, is required to carry out the provisions as above indicated, and it is therefore necessary for local Governors to adopt preliminary measures in connection therewith.

Instructions with regard to Local Government Bureaux and the Prison Bureaux are also shortly to be issued.

MR. HOSHI TORU'S SENDAI SPEECH.

In England great importance is attached to speeches made in provincial towns by leading politicians. The chief London papers invariably obtain special reports of these utterances. Taking the year through, it is found that country speeches supply far more information as to the policy of the Government and of the Opposition, when the latter, as of old, is fortunate enough to have a policy, than all the Parliamentary orations put together. The Japanese seem to be very excited about politics and hold any number of huge political meetings in various parts of the country, but neither the Tokyo journals nor the provincial newspapers make any attempt to furnish a full report of the speeches delivered by men of learning and eminence on these occasions. The important meeting of the *Ketsui* to be held in the Sendai za, the largest theatre in Sendai, on the 20th instant, which was attended by some 2,500 persons and lasted six hours, was dismissed in a most summary fashion by the local press. We should like to be able to present our readers with a translation of a verbatim report of Mr. Hoshi Toru's Sendai speech, not only for the sake of the opinions which were stated and traversed by it, and the light it threw on a number of modern political questions, but for the sake of showing how extremely lucid, concise, and telling the discussion of apparently dry subjects may be made when the speaker has such a command of language as that possessed by Mr. Hoshi Toru. As we listened to his flowing sentences, we understood what induced him to give up diplomatic life and take to political oratory. For the latter *role* he is in every way eminently qualified. His utterance is unusually distinct, his pronunciation is free from any provincial shortcomings, his style is just suited to the platform, since he only resorts to learned terms when no others can be found and even then explains them to his hearers as he goes along. He understands oratory. He understands politics, and, what is still more important, he understands the spirit of the times and all that is involved. He is eminently qualified to be a party leader, because he is full of party spirit and is prepared to denounce his opponents in the most unmeasured language. The ardent partisan banishes courtesy and philosophy from his thoughts. His opponents are incompetent, unpatriotic, benighted, factions, servile, covetous, and so on. Whether a man of Mr. Hoshi's education and experience actually believes all that he told the Sendai people on the 20th about Count Okuma and the leaders of the *Shimpo* is a question we need not discuss. There are said to be two classes of partisans: one has faith in its own utterances; the other knows those utterances to be more than half untrue, but is content to employ them for the sake of their effect on a gullible public.

Mr. Hoshi Toru was preceded by eight speakers all of whom emptied their quivers in shooting at the same target, the opposition party,

the *Shimpo* to. It may be well to say in passing that the latter party is far more popular in Sendai than the *Ketsui* to, or the *Fryu* to, as it used to be called. So that during a part of the proceedings the obstruction and noise were something tremendous. An unusually strong police force was present, owing to a report that the *Soshi*, who, Mr. Hoshi says are by no means defunct, meant to interfere with the proceedings. Some say that the *Ketsui* to had taken their own precautions against violence. Among the speeches prior to that of Mr. Hoshi Toru, Mr. Nomuro Juko's was of considerable interest and elicited great applause. Mr. Hoshi's subject was, "The main purpose and *raison d'être* of the *Ketsui* to." He commenced by inviting opposition. He said he expected the *Shimpo* to adherents to be noisy. It was a peculiarity of empty things like drums to make a big noise. He had been told they had *Soshi* ready to further their efforts. Let them come on. He was ready for them. The policy of the Party could be stated in a few words. It was to maintain the integrity and independence of the Empire—an Empire that had never submitted to a foreign yoke. It was to oppose by every lawful means in their power the men who were doing their best to make these islands an easy prey for greedy loas. The charges he had to bring against Count Okuma and his party were too numerous to be exhausted in the hour which had been allotted for his speech, but he would be able to give them an idea of the heinousness of the crimes committed by the Party he had come in to oppose. *Zokutsu* (the rubber party), or *Gwaishoku* to (the Pro-foreign party) were suitable names from it. The nation had to thank for temporarily rendering party government in this country a fiasco. Who broke up the Coalition Cabinet? The *Shimpo* to, by its treachery and greediness. The crimes which he had to lay to the charge of the *Shimpo* to were seven in number. (1) There was the Ozaki speech in favour of republicanism—a form of government. What more awful in its possible consequences could be imagined than a member of the Japanese Cabinet giving publicity to such sentiments? Of all the sacred things in this country the throne is most sacred—yet against this was the shaft directed. (2) There was the question of Ohigashi's responsibility. (3) There was the action of Count Okuma in reference to the appointment of Mr. Inokai. (4) There was the despotism of Count Okuma in reporting the Ozaki affair to the Emperor without consulting the Cabinet. (5) There was the gross breach of contract of which the *Shimpo* to was guilty when it formed a part of the Government. "They promised us that they would act with us in everything, but instead of this they worked in their own interests all the time." Under the 6th and 7th headings the speaker went into a number of small details connected with taxation too technical to be reproduced here.

In speaking of the increase of taxation, Mr. Hoshi said that no political party pretending that the Empire could be maintained without increased taxation was worth listening to. The increase of Japan's armaments could not be postponed for a single day with safety. There were various industrial enterprises which were most urgent and which would involve increased taxation. The question of taxation had to be met and dealt with in a fair manner. It was absurd to expect that any Government could be always putting off the settlement of the question as to what occupations, what commodities, or what properties were to be taxed. They must be guided by what is done in the countries with which they were competing. He might take it for granted that the Sendai people would not agree to hand over the country to foreigners.—(Cries of "Never!") Then they must be prepared to pay for its defence, and defence that was not adequate was no defence at all. Experts alone could

* Whether this meant that he had his own *Soshi* in the meeting it is impossible to say, but local report favours this interpretation.

know what was required, and they should be given a tolerably free hand. He would come to the question of the remuneration of members of the Diet—a subject that had caused a great deal of sore feeling and on which the opposite party had made some very high-sounding but utterly hollow professions. The *Shimpo-to* had pretended that they were opposed to the increase in the allowances for members. What were the facts? At first he did not mean to disclose them, out of regard for the pain that it would cause the audience. But the meeting had been noisy and deserved a little disciplining. After the dose he was about to administer certain persons in the assembly would no doubt feel subdued. "Now listen well," said Mr. Hoshi, "after all the grand talk about doing nothing to increase the burdens of the poor oppressed taxpayers, no less than 37 members of the *Shimpo-to* connected with N. Eastern districts voted for the increase. Their names are all in my possession, and any of you are welcome to them. I will mention a few that are well known to you." Hereupon names were given, and some part of the audience seemed very much astonished. When Mr. Hoshi saw this, he slowly remarked: "I thought so. Many of you have joined this *Shimpo-to* what knowing what you were going in for. It is the case of buying a pig in a poke. I pity your ignorance of affairs and will help you if you are really sorry for what you have done. There is one thing you may be sure of in the *Yiyu-to*, and that is that as a party we mean what we say and say what we mean. We are not in the habit of pretending to be anti Government during the day time and stealing to the houses of the Cabinet Ministers under cover of night, as some of the leaders of the Opposition party have habitually done. It is reported that we are connected with the present Government. Undoubtedly we are. If you call us a Government party you will not be far wrong. We recognised before the session of the Diet commenced that, unless we supported the Government, endless confusion and inconvenience and what is more serious, even danger to the State, owing to the critical condition of affairs in China, would ensue, and so we promised our support to save the country from a dissolution of the Diet and all its far-reaching undesirable consequences. What have the men who condemn our policy to say in favour of their own? Nothing worth hearing."

"You have been told that Count Okuma is coming to this city and that he will make a speech explaining the policy of the *Shimpo-to*. I am not given to prophecy, but I venture to predict that he will do nothing of the kind. The first reason for thinking so is that he is no speaker—to write a speech out of a man who hasn't it in him to make one is beyond your power. The second reason is that he has nothing to say. Of what policy is he the author that is capable of defence? Can he defend his failure to get the Treaties revised? Can he defend his proposal to employ foreign judges in this country in the highest Courts of the land? Can he defend his violation of Art. 63 of the Constitution in giving a Government guarantee for a loan to an American connected with the Korean railway without the consent of the Diet? Can he defend his vacillation in reference to the land tax, his blowing hot and cold in turn? Some of you think that Count Okuma is well versed in foreign affairs. How can a man that speaks no foreign language be versed in foreign affairs? It is because most of you are so profoundly ignorant of foreign affairs that you are easily induced to believe that a man who has several times been Foreign Minister must know something about foreign affairs. Dismiss the delusion from your minds. I know enough about foreign affairs to be aware of how little Count Okuma knows about them. I have been instrumental in helping him out of several scrapes into which his ignorance had betrayed him. It seems a very easy matter to deceive you provincial folks. I have come up here to try and undeceive you. The great work the *Yiyu-to* has

set before it has been the overthrow of despotic government, whatever form it has assumed. To this work we still keep. If at times we have had to resort to some rather rough measures it was because the times were such that no other methods were available which would have enabled us to accomplish our purpose. . . . It is said that you North-Easterners are far behind the South-Westerns, and, rude though it may be to say so, I am inclined to believe that it is true, and that is one reason why the *Shimpo-to* has hitherto been so prosperous up here. Its principles suit your backward condition. But try and work up a little ambition, and rise higher in the scale of politics than to adhere to a party that has done its best to betray the country to its foes. . . . The difference between this party and the *Shimpo-to* is that, while our policy in administration, finance, education, commerce, and industry is positive, that of our opponents is negative. It puzzles me to know how people can be satisfied to be found in the ranks of such a party as the *Shimpo-to*, but there is no accounting for tastes."

This is popular political oratory full of sophism and plausibility, often very inaccurate, with not a little *suppression veri* and *suggestio falsi*, but racy and hence taking. One gross inaccuracy in the speech ought not to be passed unnoticed. Mr. Hoshi classed English members of Parliament and American members of the House of Representatives together, and said they were paid for their services to the State. After making this observation he added that in England the expenses of the election of a member were often subscribed by his friends and supporters, and this apropos of the regular payment of members of the Diet by the Japanese Government. Could a remark be more misleading in the connection in which it occurred? Mr. Hoshi may have been thinking of the allowances received by Irish members of Parliament under the special arrangement, but he had no business to allude to such a fact in the context of a thesis on payment by the State. It is announced that Count Okuma and other prominent members of the *Shimpo-to* are to hold a great rival meeting in Sendai on the 19th instant, and Mr. Hoshi suggested in his speech that the Count be asked to reply to his attack.

More than half of the audience consisted of low class people who, with mouths wide open, sat astonished at the steady flow of language, evidently comprehending next to nothing of the real import of the speech. It is a great pity that students are not allowed to attend these meetings. Such speeches would be fully appreciated by them and give them hints as to how they should comport themselves before an audience. For in gesture, delivery, and choice of language Mr. Hoshi is an adept. It is a ridiculous notion that any harm could come of students' attendance. They read and talk about everything that is going on in politics and take the keenest interest in political contests. Surely the time is past for the Japanese Government to adopt the coddling policy, to fear exposure to the outside air for its subjects. Students must take care of themselves in the political world and the more they know and hear both for and against the Government the better will they be able to judge where the weight of evidence lies. We trust the day is not far distant when all restrictions on Government school students as regards attendance at political meetings will be removed.

MISS WHEELER'S WEDDING.

Seldom has there been a more remarkable demonstration at a wedding in Yokohama than that which attended the nuptials of Miss Mary Wheeler, who was married on Wednesday to Mr. G. C. Murray, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The popularity of the bride and the great esteem in which Dr. and Mrs. Wheeler are held in the community to which they have so long belonged were attested by

* This was evidently an allusion to the employment of *Soshi* by the party leaders at various times.

a huge congregation, which more than filled Christ Church, many being quite unable to gain bare admittance, while the fortunate ones who obtained seats were but a small proportion of the whole. The interior of the church had been elaborately decorated, and the appearance it presented was extremely pretty. The altar was set off with vases of beautiful white flowers, and the chancel screen was swathed with greenery, setting off the delicate pink of the double cherry blooms with charming effect. The font, pews, windows, gas pendants, and other parts of the building were also appropriately treated, and handsome pot plants were grouped round the entrance to the chancel. The weather was beautiful, and if there is any truth in the old adage concerning the happiness of brides on whom the sun shines, the bride and groom of yesterday will have as full a measure of bliss as their most fervent well-wishers can desire.

The wedding was fixed to take place at 2.30 p.m., and shortly after that hour the tones of the organ announced the appearance of the bride. She entered the church on the arm of her father, Dr. Wheeler, who gave her away. Mr. J. T. Griffin, who was at the organ, played a spirited piece of his own composition as the bridal party proceeded up the aisle and took their stations near the altar.

The bride was attired in a handsome dress of white satin, with a very long court train, quite plain, with chemisette of white chiffon, and a long white tulle veil and orange blossoms. She carried a beautiful shower bouquet of double cherry blossom. She was attended by Miss Thomas, Miss Rice, Miss Nina Smith, Miss E. Poole, Miss Dorothy James, Miss Madeleine Mullison, and Miss Winnie Mitchell as bridesmaids. They were dressed in pale green satin trimmed with white chiffon, the skirts plain, with draped bodies and puffed chemisette, and sashes at the side of white chiffon. They wore Leghorn picture hats trimmed with white plumes and chiffon, and they carried white shower bouquets of orchids and roses, and wore gold brooches of shamrocks and thistles, emblematic of the bride and bridegroom's nationalities, artistically intertwined with a true lover's knot. These brooches were the presents of the groom. There were two small pages dressed in Highland costume, Masters Clarence Parsons and Ewen Steele. Mrs. Wheeler wore a green satin gown striped with tiny threads of gold, cream satin chemisette, and green bonnet with turquoise blue trimming. The groom was attended by Mr. W. Reid as best man, and the groomsmen were Mr. F. J. Lias, Mr. H. W. Fraser, Mr. J. MacArthur, and Mr. F. J. Hall.

The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine. On the bridal party entering the vesty, for the signing of the register, Mr. Griffin played the Wedding March from "Lohengrin," and at the conclusion of the ceremony the well-known strains of Mendelssohn's Wedding March were heard.

A reception was afterwards held at the residence of the bride's parents, and the newly married couple left later in the day for Nikko, in which neighbourhood the honeymoon is being spent. The presents were very numerous, and of a handsome description. The groom's gifts to the bride included an emerald and diamond ring.

A SOCIAL EXPERIMENT.

A great social meeting—promoted by Baron Ishiguro, Mr. K. Okura, Mr. Ohashi Sahai, the Hakubun-kun, and others—of natives of Niigata Prefecture now resident in Tokyo and Yokohama, was held at Maple Club, Shiba, on the 16th inst. It was a great success, and was attended by upwards of 900 persons, including such personages as the *ex-daimyo* of Takata, Nagaoka, and Murakami. The most notable feature of the gathering was that almost half the company were ladies, the presence of women at such a function being quite unprecedented in Japan, though common in the west. The Niigata gentlemen are entitled to credit for setting the example of admitting ladies to such gatherings.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Parish Buildings, No. 54, Teukiji, on Wednesday, the 29th March, 1899, at 3 p.m., the Vice President of the Society, Dr. D. C. Greene, being in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been taken as read, the Chairman called upon Sir Ernest Satow to read his paper on.

THE JESUIT MISSION PRESS IN JAPAN.

Sir E. Satow gave a short account of two works printed at the Jesuit Mission Press in Japan between the end of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th centuries. One of these entitled, "Epitome of the Tai-hei-ki," was printed with movable types in Chinese characters and *Hiragana*, and consisted of six volumes, without date or place. From the imprimatur of the missionary Manuel Barreto and the Bishop of Japan, which appeared on the first page of five out of the six volumes, it must have been printed between 1598 and 1610. Of this book no other copy was known to exist in Japan. The second was a summary of Christian Doctrine, also in the Japanese language but printed in Roman type, and bore on the title page the date 1600. This latter work the Society had undertaken to reproduce in facsimile in a forthcoming number of its Transactions. It was the same work as the catechism in the Bibliotheca Casanatense at Rome, printed at Nagasaki in that year, which he had described some years ago in a pamphlet entitled, "The Jesuit Mission Press in Japan." The copy, which had been lent to him by the owner, had suffered greatly from book-worms and was in a very bad state of preservation, many words being missing and others undecipherable; but his acquaintance with the Chinese edition had fortunately enabled him to supply the missing portions of the text. The existence of two copies, one in Chinese and the other in *Romaji*, was probably explained by the fact that the one was intended for the use of native converts, while the *Romaji* copy was for the use of missionaries who were not familiar with Japanese writing. A perusal of the catechism showed that the language in which it was written differed in many respects from that of to-day. For the information of readers he had therefore prepared a glossary which would be published as an appendix to the work. It was interesting to observe that 300 years ago a beginning of romanizing the language had been made, though without success, just as had happened again about twenty years back with a similar result.

Dr. Dryas congratulated the Society on having papers from such old and distinguished members as Sir Ernest Satow and Prof. B. H. Chamberlain, and on the large attendance at its meeting which this had brought about. One fact of interest, already noted by the author of the paper, was that the attempt to replace Japanese characters by Roman letters was a very old affair instead of having been only attempted in the present period of Japan's development. It had failed then as it had failed apparently now, and he did not regret the fact. Another point of interest was the possibility afforded by the old romanized text of comparing the pronunciation of the time with that which prevails at present. It was rare to find such an opportunity in the history of languages.

The CHAIRMAN, on rising at the close of the discussion, called attention to the importance of this contribution to the history of the early Christian press of Japan, which the honoured President of the Society had made in his interesting paper. It was much to be regretted that information upon this subject was, and apparently must remain, so meagre. The movement with which that press was associated had left a far deeper and more permanent impression upon Japanese life and thought than was commonly supposed. While men of almost every social stage shared in that movement, owing to the greater inertia of the lower classes, it was natural to expect to find clearer and more distinct traces of its influence among them. That such traces do exist, he

thought a careful study of almost any of the irregular Shintō sects would show. He believed that a careful analysis of the teaching of these sects would some day be made and would convince the world that Xavier with his associates and successors had not only introduced a beneficent, but also a strong and permanent force, into the life of Japan—a force which had materially modified the general attitude of mind toward ethical and religious questions. In conclusion he again emphasized the indebtedness of the Society to the President, Sir Ernest Satow, for the pains he had taken to reproduce this valuable book for its Transactions.

He then called upon the Rev. A. Lloyd to read on behalf of the author, who was absent, a paper by Mr. B. H. Chamberlain entitled

NOTE ON A LONG-TAILED BREED OF FOWLS IN TOSA.

It was stated in this paper that the origin of the breed in question was not known but was believed to be at least 100 years old, and that the general term—*Shinowara to*—by which these fowls were known, was derived from the village of Shinowara some three *ri* to the east of the town of Kochi. The different varieties of the breed were described and details were given as to the length of the tail feathers, and their rate of growth, and regarding the methods of keeping, feeding, and transporting the birds.

The CHAIRMAN observed that the Society were glad to receive the information contained in Mr. Chamberlain's paper on the subject of this rare breed of fowls, and requested the Corresponding Secretary to convey the Society's thanks to the author.

The meeting adjourned at 4 30 p.m.

BASEBALL MATCH IN SENDAI.

It will be remembered by some of our readers that on April 13th last year an interesting Baseball match took place in Tokyo between the First and Second Higher Schools, resulting in a victory for Tokyo by three points. The return match was played in Sendai on the 10th instant, when the Sendai team more than made up for its defeat last year, winning the match by six points and an innings to spare. The contest has caused no small amount of excitement in the two schools concerned. More than a hundred students belonging to the Tokyo school went to Sendai to be present at the match, or to take part in the *fujitsu* events that came off the following day. Numbers of old pupils of the Sendai School who are now in the University made a point of being present on the gala day. The ground on which the ever-increasing buildings of the Second Higher School stand is very large, well supplied with trees, and has the most picturesque surroundings. In anticipation of the match the ground was put into first rate order and a fine day was all that was desired to make the affair a success. The weather was perfect—a clear cloudless sky and bright sunshine, and the air keen enough to be invigorating.

Long before the time appointed for the match to begin the marked-off field was surrounded by a black mass of eager students. It was a quarter past one when the Umpire, Mr. Y. Kamimura, made his appearance and set things in motion. The Tokyo men wore white caps and the Sendai men red. Tokyo went in first and scored 5 points right away. Mabuchi, the Sendai pitcher, had not got his hand in, and the Tokyo lads sped over the ground at a rate that astonished the easy-going Sendai folks and kept up their reputation for base stealing. The Sendai lads did nothing in their first innings and it was predicted by many that the Tokyo team was going to have an easy walk over. But when the whites went in for their second innings the superior fielding of the Sendai fellows began to tell and Mabuchi's pitching had improved that the visitors only scored 2 points. This score was doubled by the Reds in their Second Innings; the running of Yamada and Tanakamoto, the winner of the 800 metre

race in the School Sports last year, was equal to anything Tokyo had to show. It was in the third innings, if we remember rightly, that Mr. Motobara made the most brilliant catch of the day. He was standing at third base. The ball was so far beyond him, but the height to which it went and the rapidity with which he travelled over the ground brought him to the right spot at the right moment. The ball was taken sideways, the catcher rolling over and over without dropping it. The turning point in the game was the third innings of the Sendai team. When they went in the score of the Tokyo men stood at 10 against Sendai's 4. There are some fine hitters among the Sendai men. Tanaka, Yamada, Tanakamoto, and Baba are all such. Feeling that they must do something special to turn the tide of fortune, the Sendai students went in for hard hitting. The Whites fielded badly, lost their heads, dashed the ball about here and there when they saw base after base stolen in the most surreptitious manner, the final result being that the Reds scored 12 points in this one innings, running their score up to 15 against Tokyo's 10. After this the Whites settled down to very cautious fielding. Their pitching was excellent throughout. But the Reds felt they had the game in their hands. Their fielding was superior to that of their adversaries, and in striking they surpassed them. Some pretty catches were made by the Tokyo lads, but they also missed some very easy balls, as did the Reds for that matter. It took the Whites some time to recover from the effects of the third innings of their opponents; for they began with a duck's egg, and then only added one point to their score in their fifth innings. In their sixth they made 4 points. But in the last 3 innings they did nothing. The Reds made 3 points in their fourth innings, 1 in their fifth, nothing in their sixth, 2 in their seventh, and 1 in their eighth.

At the conclusion of the match the Sendai students were about to cheer their comrades when one of the teachers of the Sendai School suddenly and opportunely hushed them, and, in the place of applause that would have greeted on the ears of the boys who had travelled 215 miles to suffer a defeat, there rent the air the shouts of six hundred voices, *Dai-ichi Koto Gakko Bantai*, "The First Higher School For Ever."

The following are the members of the teams with the places they occupied in the field.

TOKYO.		SENDAI.	
Kawamura	R. F.	Oake	R. F.
Yabe	C. F.	Shinowara	C. F.
Takato	L. F.	Tanakamoto	L. F.
Nagayo	3rd B.	Motobara	3rd B.
Toyohara	2nd B.	Kegue	2nd B.
Murakami	1st B.	Tanaka	1st B.
Akiyama	S. S.	Baba	S. S.
Arachi	C.	Yamada	C.
Fuji	P.	Mabuchi	P.

It may not be a suitable occasion for saying so, but we cannot but feel some regret that baseball should be so far on the way to becoming a national game with the Japanese to the total exclusion of cricket. To outsiders there is, we think, no comparison in point of interest and sustained excitement between the two games. The number of foul balls and unfair balls in baseball and the strictness of the rules as regards scoring make it a very dull game to spectators during quite half of the time it is watched, whereas in cricket the interest never flags. The action of the batter and that of the bowler are alike a study to the practised eye, to say nothing of the general fielding. Cricket would become popular enough in Japan if some enterprising foreigners in Tokyo would only begin it. The Japanese student taken to a new teacher. The obtaining of a suitable ground may be a difficulty. But it is not insurmountable. Good baseball players would soon be turned into good cricketers and thus the two great national games of the Anglo-Saxon race would vie with each other in helping to train a class of hardy athletes that would be equal to any kind of strenuous physical exertion.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A REPLY TO "OBSERVER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your correspondent "Observer," after quoting Professor Huxley's comparison of the position of English professors of theology to that of professors of astronomy who should be required to sign "Ptolemaic articles," goes on to add:—"It is not only the occupiers of Chairs of Divinity at Universities that are required to echo the Shibboleths of their sects or give up their perquisites, but every Minister of the Gospel all the world over is no otherwise situated."

If we substitute for "Shibboleths of their sects" some more accurate term, and for "perquisites" put, say, "stipends," the statement is quite true. But your correspondent seems not to see that the application of this principle is much wider than he here makes it. I think it is not too much to say that it applies practically to all persons who are paid by anybody to teach anything. Mr. Huxley indeed, as quoted by "Observer," speaks of Holland and Germany as countries in which "professors of theology are to be found whose tenure of their posts does not depend upon the results to which their inquiries lead them," and it may be that this is true as regards the particular class of opinion which Mr. Huxley had in mind when he wrote. But even the freedom of these happy Dutch and German professors has its limits. If, for instance, "the results to which their inquiries lead them" should be the materialistic atheism of Buchner or Haeckel, they would probably soon find that the tenure of their posts depended very much upon those results. And so with teachers of other subjects. A professor of astronomy who believed in "Ptolemaic articles" would quickly discover that his salary depended after all on his orthodoxy, and that he was really in the same boat with his brother-professor of theology. A professor of Latin who should think that the "hog Latin" of mediæval monks was better than Cicero would not keep his chair very long, and so in every case. The freedom may be very wide,—wide enough for all practical purposes. But there is always a limit somewhere. So I think we may say that it is the general opinion of that part of mankind (certainly the most enlightened part) that pays stipends to teachers, that there should be a limit somewhere to the liberty of all teachers who are paid by other people. The only really open question is, where is it reasonable to place this limit.

I may possibly misinterpret both "Observer" and Mr. Huxley in supposing that they fail to see this principle. "Observer" can speak for himself. Mr. Huxley unfortunately can not. But Mr. Huxley, it seems to me, fell into this error from trying to prove too much, or at least too much at once. His illustration of the professor of astronomy who has been compelled to sign "Ptolemaic articles" is a stone aimed at two birds at the same time. One is the idea of restricting the liberty of teachers. The other is the XXXIX. Articles. If he had left the Articles-bird for a second shot, he might perhaps have got a closer look at the other bird, and concluded that it did not quite deserve killing after all.

As to the Doshisha, "Observer" seems to me very unfair, and yet I believe there is a kernel of truth in what he says when he ascribes the Doshisha difficulties to "uncertainty and vacillation" on the part of the missionaries of the American Board. I do not know of any "vacillation," certainly not as to essential principles, but there certainly seems to have been on all hands a great deal of "uncertainty" as to the limits of the freedom intended to be given to those who had the control of the Doshisha, much more indeed than "Observer" seems to realise, for he apparently makes the uncertainty to lie simply between "the doctrine embodied in the creed of American congregationalists" on the one side, and the kind of doctrine that chose to call itself "Christian" on the other. I am sure that many, if not all, of the

American Board missionaries believed that there was a common faith of Christians which was neither the one nor the other of these things, and that it included at least two things, belief in "One God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth," and belief in "One Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten Son of God." Some of them, I believe, thought that the Doshisha trustees were within their rights so long as they maintained these two things. All of them, I venture to think, believed that the limits of rightful liberty were exceeded when in the Doshisha the personality of God and the divinity of Christ were denied. But there seems to have been nothing to determine what the limits of freedom in this case really were, no creed, confession, or contract to which reference could be made, nothing but the one word *Christian*, which from the beginning was applied by general consent to the Doshisha and its aims. Hence the uncertainty which was the root of the whole difficulty. This, however, is something very different from the "trimming and make-believe all around" which "Observer" charges.

But leaving the Doshisha question to more competent hands, and turning again to the more general one of the limitations of liberty on the part of paid teachers of religion or theology, "Observer" not only fails to see that the principle involved is the same as that involved in all paid teaching, but he seems so entirely convinced that what he regards as rational Christianity is the only kind that has any real claim to be called so, and that all else, including the doctrine of the divinity of Christ, which has always been and is still held by the great body of Christians throughout the world as of the essence of their faith, has been "scientifically shown to be untenable," that he fails also to see how large is the liberty that is possible to paid teachers of creeds that are neither Japanese nor German, nor yet "Occidental." I have myself been a teacher of theology in a mission Divinity School in Japan. The professors in it differed radically on many points, points much more important than those which separate a good many denominations of Christians, say, for instance, the Presbyterian and the Methodists. Yet we all held the ancient creeds of the Church, the Nicene and the Apostles', and found within them all the liberty we desired. If I had wanted more liberty than I had, I should, I think, at the same time have quite ceased to feel any interest in teaching theology at all. I mention this simply as an illustration that endowing the teaching of theology, even outside of Germany and Holland, has no necessary connection with the obligation to maintain such elaborate systems of doctrine as the Westminster Confession, or even the XXXIX. Articles.

It is an interesting picture which "Observer" draws of the free-thinking Japanese Christians whom he places in contrast with the paid supporters of "endowed Occidental theology" (Does he really think the doctrine of the divinity of Christ is "Occidental theology?") I take off my hat with great respect before these hard working students who have read "all that the Germans and others have said against orthodox doctrine." But it seems a little hard on the doctrine that they should have "deliberately and conscientiously rejected it" when they have presumably had no time to read what has been said for it. Yet "Observer's" description of them, allowing for some slight exaggeration, coincides quite remarkably with my own independent impressions of some free-thinking Japanese Christians, who, in common with some other freethinking persons, seem to have "deliberately and conscientiously rejected" a good many things that they knew very little about.

In contrast with these gentlemen, what a stupid person that Protestant Missionary is who does not know what to say to these freethinkers when "they have followed the lead of reason and it has led them to regions that are far removed from the haunts of typical Occidental Christians." The only answer he can think of, "You have no business to reason, Christian belief and reasoning are incompatible," he does not make, because he knows that the

distinguishing point of Protestantism is "the authority it gives to reason as a means of discovering truth." Why couldn't the stupid fellow say to them, "You are quite right in reasoning, but you have not reasoned correctly, especially when you have 'conscientiously and deliberately rejected' a fundamental point of primitive Christianity as 'Occidental theology' which has been 'scientifically shown to be untenable.'"

Was it perhaps because these freethinking readers knew beforehand how stupid the orthodox Protestant Missionary was that they spent their whole time in reading "all that the Germans and others have said against orthodox doctrine?"

Very truly yours,

T. S. T.

MUSIC IN YOKOHAMA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—How true it is that one must go abroad to hear the news! In the *Musical Times* (a monthly journal published in London) of 1st March, 1899, No. 673, p.194, is the following "foreign note":—

"YOKOHAMA.—The recent first performance 'here of Mendelssohn's 'Elijah' deserves to be recorded, the executors being a company 'of musicians on tour, reinforced by local amateurs.'"

This short note contains a fair amount of errors; I wonder where the Editor of the *Musical Times* can have got his information?

Yours truly,

X.

Yokohama, 15th April, 1899.

DISLOYALTY TO THE EMPEROR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Much has been said and written concerning the disloyalty of the Christians of this land to the Emperor. However, not much has been heard concerning the opposite side of the question—the disloyalty of some who oppose Christianity. That loyalty finds its truest expression in obedience to law, in willingness to give up life for the defence of one's country, and in keeping pace with the spirit of progress, no one will deny. Judged by these criteria, no class of citizens in Japan are more loyal than Christians. They are law-abiding; they fought with the bravest in the late war; and they are all proud of the present progress, and desirous of assisting in the advance.

Contrariwise, those who have not caught the spirit of progress, of which His Majesty is the embodiment, and those who *even in spirit* are behind any of the liberal enactments which His Majesty has graciously granted, such *in truth* are the really disloyal people of the land. It pleased His Majesty to grant religious liberty, and from every word and enactment concerning this subject which has emanated from the Imperial Palace, we are led to believe that this is the sincere purpose and wish of His Majesty. Even in this day, however, on the very eve of "Mixed Residence," when this subject will be of vital importance, we find many disloyal to the Emperor in this regard.

A case in point has just occurred in this (Ishikawa) prefecture. A young man, a graduate of a Mission School, having served with different foreigners as personal teacher for several years, and having acquired a knowledge of English valuable in these days, was recently called before the head teacher of a higher middle school for employment. His attainments were quite satisfactory. In the consultation, he was asked concerning his belief in Christianity, and informed that it was difficult to employ Christians, because of their attitude toward His Majesty's portrait and the Imperial Rescript on Education. He was told that it was his duty to give up Christianity for the cause of education. Although assured that the attitude of Christians in this respect was, in no wise, different from that of all other intelligent people in this country, the young man was told that he could have the position only on one condition—namely, that he abstain from attendance upon Christian

services. The matter finally came before the prefectural authorities, and the head teacher was advised to be less severe, but—the young man was refused the position, because he would not comply with the illegal and unjust terms.

It is respectfully submitted, not in the spirit of controversy, but in the spirit of justice, and with a desire for the real good of Japan, that this head teacher is a disloyal subject of His Majesty, inasmuch as he is violating in spirit and in letter, an article of the Constitution—an article surely of equal force with the rules regarding His Majesty's portrait, or the Receipt on Education, and, inasmuch as he opposes the wishes and pleasure of His Majesty, and is not keeping step with the spirit of progress, should hold no such position as head master in an important city.

"HOPEFUL."

LOGIC.

A DIPLOMATIC ABSURDITY IN AN INDEFINITE NUMBER OF ACTS (OF DOUBTFUL MORALITY).

Argument.—Negotiations are in progress between Count Muraviev, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Yang-ju, Chinese Minister to St. Petersburg, with regard to the alleged Russian murder of Chinese in Kin-chow. The Russian Minister is said to have declared that, though the Chinese Government send its Navy to the Baltic or its Army as far as St. Petersburg, he would not yield in this matter. This decision was telegraphically reported to the Empress Dowager, and the latter in great indignation ordered the ambassador to renew his negotiations. —*Vide Press.*

SCENE.—FOREIGN OFFICE AT ST. PETERSBURG.

Count Muraviev (to his Secretary)—Scratchoff.

Scratchoff.—Yes, your Excellency.

Count Muraviev.—Here is a despatch from Peking: "Rumoured that three small Chinese boys in Go Hang, Slap Bang Province, blew a tin whistle derisively at a Greek Church Missionary, Russian subject. Very properly the missionary, catching a boy, beat him severely about the head till he was quite pulpy and submissive. The boy struggled at first, and the Father received a slight scratch on the left temple. What action am I to take? Surely it ought to be good for a port, any way."

The Foreign Minister strolls up and down his sumptuous room in deep meditation. At length he speaks. Scratchoff!

Scratchoff.—Yes, Excellency.

Count M.—The atlas—the latest one, mind; otherwise I may go claiming something we've got already; it's difficult to keep all these small transactions in one's head.

The atlas is brought, and Count M. studies it for some moments.

Count M.—It's tempting, but I suppose it can't be done. England might object, and she has a few ships left still, though Mr. Stead assures me that the great heart of the nation is for peace at any price, that they rejoice to see Russia pursuing the path of civilization, and so on. What a droll of a man he is, that dear Mr. Stead. But I'm afraid England won't stand us taking the Yang-tze, however Exeter Hall might rejoice. So I must give that up for the present—it will do ten years hence. But if I take these ten degrees of latitude from here to here (*pointing to atlas*) it won't be noticed. Area 1,400,000 square miles; population 120,000,000. Hum! That will hardly cause comment now-a-days. Here, Scratchoff.

Scratchoff.—Yes, Excellency.

Count M.—Send this to Count Grabearth-seandaky at Peking (dictates).

"Present note to *Tsungli Yamen* as follows: 'The deplorable event at Go Hang proves that your Imperial Majesty's Government is unable at the present moment to exercise that strict control over your Majesty's less enlightened subjects which is so essential to the progress of civilisation and the spread of humanitarian principles. I am instructed by my Imperial Master to make you the offer of his

assistance in preserving the integrity of your Majesty's dominions, unhappily threatened by the frequency of these occurrences. My Imperial Master proposes to occupy the ports of My hai and Bung-kum, and, with a single view to preserving the unity of your Majesty's dominions, demands the cession of territory lying between Lat.—N. and—N. and Long—E. and—E. His Majesty the Czar entertains no doubt that the Son of Heaven will at once recognize the justice of his claims, and the manifest advantage to China of so powerful an ally as the Government of Russia. I am to add that if the Son of Heaven should be an ill advised as to refuse the demand of His Majesty the Czar, His Majesty the Czar will not be in the least perturbed by the circumstance, but will at once proceed to take, with that charming grace which is so characteristically Russian, twice the number of ports and twice the amount of territory which His Majesty the Czar is now pleased to make the subject of a friendly request wholly in the interests of the Chinese Government."

That will do, I think. A very pretty piece of work, though I say it as shouldn't. Architecturally perfect, I should say. Stay a moment, Scratchoff. Just tell him to draw the *Tsungli Yamen's* attention to the Russian Army and Navy List for 1899, and to point out how nicely those latest Armstrongs work.

Attendant announces His Excellency the Chinese Ambassador, Mr. Li Free li. The usual salutations are exchanged, and the diplomats then proceed to business.

Mr. Li.—I am instructed by Her Imperial Majesty the Empress Dowager—excuse me giving her full titles, Excellency, but I don't want to keep you all the morning—to call your attention to a little affair at Kin-chow. It's nothing to speak of, you know, and we don't want to make ourselves disagreeable, especially to you, my dear Count. But they tell me a few hundred people have been killed by your Cossacks—five fellows they are, did it in their light-hearted fun probably—and of course there are funeral expenses, compensation to families, &c. I have to ask you for that. If you could hang a Cossack or two, to show good feeling, we should appreciate it, and to boil the leader of them in sardine oil, if that is consistent with your ideas, would be a real pleasure to us. But those are merely details. I need only insist on compensation.

Count M. (with Spartan firmness).—Nothing can be done.

Mr. Li.—But really, my dear Count, be reasonable. Our playful people kill a missionary here and there, and you get whole provinces and ports out of us. I don't think we have a port to speak of now. You surely don't object to a few thousand dollars for this.

Count M. (impressively).—Your Excellency, tell the Son of Heaven this is my answer: "China can send her fleet to the Baltic (how it is to get there I can't imagine), she may ravage the Black Sea shores, she may bring fire and sword to the very gates of St. Petersburg, but we will never yield. No, sir, Russia has put hand to the plough, and she will not draw back. Not even the terrors of a war—with China—will divert her from the strait path of duty. It is Russia's peculiar destiny to advance the cause of civilisation in the dark places of the earth. She will take the helpless Asiatic races to her maternal bosom, and watch over them with tender care, as she does with the Jews at home. If these Chinese at Where-is-it were killed, as you say, they were killed entirely for their own good, and for the progress of the human race. Nothing further need be said. I may fall a martyr to the cause; the battalions—Chinese—destined to crush us may be forming now; but nothing—not even your fleet in the Baltic—can deter us.

Mr. Li.—I am sorry, your Excellency, as much, I must admit, on my own account as on China's, for, truth to tell, our dear Empress Dowager is a peppery little thing, and I shall probably be cut asunder in the waist—to say nothing of losing my yellow jacket

—when I get back to Peking, for not succeeding in this. But there's another little matter. It was so trifling I had almost forgotten it. The Son of Heaven understands that the populations of European States are in a condition of degraded superstition and ignorance. He understands that few even of your upper classes believe in Buddha or Confucius, while the lower strata of society have never even heard of their names. The Son of Heaven is truly pained at this, and, thinking that a knowledge of the ancient religions of the East cannot fail to redound to the benefit of your nationals, he has decided to propose some steps with that end in view. He would therefore be obliged if you would lease him—at a pepper-corn rent—the ports of Odessa, Sebastopol, and Archangel, with their fortifications, and a few places in the interior, such as Moscow and Nijni Novgorod. I may add that we are asking Lord Salisbury for London, Glasgow, Liverpool, Southampton, Hull, Bristol, and Cardiff; France for Havre, Marseilles, Cherbourg, and Toulon; Germany for Bremen and Hamburg; Italy for Genoa, Naples, and Venice; Austria for Trieste; and Belgium for Antwerp. I trust your Government will see its way to grant the trifling request of my Imperial master.

Count M.—If this is a little joke, Mr. Li, it is an excellent one. Are there comic papers in Peking? If so, I might suggest that your Excellency is more fitted for journalism than diplomacy.

Mr. Li.—I am quite serious. These are the very plausible propositions you use when you take our ports and our territory. It is only logical on our part to apply them to you.

Count M. (with a beatific smile).—Ah, my dear Mr. Li, you have much to learn still. There is no logic in diplomacy. Good morning, Excellency. Now, Scratchoff, get ready your typewriter for that Peking despatch.

E.R.T.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. W. J. Kenny, till recently British Consul-General and Commissioner at Hawaii, is appointed to the Consulate at Hakodate.

A case of disease resembling cholera is reported at Furocho, Yokohama. The patient, who is an aged woman of 70, is under medical treatment at the Contagious Diseases Hospital.

Mr. Iio Jiro has been appointed Chief of the Yokohama Quarantine Inspection Station; Mr. Yokoyama Shincho, Chief of the similar office at Nagasaki; and Mr. Katayama Sachio, Chief of the Station at Kobe.

The by-election for the highest tax-paying member of the House of Peers for Kanagawa Prefecture took place on Wednesday, resulting in the return of Mr. Umi Ghei with 8 votes, against six for Mr. Otani Kahei.

The *Chuo Shimbun* has retracted its statements concerning Murai Brothers' Cigarettes, to which we referred in a recent issue; and also has apologised for saying that the firm had sold its plant.

Mr. R. G. E. Foster, British Pro-Consul at Yokohama, left for England on Wednesday by the P. and O. steamer on a year's leave of absence. He carries with him the good wishes of all his nationals. Mr. Hampden, of Kobe, will take up the duties for the present.

A Boston telegram to *The American* (Manila), dated March 28, reads:—Rear Admiral C. C. Carpenter committed suicide here to day. Deceased was on the retired list and at the time of his death was a resident of Portsmouth, N.H.

In response to the telegram sent to the Governor General of Canada by Mr. Otani Kahei, President of the Central Tea-dealers' Society, asking him to use his efforts against the Tea Tax, the Governor's Private Secretary wired from Ottawa, under date 14th inst., to the following effect:—"Your telegram, dated 12th, as regards

tea duty, is to hand, and will be submitted to every Cabinet Minister for consideration."

Recent birth statistics in Berlin indicate that the German capital is the home of large families. One Berlin mother has given birth to her twentieth child; there are five mothers with 19 children, nine with 18, and nine others with 17; 138 mothers have seen their sixteenth child born, and 215 families are composed of 12 children.

An earthquake shock, not very severe in its nature, but of rather long duration, visited Yokohama about 7.30 on Saturday evening. No damage is reported in or near the port, but from the telegrams which appear in another part of to-day's issue it would seem that the shock extended over rather a wide area.

The *Odesski Listok* states that the directors of the Russian Volunteer Fleet intend to build a new line of steamers in order to cope with the large and increasing traffic with the Far East. The *Nijni Novgorod* left Odessa on March 20 with a number of the "watchmen" for the Eastern Chinese Railway and a cargo of 2,000 tons of rails and 2,000 tons of material for railway bridges, platforms, &c.

We understand that early in December E. Leopold, of Charing Cross Road, W.C., and brother of Charles Emil Leopold, now undergoing sentence in H.M.'s Gaol at Yokohama, was declared a bankrupt in the London Bankruptcy Court. He, however, appealed, and brought evidence which secured him the reversal of the judgment on January 13th, when the appeal was heard.

This letters of Admiral Cervera, published by the *Epoca*, form a damaging indictment against the Spanish Naval authorities. Two years before the actual outbreak of hostilities naval officers of all ranks had protested against the condition of their Navy, but all protests were disregarded. According to Admiral Cervera, the Spanish Fleet was less than half the tonnage of the American, and its artillery was greatly inferior. And yet this gallant sailor is to be put on his trial by the very people who allowed him to go into action without any conceivable prospect of victory.

A collision of a slight nature occurred on the 5th inst., reports a Shanghai morning contemporary, off Pootung point between Messrs. S. C. Farnham & Co.'s steam launch *Lilli* and the Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, resulting in the former having her starboard bow stove in above the water-line. A Russian engineer who was on board the launch at the time, fearing a disaster, jumped on the anchor of the steamer and from there was hauled on board whilst the launch proceeded to the Old Dock. But for the alertness of the chief officer of the steamer the Russian gentleman would have had a wet surprise, as the order had been given from the bridge to let go the anchor to which he was clinging.

We have received a visit from Signor Brandini, who set out in 1890 to visit on foot all the capitals and important cities of five continents. When he left Paris he was penniless. He has now tramped through Africa, North and South America, and Europe. His last big walk was from Elsinora to Vladivostok, which he accomplished in 20 months, crossing Siberia in the depth of winter. Signor Brandini, who looks the picture of robust health, hopes to return to Paris in time to lecture at the 1,900 Exhibition.

The fourth and last concert of the Junker Choral and Orchestra Society is expected to take place very shortly, only a few more rehearsals being needed for what must be considered easy work for our talented amateurs in comparison with their previous achievements. A number of items which most pleased the audience at previous concerts will be repeated, the remainder consisting of chorus or orchestra pieces of a particularly bright and popular character, to satisfy the demands of the majori-

ty of concert-goers. The soloists, we believe, will be Madame Henckler (soprano), and Senhor Canaan, of Tokyo (violin).

Professor Junker's third chamber concert will be held early next month, and will, our readers will regret to learn, be the last of the season, owing to Professor Junker's engagement with the Tokyo Academy of Music. Apart from the excellent string quartet, the programme will be very attractive, as Professor Von Koerber will appear; and the rare opportunity will be afforded a Yokohama audience of hearing Signor Braccialini.

The following American "parable" is reproduced in the *Globe*:

A Married Woman, whose lover was about to reform by running away, procured a pistol and shot him dead.

"Why did you do that, madame?" inquired a Policeman, snatching by.

"Because," replied the Married Woman, "he was a wicked man, and had purchased a ticket to Chicago."

"My sister," said an adjacent Man of God, solemnly, "you cannot stop the wicked from going to Chicago by killing them."

JAPAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE.

The Annual Conference of the American Baptist Missionary Union in Japan was held this year in Osaka, a city whose fine public buildings, numerous mills and factories, and busy rush of industries give it more the aspect of a city of the Occident than of the Orient.

The sessions began on Wednesday, April 5th, and concluded on Saturday, April 8th.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

President, Rev. J. H. Scott, Osaka; Vice-President, Prof. E. W. Clement, Tokyo; Secretary, Rev. R. Austin Thomson, Kobe; Executive Committee, Rev. W. B. Parshley, Yokohama, E. H. Jones, Sendai, R. Austin Thomson, Kobe; Statistician, Rev. J. H. Scott, Osaka; Preacher, Rev. C. K. Harrington, Yokohama.

The preacher for the past year, Rev. H. H. Rhees, D.D., of Kobe, delivered the annual sermon before the Conference, the subject of which was "The Kingship of Christ." It was a forceful presentation of a great theme.

The Statistician's report was, as usual, a very interesting one, and showed that the work of the whole mission was in a flourishing condition. There have been over two hundred baptisms during the year, and the church membership is now about two thousand. There are twenty-six organized churches, of which five are wholly self-supporting. The total contributions of the members from all the churches was over yen 2,100.

The Seminary reports good work during the year. It is now one of the finest equipped institutions of its kind in this country, having a fine Recitation Hall, four foreign professors, good dormitories, and a library of over three thousand volumes. The Tokyo Baptist Academy is rejoicing in the prospect of soon occupying its splendid new location in Ushigome, Tokyo. Through the generous kindness of Mrs. Robert Harris, the Duncan Memorial Hall will soon be erected, and the school removed from its present restricted and inconvenient quarters in Tsukiji. The school is making a good reputation for itself, and more students are applying for admission than can possibly be received before removal to larger buildings. We have fine Boarding schools for girls, one each at Sendai, Tokyo, Yokohama, Hemeji, and Chofu, with nearly three hundred boarders and a large constituency of day scholars. In Tokyo we have two kindergartens, and in Kobe one kindergarten settlement with seventy-five pupils. All these schools afford abundant openings for Christian work, more than we can secure workers to follow up.

Substantial work has been done on the Revision of Dr. Brown's Version of the New Testament, and it is sincerely hoped that before another year it will be ready for the press.

A devotional Service preceded each session of the Conference. One of these services took the form of a Memorial of the late Rev. S. W. Duncan, D.D., our beloved foreign Secretary at Boston.

At the close of the A.B.M.U. Mission Conference a united Conference of all Baptist Missionaries in Japan took place. The Rev. W. B. Parshley was elected President, Rev. W. H. Clarke, of Fukuoka, Vice-President and Rev. R. Austin Thomson, of Kobe, Secretary.

Questions of much interest were discussed before this meeting, including the establishment upon a sound basis of a vernacular magazine which would properly represent all our churches and be of real help to all our people. The greatest difficulty hitherto has been the getting practical support for it. A committee of three was appointed to co-operate with three of our Japanese workers in the carrying out of the plans for such a magazine, and it is hoped they will be successful.

A very interesting paper was read before the Conference by Rev. J. W. MacCollum, of Fukuoka, one of the founders of the work of the Southern Baptist Convention in this country ten years ago. It was entitled, "A Historical Sketch of the work of the S.B.C. in Kiushiu."

Another paper was written by Rev. S. W. Hamblen, of Sendai, "Baptists and the present juncture in Japan." This was a very strong paper and elicited a good deal of discussion. Both papers will be printed in the Minutes of the Conference.

The A.B.M.U. Mission regrets the temporary absence from Japan, on account of furlough, of Rev. J. L. Dearing, of Yokohama, Rev. S. W. Hamblen, of Sendai, and their families, who return to the home-land after ten years of service. Also Rev. W. Wynd and family of Osaka, who, after nine years' service, return home for a short vacation, and Miss F. A. Duffield, also of Osaka. We look for all of these workers back in Japan next year, and in the meantime sincerely hope that we shall have the privilege of welcoming some new members.

During the past year Capt. L. W. Bickel came out from home to open up a work among the islands of the Inland Sea. He is having a fine little schooner built at Yokohama for this work. The Rev. W. H. Clarke arrived lately to join the workers of the Southern Baptist Convention in Kiushiu.

KUMIAI CHURCHES CONFERENCE.

The annual conference of the Kumiai Churches was convened in Osaka from the 6th to the 10th April. Besides being the annual meeting for the transaction of business and election of officers, the gathering was made the occasion for celebrating the completion of twenty-five years of the denomination's existence. It happened, too, that for the first time in the history of the Kumiai Churches a foreign missionary was sent as a delegate. The cordial feeling of fraternity with which the innovation was welcomed is significant of what lies deeper than sharp and trying differences. The first two days of the session, morning and afternoon, were given to the transaction of business. The resolutions, whether carried or rejected, showed the spirit of the body in a reassuring light. Attempts to curtail the freedom of the churches and individuals were rejected with a promptness equal to that with which measures were adopted looking to greater efficiency through union without destroying local initiative. Rev. Miyagawa Tsumeteru, who is to visit America soon, was appointed to represent the Kumiai Churches at the Congregational Council in Boston next September. He will also give the greetings of the Churches to the American Board at its annual meetings in October.

The evening of the 6th was occupied in the reading of papers on religious and biblical topics, by Messrs. Imaizumi, Makino, Yuwasa Kichiro, Miyake, and Ebina. Among the subjects treated were:—The Religious Import of Miracles, and The Religion of Mercy, by Messrs. Imaizumi and Ebina respectively. They attracted a good deal of comment and best indicated the trend of thought throughout the meetings, which was one of affirmation of some of the questioned truths.

Saturday, April 8th, was given up to the celebration of the 25th Anniversary. In the afternoon there were appropriate exercises, including extracts from a brief history prepared for the occasion by

Rev. Harada Tanike; address by Rev. Miyagawa Tamiyaro, in which the shortcomings of the Kumiai body in recent years and the means for their cure, together with analyses of the causes for past successes, were set forth. A congratulatory response was given by Dr. Atkinson, of Kobe. In the evening Christian lectures were delivered in the same building (Y. M. C. A. Hall) to a large audience, partly young men.

On Sunday, April 9th, the presence of so many prominent preachers in the city was made use of to the utmost both morning and evening by the Churches of Osaka. The afternoon was devoted to a communion service of the Churches of Osaka and the delegates. The service was deeply impressive, being preceded by a very fitting sermon by Rev. Ebina Danjo.

The discussion of the Doshisha affair was relegated to an informal session held during the forenoon of the 10th. *Propos* of plans for Theological training, much needed for furnishing Kumiai preachers, the Doshisha Trustees asked the advice of the meeting. A good deal of earnest discussion followed, but the opinions expressed were so various that no resolution was adopted.

The rest of the day was socially spent, the *Eikwa* being the guests of the Osaka Christians at a lunch and entertainment at the Osaka Museum.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By HOMER B. HULBERT, A.M.

CHAPTER III.

NEWS OF DEFEAT REACHES SOUL—PANIC—DIVIDED COUNCILS—LACK OF TROOPS—GENERAL EXODUS—INDESCRIBABLE CONFUSION—STRAW SHOES AT A PREMIUM—PRINCES SENT AWAY—THE KING LEAVES SOUL—Y. HANG-BOK ATTENDS THE QUEEN—RIGOROUS CITIZENS—SLAVES BURN THE DEAD—PALACES IN FLAMES—ROYAL PARTY DWINDLES—DRENCHING RAIN—THE KING GOES WITHOUT DINNER—WELCOME RELIEF—JAPANESE APPROACH SOUL—THE RACE BETWEEN KATO AND KONICHI—NO RESISTANCE—THE HAM LEFT UNDEFENDED—AN EMPTY VICTORY—HIDEY'S QUARTERS—THE JAPANESE IN SOUL—THE KING ORDERS THE IM-JIN RIVER GUARDED—THE KING ENTERS PYENG-YANG—A COWARD—THE IM-JIN GUARDED—THE JAPANESE IMPETUS CHECKED.

Meanwhile the city of Soul was waiting breathlessly for news of a victory by General Sil Yip. The tidings of the horde of half-savage soldiers from the islands of Japan had passed from mouth to mouth, and all, from the King to the humblest coolie, knew that General Sil Yip alone stood between them and that dreaded host. One morning a naked soldier was seen approaching the South Gate on a run. He bore the marks of battle, and as he passed under the great arch of the gate a hundred hands were stretched out to greet him and a hundred voices demanded news of the battle. He cried, "I am one of the followers of Sil Yip and I come to tell the city that yesterday he fell at the hands of the Japanese. I have escaped with my life and I am come to tell you that flight is your only hope." The people were fearfully agitated. The evil news spread from mouth to mouth and a great wailing arose from the multitude that thronged the streets.

It was the last day of the fourth moon, and that night the King, not knowing at what moment the enemy might be thundering at his gates, took up his quarters in a secluded part of the palace, "the Old Palace" as it is now called, and gathered about him all his courtiers and officers and held a great council. The only question was, "Where shall we go?"

Yi San-ha, the Minister of War, said, "The Court should remove to Pyeng-yang," but Yi Hang-bok, an official who was destined to figure prominently in the war, said, "It will not be enough to go to Pyeng-yang. We must send and ask aid of China." On the other hand, Kim Gwi-yong and a host of other officials, said, "No, the King should stay right here and defend his capital." The King himself, after listening to all that had to be said, agreed with the majority that it would be best to stay and defend the city. He said, "The ancestral temple with all the tablets of my illustrious ancestors is here. How can I go and leave them? Let the Minister of War immediately detail troops to man the walls." But it was just here that difficulty arose, and it showed clearly why the Minister of War had counselled flight. The city wall has thirty thousand battlements and each battlement has three embrasures, but in the whole city there were only seven thousand troops. This was not a tenth part the number that would be required to man the walls. This

lack of soldiers was due to the fact that in the long centuries of peace it had become customary for the government to receive a money equivalent in place of military service. As a result only the very poorest of the poor were enrolled in the army, and the service consequently suffered. This had custom, while it argues corrupt practices among the officials, does not prove the absence of courage or faithfulness among the people, and we shall find that the people were as a rule true to their duty when they were properly led.

To add to the difficulty of the situation, on that very night there was an overwhelming exodus of the people. High and low, rich and poor, young and old, thronged out of the city by every gate and made for some place of fancied safety in the country. The great bell at Chou-no remained silent that night for lack of someone to ring it. Very many took refuge in the palace enclosure, and men and women, horses and cattle, and goods of all kinds were mixed together in indescribable confusion. Wailing and shouting and crying on all sides added to the confusion. The King could do nothing to quiet the disturbance; so he sat down in his private apartments attended by two eunuchs. Meanwhile the lawless element among the people were trying to make capital out of the confusion, and all night long the palace was being looted by these vicious characters, while palace women fled half naked and screaming with terror from room to room.

The King's relatives all gathered at his doors, and begged with tears and imprecations that he would not go and leave them. An order went forth from the palace that all the straw shoes and sandals that could be found should be brought in. When the officials saw these they said to the King, "This great pile of straw shoes looks as if flight were being prepared for. We had better take them and burn them all and then shut the city gates so that the people cannot escape and leave the place undefended." This advice was probably not followed, for by this time the King himself began to see that flight would be the only possible plan and it was probably at his order that the shoes had been prepared.

Minister Yu Sung-nyong said, "Let us send the two Princes to the provinces where they will be safe and let the different governors be instructed to collect troops and send them on as fast as possible." This seemed sound advice, and the King acted on it. Prince Im-ha, the King's oldest son by a concubine, for the Queen had borne no sons, was sent to the province of Ham-gyong, and Prince Sun-who went into Kang-wun Province.

When night came the King, who saw that it was useless to attempt to hold the city, sent to the keeper of the Ancestral Temple and ordered him to send the ancestral tablets on towards Pyeng-yang. All night long the preparations for departure were pushed, and just at day-break the King called for his horse and, mounting, rode out the Little Gate attended by his personal following, a host of officials, and a crowd of terrified citizens who well knew that his going meant perfect anarchy. The Queen was aided in making her escape by Yi Hang-bok, who under cover of the darkness led her by the light of a torch to the palace gate. She asked his name and being told she said, "I have to thank you, and I am sorry to have put you to this trouble." It is said that he had all along felt sure the Japanese would enter Soul and that he had set for days in his house relishing food and drink. At the end of that time he roused himself and called for food. Having eaten he prepared for a long journey and then went to the palace. One of his favourite concubines followed him and asked what they were to do at home, but he did not answer. She plucked him by the sleeve, but he drew his sword and cut the sleeve off, leaving it in her hands. He felt that his first duty was at the palace. As we have seen, he did good work there in looking after the welfare of the Queen. He secured her a chair at the palace gate and they joined the royal cavalcade on its way northwards.

As the King and his escort passed through "Peking Pass," day was breaking in the east and a last look at the city showed it to be on fire in many places. The populace had thrown off all restraints and had looted the treasure house and the store-houses. In one of the latter were kept all the deeds of the government slaves. Each slave was deeded property, the same as real estate, and the deeds of the government slaves were deposited in the Chang-yé-wun. At that time there was nominally no lower middle class at all. Society was composed of the upper class and their retainers. Almost every man in the lower stratum of society was nominally the slave of some nobleman though in many places it was a nominal serfdom only. At the same time the master had the right to sell them at will and they were in duty bound to assume mourning at his death. It was

this class of people, then, that arose and burned the store house which contained the deeds, and thereby secured their liberty. Another building contained the deeds of all private slaves. This, too, was made an objective point the moment the restraint of government was taken off. The royal party also saw the royal granary in flames, where rice, cloth, and money were stored. The King's private treasure house inside the palace grounds was also burned. The Kyung-buk Palace, the Chang-dok Palace and the Chang-nyang Palace were all in flames. It must have been a depressing sight to the King and his court, but there was no time to waste in mourning over the desolation in Soul. No one knew at what moment the enemy might appear over the southern hills; and so the royal party pressed on toward the north. When they arrived at Sok-kari, in the district of Ko-yang, it was raining furiously, and by the time they arrived at Pjok-jé-yék the entire party were dripping wet.

Up to this point the cavalcade had kept together very well, but there were many among them who had not intended to keep on with the royal party, and there were probably many more whose good intentions were so damped by the elements that they gave it up. From this point on the royal escort was much reduced. The King here dismounted, entered a hostelry, and sat down and began to beat upon the ground with his whip and to weep. As the Ministers gathered around him he said, "What shall we do in this terrible haste?" Yi Hang-bok answered, "When we get to Eui-ju, if we find it impossible to stop there, we must push on into China and seek aid from the Emperor." The King was pleased with this and said, "That is just what I want to do." But Yu Sung-nyong said, "Not so, for if the King leaves Korean soil the dynasty will be at an end and Korea will be lost. The soldiers of Ham-gyong province are still to be heard from and those from Kang-wun Province as well; so there is no call for such talk as this about leaving Korean soil." He likewise administered a sharp reproof to Yi Hang-bok, who confessed himself to have been too hasty.

After a short rest they took the road again, ever goaded on by the dead of pursuit, and as they passed Hê-eun-nyong the rain came down again in torrents. The palace women were riding horses that were small and weak, and they could go but slowly. The riders went along with their hands over their faces, weeping and wailing loudly. By the time they reached the Im-jin River it was dark, and a more wretched company can hardly be imagined. The horses were up to their knees in mud and were well-nigh exhausted. All were nearly famished. It was pitchy dark and the party had become scattered. The case looked about as hopeless as it well could; but Yi Hang-bok was a man of tremendous energy, and he realised the gravity of the situation. So, halting the cavalcade, he dismounted and managed after great exertions to collect the entire party once more. It was so dark that it was impossible to think of crossing the river by ferry until some one thought of the happy plan of setting fire to some of the buildings on the bluff beside the river. By this baleful light the sooty and bedraggled multitude somehow effected a crossing and from that point on the fear of pursuit was greatly lessened. By this time food and rest had become imperative both for man and beast. Those who had been accustomed to no greater hardship than rolling on divans in palaces found a ride of thirty miles in the mud and rain, without rest or nourishment, a severe test. When the cavalcade came at midnight to the hostelry of Tong-pa-yok, in the prefecture of Pa-ju, they found that the prefect Hs-jin and the prefect of Chang-dan, Ku Hye-yun, had provided an excellent supper for the King and the Ministers, but before these worthies could get settled in the apartments provided for them, the grooms and coolies and others, rendered desperate by hunger, rushed into the kitchen to find what had been provided for them, and, finding that they had been forgotten, they began to help themselves to the food that had been prepared for the royal table. An attempt was made to stop them, but they were in no mood to be stopped. The result was that the King and his Ministers went hungry. His Majesty asked for a cup of wine, but none could be found. He asked for a cup of tea, but that too had disappeared. One of the servants of the party happened to have a cake of Chinese sugar tucked under his head-band. This he drew out, and it was dissolved in some warm water and formed the repast of the King that night.

In the morning when it became time to resume the journey it was found to the dismay of all that the coolies had all decamped and left the royal party high and dry. But even while they were discussing this sorry plight the governor of Whangha Province and the prefect of Sê-hung appeared on the scene with two hundred soldiers and fifty or sixty horses. They had come expressly

to escort the King northward, and truly they came in the very nick of time. They had with them a few measures of barley, and this was doled out to the hungry people. As soon as possible a start was made, and at noon they arrived at Cho-hyun-ch'am, forty li from Song-do, where they found plenty of food, as the governor had ordered it to be prepared. This was the second day of the fifth moon. That night they entered the welcome gates of Song-do, which, almost exactly two centuries before, had witnessed the overthrow of the Wang dynasty. This was the first time the royal party could really breathe freely, for they could be easily warned of the approach of the enemy, now that soldiers were on the lookout. So it was decided that they should rest a day at this place.

The King came out and seated himself in the upper storey of the South Gate, and all the people gathered before him. He said to them "Now that this war is upon us, if there is anything that you would say, say on." Without hesitation they replied "This war has been caused by Yi San-han (one of the Ministers) and by Kim Gung-yang," (the father of a favourite concubine.) The people were very angry with them. They also said "You should recall the Minister Ch'ong." This man had been banished because of factional rivalry. To the latter proposition the King readily assented, glad probably to find some way to please the populace.

It was on this day, the third of the fifth moon, that the Japanese entered S'ul.

It will be necessary for us to pause here and note the method of the Japanese approach to the capital. A glance at the map of Korea shows that there are three great highways leading up from Fusan to S'ul. One is the main or middle road leading by Yang-san, Mi-ryang, Ch'ung-do, Ta-gu, and so on up the valley of the Nak-tong River, over the great Ch'oryung (Pass). The division led by Konishi came up the peninsula at double-quick by this road. It was before this division that General Yi Il had fled. A second road is to the east of this, proceeding by way of Ch'ong-p'yong, Ulsan, K'ong-jin, Y'ong-jin, Sil-yung, Kun-wi, P'ion and Mun-gyung. Kato led the division which took this road, but his forces joined those of Konishi below Ch'oryung and the two crossed it together. The forces of both Kato and Konishi were in the battle which witnessed the massacre of Si Yip's forces in the *cul de sac* which we have described. After this battle the two rival leaders again separated and hastened toward S'ul by different routes. Konishi kept on by the main road by way of Ch'ung-san and Yung-in, crossing the Han River just below Han-gang and entering the city by the South Gate. Kato took a more easterly road and came via Y'ong-jin and Yang-gung, crossing the Han seventy li above, at Yung-jin. But a third division under Kurada and other generals had branched off to the west at the very start. They proceeded by way of Kiri-ha and U-do, and then, leaving Kyung-sang Province, they crossed over to Ch'ie and Kim-san in Ch'ung-do Province. Then, crossing the Ch'ung-pung Pass, they entered Ch'ung-ch'ung province and made for S'ul by way of Yung-dong, Ch'ung-jin, and so up by the main road.

The reason for the different divisions taking different routes may have been because of the necessity of obtaining forage, but it was also in part due to the jealousy which existed between Kato and Konishi, for each of these men was desirous of getting to S'ul before the other.

This great triple army met with no real resistance on its way to S'ul. The country was utterly unprepared for war, the principal lack being in competent leaders rather than in number of troops. It was the first quick, sharp stroke on the part of the Japanese which seems to have paralysed the Koreans. The banners of the great host of the invaders spread out over a thousand li, and at intervals of twenty or thirty li they built fortifications from which they signalled to each other at night. The only aggressive move on the part of the Koreans up to this time was the effort of Captain Wun Ho to prevent or at least delay the passage of the Han by Kato's forces, at Yang-jin, by destroying all the boats. But the Japanese were not delayed long by this, for the neighbouring hillsides furnished them with logs for rafts on which they soon crossed, and then they hastened on to anticipate the troops of Konishi in the occupation of S'ul.

It was on the fourth day of the fifth moon that the eager forces of Konishi swept down to the banks of the Han River opposite the town of Han-gang. This river is a real barrier to an army unprepared with pontons or other boats, and the Japanese troops might have been held in check for some considerable time. But the whole make-up of the Japanese warrior was calculated to inspire terror, and no sooner did this countless horde show itself on the opposite shore than General Kim Myung-

wun, who had been put in charge of the river defences, came to the conclusion that he would have more than a mere river between himself and that gruesome array. He therefore threw all his engines of defence into the Han and fled with all his following to the Im-jin river, the next natural barrier between the Japanese and the King. At first thought this flight of General Kim would seem to be an act of pure cowardice, but when we remember that he had only a few hundred men under him, while on the opposite bank over fifty thousand men were clamouring for a passage across, we cannot wonder that he found it necessary to retreat. He did it in proper style by first destroying his military engines lest they should fall into the hands of the enemy.

The King, before leaving S'ul, placed General Yi Yang-wun in charge of the city and its defences, but when he learned of the flight of General Kim from the river he rightly judged that the city could not be held by any such force as was at his command; so he in turn beat a retreat and went north to the town of Yang-jin. The result was that when the Japanese succeeded in crossing the river and pushed on to the gates of S'ul they found only an undefended and half-depopulated city of which to take inglorious possession. It is said that only a few hours elapsed after the entry of Konishi's forces before those of Kato hastened in from the east, disappointed and chagrined to find that they had been beaten in the race; but they were probably consoled by the fact that long before the goal had been reached the prize had taken wing.

Hideyoshi, the General-in-chief of the Japanese forces, took up his quarters in the Ancestral Temple from which the tablets of the royal line had been removed. This was looked upon by the Koreans as an act of sacrilege, and queer tales are told of how, during that first night, while the burning of the city was going on, a Japanese soldier would drop dead every few minutes without visible cause. It is for this reason, as some say, that Hideyoshi removed to the Nam-pyul-gung, known as the place where Chinese embassies have been lodged, and now the site of the Imperial Altar.

Before many days had elapsed the people found out that the coming of the Japanese did not mean universal slaughter, as they had supposed, and gradually they returned to their homes in the city. They reopened shops, and so long as they attended to their own affairs they were unmolested by the Japanese. Indeed, they adapted themselves readily to the new order of things and drove a lucrative trade with the invaders. The latter were strict in the watch of the city, and no one could go out or come in without showing a passport. When the Japanese had exhausted the supplies in S'ul they pushed out into the country and laid the surrounding villages under contribution. Koreans were even found who would tell them where they could go with the hope of finding booty, and acted as guide to them. Among the more loyal citizens a plot was gotten up to assassinate the guard, but it was betrayed to the enemy, and the plotters were seized and burned to death after indescribable tortures. It is said so many perished in that holocaust that their collected bones made a huge mound.

When General Kim Myung-wun fled from the defences of the Han and came to the Im-jin he immediately sent a letter to the King at Song-do telling him of the arrival of the Japanese into S'ul. The King did not censure him, for retreat was the only way open to him; so a messenger was dispatched ordering him to make haste and get together as many soldiers of Kyung-geul and Whang-ha Provinces as possible and make a firm stand at the Im-jin River. General Sin Gil was sent to aid in this work. No sooner were these orders given than the royal party resumed their journey northward in haste, and at night they reached the village of Keum-gyo, in Keum-ch'in district. Here the escort of the King bivouacked in the open air. It was discovered with dismay that the ancestral tablets had been overlooked in the haste attendant upon the departure from Song-do. So one of the King's relatives started back after them and succeeded in bringing the precious relics.

On the seventh of the moon the royal party crossed the Tadong River and entered the gates of P'yung-yang. Here there was food and drink in plenty and all the other luxuries of life. For the first time since the flight began the King enjoyed a season of real rest. The royal cortege was escorted into the city by the governor, Song Wun-sin, who came out with three thousand troops and met them on the way.

Two days later a messenger was seen approaching at a rapid pace. He was swiftly ferried across the river and hurried in the King's presence, where he said "Yi Yang-wun, the defender of S'ul, has fled and the city is in the possession of the enemy."

The King exclaimed "This is bad news indeed, we must appoint some one whose work it shall be to continually attempt to retake the capital." He thereupon appointed General Yu Hong to that arduous and dangerous position. He was to go with three thousand men and do what he could to stop the progress of the Japanese and if possible regain control of the capital. General Yu received the appointment with the worst possible grace. After the headlong flight with all its hardships and privations, to be told that he must go back with three thousand men and meet what he supposed was a blood-thirsty horde of savages, was too much for his patriotism; so he stayed in his rooms and sulked. Two days passed and still he did not start. The King called him up and said "How is it that you let the time slip by like this when you ought to be on the way to S'ul with troops?" The mighty warrior replied "I fear Your Majesty will have to excuse me from this duty, as I am suffering from a boil on my leg." One of the courtiers, Yi Hong-guk, took him to task, saying "How is it that after receiving such favours at the hand of the King you shrink from this duty? You are a coward and are afraid to go. You are like a sulky dancing-girl who refuses either to dance or sing. You are not only not brave but you are not even clever. Do you suppose you can impose on His Majesty with any such story as this about a boil on your leg?" The King was immensely pleased with this well-merited rebuke and laughed long and loud at the discomfited General, but finally said "Well then, since our doughty General Yu cannot go let General Han Eung-jin go instead." The next day General Han started south with 5000 troops picked from the northern border guard, and in good time he arrived at the banks of the Im-jin River midway between Song-do and S'ul. This was the great strategic position that must be held at any cost. It was the key to the north, the gateway to Whang-ha Province and to P'yen-an Province beyond.

Now that the King and the court were in comparative safety an attempt was made to bring together the loose ends of things and make some sort of headway against the Japanese. General Yi Hang-bok, who had so gallantly escorted the Queen from the palace the night of the exodus from S'ul, was made Minister of War. A council was called to discuss the demands made by the people of Bong-do in reference to the punishment of certain officials whom they had accused. The result was that Yi San-ha was banished to P'yung-ha, but the King refused to punish the father of his favourite concubine.

We notice that the military prowess of the Japanese, their thorough equipment, and their martial spirit took Korea by surprise. It caused a universal panic, and for the first few weeks it was impossible to get the soldiers to stand up and fight the enemy, to say nothing of the generals. The troops and the generals were mutually suspicious of each other, and neither seemed to have any faith in the courage or loyalty of the other. But now the time had come when the impetuous sweep of the Japanese was stopped for the time being by their occupation of S'ul. The fall of the capital was looked upon by the King and the people as a great calamity, but in reality it was the very thing that saved the King from the necessity of crossing the border, and perhaps it saved Nanking itself. If the Japanese had kept up that impetuous, overwhelming rush with which they came up from Fusan to S'ul, and, instead of stopping at the capital, had pushed straight for the Yalu River they would have swept everything before them and would have been knocking at the gates of Nanking before the sleepy Celestials knew that Hideyoshi dreamed of paying back in kind the haughty summons of Kublai Khan four hundred years before. The stop at S'ul gave the Korean forces a breathing space and an opportunity to get into shape to do better work than they had done. The people came to see that, instead of painted devils as they had at first appeared, the Japanese were flesh and blood like themselves, and the terror which their fierce aspect at first inspired gradually wore off and in so far lessened the discrepancy between the two combatants. On the side of the Japanese there was only one favourable factor, their tremendous fighting power in battle. There they had it all their own way. But on the other hand they were in a thickly populated and hostile country, practically cut off from their base of supplies and dependent entirely upon forage for their sustenance. Under these circumstances their position was sure to become worse rather than better, and the real strength of the Koreans was sure to show itself. If a Korean regiment was swept off in battle there were millions from which to recruit, while every Japanese who fell caused just so much irreparable injury to the invading army. We shall see that it was the abandonment of the "double quick" that eventually drove the Japanese back across the straits.

SOCIAL CONFERENCE.

A conference of leading workers on Christian lines was held on the 18th instant at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, under the auspices of the Japanese Evangelical Alliance. Invitations in Japanese were sent out to about 150 persons inviting business men and men of the higher classes to meet for this purpose. A score or more Europeans were also invited. The meeting, which was held at 2 to 6 p.m. in one of the large dining-rooms of the hotel, was well attended, nearly every available seat being occupied. There were several Christian merchants and missionaries present from Yokohama. The proceedings were opened by a hymn in Japanese, sung by three young ladies of the Tokyo Joshi Gakuin under Miss Gardner's direction. A solo was also sung by Miss Sada Hayashi during the proceedings, Miss Tetsu Sato playing the accompaniment on the organ. The solo in English, "The Holy City," was very beautifully sung. The addresser, seven in number, were all in Japanese, except one, which was delivered by Rev. Dr. Imbrie. The speech, which gave rise to some dissent, or strictures, on the part of one of the speakers—the Editor of the *Nippon*—gave full satisfaction to his foreign auditory. Several gentlemen afterwards congratulated the speaker on his "rising to the occasion."

The strictures made by Mr. Miyake Yujiru were that it was not necessary in combat the charges of lack of patriotism or loyalty made against Christianity. But they are certainly and persistently made by the great bulk of Japanese writers and religionists. He was also somewhat nettled at the allusion to "the partitioning of China." The critic replied, Poland that was Christian had been dismembered. He did not seem to take into account the difference in size, power, and circumstances of the two countries. The following is the substance of Dr. Imbrie's address.

DR. IMBRIE'S SPEECH.

Some fifteen or sixteen years ago I was in the Fukuage Garden, in company with Mr. Bingham, who was then the Minister of the United States to Japan. It was a beautiful afternoon in the early summer; and the conversation easily turned to Japan and the revision of the treaties. Mr. Bingham was an old friend and spoke with freedom; and what he told me awakened in my mind a new interest in the question. The hopes that he then expressed have now been more than accomplished. The treaties have at last been revised; and Japan is now about to take her rightful place among the nations. Those were the thoughts that occupied my mind on that beautiful summer day, now so many years ago.

To-day once more I am looking into the future with hope. You will pardon me for saying, with a still loftier hope. Your high mountains, your placid lakes, your sparkling waterfalls, are the admiration of travellers from every land. Your art has taken captive the heart of the artist and the decorator. The triumphs of your statesmanship and your marvellous advances in peace and in war have been the surprise of the world. But to me there is still one thing lacking—one thing needful. Japan is not yet a Christian country. The day is surely coming when it will be a Christian country; but that day has not yet come; and until that day does come, Japan to me is what Japan was before Mount Fuji rose above the plain in grandeur and beauty.

But some one may ask, Is there nothing to be said on the other side? Are there no good reasons why Japan should not become a Christian country? I have heard that two such reasons are frequently given.

It is said, I am told, that Christianity will honey-comb and weaken the National Spirit; that the spirit of obedience to Christ and the spirit of patriotism and loyalty can not dwell together in one heart; and that to bring them together is to pour water on fire. That is not true. It is true that in any country—be it England, be it America, be it Japan—in any country, Christianity will condemn what is wrong, and will strive to make what is wrong right. It is true, too, that when there rises in a nation—as there has risen to-day in the Republic of France—a tyrannical false spirit of Nationalism, Christianity will stand before that false spirit and rebuke it to its face. But it is not true that Christianity is the enemy of patriotism and loyalty. Look at England. England is a Christian country; but does any one think that Christianity has banished patriotism or loyalty from the hearts of the English people? England has been a Christian nation for centuries; but does any one seriously think that the people of England are moving down to the level of the people of China? More than that. Does not every one know that to-day if China—with all the might of its millions—were a Christian nation, there would be no talk of parti-

tion? Not because Christianity is in itself warlike, but because Christianity is—and ever will be—the inviolate, persistent, relentless enemy of all rottenness. Look also at America. Thirty years ago there was in America a great war. Four long years of terrible war. I shall never forget them. During those four years three millions of young men left their homes for the field of battle; and of those three millions of young men, the very flower of the nation, three hundred thousand lie buried in the national cemeteries; and America is a Christian nation. But come still nearer home. Look at Japan. Only four years ago there was the war with China. In that war there were battles by sea and battles by land; there was the summer's sun and the winter's snow. In the army and the navy that fought that war there were Christian soldiers and Christian sailors; and in those battles by sea and battles by land, under the summer sun and in the snow of winter, they stood shoulder to shoulder with their fellows; but was it ever said that their Christianity had lessened their patriotism or their loyalty? No, it is not true that Christianity honey-combs and weakens the national spirit. Not only is it not true, it does not even rise to the dignity of plausible nonsense.

But there is a second reason given why Japan should not become a Christian nation. Granting, it is said, that Christianity is not injurious to a nation, it still remains true that it is of no practical value. Go to England, it is said; go to America. Walk the streets of their great cities; read what is written in the daily newspaper; listen to the frank speech of the men that know; and what great difference is there between a Christian nation and a nation that is not Christian?

That is the question; and in that question there is something of truth. Go where one will, sin is; go where one will, and there will be found men who smile at sin; and there is nothing that moves a truly Christian man with a truer sorrow than this very thing. This, however, is no new discovery. We have the words of Christ himself for it, that the tares should be seen growing along with the wheat. But, while this is true, it is not the whole truth. The more intimately one comes to know the complex life of a Christian nation, the more clearly he comes to know that side by side with this there is another truth also. If there are pools of stagnant water breathing pestilence, there are streams of living water bringing life. Even in those same great cities, with all their sin and shame, there are mighty moral forces at work. Mighty moral forces making for justice, and righteousness, and humanity, and purity of life in the man and in the nation. And the reason why those forces exist is this: For generations there has been—and to-day there still is—in the midst of those nations a great company of men who have taken Jesus Christ for their Master and are endeavouring to obey his commandments; because in the nations that are called Christian, there is such a company who are Christian not only in name but also in sincerity and in truth. And therefore when I say that to-day I am looking forward with hope for the day that will surely come—the day when Japan shall be a Christian nation—this is what I mean. I am looking for the day when in Japan also there shall be a great company of Christian men and women who shall leaven society as yeast leavens bread. It will give to your magistrates a new sense of personal responsibility; it will give to your school teachers with higher ideals; it will give to your family life a new sweetness, a new joy, a new beauty. Japan will still be—and will ever be—the loyal land of the Emperor; but the loyal land of the Emperor will ever become more and more a fair kingdom of heaven.

We have met together this afternoon, as Englishmen and Americans and Japanese, with the sincere desire to strengthen the bonds of national friendship. But I can not forget that we meet also as men. May I then say to you one word, speaking to you simply "as a man speaking to men." I am sure that Christianity will prove a blessing to Japan as a nation; and I am no less sure that it will prove a blessing to every one who receives it—to every one that believeth. It will cast a new light on the problems and perplexities of life; it will bring comfort in sorrow, and strength in weakness, and hope in despondency. For after all the great question of questions is the question, what is God? We stand in the midst of a vast universe of things and of men; and we know that above and beneath and within that vast universe there is something or some one which we all call God. But, what is God? That is the question. To that question Christianity brings an answer; an answer that for eighteen centuries has fallen on the ears of all those who receive it, like a strain of sweet music. Jesus Christ says: "I

am the light of the world. He that hath seen me hath seen God." That answer is an answer of peace, of hope, and of courage. An answer, believe me, worthy of your sympathetic consideration.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, April 15th:—

Dr.	Ven.
Share capital fully paid-up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	14,422,700
Amount of convertible notes issued	174,552,640
Government deposits	40,825,682
General deposits	5,687,688
Exchange liability	65,772

Total 265,554,454

Cr.

Discount notes	23,822,982
Foreign discount notes	13,193,988
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	54,758,708
Exchange liability	1,417,922
Government bonds	45,191,379
Property	1,793,619
Bullion and Specie	103,378,851

Total 265,554,454

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued ... 174,751,035

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold 97,033,867

Silver —

Total 97,033,867

Securities:—

Government bonds 35,465,788

Government certificates 22,000,000

Government bills 11,124,760

Commercial notes 7,126,620

Total 75,717,168

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

Increase. Decrease.

Excess-issue — —

Specie Reserve:—

Gold 133,393

Silver —

General loans 1,700,393

Government deposits 4,259,070

General deposits 2,046,711

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE RECENT DISTURBANCES.

Saigon, April 14.

The preliminary examination has been definitively concluded in the affair of M. M. Déroutède and Mercel Habert.

THE SAMOAN DIFFICULTY.

Disorder has reigned for some time at Samoa, where the Germans support King Mataafa, whereas the British and Americans favour his rival Malietoa Tanu. The partisans of Mataafa have caught 200 English and American marines in an ambuscade, and defeated them, killing 3 officers and 4 marines. A German, believed to be the instigator of the affair, has been arrested and carried on board an English cruiser.

Public opinion in London and New York is much excited over these events.

FRANCE AND ITALY.

Saigon, April 15.

Admiral Fournier, Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Squadron, transmitted to King Humbert an autograph letter from President Loubet. The interview between the King and the Admiral was most cordial.

The Sovereigns reviewed the French and Italian Squadrons in the forenoon, and then lunched on board the Admiral's ship *Brennus*.

FRENCH NAVAL AFFAIRS.

Admiral de Cuverville, Chief of the Naval Head-quarter Staff, has consented to remain in office, at the instance of the Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy.

THE SAMOAN DIFFICULTY.

The trouble in Samoa between England and America on one side, and Germany on the other, is on the way to being adjusted.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Saigon, April 18.

A Deputy, former Minister of the Interior, declared in a speech to his constituents at Oloron that a revision of the Dreyfus case is indispensable. The *Figaro* publishes the deposition of Picquart. He describes how he came to suspect Esterhazy, and refutes the accusations with regard to the *petit bleu*.

MINERS' STRIKE.

A strike of miners has commenced in Belgium, and there are fears that it may become general.

SPANISH ELECTIONS: SANGUINARY RIOTS.

Saigon, April 19.

The election of Deputies has taken place in Spain. The Government's majority will be 150. Sanguinary riots took place at Bilbao, Valencia, and Tortosa.

ENGLAND IN SOUTHERN CHINA.

The Hongkong authorities have hoisted the British flag at Taipo-fu, after some resistance on the part of the population.

FRENCH "PATRIOTIC" LEAGUES.

Saigon, April 20.

The Correctional Police have commenced the prosecution of the leagues. Five persons connected with the "League of the Rights of Man" have been sentenced to a fine of sixteen francs.

THE NAVAL VISIT TO ITALY.

The French squadron has quitted Cagliari.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE SAMOAN AFFAIR.

London, April 14.

The British Government regards the conduct of the German Consul, in issuing the proclamation supporting Mataafa's faction in face of the enthronement of Malietoa by the British and Americans, as largely responsible for the present grave situation.

BRITISH PRESS ON THE SAMOAN SITUATION.

The Press keeps moderate, but resents the irritating tone of the German newspapers, accusing Lord Salisbury of dilatoriness.

TWO WAR-SHIPS FOR SAMOA.

The British gunboat *Goldfinch* and cruiser *Wallaroo* have been ordered to Samoa from Sydney.

BRITISH BUDGET.

BIG DEFICIT.

London, April 15.

In the Budget as presented to the House of Commons, the estimated expenditure is £112,927,000, against a revenue of £110,287,000. It is proposed to reduce the annual fixed debt charges from 25 to 23 millions; to impose a stamp duty of five shillings per cent. on foreign and

colonial stock; to increase the duties on the capital of companies; to impose a six-penny stamp duty on letters of administration; and to increase the wine duties.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach stated that the increase of expenditures is mainly due to increased armament, and that if the increase in armament be continued the country must face a large increase in taxation.

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.

London, April 17.

The Right Hon. the Duke of Devonshire, Lord President of the Council, speaking at Presterghn hinted an early retirement from political life.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Le Figaro's publication (report of the proceedings of the Criminal Section of the Court of Cassation) confutes the striking point of positive declarations by the German and the Italian Military Attachés, that they never had the slightest connection with the Dreyfus affair, by intimating that the German Attaché did receive items, enumerated in the *bordereau*, from Major Esterhazy.

ENGLAND AND WEI-HAI-WEI.

Speaking on the Naval Estimates, Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, stated that the Government did not intend to make Wei-hai-wei into a strong fortified base, where battleships could take refuge; if desirable, however, the Government will have a moderate establishment for the convenience of the fleet which is likely to visit the Gulf of Pechili oftener in future.

CAPE ELECTIONS.

In elections in the Cape under the "Redistribution Act," the "Afrikander Bond" obtained an increased majority.

THE SAMOAN EMBROGLIO.

London, April 18.

The Government (British) has ordered the handing over of the German plantation manager at Samoa (recently taken into custody for inciting Mataafans) to the Cruiser *Falke* for a subsequent trial at the German Consular Court.

BRITISH SQUADRON AT SASSARIA.

London, April 19.

The British Channel Squadron have arrived at Sassari to salute their Italian Majesties, who are now visiting Sardinia. It is hoped that this action may mitigate the ill-feeling aroused in Italy by the Anglo-French convention (re African boundary).

PLAGUE IN INDIA.

The plague is declining in all parts of India, except in Calcutta.

BRITISH BUDGET.

EXCITING POSITION.

London, April 20.

Opposition is growing against the Budget in several quarters. The Australians especially oppose strongly the wine duties.

AMERICAN WARSHIPS FOR SAMOA.

The American cruisers *Marblehead* and *Newark* have been ordered to Samoa.

THE KOWLOON AFFAIR.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that the attack (on Mr. May) at Kowloon appeared to have been instigated by secret societies, but that the combatants included uniformed Chinese Militia. The doubtful attitude of the Chinese authorities, he continued,

necessitates a careful consideration of the position.

CANADIAN ANTI-JAPANESE LEGISLATION.

The Government of Canada will probably not allow the British Columbian Bill excluding Japanese labourers to become law.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

ANOTHER DEMAND FOR TERRITORY.

Peking, April 7.

The Island of Yangmao (*Yangmao tao*) near Shanhaikuan, Gulf of Pechili, has been formally demanded from the Taungli Yamèn by a certain Power. Although the Yamèn has refused further cession of territory to any Power, such strong pressure has been brought that there are doubts whether resistance is possible unless by force of arms. General Tung Fushiang has offered to hold the island with his Kansu troops, but up to to-day the Empress Dowager has still refused him permission, owing to the weakness of the Chinese modern fleet.

EXTENSION OF KOWLOON.

Hongkong, April 9.

The British flag is to be hoisted on Kowloon Extension on Monday, the 17th inst., which is to be a holiday.

The administration of the new territory is to be mainly through village committees and tribunals.

The duty on opium going from Hongkong into China is to be collected in future by the Hongkong Government.

INSULT TO COLONEL BROWNE AT MACAO.

Hongkong, April 11.

Colonel Browne, military attaché to the British Legation at Peking, visiting Macao on Monday, did not remove his hat as a religious procession was passing. He was roughly assaulted and arrested, and released on the British Consul's representation. The matter has been reported to Sir Claude Macdonald.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 416.

WHITE.		BLACK.	
1—Kt to K8		1—R taken Kt	
2—R to R5 mate		1—R or Kt takes E	
2—R to Q6 mate		1—Kt to K5	
2—Q takes B mate		1—Kt to B5	
2—Q to B3 mate		1—R to B5	
2—Q to B5 mate		1—B to K3 or Q5	
2—Q takes B mate		1—B to R7	
2—Q to Q4 mate			
&c.		&c.	

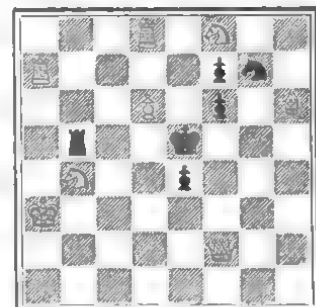
Correct solutions received from W.D.C., *off.* F.G., and E. St Anglin.

PROBLEM No. 419

By C. A. L. BULL, Natal, S. Africa.

First Prize *Manchester Weekly Times* Tourney.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 500.

A very pretty specimen of Mr. Lasker's play on his recent visit to Scotland.

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Mr. Lasker. Black—Mr. Muirhead.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	12 Q K2	Ki Q2
2 P KB4	B B4	13 Ki K4	Ki Ktch
3 Ki KB3	Ki KB3	14 R x Kt	R Kt q
4 P x P	Kt x P	15 R R3	P KB4
5 P Q4	B K2	16 Kt Kt3	P KKt3
6 B Q3	P Q4	17 Q B4ch	K R q
7 P x P ep.	Ki x P	18 Q B6	Kt Kt3
8 Castles	Castles	19 Q K3	R K q
9 P B3	B B4	20 Q B7	KK Kt q
10 B x B	Kt x B	21 Q RPch	Resigns
11 Q Q3	Kt R5		

GAME No. 501.

One of the English champion's blindfold games played recently:—

KISERITSKY GAMBIT.

White—Blackburne. Black—Amateur.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	16 P K4(f)	Kt KR4
2 P KB4	P x P	17 P Q5(x)	Ki x B
3 Ki KB3	P KK4	18 P x Kt	Kt R6ch
4 P KR4	P Kt5	19 R x Kt	B x R
5 Ki K5	P Q3(a)	20 Q x RP	P x P
6 Ki x Kt P	B K2(h)	21 Kt B4(h)	K Q2
7 Ki B2	B x P	22 R Q q(i)	K R q
8 P Q4	B x Kt ch	23 Q x P	B x P(j)
9 K x B	Q K4	24 K x Pch	R x Kt
10 Q B3	Kt KB3(d)	25 R x R	Q K4
11 B x P	Q K3	26 Q Q7ch	K B q
12 Ki Q2	R Kt q	27 Q Q8ch	Q x Q
13 K Kt q(c)	Kt B3	28 R x Qch	K Kt2
14 P B3	B Kt5	29 R x Rch	K x R
15 Q B2	Cts. QR	30 B x B	Resigns

NOTES.

(a) Not the best defence, but, nevertheless, one of the most difficult for the attack to deal with, especially when playing blindfold.

(b) We prefer 6..... P to Q4; and if 7—P takes P, Q to K2 ch; and White cannot then interpose either Q or B, for loss of B takes Kt.

(c) Bad play. Better would be 8..... B to Kt6; 9—Q to B3; Q to Kt4; 10—Kt to B3; B to Kt5; 11—Q takes K B, P takes Q; 12—B takes Q; P takes Kt ch, with about an even game.

(d) Perhaps an exchange of Queens by Q to Kt6 ch would have been safer for Black.

(e) To enable him to play Q to B2 in the event of Black playing B to Kt5.

(f) P to Q5 might have been safely ventured at once.

(g) And now begins what is, considering that White was sans voir, a most remarkable and deep combination.

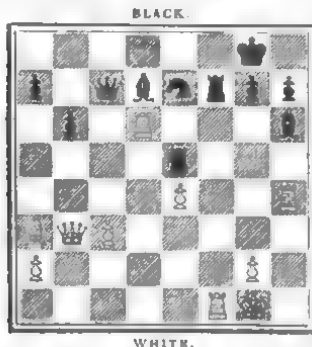
(h) Threatening 22—Kt to Kt6 ch, P takes Kt; 23—B to R6 mate.

(i) And here White threatens 23—R takes P ch, winning at least the Queen.

(j) This looks good enough at first sight; but, as the play has it, "We shall see more anon."

A FINE ENDING.

The following very pretty position occurred at the Hanley Club. The winning continuation was missed by the White player, but afterwards pointed out by some of the onlookers:—



White played Q takes R ch, and finally lost. He should have announced mate in six moves as follows:—

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1—Q takes R ch | 1—K to R sq |
| 2—Q to B8 ch | 2—Kt to Kt sq |
| 3—Q takes Kt ch | 3—K takes Q |
| 4—R to B8 ch | 4—K takes R |
| 5—R to K B6 ch | 5—K to K sq |
| 6—R to B8 mate | |

—County Express, Dudley.

NOTES.

M. Faure, the late French President, played a fair game at what is known to clubbists as drawing-room chess. Often, when the urgent claims on his time allowed a brief respite, he would visit the Cafe de la Regence in Paris, for a few minutes, to watch an important match game in progress. The late M. Grevy, when President, allocated considerable sums from the public fund to donate prizes for chess, a game which he considered it his duty, as head of the Republic, to encourage as a national pastime. His policy in this respect was discussed by members of his Cabinet, and approved.—*Sydney Town and Country*.

The funeral of the late Mr. George W. Medley, of 21, Park Street, Park lane, and Winsford Tower, Devon, took place at Woking Cemetery. Many of the deceased's games may be found in old numbers of the *Chessplayers' Chronicle*, edited by Howard Staunton. He was one of the very few chessplayers of the world, who had the honour of having won a game from Morphy. In the early sixties Mr. Medley had become a most important and active factor in English chess, and he was mainly instrumental in organising the London International Chess Congress, which was held in connection with the Exhibition of 1862. He also, with the co-operation of the late Herr Löwenthal, edited the book of the congress, probably the best edited tournament book extant. Mr. Medley was also at about this period the prime mover in the introduction of a time-limit for the playing of match and tournament games. About three or four years ago he mentioned this fact in a letter to the *Daily News*. In that letter, after commenting upon the inordinate amount of time consumed by chessplayers prior to the introduction of the time-limit, he went on to say that the *reductio ad absurdum* was reached, when Hawitz, on one occasion, took half an hour over his first move. We wonder whether Mr. Medley had ever heard of the celebrated game played in New York about 1857, between Morphy and Louis Paulsen, in which Paulsen sat and looked at the chessboard for two hours and a quarter over one move. A gentleman who was present at this famous sitting, informed us that Morphy, who was then a mere boy, laid down on a sofa, with tears of vexation streaming out of his eyes, his patience having completely broken down at what Staunton would have termed, the "intolerable tedium" of his opponent. For having succeeded in inducing chessplayers to play chess under reasonable time-limit, Mr. Medley's memory deserves to be revered by the chessplayers of all generations, and we are not sure that we ought not to build a monument in his honour.

Walter Pulitzer remarks in the *American Chess Magazine* that great chess faculty always indicates great mental force. Not only is this true, but it is an incontrovertible fact, also, that some of the first minds in history, and in every department of thought, have taken naturally to the royal pastime.

The following reminiscences of De La Bourdonnais, who at one time held the championship of the world will be found interesting reading. The master's chess hours were from noon till midnight seven times a week. He resembled a species of chess automaton, wound up to meet all conceivable cases with mathematical accuracy. When he played his famous match of nearly 100 games with M'Donnell, the hour of meeting being between 11 and 12 a.m., the encounter frequently continued until six or seven p.m., after which M'Donnell would cease playing, exhausted frequently even to weariness; not so De La Bourdonnais. He would snatch a hasty dinner by the side of the chess-board, and in ten minutes be again enthroned in his chair, the hero of the hundred fights, giving rook, or knight, or pawn, as the case might be, to any opponent who presented, fresh as the dewy morn, and vigorous as though 'twere breakfast time. He would play thus long past midnight, smoking cigars, drinking punch, and pouring forth his full soul in even boisterous merriment; dismissing at times his punch in favour of what he termed "Burton alebion," the only fault of which, he was wont to say, was that after three or four bottles he became additionally impatient, if he found his adversary slow. Upon one occasion he played above 40 games of chess at a sitting, with amateurs of every grade of skill; and with all this he had to be at his post to encounter M'Donnell in the morning. The habits of De La Bourdonnais over the board were the very reverse of what would be expected from so profound a thinker; but he appears to be divided into two existences, one of which does the chess, the other the fun. Jokes, songs, and epigrams came in a flood from his lips like those of Lablache. When

the jokes and laughs rose highest, La Bourdonnais' position was improving, and he would gradually smother his opponents with mystification and nonsense.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Savoia, German steamer, 1,622, Jaeger, 14th April.—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 7th April, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 14th April.—Shanghai via ports, 8th April, Mail & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Catania, German steamer, 1,822, Muller, 15th April.—New York via ports, Kobe, 14th April, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Kinshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 15th April.—Seattle, Washington, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Astec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Trask, 16th April.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 14th April, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 16th April.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 15th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Dalcairnia, British ship, 1,700, Jones, 16th April.—New York, 15th November, Keosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Emeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 16th April.—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Sarpedon, British steamer, 3,022, J. Gier, 17th April.—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 16th April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Szechuen, British steamer, 1,158, G. H. Pennefather, 17th April.—Taiwan, 11th April, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 17th April.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 16th April, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Victorious (16), British Battleship, 14,900, Capt. A. Schomberg, 17th April.—Weihai-wei.
Laomene, British ship, 1,644, Hughes, 17th April.—Port Royal, S.C., 1st November, Phosphate Rock.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Borfeur (14), British Battleship, 10,500, Capt. Hon. Stanley C. J. Colville, 19th April.—Weihai-wei.
Salmaie, French steamer, 2,089, Negre, 20th April.—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 19th April, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Woltersdorff, 14th April.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachl.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 14th April.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Rosita (28), Russian Cruiser, 12,130, Captain Danjoff, 14th April.—Kobe and Nagasaki (Sailed at 10 a.m.)
Vladimir Monomach (16), Russian Cruiser, 5,993, Capt. Ouhstomsky, 14th April.—Kobe and Nagasaki (Sailed at 10 p.m.)
Tientsin, British steamer, 2,555, C. G. C. Weston, 15th April.—Muji, Ballast.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Kinshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 16th April.—Hongkong via ports, Mails General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hyson, British steamer, 2,880, D. Davies, 16th April.—Muji, Ballast.—W. M. Strahan & Co.
Catania, German steamer, 1,822, Muller, 16th April.—New York via Suez Canal, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Alec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Trask, 16th April.—San Francisco, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Victorious (16), British Battleship, 14,900, Capt. Schomberg, 18th April.—Yokosuka.
Savoia, German steamer, 1,622, Jaeger, 19th April.—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. H. Watkins, 19th April.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 19th April.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 19th April.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 19th April.—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sarpedon, British steamer, 3,022, J. Gier, 20th April.—London via ports, April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 20th.

Rates all unaltered, and no changes reported from abroad to influence them.

Bank T. F.	2/0 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— 6 months' sight	2 1/4
On Lyons — Bank sight	259
— Private 4 months' sight	263
On America — Bank Bills on demand	49 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2
On Germany — Bank sight	110
— Private 4 months' sight	114
On Hongkong — Bank sight	4 1/2 dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	5 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai — Bank sight	76 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	77 1/2
On India — Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
On Silver (London)	27 1/2

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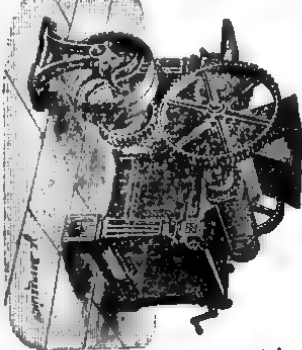
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三月十五日
西曆一千九百零九年

[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	361
Japan and China.....	362
Extensive Changes of Local Governors, &c.....	362
New Political Party.....	363
Foreign Loan.....	363
The Chief of the Tokyo Police and the Flower-Viewers.....	363
Customs Receipts.....	363
Japanese Politics.....	363
Count Okuma.....	364
Salaries and Allowances of Diplomatic and Consular Officials.....	364
Bail in Tokyo.....	364
Marquis Ito.....	365
Formosa Railway.....	365
Dr. Mayers.....	365
Garden Party in Tokyo.....	365
The "Cha-no-yu" Cult.....	365
Japanese Ladies.....	366
Mr. Hooy.....	366
Roughs.....	366
Tokyo Academy of Music.....	366
Industries Bank.....	367
The Income Tax.....	367
"Supernatural".....	367
The International Banquet.....	367
Germany's Proceedings in China.....	368
Revised Commercial Code.....	368
"A Mother of Three".....	368
Collision between Japanese and Chinese Coolies.....	368
The Leopold Bankruptcy.....	368
Leading Articles:—	
The Foreign Settlements.....	369
International Banquet.....	370
Japan M. E. Conference.....	370
Terrible Earthquake at Yokohama.....	370
The New Treaties.....	371
Viewing the Cherry Blossom.....	373
Correspondence:—	
"Form of Contract".....	374
Moral Standards of East and West.....	374
Amateur Theatricals.....	374
News of the Week.....	375
America and the Philippines.....	375
American Matters.....	376
Bicycle Meet at Yokohama.....	376
Bank of Japan.....	376
The Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1895.....	376
K. whin Maru-Miyagawa Maru Collision.....	379
Telegrams.....	379
Chances.....	381
Latest Shipping.....	383
Latest Commercial.....	384

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 15TH, 1899.

DEATH.

Entered into rest, at Hakodate, on Friday, April 7th, CHARLOTTE, widow of the late R.V. GIBSON DRAPER, D.D., in the sixty-sixth year of her age.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE new Commercial Code will go into operation in June next.

MR. GEORGE COATES has been appointed German Consul-General at Yokohama.

COUNT OKUMA is about to stomp the country on a political tour organized by the Progressists.

A MEDICAL school will shortly be founded in

Formosa with the object of training native doctors. Sixty-three students are to be admitted this year.

FOR the convenience of the public, money orders will in future be issued on Sundays as on ordinary days.

HERR JUNKER, the distinguished violinist, has been engaged for four years by the Tokyo Academy of Music.

MARQUIS ITO, who has been on a visit to Nagano, received hearty welcomes at all the towns he passed through on the way.

THE French Mediterranean squadron is visiting Italy and receiving enthusiastic welcomes at all the ports called at.

A good deal of rain has fallen this week and the glories of the cherry-blossoms are already almost things of the past.

DR. OHRT, student interpreter at the German Legation, has been transferred to the German Consulate, Yokohama.

THE ground on which Christ Church and the paragonage stand in Yokohama Settlement, has been purchased for yen 35,000.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank and the Mitsui Ginko have decided not to lower their rates of interest for the present.

THE interminable Dreyfus case still continues to form the subject of most of the press telegrams sent to the Far East from Paris.

THE present Y. U. C. buildings on the Bund, Yokohama, together with the land on which they stand, have been purchased for yen 90,000.

THE bicycle races organized on the Cricket-ground last Saturday by the Sorin Club attracted a good many people, but the racing was rather poor.

MALISTOA TAKU was crowned King of Samoa on the twenty-third of March in the presence of the British and American representatives, the Germans holding aloof.

MATSUDAIRA NOBITOSHI, the Ochanomizu murderer, who was sentenced to penal servitude at the Miyagi Appeal Court, is reported to have appealed against the decision.

REUTER understands that the negotiations between Russia and England extended over other questions besides China, and had in view the adjustment of present or contingent difficulties.

THE Imperial University, the Higher Middle School, the Yusei Kaisha, the Mitsui Bishi, and the Nippon Ginko have held very successful regattas on the Sumida-gawa during the past fortnight.

MARQUIS YAMAGATA, Minister President, and other members of the Cabinet, were entertained at the Oriental Hotel on Monday evening by the Foreign International Committee. Several interesting speeches were made.

A PARTY of English and American sailors have been caught in an ambush on the plantation of a German settler at Apia, and several, together with their officers, were cut down and scalped. The German has since been arrested.

IMPERIAL Ordinance No. 137 has been issued, establishing three Contagious Diseases Inspection Stations at Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki, with a branch Office at Kuchinotsu, in the pro-

vince of Hizen. The staff is to consist of eleven officials, viz., a chief, an inspector, a medical man, three assistant inspectors, and two assistant medical men.

MR. CONSUL UYENO, of Hongkong, reports, under date March 29th, that the Hongkong Government, has declared Tainan and Aping infected ports, and will impose a quarantine on all ships coming from the island.

MR. YASUO KAZUYOSHI, Director, and Mr. Sugura Seishu, Superintendent, of the Foreign Department of the Yokohama Post and Telegraph Office, have resigned. The latter was well known to foreign residents.

THE number of letters, &c., handled at the post and telegraph offices throughout the country during January aggregated 99,845,512, —an increase of 24,061,530 as compared with the corresponding month of last year.

ON the 19th inst., at the Maple Club, Shiha, officials of the Railway Bureau and others will give a farewell party in honour of Mr. Page, who has been for many years in the service of the Department, which he has now left.

ACCORDING to a Formosan telegram received by the Home Department, a new case of plague and a death occurred on the 3rd inst. in Taipei Prefecture; while in Tainan Prefecture there were 41 new cases, of which 28 proved fatal.

EFFORTS are being made to preserve the Shunpan-ro, at Bakan, the place where the Japan-China peace negotiations were opened. It is considered undesirable that a place possessing such historical interest should remain as a mere hotel.

A DISPATCH from Mr. Uyeno, Japanese Consul in Shanghai, states that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Company, who obtained the concession for the construction of the Canton-Kowloon railway, are about to commence work shortly.

THE Czar of Russia has presented, through the Russian Minister, congratulations to Mr. Sumida, former director of the Metropolitan Police Bureau, and a few other police officials in recognition of services they rendered to Prince Cyril when on a visit to Japan last year.

THE Department of Communications has a scheme on foot for the establishment of over 100 new post and telegraph offices. Investigations are now being made as to the sites, and it is hoped to have 40 or 50 new offices in working order by June or July next in localities where their necessity is most urgently felt.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha receives an annual subsidy of yen 916,600; viz., yen 594,600 on the Formosan line, yen 125,000 on the Southern China line, yen 172,000 on the Mukpho and Chinnampho line, and yen 150,000 on the Yangtsiekiang line. It also enjoys a navigation encouragement allowance amounting to yen 30,000 per year.

IN the recesses of the mountainous district of Ishibetsu, Hokkaido, a party of foreigners have been living since 1896. How they came to reside in such a place and how they supply themselves with daily necessaries, remain quite a mystery. Among them are English, French, Germans, and Dutchmen, and they are all males. They number 17 in all, and are supposed to be fishermen and sailors. The Hakodate Gendarmerie has sent officials to make investigations into the matter.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

On the whole it may be affirmed that the Japanese press shows more excitement about foreign affairs at present than it showed on any previous occasion since the retrocession of Liaotung. The fact that the *Fiji Shimpō* lends its columns to the agitation is suggestive, for the *Fiji* generally adopts a conspicuously sober and conservative line. Indeed, the only journal of importance which resolutely taboos the notion of taking any strong step in foreign politics is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Some newspapers maintain marked silence. That is the case with the *Yammin*. As the representative of Liberal views its estimate of the situation would be interesting, but it evidently hesitates to say anything which might be construed as an expression of the Party's policy.

There is no gainsaying the sound sense of the *Nichi Nichi*'s arguments though they must be decidedly unwelcome to every Japanese Jingo. The people of this country, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, are at one moment hysterical, at another indifferent. If they see a foreign country make itself busy in China, they want to have their own country do ditto, without pausing to consider whether the result will be a mere flourish of trumpets or a substantial gain. In fact, the conclusion formed by a level-headed observer of their career during the past four years is that pageant not profit fills their thoughts. Japan is sometimes called the England of the East, but it is hard to see how the name can be justified. The pre-eminent characteristic of England is that she never throws away her opportunities. If she expands in new directions, it is because she possesses, and is at once prepared to employ, all the resources necessary to utilize her expansion. The pre-eminent characteristic of Japan is that she does nothing of the kind. She is within a stone's throw, so to speak, of the huge Chinese empire. There do not exist between her people and the Chinese any of the marked differences that make such a wide gulf between the inhabitant of the Middle Kingdom and the European. The Chinese are nearly related to her; she is familiar with their philosophy and their literature; she has copied many of their systems, and she uses their script. Yet while Europeans have been busily undertaking all kinds of enterprises in China—building railways, working mines, establishing banks—Japan has done absolutely nothing. She could not even find means to start the China-Japan Bank recently talked of, useful as it would be to promote her commerce with the neighbouring nation. Her record in Korea is no better. She possesses one railway there; a line projected by an American and carried nearly to completion by American enterprise before it came into Japanese hands. She has obtained a concession for another line, that from Sōul to Fusan, but she has not even made a survey of it yet. There is no manner of doubt that Japan has great power in the Far East, but her people show no capacity for the functions devolving on them, and no ability in utilizing their opportunities. What is it that impedes China's progress? Is it not, on the one hand, her people's want of knowledge, and, on the other, their defective means of communication? Japan could supply both of these deficiencies, but she does nothing. For all the practical use that the Japanese have made of the concessions gained by the Shimon-

seki Treaty, the Treaty need never have been negotiated. There is nothing in such a record to warrant any fresh official enterprises in China. What their Government obtains, the Japanese people throw away. It may be urged that, since their capital does and suffice even for domestic purposes, they can not be expected to invest it abroad. But capital is not the real difficulty. English banks and German banks in China employ large capital, the greater part of which is drawn from Chinese sources. A Japanese bank, if it were properly organized, could work on the same lines. The long and short of the matter is that until the Japanese furnish some practical proof of their readiness to follow whither the Government leads, there is not the slightest use in the Government's striking out new lines.

That is plain and wholesome speaking; every word of it commends itself as sound and sensible. But if we turn to journals like the *Fiji*, the *Asahi*, the *Nippon*, the *Chuo* and so forth, we find evidences of great uneasiness. The *Fiji* thinks that China is rotten to the core, and may crumble to fragments at any moment. Where the process of disintegration will commence there is no foreseeing: perhaps in Fuhkien or Chekiang, almost within sight of the shores of Formosa. Yet the Japanese nation remains apathetic. This is the time for the country to choose its path and pursue it resolutely. If the present opportunity be sacrificed, the loss may prove irreparable. The Liaotung affairs was beyond help. The news of the Three Powers' interference found this nation helpless to resist. But it is not so now. The problem lies before Japan's eyes, and can be solved to her satisfaction if she grapples it boldly.

It will be seen that the *Fiji* does not particularize its advice, but that the general character of the policy it recommends is unmistakable. It reproaches the Liberal Party for their inaction; contrasts their excitement about the Official Appointments Regulations with their apathy about a stupendous national question like that of China, and accuses them of being great in small things and small in great.

The *Chuo*, which, as the Nationalist Unionist organ, might be expected to echo the Government's views, is even more perturbed than the *Fiji*. It thinks that if Japan sits with folded hands at this juncture, China, which constitutes the chief market for her manufactures and products, will be absorbed completely by foreign Powers. It further thinks that the idea of preserving China's integrity is hopelessly exploded. Japan certainly could not perform that task single-handed, and since all the Powers of the West have abandoned it, Japan must follow their example, unless she intends to be left out in the cold. What is the use of our military preparations, the *Chuo* asks, if no use is made of them when the nation has urgent need. But the *Chuo* does not advocate military action. What it counsels is that Japan should step in, and secure the Chinese markets by clearly establishing her sphere of influence.

As for the *Nippon*, we have already alluded to its vehement writing, and to its argument that Japan should send troops to China and cruisers to the principal ports of Fuhkien and Chekiang. But the *Nippon* appears to have been reflecting more profoundly since it ad-

vanced these stalwart views, and the outcome of its reflections is that just as the Pope divided the world, once upon a while between Spain and Portugal, with no tangible results for either the Portuguese or the Spaniards of the present era, so a division of China upon paper or by treaty would not inure in any way to the advantage of the dividing parties unless they were ready to assimilate their gain. The *Nippon* lays down the axiom that a nation's strength is as the strength of the individuals composing it, and that if a country wants to be great, the best plan is to educate its people in the qualities that make for greatness. It looks as if the *Nippon* had been imbibing wisdom at the same source as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, but the *Nippon* has already blown its Jingo trumpet to loudly to muffle the sound now with philosophical platitudes.

It goes without saying that the *causa causans* of all this talk is Germany's action in sending troops into the interior of Shantung. The Japanese appreciate the condition of an empire within whose territories foreign soldiers are moved about at the caprice of a foreign potentate, and many of them are obviously becoming impatient lest they should be permanently left out of the scramble for Celestial scraps.

EXTENSIVE CHANGES OF LOCAL GOVERNORS, &c.

The *Official Gazette* publishes several changes of Departmental Vice-Ministers, Prefects, and other high officials as follows:—Mr. Matsudaira Masanao, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, being released from his position at his own request, is replaced by Mr. Komatsubara Eitaro, hitherto Vice-Minister of Justice; Mr. Kiyozumi Iyenori, Governor of Ibaraki, is released at his own desire and replaced by Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi, hitherto Vice-Minister of Education, the latter's position being granted to Mr. Okuda Yoshihito; Mr. Sogabe Michio, Governor of Fukuoka, retires at his own request, and is succeeded by Mr. Fukano Ichizo, formerly Superintendent of the Local Government Bureau; the latter's post being filled by Mr. Shibata Iyokado, hitherto Chief Secretary of the Cabinet; Mr. Ogura Hisashi, Director of the Police Bureau, is appointed Governor of Wakayama, being succeeded by Mr. Anraku Kanemichi, Governor of Gifu, whose post is given to Mr. Nomura Masakira, ex-Governor of Wakayama; the Director of the Prisons Bureau, Mr. Koike Keiichi, is placed on the retired list, and his position is given to Mr. Okubo Toshitake, Private Secretary to the Minister for Home Affairs; Mr. Seki Shingo, Governor of Fukui, is also placed on the retired list, being replaced by Mr. Iwao Samuro, ex-Governor of Akita, to whose post Mr. Takeda Chiyoaburo, Secretary of the Higo Prefectural Office, is nominated; Mr. Sone Shizuo, Governor of Yamagata *Ken*, having resigned of his own accord, is succeeded by Mr. Seki Yoshiomi, and Mr. Orita Heinai, Governor of Shiga, who also resigns, is replaced by Mr. Kawashima Jun; finally, Mr. Okada Ryohei, Councillor of the Educational Department, is appointed a *Sanyokwan* or *Chokunin* Councillor, of the same Department.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

The new political party has been so long in the throes of delivery that it seems likely to be born a deformity, if, indeed, it is ever born at all. Essential lovers of plays upon words, the Japanese now say that this *Shinsei-to* (new party) will be a *Kinsei-to* (a homonym for "old party" and "ancient-rumour party") before it sees the light of day. Will the country be a loser by the abortion? Apparently not. When the projected organization came originally on the *tapis*, it was associated with the names of Messrs. Kaneko Kentaro, Saito Shuichiro, Taguchi Ukichi, Shimada Saburo, and so on. Naturally the public said, "Here at length is a party that will represent the really respectable side of politics." But when the party's platform began to assume definite shape, it was found to be a conservative structure with a religious basis. The country's indigenous creed, *Shinto*, and its oldest exotic faith, Buddhism, were to be folded under the wings of the *Kokken-to*, and the mediæval spectacle of politics and religion playing to an audience of national passions was to be rehearsed, to Japan's great demoralization, at the close of the nineteenth century. It is not a public misfortune that such a mischievous performance can not find either actors or a stage, but it is a wholesome sign that the intended audience shows its aversion beforehand. The projectors of the party are compared by a witty journalist to the Chinese knaves who, under a sheep's-head sign-board, sold dog's flesh to a deluded public, and, while the still-born deformity is buried with acclaim, fears are expressed lest its evil odour should corrupt public opinion and vitiate men's conception of conservatism. The historical misfortunes that have attended all past attempts to confound Church and State are recapitulated, and the fervent hope is expressed that Japan's peace may never be disturbed by this ancient nightmare. It may well be supposed that the partisans of *Shinto* and Buddhism who were ready to place their creeds under a political ægis do not escape censure. If that is their idea of the way to stand their ground against Christianity, they can not count on surviving the struggle.

FOREIGN LOAN.

There have been so many conflicting rumours recently about Japan's foreign loan that we hesitate to allude to any more of them. However, we add the latest story for what it may be worth, namely, that London financiers have agreed to float a 4 per-cent. loan at 95 or 96, and that Mr. Hayakawa Senkichiro, of the Finance Department, is to proceed to England immediately to complete the arrangements. Meanwhile, the Treasury has sold to the Bank of Japan five million *yen* worth of the War Bonds purchased last year for the purpose of easing the market. The Bank is now in a position to buy several millions worth of Bonds, for its note-issuing power has been increased, as our readers remember, from 85 million *yen* to 120 millions, and it finds, just at present, no demand for the additional issues in the open market. It pays 14 per cent. on the notes and receives 5 per cent. on the Bonds purchased with them, so that the transaction is decidedly favourable.

THE CHIEF OF THE TOKYO POLICE AND THE FLOWER-VIEWERS.

The Chief of the Tokyo Police has withdrawn his strange order forbidding the use of fancy costumes by Japanese visiting the cherry-blossoms. It has been stated by vernacular newspapers that the order was prompted by a desire to put an end to a custom which seemed likely to be severely criticised by foreigners after the era of mixed residence had commenced. Such an explanation over-taxes our credulity; for, unless the Chief of Police is singularly ill-informed, he must be well aware that foreigners themselves, in their own countries, often take their amusement in precisely the manner which he has attempted to check in Tokyo. He must also know that at the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee in Yokohama a few years ago, masquerading took place on a large scale. But whatever may have been his motive, such interference with the people's innocent amusements is unwarrantable, so far as we can see, and foreigners are entitled to strongly resent the coupling of their name with acts so ill-advised. Any Japanese who believe—and there must be a great many such—that their harmless merry-making is to be stopped in deference to foreign prejudices, will naturally feel resentment against the foreigner. From that point of view there has been far too much journalistic talk about the operation of the new Treaties. The Tokyo newspapers have discussed the event so frequently and earnestly that their Japanese readers must be beginning to regard the foreigner as a nuisance, and to regret that the Revised Treaties should give him an opportunity of disturbing the even tenor of the nation's life. As a matter of fact he will not disturb it at all. Things will go on after July next just as they have always gone on.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS.

The Finance Department's estimate of the Custom's yield for the current fiscal year is 16 million *yen*. That is on account of import duties only. Export duties are still levied, but only as a temporary measure. They remain at the old rates, and the return expected from them during the period January 1st to July 17th is only three-quarters of a million *yen*. The Customs' records for the first three months of the year, however, suggest that the Finance Department's estimate may prove fallacious. The import duties levied during January and February aggregated 1,098,533 *yen*, and the figures for Yokohama and Kobe during March were 690,011 *yen*, so that the total yield for all the ports during the first quarter of the year can not have exceeded 2 million *yen*. If that figure may be taken as illustrating the state of affairs for the remainder of the year, it is evident that the aggregate income from the source will be only 8 million *yen*, not 16 millions, as estimated in the Budget. The *Yiji Shimpō* draws attention to these facts, but does not refer to the forecast generally made by foreign observers last year, namely, that owing to the rush of goods imported during the second half of 1898, in order to escape the increased tariff enforced from January 1st, 1899, the imports for the first half of the current year would probably be comparatively small.

JAPANESE POLITICS.

Incidents now occurring in the field of Japanese politics invite a great deal of criticism. The wonderful Mr. Koyama, who openly gloried in having accepted a bribe, and justified his act by pleading that to take the money of dishonest folks without giving any return for it is a kind of duty devolving on patriotic members of the Diet—this Mr. Koyama has actually had the effrontery to sue the persons who bribed him because the latter, seeing that Koyama did not vote as he was expected to vote, declined to cash a promissory note representing part of the bribe. Mr. Hoshi Toru, however, has startled the public more effectually. People do not take Mr. Koyama very seriously, but they recognise in Mr. Hoshi one of the great party politicians of the time, and look to him for light and leading. Speaking recently at a meeting in a provincial centre, Mr. Hoshi is reported to have said that Japan was now in the era of bribery. England had had a similar era in the days of Walpole, and Japan need not be ashamed that her turn has come. She must pass through this stage of parliamentary institutions, and therefore men might take bribes wherever they could get them.

It will readily be conjectured that this saying of Mr. Hoshi's—truly or falsely reported—has created no little excitement. The *Yiji* takes it seriously, but treats it comically. It opines that the era to which Mr. Hoshi alludes was not found by him ready-made, but was made by him. Hoshi laughs, no doubt, but the era is very sorry for itself, and doesn't care to be charged with the responsibility of being its own creator. If any one wants a pair of well-matched pictures to hang in his alcove as moral samplers, he could not do better than get likenesses of Messrs. Hoshi and Koyama embroidered in gold and silver.

Another incident which the *Yiji* utilizes, also at Mr. Hoshi's expense, is the affair of the Tokyo Tram Company and the City Assembly. Several months ago, the Tokyo Police issued an order restricting the number of passengers carried in a tram-car. The Company retorted by raising its fares, greatly to the indignation of the public, who justly contended that such conduct on the part of a company paying dividends at the rate of 30 per cent. was unwarrantable. Acting on that view, the City Assembly passed a resolution calling upon the Chief of Police to withdraw the sanction he had given to the schedule of increased fares. Then followed a long discussion, the police insisting on their restrictions, in the interests of order and morality, and the Company declining to reduce its fares. Finally a compromise was effected. The increased fares were endorsed by the City Assembly on condition that the Company contributed a sum of twenty thousand *yen*, in four annual instalments, to the road-repairing fund of the municipality. Now it is estimated that the profits accruing to the company under the new schedule will aggregate two hundred thousand *yen* in four years, so that the bargain struck with the City Assembly seems too favorable to have been concluded without some recourse to devious methods. Hence the members of the Assembly are classed with Mr. Koyama and his comrades, and, moreover, this new instance of corruption is laid at

the door of Mr. Hoshi's theory about an inevitable era. The *Fiji*, therefore, has a picture of the Liberal leader in the character of a stall-keeper. His wares are iron masks, fashioned after his own likeness, and before his shop is a placard announcing that masks warranted to hide all sense of shame may be had for a reasonable outlay. A member of the City Assembly approaches the stall with the obvious intention of buying.

Of course the recent affair of the Official Appointments Regulations does not escape ridicule. The critics pretend to think that Marquis Yamagata was persuaded to issue the Regulations in the interests of the Clan nominees, who wanted to be secured in their tenure of office, and that, on the other hand, he was prepared to purchase the complaisance of the Liberals by providing for a number of exceptions. He is therefore represented as a kind of Mr. Facingbothways, giving assurances to the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, on one side, and to Mr. Hoshi Toru on the other.

The moral of it all, as deduced by the *Fiji Shimpō*, is that the people who say and do these things are not so bad as the public which suffers them to be said and done with impunity. Therein we entirely agree with our contemporary. But in expressing our agreement we merely reiterate what we have often said before, namely, that among all the needs of modern Japan, an active public opinion is the most urgent. There never was a country where things that are everybody's business are so completely thrust aside as nobody's business. The miserable aphorism that tongues wag for only seventy-five days consecutively, is responsible for an immense amount of mischief in Japan. Whether society's apathetic attitude is of modern growth or of ancient custom we do not pretend to judge, but certainly the habit of the time is to regard in the light of the proverbial "conjugal quarrel" every incident with which one's own interests are not directly connected. A House of Representatives which brought its session to a close without taking any official notice of the fact that one of its members had publicly confessed himself guilty of corruption, is a corrupt House, whatever may have been the motives of its indifference.

COUNT OKUMA.

Saturday, April 8.

Rumour is busy at present with the names of Count Okuma and Marquis Ito in conjunction. There is an effort to persuade the public that the two statesmen are coming together, and that their union for administrative purposes is not unlikely. It is our conviction that Marquis Ito is irrevocably committed to the Liberal Party, and that unless, some radical re-grouping of political elements takes place, he can not be found in the same camp with Count Okuma. Nor does it follow that such a coalition would be advantageous for Japan. She needs two strong parties, and no better leader than Count Okuma can be found for one of them.

The Count, who is at present staying in his Oiso villa, has been interviewed by a representative of the *Fiji Shimpō*, to whom he expressed his admiration of the unimpaired vigour of Marquis Ito's mind. He hinted that most of the so-called "elder statesmen" have fallen behind the times,

and become timorous of the changed conditions of the world. Not so Marquis Ito, however. He always keeps himself on the crest of the wave of progress, and the nation recognises that he still has heart for great achievements.

Count Okuma then spoke of the country's foreign policy in terms of guarded but unequivocal discontent. He let it be seen that, in his opinion, a valuable opportunity had been sacrificed when China's application for a loan on the security of the Hang-yang mines was rejected, and he hinted that the secrecy in which the Foreign Office wraps its doings does not conceal activity but hides inaction.

Wednesday, April 12.

Count Okuma has started on a "stumping" tour. He proceeds first to Sendai, and thence to Saitama, Shizuoka, Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, Okayama, and Hiroshima, in that order. It is stated that his intention is to pass 6 or 7 days at each place, so that his trip will probably occupy about two months. It is not the first time that one of the leading *Meiji* statesmen has visited the provinces in the interests of a political party. Marquis Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa adopted a similar course when the National Unionists were organized, and Count Goto did the same at a much earlier date for the purpose of collecting adherents for the *Daidō Danketsu*. Indeed, it may be said that Count Itagaki set the example twenty-two years ago, for when he raised the Liberal standard he belonged to the band of so-called "Clan statesmen." Nevertheless Count Okuma's tour excites a great deal of interest, partly because his recent exalted position of Minister President of State renders all his movements important, and partly because, intimately as he has always associated himself with the Progressist Party, he has never hitherto espoused its cause to the extent of stumping the provinces in its interests. Besides, Count Okuma is unquestionably a great personality. He is an admirable speaker. In that respect he ranks, we think, above all the "elder statesmen" of the time, Marquis Ito alone being his possible peer. He possesses also a singularly captivating manner, largely due to the exceptional freshness of his mind. The smallest subject interests him. He listens to every suggestion or opinion, however humble its source, and is always ready to give to it the closest attention and to embellish it with some original view of his own. Add to this that he is gifted with an extraordinary memory and that his judgments are formed without the least hesitation, and it becomes easy to understand the influence he wields and the popularity he enjoys. It is more than questionable, however, whether the exigencies of party leadership have not impaired Count Okuma's title to be called a really great statesman. In the days before he found himself dragged this way and that by political influences, he frankly obeyed the dictates of his own verdicts and never lacked the courage of his opinions, and as the former were always sounder and the latter more profound than those of his followers, his statesmanship stood on a far higher level than theirs. Of late years it has been sometimes difficult to detect these old evidences of bold independence and high conscientiousness, and when the story of the development of constitutional government in Japan comes to be written, the historian will probably have to class this

injury to Count Okuma's national usefulness among the sacrifices that the new system demanded.

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICIALS.

The Japanese Government has found it necessary to increase the salaries paid to its Diplomatic and Consular officials. Arithmetically the increases look very large, but it has to be remembered that the former figures, though stated in silver, were paid in gold in the case of officials serving in gold-standard countries, whereas the new figures represent the payments actually made in every case. Japan herself having adopted gold monometallism, her *yen* has a fixed equivalent in gold, and it is no longer necessary to make any allowance on account of differences of standard. Hitherto the best paid Ministers have been those accredited to England, France, Russia, and the United States. Their salaries were 6,000 *yen* nominally, but, being paid in gold, amounted in practice to 12,000 *yen*. The figure will henceforth be 22,000 *yen* for Great Britain and Russia, and 20,000 *yen* for the United States and France. The Minister in Germany, heretofore paid 5,700 *yen* (i.e., 11,400 *sen* in silver) will now receive 20,000 *yen*; the Minister to Austria will receive 18,000 *yen* instead of 5,700; the Minister to Italy, 17,000 *yen* instead of 5,300; the Minister to Belgium, 14,000 *yen* instead of 5,000; the Minister to China, 12,000 *yen* instead of 5,500; and the Minister to Korea, 9,000 *yen* instead of 5,000. Corresponding changes are made with regard to Charge's d'Affaires, First Secretaries, and Consuls. These increases are accompanied by reductions in certain allowances hitherto granted, independently of salaries, so that the officials concerned will not find their financial circumstances so much improved as the actual figures suggest. On the other hand, since salaries, apart from allowances, constitute the basis for calculating pensions, the change now made will be very welcome.

BALL IN TOKYO.

On the evening of the 13th a ball was given by Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima at their residence in Nagatacho, Tokyo. His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa arrived at about half-past nine, and Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Kanin came half an hour later, by which time the whole of the guests, some three hundred in number, had assembled, including their Excellencies Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Saigo, Count Matsukata, Count Okuma, Viscount Aoki, the Foreign Representatives, and many other distinguished personages. Dancing then commenced and was kept up until past two o'clock, concluding with a cotillon. Immediately after supper the *gavotte* was danced with much grace and accuracy, but the spectacular effect was disappointing, as the dancers were not specially costumed. It is needless to say that the arrangements, from first to last, left nothing to be desired, and that the entertainment proved most enjoyable. A marked feature of the evening was the beautiful costumes of some of the Japanese ladies, but as Japanese dress does not lend itself to dancing in foreign style, its wearers were little *en evidence*.

MARQUIS ITO.

Marquis Ito arrived at Nagano on the 10th instant, and received an ovation. Thousands of people turned out to welcome him, and there were illuminations and other demonstrations of rejoicing. The Marquis undoubtedly possesses the confidence of the nation in an incomparably higher degree than any other living statesman. It is easy to understand the eagerness of the two great political parties to obtain his avowed coöperation, for whichever has the good fortune to win him will at once rise high above its rival. There have been rumours of late that a *rap-prochement* is taking place between him and the Progressists, and the theory received some confirmation from Count Okuma's recent eulogies of the statesman who, while the oldest man in the nation in respect of wisdom and experience, remains as young as ever in mental vigour. But although Marquis Ito, hesitating to figure in the rôle of a party politician, refrains from openly casting in his lot with the Liberals, he is bound to them by ties sufficiently strong to hold him back effectively from joining the Progressists. If he ever does consent to take the leadership of a party—which is doubtful—there can be no question as to the choice he will make. Frankly speaking, we do not think that the Liberals, as they are now constituted, are worthy to be led by him. Their record in the last session of the Diet is not calculated to attract any really conscientious and patriotic statesman.

FORMOSA RAILWAY.

It is stated that the Formosa Railway Company has now been finally dissolved, and that all the preliminary outlays incurred by it will be reimbursed so soon as the Formosa Railway Bonds, the issue of which was voted by the Diet last session, have been floated. The operation may involve considerable delay, however, for it is evident that no market can be found for the Bonds in Japan at present. The capital of the Company, as originally planned, was 15 million *yen* in 300,000 shares. Of these the number taken by the projectors and the first batch of subscribers was 155,000, and, as the amount paid up on each was 2.50 *yen*, the total collected was 387,500 *yen*. A part of this was spent upon surveying the line, a part upon locomotives and waggons, and a part upon expenses of organization. Such outlays aggregated 300,000 *yen*, in round figures. The waggons were of special construction, being intended for transporting troops as well as carrying ordinary freight. These, together with the locomotives and the surveys and drawings, will all be valuable to the Formosa Government, but of course, the moneys devoted to organizing the Company will be a clear loss. It seems to be expected that these moneys also will be reimbursed to the shareholders, but the principle of such munificence is hard to appreciate. The company failed totally to carry out the project for which it was formed, and there seems to be no valid reason why the State should indemnify it for all the losses caused by its failure.

DR. MAYERS.

Dr. Mayers, foreign adviser to the Government in Formosa, is now in Tokyo, having come there by desire of the Central Authorities. He has naturally declined to be interviewed, but his caution in that respect has not saved him from being very falsely represented by some vernacular journals. The *Forosa Choho*, which enjoys the reputation of being the "Yellow Journal" of Japan *par excellence*, manufactured a paragraph about Dr. Mayers out of whole cloth, and the *Nippon* now alleges that he threatens to make all sorts of inconvenient disclosures in *The Times* unless his advice is followed. We have no hesitation in saying that the *Nippon* has been grossly misinformed, and that Dr. Mayers never uttered any such threat. Our contemporary adds that the Doctor is singularly earnest in pressing his views; so earnest that people have been perplexed to interpret his motive, and the *Nippon* enlightens them by explaining that Dr. Mayers having been for over twenty years a resident in Formosa, and having acquired among foreigners a reputation for thoroughly understanding the people of the island and their affairs, is most unwilling to be associated with the failures which he believes to be in store for the Japanese if they do not adopt his counsel. We are not aware how much earnestness Dr. Mayers may have shown, but it will perhaps interest the *Nippon* to know that Englishmen are always earnest about any work they undertake, and that a great many Englishmen are astonished at the methods pursued by the Japanese in Formosa. Great Britain has given practical demonstration that the Chinese are eminently easy to govern. She governs hundreds of thousands of them in Hongkong, Singapore, and the Straits. Her secret is to make them manage their own affairs, and to abstain from all interference with customs and organizations which are not prejudicial to peace and good order. That is a very simple recipe. The Japanese themselves adopted it with marked success during their brief administration of affairs in Liaotung and at Newchwang. But they pursue a very different course in Formosa, chiefly, we imagine, because the officials they send there are an inferior class of men quite unfitted for such a task. However, the Japanese are not at present in a mood to utilize the experience or consider the advice of other people. They are bent upon working out their own salvation in their own way, and their friends can only hope that the effort will not prove too costly.

GARDEN PARTY IN TOKYO.

The President of the Bank of Japan, Mr. Yamamoto, and the Vice-President, Mr. Takahashi, entertained a large party of friends at the Maple Club on the afternoon of the 8th instant. There were about five hundred persons present, and extensive arrangements had been made for their amusement, the programme including dancing in various styles, *raconteurs*, and so on. Several of the Ministers of State and most of the leading merchants of Tokyo were among the guests, and foreigners were represented by Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Mr. Budd, Mr. Bevis, and Mr. A. Diosy. At about 4 o'clock refreshments were served, and the party broke up after a most enjoyable afternoon.

THE "CHA-NO-YU" CULT.

Within the past few days there was held at Hoshigaoka in Tokyo a sale of articles for use in the Tea Ceremonial. Probably in no other country, Occidental or Oriental, does so much value attach to the "odile" of a celebrated connoisseur as in Japan. Sen-no-Rikiu, the ill-fated dilettante of Hideyoshi's time, Kobori, Lord of Yenshiu, who flourished a few generations later, and five other masters of the *Cha-no-Yu*, are held in such venerated remembrance that any object which received their approval or was used by them, possesses a sacro-sanct character in the eyes of their successors. Kobori was the greatest connoisseur of all, and he compiled a catalogue, called the *Meiyo-ki*, in which he entered a detailed account of all the *Cha-no-Yu* utensils regarded in his time as the *ne-plus-ultra* of classical taste, and when any of those utensils comes into the market now-a-days, there is a considerable flutter in the *Cha-no-Yu* dove-cot. The objects recently offered for sale at Hoshigaoka numbered 900, and included several which were recognised as the fully authenticated originals of the Kobori catalogue *raisonné*. Hence the bidding—it was done by tender—was very brisk, and some of the prices realized were remarkable. The total sale brought fifty thousand *yen*. Here are some of the figures:—

- A cup of stone-ware covered with lustrous black glaze having ash-coloured spots. (A specimen of Chinese *Chien-yao* of the Sung dynasty, known in Japan as *Hakatsugi Tommoku*. The most ardent Occidental lover of "antiques" would probably think five sovereigns a very *yen* high price for such a cup). Sold for 3,000
- A bamboo flower-vase (of the kind known as *Hito-yo-giri*; without decoration of any kind)..... 507
- A bronze vase; body undecorated; cloud-shaped handles; 9 inches high..... 1,680
- An iron water-bottle (*kama*) of the shape called *Tammi gama*..... 251
- A charcoal-holder (*sumi-tori*) made of woven bamboo, in the *ichi monji* style... 211
- An incense-box (diam. 2½ inches; depth 1 inch) of black lacquer in the *guri*, or *tani-hoku*, style, in a box marked by Kobori Yenshiu no Kami..... 466
- An incense box (smaller than the last) of blue and white porcelain, the decoration a roughly painted water-lily..... 158
- An *Ashiya* iron water-bottle (the style known as *avari gama*; i.e. the surface granulated in hail stone diaper)..... 356
- A similar bottle with handles..... 250
- A stand of black lacquer, for an alcove ornament (worth about 50 *sen* from an artistic point of view)..... 238
- A scroll inscribed with the ideographs *hai shin* (*mens aqua*), from the pen of Sei Satsu of the Tang Dynasty..... 1,580
- A scroll inscribed with ideographs from the pen of Gessaki (Sung Dynasty)..... 488
- A bamboo tea-bottle (used by Sen-no-Rikiu)..... 518
- A miniature screen, of the kind used for placing besides the furnace in the Tea Ceremony (hence called *Furo-saki-biyobu*); painted by Shokwado..... 258
- Five small blue and white porcelain cups, from the kiln of Shonzei Goro-dayu..... 121
- Five small cups of Ming porcelain (red glaze with traces of gold decoration)..... 110

All these were identified as having received the honour of entry in the *O-kura-cho*, which is the scripture of the Japanese *Chajin*. There were several other objects scarcely less startling, but our list is quite long enough. We may add that had these "curios" been offered for sale even in Paris, the metropolis of connoisseurs, it is doubtful whether any one of them, with the exception of the *Chien-yao* cup, would have fetched 20 francs.

JAPANESE LADIES

The part played by Japanese ladies in society is discussed by the *Kokumin Shimbu* in two articles of considerable interest. According to our contemporary's view, ladies are gradually suffering social effacement in this country. They do not occupy as important a place as they did twenty years ago, insufficient as was the consideration then accorded to them. Whenever they do make their appearance at evening parties, they are content to hide in remote parts of the *salons*, and are left without notice or attention. Ministers of State and diplomatists did at one time include wives and daughters in their invitations, but they do so no longer, and they excuse themselves by saying that, the ladies having shown a steadily increasing tendency not to avail themselves of these invitations, the habit of inviting them gradually went out of vogue. In short, the present state of affairs is that ladies go into society not as a pleasure but as a duty, and they do not discharge the duty with such a good grace as to dissimulate its irksomeness. The absence of ladies at semi-official or official banquets might be referred to special causes, as is often the case now, but the general fact that they are the victims of neglect can not be gainsaid. They are themselves to blame, in some degree. They do not study the usages of society, or cultivate the arts by which their foreign sisters obtain such a prominent position. But, on the other hand, no attempt is made to educate them. "Accomplishments," a term which ought to include such training as may enable a girl, if not to shine, at least to command a measure of attention in modern society by her ability to contribute to its attractions, are still interpreted in Japan to mean playing on the *koto* and the *samisen*, the art of flower setting, the ceremonial of the *Cha-no-yu*, and other antiquated attainments which are absolutely excluded from the *reper-toire* of social doings at the present day. There is another factor, also, which militates strongly against the Japanese lady's social success. It is the great and growing influence of the "professional," who to a keen knowledge of every-day affairs and of the subjects that interest men, adds a special complaisance which must always remain beyond the sanctions of strict virtue. The "professional" is much preferred to the lady as a social *vis-à-vis*, and the *Kokumin* thinks that the sphere of the former's influence is extending so that in the end she may possibly effect the complete conquest of society. Such a forecast seems extravagant. We confine ourselves, however, to reproducing our contemporary's remarks.

MR. DIOSY.

We observe with pleasure that a strong disposition is displayed to give Mr. Diosy a hearty welcome in Japan. The *Shogro Shimpo* has a most appreciative article about him. It notes the genuine friendship he has always evinced towards Japan, and the very useful part he has played in establishing good relations between Englishmen and Japanese. Such a man, says the *Shogro*, ought to have a reception not inferior to that given to Lord Charles Beresford, for though he has no title conferred by men he is one of "nature's noblemen."

ROUGHS.

The Tokyo police have been occupying themselves with the costumes worn by masqueraders at the flower festivals, and have provoked a great deal of ridicule by attempting to interdict perfectly innocent amusements which are not only tolerated but encouraged in the very centres of Occidental civilization. Happily they learned their mistake before the odium attaching to such arbitrary interference with the liberty of the subject had assumed serious dimensions. But they now seem likely to provoke as much censure by their perfunctoriness as they were recently in danger of incurring by their misplaced zeal. There is another kind of performance which has become very common at these flower-fetes, and which certainly calls for active repression by the police, though they apparently fail to recognise the fact altogether. We allude to the conduct of bands of young roughs, whose chief amusements are to play rude practical jokes on peaceful wayfarers, to slap the faces of women and girls, or to force them to drink *sake* against their will. Several complaints on that score were made some time ago by foreigners visiting Sugita and other place celebrated for plum blooms. They may console themselves with the thought, if it be any consolation, that their nationality did not specially expose them to annoyance. The Japanese also fare badly. So villainous is the behaviour of these bands of *soshi* that no respectable Japanese woman or girl ventures to walk nowadays in either Ueno Park or Mukojima. They do not care to take the risk of having their faces slapped, or of being enclosed in a circle of semi-tipsy roisterers, and compelled to swallow two or three cups of bad wine. The upshot of it all is that these places of public amusement are now forbidden ground to the upper classes, and have been monopolized by the lower. A highly creditable state of affairs, in sooth!

A few days ago this story was told to us by a foreign resident of Tokyo:—"Driving through the streets with my little son on the box of the carriage, I happened to look out, and saw a man making grimaces at the lad. He was a well-dressed person of about twenty-two or twenty-three, and, as soon as he observed that I was looking, he desisted and walked on. Now I know that in Western cities children are often rude to foreigners, and are ready to call a man names or otherwise insult him if they detect any signs of alien nationality about him. But I do not know that such things are done by respectable men of two or three and twenty."

The distinction is very just. It is scarcely fair, however, to apply any Western analogy to Japanese affairs just at present. This nation has been engaged in a long fight of self assertion, and the feelings aroused by the contest have not yet subsided. Too much importance should not be attached to occasional displays of rudeness where foreigners are the victims. We are passing through a disagreeable, though probably inevitable, period, and will soon emerge from it without any serious wounds or particularly unpleasant reminiscences. But the behaviour of Japanese roughs and roistering students towards women and girls is quite another matter. One of the charming features of the people's customs used to be their politeness and orderliness when massed together. That was a trait noticed again

and again by foreign observers, and applauded most heartily. Is it about to disappear? Has the time come when ladies can no longer venture to walk in crowded Japanese thoroughfares? We should be very sorry to think so.

THE TOKYO ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The Tokyo Academy of Music has been so fortunate as to secure the services of Herr August Junker in the capacity of Professor. The news is very welcome, for it presumably indicates the commencement of a new era of musical activity in Tokyo, as well as the emergence of the Academy from its condition of partial effacement. We have written so much, from time to time, on the advisability of popularizing Western music in Japan that we need not now recapitulate the advantages of the step, but will confine ourselves to congratulating the Academy on obtaining a Professor of such ability as Herr Junker. Our Japanese and foreign readers alike will be interested in the following details of Herr Junker's career:—

Herr August Junker was born in 1870 at Aachen, Germany, commencing the study of the violin with his father at the age of eight. Entering the Conservatory of Cologne in the year 1881, and graduating from the same under Professors Königsow and Holänder in 1887, he laid the foundation of his musical knowledge, and subsequently made such remarkable progress that in 1889 he was accepted as a scholar by that greatest of all classical violinists, Joachim, and, after a three years' course under him and Professor Wirth, graduated as a finished artist.

Among the Orchestras in which Herr Junker has been a prominent member are the Cologne Orchestra under Wüllner, and the Philharmonic Orchestra of Berlin under Von Bülow. As a soloist he has been heard in such cities as Berlin, Aachen, Cologne, Düsseldorf, Sigmaringen, Osnabrück, Hamburg, Frankfurt, etc. In 1891 Herr Junker received a call from the Director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, one of the three leading orchestras in America, and joined this distinguished organization as a leading violin player and soloist. His association with this orchestra continued until 1893 when the famous musician Theodore Thomas, leader of the Chicago Orchestra and General Musical Director of the World's Fair, recognizing the proficiency and skill of Herr Junker, offered superior inducements to him to join the Chicago Orchestra as concert-master and soloist. Herr Junker was not only frequently heard with pleasure by large crowds of visitors to the Exposition from all parts of the world, but subsequently visited all the principal cities of the United States in company with Mr. Thomas' Orchestra and took a prominent part in all its concerts. In the summer of 1897 Herr Junker severed his connection with the Thomas' Orchestra in order to undertake a concert tour around the world, his travels taking him through Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Egypt, India, China, and Japan.

INDUSTRIES BANK.

The Committee of Investigation appointed by the shareholders of the Industries Bank has presented its report. It exonerates the President and Vice-President completely from having committed any act contrary to the Bank's regulations, but it censures them for creating needless sections and bureaux, and for appointing superfluous officers, especially two counsellors, who received salaries of 3,000 yen a year, and had practically nothing to do. After hearing the report, the meeting passed the accounts which have been awaiting that endorsement for nearly two months. The President, Mr. Kawashima Jun, has resigned, as our readers know, and is now Governor of Shiga Prefecture.

THE INCOME TAX.

An interesting question has been raised with regard to the manner of levying the income tax in the case of juristic persons, that is to say, companies. The fiscal year begins on April 1st. Thus the period in respect of which the tax is levied is from April 1st to March 31st. It seems to follow, as a natural consequence, that all income realized prior to April 1st should be taxed in accordance with the rates operative previously to that date. But rumour says that the Finance Department takes a different view, its interpretation being that dividends which have not been declared before April 1st must be liable to the rates fixed by law for the year beginning on April 1st. To make this clear, let us take a definite example. C is a company whose business year coincides with the State's fiscal year. In other words, C is a company which habitually makes up its accounts for the year commencing April 1st and ending March 31st. There are many such companies in Japan, especially shipping companies and railway companies which, being in receipt of aid from the Treasury, find it convenient to synchronize their business terms with those of the State. Since C's accounts cover the period ending March 31st, it is obvious that they can not be rendered before April at soonest, which means that dividends allotted in such accounts are declared after the April rates of income tax have become leviable. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha, for example, submits a half-yearly report to its shareholders, generally in May, if we remember aright, and declares a dividend for the six months ended March 31st. Obviously that dividend, though paid with respect to a period anterior to April 1st, constitutes a part of the shareholders' income for the year subsequent to April 1st, and, since it is income enjoyable during that year, the Treasury considers it liable to the increased scale of tax which went into force on April 1st. On the side of the companies, however, it is contended that income tax should be levied with regard to the time when an income is actually earned, not with regard to the time when it is spent. Hence, according to their claim, the dividend declared by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the six months ended March 31st, 1899, should be taxed at the old rate, and not at the increased rate which became leviable from April 1st. The point is of considerable importance, and seems likely to provoke some discussion. But we entertain no doubt that the interpretation attributed to the Treasury is right. "Income," in the sense of the tax law, is the amount of money available for expenditure during a given term, irrespective of the time when the money was earned. That seems to be established by the method adopted in taxing public bonds. Interest payable on such securities in July is taxed with regard to its full amount, and the tax is supposed to be for the year commencing in April, though one half of the interest is for the three months January, February and March. The same rule ought to apply to dividends paid on the shares of a juristic person, and does apply in foreign countries.

"SUPERSENSITIVE."

We have had a moment's hesitation about publishing the letter signed "Supersensitive," which will be found in our correspondence columns, but, on the whole, it is better that such views, if honestly entertained, should find open expression. There is nothing like the safety-valve of publicity. But two things strike us. One is that the subjects catalogued by "Supersensitive" as offensive when discussed upon the stage—i.e., divorce courts and the embarrassment of a mother who has been so unfortunate as to bear triplets—can not in themselves be called illegitimate themes for theatrical purposes. The other is that the ladies and gentlemen who took part in the performance which is the proximate cause of "Supersensitive's" condemnation are quite sufficient guarantees for its propriety. We enter this protest most emphatically, and we imagine that our readers will attach the same value as we do to the *cachet* of the actors' and actresses' names. As to "ladies dressed in men's attire," a feature which our correspondent characterizes as "worst of all," we totally disagree with him. There are costumes and costumes, and it does not follow for one instant that a lady wearing male garments offends against even the most delicate canons of modesty. Indeed, when "Supersensitive's" letter is analysed, nothing solid remains of it except the "swear words." These, being mere vulgar superfluities of speech, certainly find no proper place in a play performed before a polite audience, but we can not discover that the language used in the last theatricals gave any offence to persons whose opinions are undoubtedly entitled to credit equally with those of our correspondent.

Correspondents inform us that "Supersensitive's" letter, published in the *Japan Daily Mail* on the 11th, has given offence to several people, and may have a deterrent effect upon some of the ladies and gentlemen whose public-spirited kindness has hitherto induced them to contribute successfully to the community's amusement. We are surprised that any importance should attach to the incident. Even supposing that men like "Supersensitive" never made themselves heard, the fact that they exist in every community must be perfectly well known, and it really matters very little whether they speak aloud or keep silence, seeing that the message they have to deliver is purely subjective. If the suffrages of the foreign residents were collected, quite a number would be found in radical opposition to all histrionic performances, but to close the theatre in deference to their views would not be more rational than to abstain from whistling on Sunday because a few bigoted Puritans consider that the Sabbath is desecrated by such an act. Everybody is entitled to have his own opinion, and is also entitled to express it, provided that he does so in terms not offensive to others. "Supersensitive's" letter complied with the latter condition, and we really do not see why any one should be disturbed because he has raised his voice. Those that do not agree with him are under no sort of obligation to listen to his preaching. Very likely he considers that bicycle riding is an immodest pursuit for ladies. There are many good folks who think so, and they have proclaimed their condemna-

tion in vehement terms, but the vast majority of us remain perfectly content that our wives, our sisters, and our daughters should cycle to the top of their bent. Why need factitious importance be given to these isolated enunciations of strange theories? They merit no attention unless some valid canon of morality or propriety can be cited in their support, a condition which is certainly incapable of fulfilment in the present case. Truly, it appears to us that the *nom de plume* chosen for himself by our correspondent may be appropriately employed to describe the condition of some of our readers. Otherwise they would quietly go their own way and let him go his. The world would be a monotonous place if fauzy waistcoats were abolished.

THE INTERNATIONAL BANQUET.

The Tokyo newspapers re-produce full reports of the proceedings at the International Banquet on the 10th instant, the foreign speeches being carefully translated. But only one journal—the *Kokumin*—appends any comments. It says that the affair did not merely serve as a means of placing the relations between foreigners and Japanese on a warm footing and offer practical evidence of the good feeling that exists between them, but it also suggested the idea that frequent recourse to such international reunions is earnestly to be desired. Misunderstandings are chiefly due to doubts and ignorance bred of want of free intercourse. Once people come together and clasp hands, their long-harboured distrust of each other disappears as ice melts in the sunshine.

Referring to Marquis Yamagata's speech, the *Kokumin* hopes that His Excellency's assurances will be verified in practice; that the prison system will be placed on a good footing; that the administrative police will be satisfactorily organized and controlled; that impartiality and strict justice will always preside at the settlement of public questions between foreigners and Japanese; that difference of nationality will receive no recognition from the administrators of the laws, and that the practical evidence thus afforded of Japan's spirit will contribute not merely to the welfare of the foreigners residing within her borders, but also to her own credit among civilized nations.

Viscount Aoki's speech elicits only the brief comment that it truly interpreted the sentiment of the Japanese nation. Mr. Robison's words, however, receive fuller notice. The *Kokumin* reads them not as mere expressions of politeness, but as a genuine statement of the feelings by which foreigners are inspired, and of their faith in the good intentions of the Japanese Government, and rejoices to think that the clouds of doubt and distrust have been dispersed. With reference to the question of land tenure, to which Mr. Robison alluded, our contemporary declares that, speaking practically, superficialities differs from ownership in name only. The uncertainty and dissatisfaction evinced by foreigners on this subject would disappear if they understood the condition of Japan more accurately. Lord Charles Beresford also referred to this point, but the *Kokumin* did not appreciate the force of his remarks, for a superficiality is a form of land tenure which confers all the advantages of ownership except in the matter of terminology.

The Chairman of the International Committee has been criticised by a local contemporary because, in his speech at the banquet on the 10th instant, he "congratulated" the Japanese on the fact that they, first among Oriental nations, had obtained jurisdiction over Occidentals. He is accused of "insincerity," on the ground that his congratulations could not have been honest, and then the critic, with charming indifference to veracity, accuses him also of "professing to be highly delighted with the change." Mr. Robison had said that foreigners were "happy and contented" "under the old condition" and that they "did not readily want to change to something new and untried," yet, because he congratulated the Japanese on having recovered their autonomy, he is represented as having "professed himself highly delighted with the change." We have often heard the captain of a cricket or boating team, which has been beaten in a contest, congratulate his adversaries on their victory when proposing their health at a dinner, but we have never heard his congratulations interpreted as a profession of "high delight" at his own side's defeat. That is not criticism. It is bathos.

GERMANY'S PROCEEDINGS IN CHINA.

It is interesting to observe the effect which Germany's latest move in China produces upon the Chauvinistic element in Japan. Under ordinary circumstances politicians of that school strongly advocate a helpful attitude towards the Chinese Empire, and insist that Japan's duty is to aid in maintaining her neighbour's integrity. But when they see an European Power marching troops into Chinese territory and acquiring a position with large potentialities, the force of example dispels their magnanimous sentiments and inspires them with an almost irresistible longing to go and do likewise. Their conduct recalls the case of the historical Cornish parson, who exhorted his parishioners so vehemently to abstain from the sin of wrecking, and then slid down the banisters of his pulpit in order to get a fair start when the cry of "Ship ashore" disturbed his sermon. The *Nippon* actually seems to think that if Japan were true to her own interests, she would send troops to China at once, not to enforce the redress of any grievance, but simply for the sake of being in at the death. The *Nichi Nichi*, on the other hand, which occupies itself very industriously at present loading moral ballast into the Chauvinist hold, laughs these notions to scorn, and points out that Japan's position secures her effectually against being left behind in the race.

REVISED COMMERCIAL CODE.

It is announced in the *Official Gazette* that the Revised Commercial Code is to go into force from the 16th of June. For many obvious reasons it would have been advantageous to postpone the operation of this Code a year or two, but inasmuch as certain provisions of the Commercial Code now in force do not consist with the Revised Civil Code, the Authorities are doubtless well advised in replacing the former by the revised version as expeditiously as possible.

"A MOTHER OF THREE."

MR. W. G. BAYNE'S FAREWELL.

Mr. Bayne in his time has played many parts and played them well—as Shanghai and Yokohama can both testify; and now, at the full tide of his successes in Japan he returns to the scene of former histrionic triumphs bearing the many laurels so worthily won on the boards of the Public Hall. The large audience that gathered on Friday evening, April 7th, was a fitting tribute to his popularity, but the rounds upon rounds of applause that punctuated the performance testified to the excellence of all the players with whom he was associated. Yet, south to say, exuberantly funny as the "Mother of Three" is in many places, it is scarcely the kind of play that Messrs. Bayne and Read, or Mrs. Read and Mrs. McWilliams at their best. We say this in no carping mood, but simply from the vivid impressions of the many happy hours that these genuine actors and actresses have afforded us in the days gone by. We need not recapitulate them now; memory will long fondly linger about those pleasant evenings and will cherish their recollections and associations when the generation that now stands knocking at the gate will themselves have assumed "the motley" to "fret their little hour" upon the local stage.

"The Mother of Three" is a farce, pure and simple. Professor Murgatroyd, after six months of married life, is called away to the Quezique Observatory in Peru ostensibly to view a transit of Venus, but so absorbed is he in his scientific pursuits that instead of three months he stays eighteen years. His wife meanwhile has become a mother of triplets, but in the turmoil attending this event only the arrival of the first girl was cabled to him, and during the whole eighteen years the mother never had the courage to inform her husband of the full extent of his family. Consequently he imagines there is only one. The reader can easily imagine the complications ahead when the father returns at the close of his eighteen years of star-gazing. We need not detail further, beyond saying that all three girls are desperately anxious to be engaged, but always find that the non-production of a living father is a bar to the attainment of their desires. To help them out of the difficulty the devoted mother dons man's clothes to personate the father, but unfortunately does so the very day that Murgatroyd returns in disguise from Peru, and accordingly the funniest situations imaginable result.

Mrs. A. C. Read as Mrs. Murgatroyd was the life and soul of the piece and acted capitally. She was ably supported by her daughters—Miss Lloyd Thomas, Miss Poole, and Miss Morse—who were vivacious, pathetic, or girlishly despondent as the action of the farce demanded. Mrs. McWilliams was, of course, very good. Mr. A. C. Read, as the vagrant Professor, was decidedly clever, but we have seen him amid happier circumstances. Mr. Sharp as Soosa (the New Gal from the 'One) had a capital make up but was seen too infrequently. Mr. Parlett made a nice military lover, and Mr. Clayton a right excellent one in naval attire; while Mr. Plummer as Cheveloy Thrupp was inimitable. Mr. W. G. Bayne as Sir Wellington Port, the choleric but wife-driven Colonel of the Queen's Own Royal Rampers, was in his best style and carried off the honours with Mrs. Read.

As the curtain was rung down cries of "Bayne" arose from all parts of the house, and in the end the hero of the hour came before the curtain and made a brief valedictory speech in which he expressed the mingled pain and pleasure he felt that evening. He paid a high tribute to his fellow wearers of "the motley" and also testified to the high character of the work that they did in their ordinary paths of life. In bidding farewell to the Yokohama boards he could not help but feeling that he had trod them long enough to enable many younger "wearers of the buskin" to come before the

public and continue the traditions of the house.

We give below the full programme:—
Professor Murgatroyd (of the Quezique Observatory, Peru) Mr. A. C. Read
Sir Wellington Port, K.C.B. (Commanding the Queen's Own Royal Rampers) Mr. W. G. Bayne.
Napier Ontem Port (his Nephew)
Mr. H. G. Parlett.
Captain Tuckle (H.M.S. "Gentle Gazelle") Mr. W. B. Clayton.
Cheveloy Thrupp Mr. I. Plummer.
Lady Port Mrs. McWilliams.
Soosa (the New Gal from the 'One)

Mr. H. J. Sharp.
Miss Lloyd Thomas.
Miss Poole.
Miss Morse.
Mrs. Murgatroyd Mrs. A. C. Read.

The Action of the Play takes place at No. 9 Shingle Villas, Rocksea. Rocksea is a small Seaport and Garrison Town, on the South Coast of England. The events of the Play occur in a single day in August.

ACT. I.

Shingle Villa (Morning) Ma!

ACT. II.

Shingle Villa (Evening) Pa!

ACT. III.

Shingle Villa (Night) Ma! Pa!

Rehearsed and produced under the Direction of Messrs. Read & Bayne, Property man, Mr. C. F. McWilliams.

COLLISION BETWEEN JAPANESE AND CHINESE COOLIES.

THREE KILLED AND MANY WOUNDED.

On the 16th ultimo, at a sugar plantation about 5 or 6 *ri* from Honolulu, Hawaii, a collision occurred between Japanese and Chinese coolies. The Chinese have always been on bad terms with the Japanese, and disturbances have been of frequent occurrence. On the day preceding the affair some Chinese beat a number of Japanese. The feud thus begun was continued next day, when a large number of Japanese went to the boarding house where the Chinese lived and sought an explanation. The Chinese, however, refused to admit them and attacked them with knives, hoes, etc. Thereupon the Japanese determined on a assault and fought with any weapons that they could lay hold of, some of them snatching the arms from their enemies' hands. A severe fight lasting 10 minutes took place, the Japanese eventually destroying all the furniture, killing three Chinese, mortally wounding one, severely wounding sixteen, and slightly wounding 60. News was telephoned to the Police Station at Honolulu, and 50 or 60 police were soon on the spot, arresting 23 Japanese who were marked as ring-leaders. The Japanese Consulate also lent assistance.

THE LEOPOLD BANKRUPTCY.

Friday, April 7th, was appointed for the examination of Uyeda Yoshizo, *ex banco* of Charles Emil Leopold. Mr. Lowder and Mr. Walford appeared at the request of the Official Receiver (Mr. C. D. Moss), but the proceedings were private, the Press being excluded. The Bankruptcy Act of 1883 allows a very full discretion to the responsible officials in such cases. In cases where it is considered the ends of justice will be prejudiced by their presence even solicitors may be requested to withdraw, and the Court has of course even more warrant for excluding reporters. The witness Uyeda could be put on his oath, but in case he declined to answer questions and to afford information, no legal steps could be taken to compel him, unless grounds existed for a separate criminal action against him; in which case a Japanese Court would of course be the only proper authority. We understand that Uyeda did not appear, and that another attempt will be made to hold the examination next week. It is said, however, that Uyeda has been legally advised to decline information.

THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS—

It has occurred to the *Keisai Zasshi*—a periodical deservedly respected for the sake of its editor, Mr. TAGUCHI UKICHI—that the special privileges enjoyed by land-owners in the Settlements after the Revised Treaties go into operation will confer an unfair advantage on the foreigner in competition with the Japanese. The Settlements, *qua* Settlements, will, of course, cease to exist, but the lands held there under perpetual lease at a fixed yearly charge will remain on the old footing, and it is to this latter point that the *Keisai Zasshi* alludes. The editor's idea is that land hired or purchased by Japanese for business purposes will be much more costly than the land held by foreigners within the limits of the old Settlements, and that an element of unjust discrimination will thus be introduced. He regards the question as very important, much more important than many of the problems which now exercise the public mind, and he urges the necessity of adopting speedy measures to dispose of it. "What measures?" the reader will naturally ask. "The perpetual leases held by foreigners and the charges leviable upon their lands are fixed by treaty and cannot be altered." The *Keisai Zasshi* recognises that fully. Its project is very simple. "Buy out the foreign land-holders," it says, "and, should that prove too expensive an operation owing to their high estimate of the value of their lands, open as many new ports as possible, so that, by spreading over a large area the trade now centred at a few places, the special advantages enjoyed by the latter may be diminished, or altogether removed." Indeed, whether the buying-out method be resorted to or not, the *Keisai* is plainly of the opinion that its device of multiplying the number of open ports should be adopted as quickly as possible.

This is an interesting idea, and in discussing it the first question that suggests itself is, does the foreign land-holder really enjoy any advantage over his Japanese competitor in business, so far as public payments on account of his land are concerned? We might base the answer on a comparison of averages. We might say that whereas the average land tax paid by Japanese holders of urban lots throughout the Empire is 10.30 *yen* per acre, according to the newly determined rate—*i.e.* 5 per cent. of the land's taxable value—the tax paid by foreigners in Yokohama is 336 *yen* per acre. The foreigner, in short, pays thirty-three times as much as the Japanese. But averages are always unsatisfactory. They invite the retort, in this case, that the average payment of the Japanese urban land-holder can not properly be compared with the average payment of foreign land-holders in the Settlements, the latter

being wealthier and very differently circumstanced.

Let us then pass from averages to the figures which would actually apply were the Settlements included in the general category of taxable land. When we do so, we find that the whole of the land in the foreign Settlement of Yokohama is valued at 894,000 *yen* for taxation purposes, and the ground rents now paid by the foreign leasees aggregate 36,068 *yen*. Were this land brought under the same fiscal system as that applied in the neighbouring Japanese town, the taxes leviable would be as follow:—

Imperial Land Tax (at 5 per cent. <i>i.e.</i> the new rate)	Yen. 44,930
Prefectural Land Tax	7,371
District Land Tax	3,175
Famine Relief Fund	607
House Tax	7,500
Total	63,583

A word of explanation is necessary here. Formerly the rate for the Imperial Land Tax was 2½ per cent. of the assessed value of the land, and it was enacted that the Local Land Taxes (*i.e.*, the Prefectural and District Land Taxes) must not exceed one half of that amount. No distinction existed between urban and rural lands for purposes of taxation. Under the new system—passed by the Diet last session and applicable for a term of 5 years, commencing April 1st, 1899—rural lands are differentiated from urban, and the former now pay an Imperial Tax of 3.3 per cent., while the rate for the latter is 5 per cent. On the other hand, a special law was enacted by both Houses of the Diet in the same session, providing that the Local Land Taxes must remain unaffected by the change in the rates of the Imperial Tax. This statement will enable our readers to understand the system of taxation now in force. The next question that arises is, to what taxes, over and above the present ground rent, will foreigners be liable after July? So far as land tax of every kind is concerned, the answer is simple, for land tax, being payable by the landlord, is not chargeable to a lessee, whether temporary or perpetual. We presume that the foreign land-holders will also be exempt from the levy on account of famine relief, but they will probably have to pay the House Tax, and in that event their total payment will be 43,568 *yen*, whereas, were the special system abolished, their liabilities would aggregate 63,583 *yen*. It thus follows that the advantage conferred on them by the present system is 20,015 *yen*. But it is necessary to consider the other Settlements also. In Tokyo the assessed value of the Settlement is 91,171 *yen*, and the taxes leviable, if the special system were abolished, would be these:—

Imperial Land Tax	Yen. 4,558
City Land Tax	592
District Land Tax	276
House Tax	1,714
Total	7,140

On the other hand, the payments under the special system will be:—

Land Rents	Yen. 7,180
House Tax	1,714
Total	8,894

The foreigners in Tsukiji would therefore derive an advantage of 1,734 *yen* by being placed on the same footing as the Japanese.

Let us now take Kobe's case. The land in the Settlement is valued at 198,160 *yen*, and the taxes payable under the general system would be:—

Imperial Land Tax	Yen. 9,908
Prefectural Land Tax	884
District Land Tax	990
Famine Relief Fund	15
House Tax	2,239
Total	14,112

Now the payments under the special system will be:—

Land Rents	Yen. 15,000
House Tax	2,239
Total	17,239

Hence it appears that the Kobe community would gain 3,127 *yen* by being placed under the general system. If we group all these results together, it appears that, by abolishing the special system in the cases of Yokohama, Kobe, and Tokyo, foreigners would have to pay taxes aggregating 84,835 *yen*, whereas their payments under the special system will total 69,701 *yen*. Hence the total advantage conferred on them by the special system will be 15,134 *yen* annually. Does the editor of the *Keisai Zasshi* think that such a paltry sum constitutes any noticeable differentiation in favour of the foreigner, or that, for the sake of correcting an inequality so insignificant, the Government would be justified in resorting to the large measures advocated by him? It must be remembered that no compulsory expropriation of the foreign land-holders is possible. Their perpetual leases are guaranteed by treaty. They would have to be bought out with their own consent in order to abolish the special system, and that would be found a very costly operation if the State undertook it. As for the idea of establishing new ports, with the object of depreciating the value of property in the Settlements, it is exceedingly doubtful whether the expedient would have any success, in view of the facts that trade at the present ports is now established in fixed grooves, and that immense interests are concerned in keeping it there. At any rate such a device would necessitate the organization of customs houses at the newly opened ports, which would mean a large expenditure of public money.

There is another point which seems to have escaped the attention of the *Keisai Zasshi*: it is that though foreign land-holders in the Settlements are in a slightly better position than their Japanese neighbours with regard to taxation, the opposite

is markedly true in the case of their Bluff lands. The land on which their hill residences are built pays 12 *sen* per *tsubo* annually—or 144 *ren* an acre—to the Imperial Government, which is certainly many times greater than the tax paid by the adjoining lands held by Japanese. We have no exact figures at present with regard to the Japanese lands, but the average for all rural lands throughout the empire is 4.33 *ren* per acre, and there is no reason to suppose that the hills surrounding the Foreign Settlements are rated above the general average. Their value for taxation purposes was fixed in 1873, and has remained unaltered ever since. Even supposing that they pay twice the general average, the tax on them would still be only one-sixteenth of that paid by the foreign Bluff-residents. There can be no doubt, therefore, that the total taxes defrayed by foreigners on all the land held by them under the special system, Settlement Lots and Hill Lots included, aggregate a considerably larger amount than the sum they would have to pay under the general Japanese system.

INTERNATIONAL BANQUET.

THE leading members of the International Committee of Yokohama are to be congratulated on the excellent tone of the speeches delivered by them at the dinner given to the Japanese Ministers of State on the 10th instant. Mr. R. D. ROBISON'S remarks were particularly happy. They evinced a spirit of friendliness and practicality which did credit to the speaker as well as to the Committee of which he is President, and which will doubtless be heartily welcomed by the Japanese nation as a proof that, however unwilling the foreign residents are to lose the jurisdiction of their own law courts, they are determined to accept the loss in good part, and to lend their aid in securing the smooth operation of the new system. Mr. ROBISON justly dwelt upon the entire reasonableness of the foreign community's attitude in the past. It is a natural tendency of sensible men to be content when they find themselves happy and secure, and to fight against changes which do not promise to bring any particular good and may possibly bring much evil. Justice to what this country had accomplished certainly impelled the majority of the foreign residents to recognise her right to judicial autonomy, but their natural and proper consideration for their own interests made them reluctant to take a step the consequences of which could not be estimated by any precedent. Mr. ROBISON put the case in a nut-shell when he said:—"However much Japan has achieved, she remains, after all, the very first Oriental nation which has obtained jurisdiction over Occidentals, and, while we heartily congratulate her on

the fact, we ask her to remember that an absolutely unprecedented experiment of such magnitude could scarcely be viewed without some misgiving." Every reasonable Japanese must recognise the clear common sense of such a plea, and we have no doubt that these utterances by prominent members of the foreign community will confirm the conviction which calm observers must have acquired from the events of the past twenty years, namely, that the unsightly incidents of this great struggle, the incidents which often rendered it needlessly bitter and even passionate, were solely due to the fortuitous indiscretions and extravagances of over-zealous champions. Of course the future has much in store to test the good temper now shown by the community, but the existence of a body like the International Committee can not fail to smooth away many points of dangerous friction.

The speech of the Minister of Foreign Affairs was also most felicitous. His Excellency could hardly have chosen words more suitable to the occasion or better calculated to dispel any prejudices which may still linger in the minds of resident foreigners:—

"So far as my countrymen are concerned I can assure you that all classes of Japanese, even in remote parts of the Empire, will welcome you with open hearts, and join hands with you in all the various activities of life, and I sincerely trust that the foreign residents will not regard themselves in the future as strangers in a strange land, but, on the contrary, entrust with confidence their persons and property to the safe guarding of the Japanese authorities, that they will make Japan their home, and permanently reside here with their families."

There is nothing to be added to this language except an expression of sincere hope that Viscount AOKI'S promises may be fully justified by the event.

JAPAN M. E. CONFERENCE.

MONDAY, April 3RD.—The Treasurer and Statistical Secretary read his report showing an advance in self-support and a gain in membership over last year. Ten o'clock was the hour fixed for the election of delegate to the General Conference, and every member was in his seat.

Rev. J. Soper, D.D., received the unanimous vote of the Conference, and Rev. J. G. Cleveland was chosen reserve. Rev. Dr. Scott, Supt. of the Canadian Methodist Mission, and Professor Borden, fraternal delegate from the Methodist Church of Japan, were introduced and addressed the Conference. Bishop Cranston replied in a happy manner, remarking that some property matters kept Canada and the U.S.A. apart and that the dispute about fisheries was a scaly question. He expressed himself as heartily in sympathy with the proposition that all the branches of Methodism in Japan should unite in theological training.

In the Class Lists of the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last there are several names connected with Japan. Among the girls under 19 who have satisfied the Examiners are Miss N. von Fallot, Tokyo, distinguished in French, and Miss M. Lloyd, Tokyo, distinguished in drawing (at Herrington, Folkestone). Among the girls, between 16 and 18 who have passed as juniors, is Miss E. C. Evington, Nagasaki.

"TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE" AT YOKOHAMA.

It may be within the recollection of our readers that an earthquake occurred a few weeks ago, and that some damage was done at Oauka and other places. At Yokohama the shock was so slight that nine out of ten persons did not feel it at all. Very little was made of the whole occurrence in the foreign papers published in Japan. But such a thing as an earthquake comes as a godsend to the yellow journals the other side of the Pacific, and, if it is not horrible enough in itself, it has to be made horrible. We give an example of this process of horror-manufacture—a perfect thing in its way—from a Vancouver paper. This is how the descriptive reporter commences:—

While the steamer *Tacoma* was steaming up the Japanese coast between Kobe and Yokohama on March 7th last she had a unique experience. About an hour after the Chinese waiters had cleared the breakfast tables as the vessel cut through the placid seas, a severe shock was felt which shivered the liner from her stem to the jack staff, and threw a number of those on board off their feet. The blow seemed to come from the starboard side, and shook things up considerably.

What had happened? The mendacious journalist knows his art too well to tell the reader immediately, and tantalises him with this pretty bit of padding:—

The engineer, who was standing in the passage way 'tween decks, was under the impression that it was his steel wards below that caused the shock—the shaft had broken he thought and his engines were racing—and with a, "I wonder what on earth's the matter with her," he sprang to the engine room door and slid down the steel companions to his unperturbed mechanism, which still revolved in the even tenor of its way and swung the big screw round. A quick inspection showed him that, notwithstanding the continued bumping—for the shock lasted 26 seconds—there was nothing wrong below; nothing was out of place and every rod and lever was working in its own appointed manner. The engineer then hurried on deck and reported that his shining mechanism was all intact, and the shaft had not been broken, or the propeller carried away. At the same time others arrived to say that she was not fast on any reef or other menace to navigation.

All this is what Pooh Bah called "corroborative detail, calculated to give verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative." The reader is finally informed that:—

The cause of the shock was a mystery until the next day, when on arrival at Yokohama it was found that the big shipping post was shrouded in a pall of smoke from surrounding fires. The cause was then evident. There had been a severe earthquake shock and it was the seismic disturbance at the ocean's bottom which caused the timbers and steel frames of the liner to vibrate until the rivets cried out. Although it shook up the vessel so, the submarine eruption had no effect on the sea. Instead of causing it to run in big confused waves the glasslike calmness remained unchanged.

The statement as to "Yokohama being shrouded in a pall of smoke from surrounding fires" is a triumph of the art of prevarication. San Francisco itself, even the *New York Journal*, could do no better. A career of splendid success in yellow journalism should lie before that talented young reporter of Vancouver. He adds casually:—

Yokohama suffered greatly from the disturbance, many of the bamboo built residences (!) coming down and taking fire. No fatalities were reported from that city, however.

Apparently some poor remnant of a conscience remains with the writer still, for he endeavours at the tail end of his sensational column to atone for some of his sins by saying:—

It cannot be called a very severe earthquake, but it was a wide-spread one.

Is it something in the air of the North American continent, or is it simply the buoyant animal spirits of these strong young communities, that brings about the production of such light-hearted fictions?

men, in the professions, in the arts, and as statesmen; and no thoughtful man could hide from himself that a change was bound to come. But, gentlemen, however much Japan has achieved, she remains after all the very first Oriental nation which has obtained jurisdiction over Occidentals. We heartily congratulate her on the fact, but we ask her to remember that an absolutely unprecedented experiment of such magnitude could scarcely be viewed without some misgiving. Well, the change has come. Treaty Revision is an accomplished fact, and practical men never refuse to acknowledge accomplished facts.—(Hear, hear). Therefore, the foreign residents who are above all practical men, accepting the fact, meet you to-night, and offer you their hearty congratulations on it. We ask for no special favours. As merchants we need good laws and strict order, stern impartiality, a fair field and no favour. Give us those, and we, again happy and contented, will work all the more willingly hand in hand with your people, to promote the true, the great prosperity of Japan.—(Applause.) Gentlemen, the Imperial Ministers of the State—may they be strong and wise.—(Applause.)

THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPEECH.

Viscount AOKI, Minister of Foreign Affairs, replied. After expressing regret at his inability to make an extempore speech in English, he asked permission to read his remarks, which were as follows:

In the first place I desire to thank you most sincerely for this entertainment to which you have honoured us with invitations, and which we gladly accepted because we felt sure that it was not an ordinary banquet, but rather a happy augury of the new era of our international intercourse, which will have the effect of making the relations between Japan and the treaty powers still more cordial and intimate.—(Hear, hear.) I need hardly point out to you that the exceptional state of these relations in the past and even now to some extent no doubt are due to the difference in the ways of the East and West. But now that these difficulties have, I am happy to say, been, politically and legally at least, paved over, I look forward with much pleasure and confidence to the time when you and my countrymen will assimilate with each other in all matters, social, commercial, and otherwise.—(Hear, hear.) I understand that you have been in direct communication with the committees of the Association for Investigating Matters concerning the New Treaties. I trust you have acquired such information and assistance from them as you desired. It is such direct communication that I earnestly recommend not in these matters alone, but in all other directions.—(Applause.) Moreover I feel confident that such a gathering as this cannot fail to create that feeling of sympathy and mutual confidence which are so essential to intimate and friendly relations.—(Hear, hear.) So far as my countrymen are concerned I can assure you that all classes of Japanese, even in remote parts of the Empire, will welcome you with open hearts, and join hands with you in all the various activities of life.—(Hear, hear.)—and I sincerely trust that the foreign residents will not regard themselves in the future as strangers in a strange land.—(Hear, hear.)—but on the contrary, entrust with confidence their persons and property to the safeguarding of the Japanese authorities, that they will make Japan their home, and permanently reside here with their families. Gentlemen, I propose to drink the health of the foreign residents of Japan.—(Loud applause.)

THE BUSINESS TAX.

The Japanese guests having duly honoured this toast, Mr. HOLM responded to the invitation of the Chairman, and spoke in German, his remarks being afterwards ably translated into Japanese by Mr. Ariga.

Eure Excellenzen, Geehrte Herren!

Mir ist der ehrenvolle Auftrag geworden, einen Toast auszubringen auf die Herren des Comité der "Joyaku Jishu Kenkinkwai,"

einer Vereinigung mit dem dem Zweck, Fragen in Verbindung mit den neuen Verträgen zu studieren.

Um die Geschichte unserer Beziehungen zu der genannten Gesellschaft kurz zusammenzufassen, so erkannten wir nach Gründung unseres Internationalen Comité eine unserer Hauptaufgaben darin, passende Verbindungen anzuknüpfen, um etwaige Wünsche oder Vorschläge rücksichtlich der zu erwartenden neuen Verhältnisse auch in massgebenden und sonst einflussreichen Kreisen bekannt geben zu können. Es war uns denn sehr willkommen in dem Tokio Comité eine Vereinigung zu finden, welche Ziele gewissermassen analog den unsrigen verfolgt, und welche gleichzeitig unter ihre Mitglieder Persönlichkeiten zählt, die in eminenten Weise bei Bestimmung der neuen Gesetze, und in mancher anderer Hinsicht mitgewirkt haben.

In Folge einer Zusammenkunft von Deputationen beider Comité in Tokyo, wobei die Japanischen Herren sich gerne bereit erklärten, uns in unseren Zwecken zu unterstützen, haben wir denselben seiner Zeit verschiedene Fragen von allgemeiner Wichtigkeit unterbreitet, und auch einige interessante Antworten bekommen, welche wir entsprechend dem Ruf der Herren, deren Ansichten sie eben darstellen, würdigen.

Was uns seiner Zeit ganz besonders am Herzen lag, und was auch während der eben erwähnten Zusammenkunft in Tokyo eingehender erörtert wurde, war die Kapitalsteuer, d. h. die Art und Weise, wie das in Japan zu versteuernde Kapital von fremden Corporationen, Banken, Versicherungsgesellschaften u. s. w. bestimmt werden sollte. Diese Frage ist inzwischen von der Kaiserlichen Regierung in liberaler, und wie es scheint, allgemein zufriedenstellender Weise gelöst worden durch entsprechende Aenderung der betreffenden Gesetzparagraphe, und ich möchte der Hoffnung Ausdruck geben, dass künftighin etwa auftauchende Schwierigkeiten, nun ebenso liberal und ebenso prompt aus dem Wege geräumt werden.

Gleichzeitig hoffe ich, dass wir auch ferner der Unterstützung des Tokyo-Comité zur Förderung ähnlicher Zwecke versichert sein dürfen.

In diesem Sinne bitte ich Sie, meine Herren, zu trinken auf das Wohl der Mitglieder des Comité der Joyaku Jishu Kenkinkwai, und auf festes und gedeihliches Zusammenarbeiten desselben mit unserem Internationalen Comité, und einzustimmen ein dreifaches kräftiges Hoch—

Sie leben Hoch—Hoch—Hoch!

TRANSLATION.

Your Excellencies and gentlemen.—It has fallen to my lot to propose the toast of the Gentlemen of the Committee of the Joyaku Jishu Kenkinkwai, an association established for the purpose of studying questions in connection with the new treaties.

To give a short *résumé* of the history of our relations with the said association, we recognized after the foundation of our International Committee, as one of our chief tasks, the necessity of forming suitable connections, in order to be able to make known possible wishes or proposals regarding the anticipated new relations, in competent and otherwise influential circles. We were therefore very much pleased to find in the Tokyo Committee an association, which follows ends practically analogous to our own, and which has among its members individuals who have been eminently connected with, or otherwise been active in the framing of the new laws. In consequence of meeting of deputations of both Committees in Tokyo, at which Japanese gentlemen declared themselves willing to support us in our ends, we proposed to them at the time several questions of importance, and we have received some interesting answers, which we value the more on account of the standing of the gentlemen whose views they represent.

What we had especially at heart, and what was also talked over in detail during the meeting at Tokyo, just mentioned, was the capital-tax, i. e. the manner in which the capital of foreign corporations, banks, insurance companies, etc.,

to be taxed in Japan, would be determined. This question has since been solved by the Imperial Government in a liberal spirit and evidently to the general satisfaction, by the amendment of the respective paragraphs of the law, and I would express the hope that difficulties, perhaps appearing in the future, will be cleared away in the same liberal spirit and with the same promptitude. At the same time I hope that we may be assured for the future also of the support of the Tokyo Committee in the solution of similar problems.

In this sense, I ask you, gentlemen, to drink to the health of the members of the Committee of the Joyaku Jishu Kenkinkwai, and to the future friendly co-operation of the same with our own International Committee.

JAPAN'S FRIENDSHIP FOR THE FOREIGNER.

Mr. MEGATA, of the Finance Department, was without previous notice called upon for a speech, and made the following impromptu remarks in English:—

Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in rising and thanking you for this invitation to be present at this assembly. Such a social gathering as this is full of great stimulus. I believe it is a happy prelude to the still greater future to come.—(Applause.) Gentlemen, such a social gathering as this is an augury of the extension of the happy friendship already existing. Japan has now not only opened her doors, she has opened her bosom to receive all her friends.—(Hear, hear.) She is ready to enter into a new era of things. I believe she is ready now, because it has taken forty years for the preparation. There is still one thing further, and that is the interest of her commerce. A closer friendship will develop commerce, and commerce will strengthen the ties of friendship already happily existing. In closing my speech let me say that our wishes to strengthen the happy friendship already existing are as wide and deep as the seas surrounding this Empire.—(Loud applause.) We drink to the interest of our commerce and our future friendly amity.—(Cries of "Bravo!" and applause.)

RELATIONS OF THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

Mr. KNAFF next spoke in French, the following being a translation of his address:

Messieurs les présidents et membres des chambres de commerce de Tokyo et Yokohama—Messieurs, our respective chambers work for a common end, the commercial prosperity of Japan. Although up to the present they have not been very extended, the relations between your chambers and ours have been marked with the greatest cordiality. Soon, in consequence of the new régime, we shall come together in closer intimacy and our communication the one with the other will be more frequent. Already, quite recently our Chamber has had the honour to submit to your judgment the project of an Arbitration Committee and a proposal for a form of contract to regulate transactions between buyers and sellers. Without doubt this important subject will have your fullest consideration. Other questions may arise in the course of events, and the International Committee will again have in the future to consult you sometimes and to submit to you various projects with the object of securing a good understanding between Japanese and foreigners. This Committee is assured of your friendly cooperation, which will lead to the solution of all questions in the manner most satisfactory for our common interests. The Committee will be happy to consider with the utmost attention all requests for information and all propositions which you may wish to bring before it. Gentlemen, I propose in drink to the prosperity of the Chambers of Commerce of Tokyo and Yokohama, to the health of the members, and particularly to the health of their honourable Presidents, Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi and Otani Kahei, both well known and both greatly esteemed by the foreigners of this port.—(Applause.)

MR. SHIBUSAWA'S SPEECH.

Mr. SHIBUSAWA EIICHI, Chairman of the

Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, was the next speaker. He said:—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN:—I think it a great honour to attend this grand banquet this evening in virtue of my capacity as member of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce. Of the operation of the new treaties, both the Minister of State and the Chairman have spoken. The revision of those treaties is the result of long years of labour, and the nationals of the Treaty Powers and the diplomatists residing here in Japan have contributed largely to the solution of the matter. Many vicissitudes have been passed through, and many obstacles have had to be surmounted. In view of the new treaties coming into operation from July, you have shown great wisdom in organizing to discuss the matter. We ourselves are engaged in investigation and discussion in connection with it, and the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and other associations are pursuing their own enquiries. What we most aspire to is that foreigners and Japanese should come into as close contact as possible. Though we have long carried on commerce with Treaty Powers and have made progress in every direction with their assistance, yet there has been a tendency to hold aloof from one another, and this is to be attributed, I may safely assert, to the barriers that interfere with the complete freedom of foreign trade on account of the old defective treaties. However, these barriers, thanks to the efforts of foreign and Japanese statesmen, are about to be removed, and I can not but express my satisfaction—and I take the liberty of believing that all the gentlemen present are satisfied too. The responsibility devolving upon us is very serious. It is like making a garden or building a house. By whatever master-hand a garden may be laid out or a house built, the former will not be bright with flowers without the aid of competent gardeners, and the latter will be desolate without proper persons to occupy it. Just so with us. We are the gardeners and you the tenants. We must co-operate in union and harmony so as to secure prosperity. I thank you for your kind invitation to myself this evening.

A COSMOPOLITAN PLATFORM.

MR. OTANI KAKKI spoke in Japanese, his remarks being afterwards rendered into English by Mr. Okada as follows:—Our commerce has been greatly developed since the last four decades, and it is from you that we have derived inspiration in our commercial development, and therefore we want to express our warmest gratitude to you. We now approach the happy time in which the new treaties will come into operation, and Japan may be said to be thus regenerated. It is, however, a matter of great regret to find the actual condition of our commerce and industry is not perfectly known abroad. Not long ago a narrow exclusive commercial system prevailed in our country, but even the shadow of that has disappeared among our business men. We all stand by this time on a cosmopolitan platform, and I am very glad to say that this state of feeling is predominant throughout the country.—(Hear, hear.) I believe the new treaties will be received favourably by you, and so I have not the slightest fear but that they will be a success, since you and we will work together in their support. It would also be desirable that the Chambers of Commerce, both Japanese and foreign, should co-operate together in the benefit of Yokohama and of the Empire in general.—(Hear, hear)—and of the world.—(Laughter and hear, hear.) We trust that this meeting may become a bright landmark in the history of Japan's trade relations with the world and a strong link in our intercourse with you. Before closing, I beg, on behalf of the Committee of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, to tender the profoundest thanks for the cordiality with which you have received us this evening.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then announced that their Excellencies had to retire to catch the train, and the gathering broke up.

VIEWING THE CHERRY BLOSSOM.

(BY THE MAN WHO VIEWED IT.)

I have "viewed the cherry blossom," according to the Japanese formula. I remember well the impression that phrase made on my mind in days when, long before I ever cast eyes on Japan, I sometimes picked up a book of *impressions about voyages in the East*. There was something in it that calmed and soothed, something naive, pastoral, Arcadian in its simplicity. It lent colour to the rhapsodical figments of Mr. Hearn and Sir Edwin Arnold. When one read of the annual pilgrimages of the simple-souled, nature-loving Japanese to the cherry groves, one began to think that after all Sir Edwin's description of them as "birds and butterflies" rather than common place men and women might be substantially true. One pictured them, happy but not indecorously merry, walking demurely through the leafy avenues, stopping with delight before a specially lovely spray of bloom, lost in artless admiration over every seeming trifle, smiling over the flutations of a pair of sparrows, and moved to gentle tears over the decease of a black beetle. No thought or care beyond that, as if foreign complications, debt collectors, unpeppable editors, babies, rates and taxes, Chinese questions, dressy wives, and importunate tailors did not exist. It was a pleasant vision, and made one long to burst the links of habit and wander far away from the stress of the home country to seek eternal repose in this happy Land of the Rising Sun.

Residence in Japan has destroyed all those pleasant visions created by the "gush" of the literary globe-trotter. One can not live long in Japan without discovering that the people are neither birds nor butterflies—but human, very human indeed—and that the country itself is neither Fairyland nor Lotusland; at least, if it is, then Lotusland and Fairyland are not, as Huck Finn would say, "what they've been cracked up to be." But still one clung to the idea that the Japanese people felt almost a religious affection for the cherry bloom, and that the excursions to view it were tinged with a species of nature-worship. I will give my own experience of one of these expeditions.

A small party of us—three or four foreigners—had an invitation to attend a "cherry blossom viewing meeting at the garden north of Hasehaya, Mukojima, Tokyo," on Sunday. (I am quoting the translation of the invitation ticket). It was a sort of festival in connection with the firm of Meidiya, the great Japanese agents of the Kirin Brewery Company, and a very large number of sub-agents and employees were entertained in these pleasant grounds. How the majority of the guests—there must have been two or three thousand—got there I cannot pretend to say. Our own adventures were quite thrilling enough to monopolize our attention. We started from Yokohama bright and early, and arrived at Tokyo without anything remarkable occurring, beyond the train arriving punctually. A *jinrikisha* ride of about three-quarters of an hour followed, but that was not particularly adventurous to people used to Tokyo roads, though I can well imagine it appearing in the light of a most desperate undertaking to infants like Stanley or Dr. Peters, used only to the comparatively well-kept thoroughfares of Equatorial Africa. We were finally deposited at a tea-house somewhere down by the river, whence it had been arranged we should travel by boat. But something had gone wrong. The tide had been ill-natured enough not to rise sufficiently for the steam tug to come so far up the river, and there lay our sampans on a luxurious bed of mud, looking quite hopeless as a means of conveyance. We felt a little discouraged, but a most amiable Japanese gentleman received us effusively, and comforted us by saying that the cherry blooms were lovely, and that the night would be splendid. That revived our spirits. We felt that any sacrifice and any inconvenience would be cheap if they enabled us to view those cherry blooms.

Our mission in life, we all agreed, was to view the cherry blooms, and we would view them, whatever should befall. We had all seen cherry blooms before, of course—they are in plenty in Yokohama. But we had never "viewed" them, which is quite a different thing. We waited half-an-hour, an hour, and still the steam-tug did not arrive, though the sampans were gradually lifted off the mud by the rising tide. But evil, like good, is never unmixed, and I am sure we all felt unfeigned satisfaction at the pleasure our presence gave to the youth of the neighbourhood. The aborigines of this part of the river-side seldom, I believe, see foreigners at close quarters, and the interest with which they regarded us was most flattering, if a little embarrassing. Each of us was followed by a small army of human odds and ends, from hobbled boys of nineteen to miles of four or five, with still smaller miles on their backs—on the principle of "flea with other fleas to bite 'em." The *sumai* of waiting was tiresome, but the hope of viewing the cherry blossom was strong within us, and we were sustained by it.

At length even the patience of the Japanese was exhausted, and the gallant skipper of the party decided to make a move. We all embarked on the sampans, and the Europeans, at any rate, thought that now it really would not be long before the viewing commenced. After all steam was not indispensable; a sampan row would be rather longer, but pleasanter, and with brisk oarsmanship we should arrive before the trees had finished blooming. But, alas for our lack of understanding! That "brisk oarsmanship" was merely a suggestion of the restless European mind; Japanese on a holiday don't trouble about briskness. We soon found that the Captain had determined to follow a policy of drift. Our sampans, lashed together, like—to take an appropriate simile—"a double cherry, seeming parted, but yet a union in partition,"—went off gallantly down the river at the reckless speed of at least 500 yards an hour. The Sumida was full of craft—some were soulless trading junks and others boats with parties of cherry-viewers like ourselves, besides the regular steamboats—and we had some very lively times in bumping against one another. It made one regret one's imperfect knowledge of Japanese when one heard the language from another boat as ours serenely straddled across its bows. The expressions certainly did not lack vigour, point, or picturesqueness. There were many slow craft there, but none so slow as ours. Even a floating hay rack, propelled by a solemn-looking old lady in spectacles, beat us easily; would pass us, wait for us to come abreast again, and then shoot ahead once more with the velocity—compared with our pace—of an ocean greyhound.

Meanwhile some of us were looking out for the blossoms, and one of the visitors—a perfect Diogenes who had rolled out of his tub "on the wrong side" that morning, as the phrase is—looked it rather ill that there were none so far. "He came to view the cherry blossom. Where was it? He didn't come out for a picnic on a raft, &c., &c." Bridge after bridge was passed, but still no cherries, and no promise of them. One might as soon expect to see cherries in the squalid back part of Lambeth, in the darkest corner of black-browed Leeds or Manchester, as in that region of the Sumida River.

The Japanese on board shared none of this foolish impatience. It was plainly their ideal of a holiday to float down a muddy river at the rate of a quarter of a mile an hour, eating sweetmeats, drinking *sake*, and smoking cigarettes. The enjoyment of the cherry blossom would only be heightened by the delay. Great are always the pleasures of anticipation.

And now the horrors of famine rose before the forlorn foreigners. A tiffin had been part of the programme of the viewing, and tiffin time was long past. A horrible thought began to occur to all, though at first none dared confess it even to himself: "Suppose the others have got there before us and eaten it all." There might be no restaurant within miles of the

cherry groves, and if the tiffin had been all despatched then the prospect was a frightful one. The thought made the stoutest heart among us quail, and blanched the ruddiest cheek. At length our Diogenes gave voice to the general feeling, and openly broached the hideous suggestion. He treated the matter in a very lofty vein. "Such a thing," he said, "was highly injudicious so near the advent of mixed residence. It was not wise—it was not politic—on the part of the Japanese people and Government. He wished to be understood as speaking without any desire to intimidate or show unfriendly feeling towards the authorities, but he would point out that hunger was the main cause of the lamentable excesses of the French Revolution," &c. The rest of us had more fortitude. Our waistcoats were hanging limp, our eyes lacked lustre, and now and then one of us would regard a plump Japanese boy with a hideous suggestion of cannibalism in his glance. But the thought of the cherries gave us new life and hope.

Everything must have an end, and even that sampan voyage finished at last. After very nearly heading into a boat-race—for a regatta was being held on the river—we sailed serenely past long rows of cherry trees, which we could see quite plainly, but there was nothing remarkable in that. We had "seen" plenty before; what we wanted was to "view" them. And at last we disembarked at a field where there were a few booths, a refreshment stall or two, and the Japanese equivalents for milky cocoanuts, all the fun of the fair, raree shows, and so forth. It was, allowing for the changes inspired by the *genius loci*, a small Hampstead Heath at Bank Holiday time. There were really no cherry blossoms to view, and if there had been I don't believe anybody wanted to view them. They were hundreds intent on Kirin beer, which quite overshadowed all Japanese drinks in popularity; there were other hundreds watching the performances of trim little *geisha* attired in dresses of colours no ordinarily modest rainbow would have dared to assume; they were yet other hundreds listening to the patter of two comedians who appeared to be the exact counterpart of the comic Irishmen in the home music halls. But I didn't see a soul viewing the cherry blossoms. To the eternal credit of the Japanese, they had not eaten all the lunch, and we were treated so hospitably that even the cynicism of our Diogenes melted into most expansive geniality. By the time lunch was over it was time to return. I made a feeble ineffectual attempt to achieve the object of my journey, and asked a Japanese gentleman when the viewing would commence, and whether it was likely to take long. He only laughed, and said that was "the Cherry Blossom Viewing Meeting" to which our cards of invitation referred. That all, indeed!

And so another illusion is gone. Child-like delight in nature, and all that kind of thing, means, then, just an ordinary Bank Holiday outing. At least, in this case it did; our experience may have been exceptional. But I am sure the very last thing those Japanese thought about on Sunday was the beauty of nature and the glory of the cherry-blossom; they were much more intent on enjoying themselves—people do in other parts of the world, and would have enjoyed themselves just as much if there had been nothing but dandelions and dockleaves, instead of cherries, at Mukojima. We went home wiser and sadder men, albeit otherwise well satisfied with a very pleasant day's outing. After all it was much more enjoyable than simple plain "viewing" would have been.

Chicago will have the honor of sending the first Episcopal minister to Puerto Rico. Bishop McLaren has appointed Rev. George B. Platt, Chicago diocese, to that island. He will leave for the West Indies to take up his new duties about March 1, and will work under the personal instruction of Bishop McLaren and establish missions and schools in all large settlements on the islands.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"FORM OF CONTRACT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your memorandum in yesterday's *Mail* is liable to be misconstrued by your readers, and appears to be written under a misapprehension of the general usages of trade that govern such contracts.

In the first place I would point out that the proposed Form of Contract being still before the Chambers of Commerce of Tokyo and Yokohama for their decision, therefore the matter is *sub judice*. No doubt this had escaped your notice, or I am sure you would not have prejudiced your Japanese readers by your remarks against the terms of the proposed Form of Contract before the decision of those Chambers could be given. That you may understand better what the usages of trade are on such matters I enclose extracts from the *Conditions of Sale* upon the Lyons and Zurich markets—conditions which you will please remark are drawn up and agreed to by buyers themselves, and which present points of interest that may be compared with the form proposed by the Committee of our Chamber of Commerce.

The principle underlying each is the same, viz., that the buyer, having special facility for disposing of a certain class of merchandise at a profit, requests the so-called seller to import on commission goods that the latter would not have imported on his own account and risk. As expressed in Article IV. of the Lyons conditions, and Article VI. of those of Zurich, such transactions are dependent upon the *bond fide* of either party, and the responsibility of the seller is limited accordingly.

EXTRACTS OF THE "USAGES DE COMMERCE."

Codification des usages de la place de Lyon pour la vente des soies asiatiques en mer, et sur les marchés d'origine.

Art. IV.—RECONNAISSANCE DE LA MARCHANDISE ET DISPOSITIONS GÉNÉRALES.—Les affaires en mer, ou traitées sur ordres directs, sont considérées comme des affaires *bond fide*, et, en principe, elles ne comportent pas de laisser pour compte. Un refus ne peut être examiné et admis que dans le cas de transformation de la marchandise, ou d'erreur manifeste, et alors le vendeur est tenu au remplacement dans un délai de 15 jours, ou, en cas d'impossibilité constatée, à une indemnité équitable. Par contre l'acheteur est tenu également à accepter le remplacement par une marchandise répondant aux termes du contrat agréé par lui, ou, à défaut, déterminée par des arbitres. La reconnaissance de la marchandise traitée doit être faite dans les huit jours qui suivent l'arrivée, tant pour les soies vendues pour livraison immédiate que pour celles vendues avec prompt.

Art. V.—RABAIS.—Si la marchandise ne ressort pas à la classification stipulée, elle peut donner lieu à un rabais.

Art. IX.—NAUFRAGES ET AUTRES RISQUES DE MER.—En cas de naufrage et autres risques de mer, le contrat de vente se trouve annulé purement et simplement.

Art. VIII.—BALLES AVARIÉES.—Les balles avariées doivent être acceptées avec la bonification résultant de l'expertise officielle, qui doit être communiquée à l'acheteur.

Art. X.—ERREURS TÉLÉGRAPHIQUES.—Dans le cas où une dépêche tronquée ou perdue aurait impliqué la conclusion d'un contrat erroné, le vendeur n'est tenu à l'exécution de ce contrat que dans la mesure dans laquelle il peut le faire sans perte matérielle pour lui. Par contre l'acheteur n'est tenu à prendre livraison que de ce qu'il a commandé.

(Copy.)—USAGES DE ZURICH POUR LE COMMERCE DES GREGES ASIATIQUES.

Art. V.—Les contrats passés pour soie "en mer" ou sur ordre direct sont sujets aux principes établis dans les Articles VI. et XI.

Art. VI.—Ce genre de contrat est considéré tout spécialement comme affaire de confiance, et l'engagement du vendeur est ainsi limité. Une réclamation n'est admissible que

si la soie diffère sensiblement du classement promis. L'acheteur n'a pas le droit de prouver la soie, à moins qu'une grave négligence de la part du commissionnaire ne puisse être constatée. Mais en cas d'une infirmité prononcée, un rabais équitable peut être réclamé en jugeant les soies désignées par un "chop." L'époque de l'embarquement doit être prise en considération. Aucune réclamation autre que celle basée sur des défauts extérieurement visible n'est admise, et tout droit de réclamation échoit trois jours après réception de la marchandise.

Art. VII.—Si par suite d'une dépêche tronquée ou perdue un faux contrat a été conclu, le vendeur n'est tenu de le maintenir que jusqu'au point de ne pas subir une perte matérielle, mais l'acheteur a le droit d'accepter l'affaire telle qu'elle a été conclue en réalité.

Art. IX.—L'acheteur doit accepter les balles avariées avec la bonification officiellement constatée et accordée.

As to quality Article VI. Zurich is even less favourable to the buyer than Article VII. of the Yokohama proposed conditions, as only a material difference in quality is ground for an allowance, while an absolute refusal of the goods can only be based upon "gross negligence" on the part of the seller, and the limit of time within which a claim can be preferred is only three days. The seller has further advantage under Article VII. Zurich, which exonerates him from actual loss arising from telegraphic errors and irregularities. Your concluding paragraph is specially liable to produce friction at the present moment. It is not a question of the "Foreign" seller versus the "Japanese," but for all sellers, amongst whom are quite a number of Japanese, and the terms proposed are based upon the mature consideration of those most experienced in the working of the import trade, and are for the consideration of men whose knowledge of the trade will enable them to judge if the conditions proposed are acceptable or otherwise. Finally the buyer is in no way compelled to accept the terms; if they don't please him, he is quite at liberty not to make the contracts, but to import the goods himself.

Yours truly, R. D. ROBISON.
Yokohama, 6th April, 1899.

MORAL STANDARDS OF EAST AND WEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I came to Japan in 1872. I was then, *memento juvat*, 20 years old, less 5 months. During a nearly uninterrupted stay of 27 years in this country, I have extensively travelled North, South, East and West, on business or pleasure, visited, Sendai included, hundreds of towns and villages; lodged in as many Japanese hotels, not always of the best class, sometimes my funds not allowing of it. I am not an American Missionary, but I have never yet been favoured with any, not a single one, of the proposals or incitements mentioned by Mr. E. C. Fry, in your correspondence column of the 3rd inst. I must add that I have met with quite the reverse in each of the three lodging houses I had the pleasure to remain in during a short sojourn, years ago, in one of the principal towns of the U.S.A.

Enclosing my card, I am Sir, Yours faithfully,
CONTRARIA CONTRARIIS CUMANTUR.
Bingo no Kuni, Onomichi Station, 7th April.

AMATEUR THEATRICALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Now that "our leading local comedian" has "fretted his hour upon the stage" and is about to leave these scenes, one can hardly refrain from expressing appreciation of his energetic and probably well-intentioned efforts to enliven our existence in Yokohama, which is too often (and sometimes unjustly)

condemned as being devoid of amusement, and consequently "intolerably dull." Many residents who (like myself) have not the pleasure of Mr. Bayne's acquaintance, owe him a debt of gratitude for the enjoyable entertainments which he and his able assistants have so good-naturedly provided for our delectation, and, seeing that a "merry heart doeth good like a medicine," Mr. Bayne can indeed lay good claim to being a public benefactor. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Bayne's sin is not setting in its full glory, for the undercurrent of adverse criticism, which has always been more or less in evidence, has received additional impetus from recent events, until now several of us do not hesitate to openly express our disgust at the manifestly lowering tendency of our local stage.

A few years ago an entertainment on behalf of a Missionary Hospital concluded with a "farce" by our local Theatians, and a feeble protest was then raised against the plethora of expletive oaths and "swear-words" with which the gentlemen actors adorned their parts. It was unfortunate that their natural courtesy did not suggest that an entertainment for a semi-religious charity should be kept as free as possible from such violations of commonplace propriety,—but the protest in question was quenched by a retort from "our leading local comedian," who pointed out that such entertainments were not provided for Christians, and therefore such "hypercritical and supersensitive" persons had better stay at home. It is to be hoped the advice was followed, for our Yokohama comedians practise the teachings of the sixth-rate music-hall favourite, who argued that there was nothing like a few good oaths to liven things up a bit when the interest flagged, and that to be a good actor one must necessarily be a good swearer. True, at the other end of the professional life we have Sir Henry Irving, with studious courtesy and artistic discretion, substituting (whenever possible) mild expletives in the place of the oaths, etc., which figure in the role, so as to avoid offending the "supersensitive" element in his audiences,—but our local actors know better than to pander to such weakness, and even favour us with a few of their own, when the playwright has been sparing with "sulphurous epithets," etc.

But perhaps custom would gradually inure us to taking our wives, daughters, and lady friends to the Public Hall to hear language which we hope they hear nowhere else if that were the only objectionable feature of our local dramatic entertainments, but when swearing is accompanied by "questionable" behaviour and when divorce courts, the embarrassment of a mother attending the birth of triplets, and (worst of all) ladies dressed in men's attire are freely discussed and paraded "coram populo" it is surely time to put the brake on, so that we can stop to look round for that "line" which "must be drawn somewhere,"—before we get quite down to the demoralizing level of a Chicago or Whitechapel Music Hall.

Our departing "wearer of the buskin" may feel flattered by the accounts of the rush and clamorous excitement over the booking of seats for last Friday's entertainment, but let his pride be moderated by the fact that the character of the "plot," and the prospect of beholding an amateur actress in male attire, had almost as much attraction as the "farewell" nature of the performance. Let his confidants take encouragement from the same fact, for, although they are losing their able chief, they may still attract enthusiastic audiences by judicious management.

Those prudes who insist that theatre-going is essentially demoralizing certainly have their arguments forcibly illustrated by such performances as those we have seen recently, but can we not again reverse the tables, and prove the contrary? How about the good old days of a decade or so ago, when the "Pirates of Penzance," "Box and Cox," "Patience," "Pinafore," "Trial by Jury," "Overland Route" the inimitable "Sorcerer," and similar performances by local amateurs not only filled the house for one night, but had to be repeated or even given

three times, before the enthusiastic public were satisfied. After those performances one went home with aching sides, and a fund of innocent amusement which gave renewed life and energy to the little wit and humour we already possessed, whereas these discussions of divorces, triplet-births, etc., only harmonize with the already demoralizing atmosphere of the place, and give food for unwholesome thought to those who like myself are dubbed

"SUPERSENSITIVE."

Yokohama, 10th April, 1899.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Bank of Japan has again lowered its rate of interest. Its new figures range from 1.7 *sen* to 2.1 *sen* daily; that is to say, from 6.205 to 7.065 per cent. annually.

According to the *Shogyo Shampo*, telegrams have been received in Tokyo announcing that the mulberry trees in the south of France have suffered severely from frost; that silk culture will be delayed in consequence, and that the crop will be more or less short.

Telegrams received from Seoul seem to indicate that the trouble in Korea has been settled. The troops despatched to the disturbed district have returned, their presence not being required, and it would appear that the dimensions of the disorder were much smaller than rumour represented them to be.

It appears certain that Mr. Tsuzuki has resigned the post of Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and that he will be succeeded by Mr. Akabane. Some friction between the Minister and the Vice-Minister is the cause of the change, but the exact nature of the difficulty is not public property.

Viscount de Labry and his bride (*née* Miss Divers) left Tokyo on Tuesday, en route for France. They expect to spend a few months in Europe before returning to Japan, where the Viscount will resume his post as Military Attaché to the Legation of France. A large number of persons, Japanese and foreign, assembled at Shimbarhi to bid them farewell.

The new Japanese torpedo destroyer *Shinonome* arrived at Hongkong from London, on April 2nd, on her way to Japan.

The landed property at Canton of Kang Yu-wei was seized by the local Government under orders from Peking and was sold, but the purchasers have been told to await further instructions before entering into possession.

H.M.S. *Narcissus*, which left Hongkong on Saturday, April 1st, for Singapore and home, returned to harbour on the morning of April 2nd, owing to the bursting of a discharge pipe. The water got into her coal bunkers, and it may be necessary to discharge her coal.

The German cruiser *Ilia* is expected on the China station shortly. She is a new cruiser recently built in Germany to replace the old cruiser *Ilia*, which foundered in Chinese waters some three years ago. The cruiser *Hirthe*, which is now in Genoa dock, is also expected.

The Chinese Government is considering the advisability of opening Chang-sha, Siang-tan, and Chang-teh to foreign commerce.

The Americans found amongst the dead at Malolos—which was taken on April 1st—a prominent Filipino named Sandico, who was for some time engaged in the cycle business in Hongkong. Malolos was found to be a regular

charnel house. As the Filipinos were driven back from Manila, they carried back their dead and wounded, and hundreds of unburied corpses were found at Malolos.

The construction by Russians of a road leading into Chinese territory has already been reported. A despatch received in Tokyo from a European source says that Russian soldiers, numbering 300, have entered Chinese territory.

A Washington despatch dated the 12th inst. states, says the *Chuo*, that the ratifications of the Peace Treaty between America and Spain were exchanged at Washington on the 11th inst.

Baron Hayashi, Ambassador and Plenipotentiary Extraordinary to Russia, has been telegraphically instructed to attend the Peace Conference at the Hague representing Japan. He will be accompanied by Colonel Ueyehara Yuji and Captain Sakamoto Shuntoku.

The total number of visitors to the Commercial Museum last month was 5,017, of whom 4,959 were Japanese and 58 foreigners.

The postal authorities are instructed by the International Postal Bureau to notify the public that mail matters for Guatemala, capital of the Republic of Guatemala, are sometimes addressed in San José, a seaport city on the Pacific coast of the same country. Much inconvenience is caused from the above mistake and the attention of correspondents is called to the matter.

The Chinese excepted, the people of Burmah are probably the most inveterate gamblers in the world, and they are particularly susceptible to the wiles of the teetotum, a petty and, more or less, harmless form of gambling. The Government of Burmah has been seriously considering whether or not steps should be taken to stop the spinning of the teetotum at the native fairs, but the Commissioner of the Mandalay Division has strongly urged a continuance of the policy of non-interference, maintaining that it is best to draw a distinction between a comparatively innocent amusement and harmful gambling. Sir F. Fryer has endorsed this view, and the teetotum is to remain a sport of the people.

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Manila, April 4.

A proclamation signed by the American Commissioners was issued to-day.

It assures the Filipinos of the cordial goodwill of the American Government, the aims of the Government being the well-being, prosperity, and happiness of the Philippine people, their elevation and advancement to a position among the most civilized people of the world.

The Proclamation also sets forth in detail the means for the development of the islands, and declares there can be no real conflict between American sovereignty rights and the liberties of the Philippine people, for as the United States is ready to furnish the resources of a powerful nation to maintain its rightful supremacy over the islands, it is even more solicitous to spread peace and happiness and guarantee rightful freedom, so as to accustom the Philippine people to free self-government in an ever-increasing measure, and encourage those democratic aspirations, sentiments, and ideals which are a promise of potency and fruitful national development.

The Commission expects to visit the Province for the purpose of ascertaining what are the forms of Government best adapted to the peoples.

The proclamation contains about two thousand words, and is an excellent statement of American policy, which if it reaches the people ought to produce a good effect.

Meanwhile, the natives continue to return to their homes inside the lines.

AMERICAN MATTERS.

Figures published by the New York *Journal of Commerce* show that the fire loss of the United States and Canada during the month of February aggregated the abnormal and discouraging sum of \$18,469,000. The seriousness of the increase is shown in the following comparative table exhibiting losses for the first two months of 1897, 1898, and 1899:—

	1897.	1898.	1899.
January ...	\$12,049,700	\$ 9,472,500	\$10,718,000
February...	8,676,750	12,629,300	18,469,000
Totals ...	\$20,726,450	\$22,101,800	\$29,187,000

In a British Consular report on the import trade of the Hawaiian Islands for 1897 we note that China and Japan figure for \$40,647 for clothing imported from those countries. Under the heading of drugs \$8,852 came from China. Opium is largely smuggled into the islands for the use of Chinese smokers. The import of medicinal opium was only \$1,498 (from China, \$1,356). Chinese and Japanese matting was imported to the value of \$13,329. Chinese oils figure for \$21,820. Under the heading of spirits are included:—Japan wines, \$54,197; and China wines, \$13,707. As regards the quantity of the Japanese *sake* this represents a consumption, per head of the estimated Japanese population of the islands at the close of 1897, of about a pint a week. The duty was raised from 60 cents to \$1 a gallon for a short time last year, with the result, however, of only showing a loss of revenue from a falling-off of the import. China and Japan tobacco was imported to the value of \$4,726, and Manila cigars to the value of \$35,428.

A terrible wind storm, accompanied by rain and hail, passed through the extensive plantation of Samuel Cury, at Bismarck, Alabama, on March 19. Eleven tenement houses were blown down and two negro boys were killed. Seventeen other negroes were injured. This tornado did a great deal of damage to property; it swept over portions of Arkansas, and at Walnut Lake three persons were killed. A stable is said to have been blown a hundred and fifty yards with a horse in it, but the horse was uninjured.

The American papers record two instances of "smart" advertising. In one case a firm reproduced in facsimile what purported to be a large telegraphic order for goods, with the signature unfortunately torn off, and a copy was sent to the heads of all railways, contractors, and other persons likely to require such goods in large quantities, with the polite inquiry whether the order had come from them. Some of those addressed saw through the device, and replied angrily or humorously as the spirit moved them; but the object of the firm was attained in knowing that their name and the class of goods they supplied had been brought directly under the notice of all of their possible best customers. The second case referred to was on a similar but more brilliant scale. A crowd had gathered outside a hotel round a man who had fainted on the side walk, when a bustling person pushed his way to the front, calling to the crowd to make way and allow him to get to the patient. After quickly feeling the man's pulse, the supposed doctor produced a pocket-book filled with small squares of what appeared to be plaster. Moistening one of these the "doctor" pressed it upon the man's forehead and pulled his hat down over it. Then, addressing the crowd, he told them to give the man water, but not to remove his hat for two minutes; and, pushing his way out, he disappeared. For two minutes the crowd, growing denser every movement to witness the wonderful cure, waited impatiently and then removed the man's hat. On his forehead they saw an advertisement: "Go south via the Sea Board Air Line."

BICYCLE MEET AT POKOHAMA.

A bicycle meet arranged by the Sorin Club took place on Saturday afternoon at the Yokohama Cricket Ground. The weather was everything that could be desired from a spectator's point of view, though the recent rains had rendered the track a little heavy, militating against fast times. The event was largely a Japanese affair, and the great majority of the riders were Tokyo and Yokohama cracks, for though several foreign cyclists had entered most of them failed to turn out. The sport could not be called keenly interesting on the whole, for the number of competitors in the important races was too small to make the racing exciting. However, the programme was on the whole a fairly good one, and any lack of excitement there might have been in the races proper was amply atoned for by the really masterly trick-riding of Mr. W. C. Vaughan, who delighted the spectators with some wonderfully smart feats. The arrangements were under the supervision of the following officers:—

Referee and Starter:—Mr. C. H. Bain; Judges:—Messrs. J. L. O. Eytan, E. Mendelson, J. Eytan, Jr., and H. Kageyama; Timers and Scorers:—Messrs. K. Kingdon, T. M. Laffin, and W. C. Vaughan; Clerks of Course:—S. Kominami and H. Arai. Details:—

ONE MILE NON-WINNERS.—(Two Prizes.)

W. C. Vaughan	1
B. Mason	2
A. Kingdon	3
K. Iwaya	0
R. Yoshida	0

Iwaya and Yoshida made the running for the first two laps, and the former was leading almost up to the finish, when Mason made his effort and got ahead, followed closely by Vaughan and Kingdon. Vaughan spurred on the last lap, and got in two lengths ahead of Mason, Kingdon taking third place. Yoshida retired before the finish. Time, 2 min. 58½ secs.

ONE MILE SCRATCH.—(Two Prizes.)

M. Iwaya	1
T. Abe	2
K. Masaki	0

The race was between Abe and Iwaya, Masaki being simply not in it. Both led in turn, but eventually Iwaya got ahead and won by about six lengths. Time, 2 min. 54 secs.

ONE MILE CHAMPIONSHIP.—(Two Prizes.)

K. Tsuruta	1
E. Kobayashi	2
J. M. Scott	3
J. Strasser	0
S. Onodera	0

For the first lap the competitors rode in a cluster but in the second they thinned out, Onodera first, with Strasser next, and Scott, Tsuruta and Kobayashi following. On the last lap Tsuruta spurred and passed ahead of the rest. Rounding the 100 yard bend Onodera fell, and got in Strasser's way, but this slight accident did not greatly affect the race, which was evidently in Tsuruta's hands. He won easily by many lengths; Kobayashi being second and Scott, whose want of success surprised his many admiring backers, third. Time, 2 min. 29 secs.

CHOCHIN RACE.—(One Mile.)

B. Roberts	1
M. Hori Chiyo	2
T. Iwata	3
K. Ono	0
R. Yoshida	0
L. W. Eytan	0
Z. Ito	0
J. Nishimura	0
A. Kingdon	0

In this race each competitor had to carry a lighted lantern, and to keep it alight on penalty of disqualification. Nine started, but only four kept their lanterns lighted throughout. Roberts was an easy winner.

TWO MILE RACE.—(Two Prizes.)

S. Sugino	1
K. Kaneko	2
T. Abe	0
S. Matsumura	0
T. Iwaya	0
J. Nishimura	0

Kaneko made the running, and was leading, up to the last lap, when M. Iwaya put on a great spurt and came in an easy winner by 20 yards to spare, Sugino being second, and Kaneko third.

It was found, however, that Iwaya had not actually entered, but had raced in place of his brother T. Iwaya. He was, therefore, disqualified, and the places allotted as above. Time, 5 min. 28½ secs.

BOY'S RACE ONE MILE, HANDICAP. (Five Prizes.)

J. Iwaya	1
J. Laffin	2
T. Iwaya	3

This race caused a considerable amount of amusement, the riders being abnormally small and the machines abnormally large, so that the competitors were sitting on the cross-bars most of the time. It was a very easy thing for Iwaya, who won with yards to spare. Time, 5 min. 12 sec.

FIVE MILES CHAMPION.—(Two Prizes.)

K. Tsuruta	1
E. Kobayashi	2

Out of four entrants only two started. They were paced by Mason, Powys, H. V. Irwine, E. Irwine, and J. Scott. Tsuruta took the lead from the first, and, maintaining it throughout, won by a lap and a half. Time, 14 min. 4 secs.

LAP RACE, FIVE LAPS, TWO SPURTING LINES PER LAP.—(Two Prizes.)

E. Powys	1
B. Mason	2

Only two started. Powys led from the first, and finished each lap ahead of Mason.

A most interesting exhibition of trick riding was given during the afternoon by Mr. T. Tagaki and Mr. W. C. Vaughan. Of Mr. Vaughan's display it would be difficult to speak too enthusiastically. He made his bicycle jump over obstacles—one of them a prone man—like a blood hunter—he careered round the course on one wheel faster than most of us could do on two; he twisted, turned, stopped, balanced, and pirouetted in every imaginable and unimaginable way. It was a very entertaining and a very clever display.

The prizes were distributed by Miss Iwaya.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, April 8th:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up		30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders		14,362,151
Amount of convertible notes issued		171,790,536
Government deposits		36,566,612
General deposits		7,734,369
Exchange liability		72,155
Total		260,525,825

	Cr.
Discount notes	21,997,250
Foreign discount notes	13,404,735
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	56,456,101
Exchange liability	829,763
Government bonds	45,124,739
Property	1,793,178
Bullion and Specie	98,920,056
Total	260,525,825

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued... 174,421,366

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	97,167,190
Silver	—
Total	97,167,190

Securities:—

Government bonds	35,465,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	13,101,856
Commercial notes	6,686,532

Total ... 77,254,176

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	173,672	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	5,087,430
Government deposits	92,562	—
General deposits	4,714,334	—

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By HOMER B. HULBERT, A.M.

(CHAPTER I.—CONCLUDED.)

Late in the year a dangerous conspiracy was discovered, the prime mover being Chông Yo-nip of Chul-la Province. He had arranged a plan by which he and several friends of his in Whang-ha Province should rise simultaneously and overthrow the Government. A certain monk in Ku-wol Mountain, in Whang-ha Province, discovered that a certain man, Cho Gu, was working diligently among the people, taking names, sending numerous letters, and in other ways acting in a suspicious manner. He believed the man was a traitor and told the prefect of An-ak to be on the lookout. The latter arrested the man and examined him. It was then elicited that a widespread rebellion was being arranged. When the news was told the King secretly he called together his officials and asked, "What sort of a man is this Chông Yo-nip?" Some said they did not know, but the Prime Minister said that he was a good scholar and an exemplary man. The King then threw upon the floor the letter telling about the plot and exclaimed, "Read that and see what sort of a man he is."

The traitor Chông had caught wind of the discovery and had fled with his son to Chul-na Mountain in Chul-la Province but he was pursued and surrounded. Rather than be taken, he cut his own throat and expired. His son and his nephew were taken back to Sôul and executed. The nephew under torture affirmed that the Prime Minister and a large number of other officials were privy to the plot. This was the easier believed because the Prime Minister had insisted that Chông was a good man. So he and two others were executed and many others were banished. It is affirmed on good authority that the Prime Minister and the others who suffered were innocent of the charge, and that it was simply one of the deplorable results of party jealousy and strife. We have here a striking instance of the cause of Korea's weakness.

All momentous events in Korea are believed to be foretold in some way. It is said that in the year 1589 a good man named Cho Hôn went to the monastery at Kôn-san and when rice was set before him said, "Whoever eats with me will die next year, for the Japanese are coming with 200,000 men. Those here who do not eat with me will live." Three only are said to have taken up the challenge and eaten with him.

In the third moon of the following year, 1590, the King redeemed his promise by sending to Japan three envoys, Whang Yun-gil, Kim Sung-il, and Hô Sông. They were accompanied by the Japanese envoy who had waited a year for them. Whang Yun-gil was chief of the Korean embassy, but he was a weak, timid man who hardly dared speak when a Japanese addressed him. The other members of the embassy, realising how such action would bring Korea into contempt at the Japanese court, tried to stir him up and make him speak out fearlessly, but to no avail. After waiting a year at the Japanese court the embassy returned, accompanied by Tairano, who was charged with an important mission to the King. The minute this embassy landed at Tong-on, Whang Yun-gil, the cowardly envoy, sent a letter post back to Sôul saying that war with Japan was certain. When they all arrived at Sôul the King called them into audience and questioned them about their experiences in Japan. His first question was, "Did you see Hideyoshi? How did he look?" Wang replied, "His eyes flashed fire. He is a fearsome man." But Kim Sung-il said, "There is nothing fearsome about him. His eyes are like rats' eyes."

The important letter of which Tairano was the bearer was now laid before the King and it laid bare the mind of Hideyoshi. It read as follows:—

"Our country consists of sixty-six kingdoms. They all revolted from the Emperor, but for four years I fought them and succeeded in bringing them all to their knees, until even the remote islands lay mastered in my hand. When my mother conceived me it was by a beam of sunlight that entered her bosom in a dream. After my birth a fortune-teller said that all the land the sun shone on would be mine when I became a man, and that my fame would spread beyond the four seas. I have never fought without conquering, and when I strike I always win. Man cannot outlive his hundred years, so why should I sit chafing on this island? I will make a leap and land in China and lay my laws upon her. I shall go by way of Korea and if your soldiers will join me in this invasion you will have

shown your neighbourly spirit. I am determined that my name shall pervade three kingdoms."

At a feast given in honour of the Japanese embassy, Gensho, the Japanese monk, who seems to have accompanied Tairano to the Korean court, whispered to Whang Yun-gil and said, "The reason why Hideyoshi wants to attack China is because the Emperor refuses to receive a Japanese envoy. If Korea leaves us but a clear road to China we will ask nothing else. No troops need be given." To this Whang replied, "That can never be. China is our Mother Country and we cannot so desert her as to give a road to an invading army." The monk returned to the attack, but this time from another standpoint. "Long ago the Mongol hordes desired to invade Japan and you gave them a road through Korea for that purpose. Now, when we seek revenge, you should do the same by us." This was considered too preposterous a thing to be even discussed and the matter suddenly dropped and the Japanese envoy started straight back to his own country. It was this envoy, Tairano, who, while on his way up from Fusan, insulted the aged governor of Ta-gu by saying, "For ten years I have followed war and thus my beard is gray; why should you grow old?" Also calling for a Korean spear he said, "Your spears are too long," meaning that only cowards use long spears. He was, also, who threw a basket of oranges to the dancing girls and, when they scrambled for them, uttered his ironical criticism, "Your nation is doomed. You have no manners."

When this embassy went back to Japan he carried an answer to Hideyoshi's letter, in which the King said:—

"Two letters have already passed between us and the matter has been sufficiently discussed. What talk is this of our joining you against China? From the earliest times we have followed law and right. From within and from without, all lands are subject to China. If you have desired to send your envoys to China how much more should we. When we have been fortunate China has rejoiced, and when we have been unfortunate she has helped us. The relations which subsist between us are those of parent and child. This you well know. Can we desert both Emperor and parent and join with you? You doubtless will be angry at this, and it is because you have not been admitted to the court of China. Why is it that you are not willing to admit the suzerainty of the Emperor instead of harbouring such hostile intents against him? This truly passes our comprehension."

The Emperor hearing a rumour of a Korean-Japanese alliance sent and enquired about it; but the King replied through an envoy telling the facts of the case exactly as they had occurred. It was well understood in Korea that an invasion was all but inevitable and active preparation were going on all the year in view of this contingency. Three able men were sent as the governors of Kyong-nang, Chul-la and Ch'u ng-ch'ung provinces, respectively, namely Kim Su, Yi Gwang, and Yun Sang-gak. They were so energetic in repairing fortresses and accumulating arms that the people complained loudly. Someone told the King that Yi Sun-sin, a man as yet unknown, had in him the making of the greatest general in the world, and for this reason the King made him admiral of all the naval forces of the kingdom.

CHAPTER II.

THE ARMY OF INVASION—LANDS ON KOREAN SOIL.—JAPANESE FIRE-ARMS—FALL OF FUSAN—A COWARDLY PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR—THE FALL OF TONG NA—A FAITHFUL DEFENDER—COWARDLY OFFICERS—THE JAPANESE MOVE NORTHWARD—A MARTINET—BRAVER SOLDIERS THAN LEADERS—THE NEWS REACHES SÔUL—THE THREE ROADS GUARDED—A COMICAL PREDICAMENT—A GOOD SHOT—CHO RYUNG (PASS) LEFT UNDEFENDED—AN ARMY DISBANDED FOR LACK OF LEADERS—GENERAL YI IL'S FIASCO—GENERAL SIL YIP WANTS TO FIGHT IN THE PLAIN—RECONNOITERING—THE KOREAN ARMY IN A TRAP—OVERWHELMING DEFEAT.

We have now arrived at the year 1592, A.D., the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of the dynasty, the year that was destined to see the country swept by the Japanese hordes. The Koreans call it the Imjin year, and the mere pronunciation of that word to-day brings up in the Korean mind the tales of horror and suffering which his mother told him when a boy, and which have determined the whole attitude of the Korean mind toward Japan.

Before spring opened, the King took an inventory of all the arms that were available, and appointed General Sil Yip to the command of the force in Kang-wun and Ham-gyung Provinces, and General Yi Il to the command of those in the south. In the third moon the officials worshipped at the tomb of King T'a-jo, the founder of the

dynasty. Korean tradition says that wallings were heard proceeding from this tomb for three or four days preceding the landing of the Japanese.

Hideyoshi had brought together an enormous force from all parts of the kingdom, and the expedition, after being reviewed at Nagoya by Hideyoshi, rendezvoused at the islands of Iki. They were led by thirty-six generals, the General-in-chief being Hideyoshi.

As to the numbers in the invading army, the Korean account agrees so well with the Japanese that there can be little doubt of its correctness. The Korean account says that the regular army consisted of 160,000 men, that there was a "body-guard" of 80,000 men, perhaps meaning the personal body-guard of Hideyoshi, and that there were 1500 heavy armed cavalry. This says nothing about a reserve force of 60,000 men which is mentioned by some authorities, and from this we conclude that these did not come with the main army but waited and came later as reinforcements. The best Japanese accounts make the total 250,000 while the Korean records say 251,500. Either of these numbers is approximately correct, but the Japanese accounts divide the estimate differently, saying that the main army was 150,000, while Hideyoshi's personal command was 100,000. But this discrepancy is of course unessential.

As to armament we find that this army was provided with 5000 battle-axes, 100,000 long swords, 100,000 spears, 100,000 short swords, 500,000 daggers, 300,000 firearms large and small, and that there were in the whole army 50,000 horses.

The flotilla which brought this immense army to the shores of Korea consisted of between three and four thousand boats. This gives us an intimation as to the capacity of the boats used in those days. According to this enumeration each boat carried sixty men. They were probably undecked, or at most but partially decked, boats of about forty or fifty feet in length, by ten in breadth.

We learn from Japanese sources that the whole fleet did not weigh anchor from Iki at the same time. Kato, who was in command of one division of the army, managed to give the rest of the fleet the slip and was away with his command by night, while his rival Konishi was compelled to wait several days longer at anchor because of adverse winds. These two men, Kato and Konishi, figure so prominently in the first years of the war that a word of description is necessary. Kato was an old warrior who had fought for many years by the side of the great Hideyoshi and held the confidence and esteem of that great commander. He was an ardent Buddhist and a firm believer in the old regime. Konishi, on the other hand was a young and brilliant general who had gained his place not so much by long and faithful service as by his uncommon skill in military affairs. He was a convert to Roman Catholicism, having been baptized by the Portuguese missionaries in 1584. He seems to have been a personal favourite with the great Taiko. It is in the Korean accounts that we find the statement that Hideyoshi made the General-in-chief of all the army of invasion. From the Japanese accounts, which naturally would be supposed to be more reliable in this matter, it would seem that Kato and Konishi divided between them the honour of supreme command. But we must remember that Hideyoshi was an old soldier and well acquainted with the natural jealousies that spring up between officers in any army, and it is almost inconceivable that he should have put this army in joint command of two men whom he must have known to be bitter enemies and who would doubtless work at cross purposes in the peninsula. We incline therefore to the opinion that the Koreans were right and that there was a nominal head in the person of Hideyoshi, but it is quite true that the brunt of the work fell upon the two rivals, Kato and Konishi.

When day broke on the morning of the thirteenth of the fourth moon of 1592, a dense fog rested on the sea and hid from the eyes of the Koreans the vast fleet that was working across the straits. Curiously enough, the commander of the Korean forces in Fusan happened to be hunting that day on Deer Island at the entrance to the harbour. He was the first to detect the invading host. Hastening back to the fortifications he prepared for the worst. Before many hours had passed the Japanese host landed, surrounded the fort, and poured in upon its doomed defenders such a destructive fire that it is said the bullets fell like rain. The garrison fought till their arrows were gone and then fell at their post, not one escaping.

It would be difficult to over-estimate the immense advantage which the Japanese enjoyed in the possession of firearms, a weapon with which the Koreans were not acquainted and to whose natu-

ral destructiveness as a machine of war must be added the terror which it naturally inspired. It was Cortez and the Mexicans over again, only in somewhat lesser degree. What seemed to the Japanese, and what has passed down in history, as cowardice can scarcely be called by so strong a term when we consider that bows and arrows were pitted against muskets and men who were trained in their use.

Without delay the invaders marched around the bay to the ancient city of Tong-na, the remains of whose ancient fortress still greet the eye and interest the imagination of the traveller. Its prefect, Song Sang-hyun, hurriedly gathered all the town-people and what soldiers he could find. General Yi Gak, the commander of all the forces in the province, was approaching from the north; but, hearing of the fate of the garrison of Pusan, he halted abruptly and said, "As commander of all the provincial forces I must not risk my life in actual battle, but must stand outside, where I can direct affairs." So he turned about and put six miles between his precious person and the beleaguered town of Tong-na, and encamped at So san. The next day the Japanese completed the investment of the town and prepared to storm the fortress. The brave prefect took up his position in the upper storey of the great gate of the fortress where, in accordance with the Korean custom, he beat upon a great drum and urged on his soldiers in the fight. For eight hours the gallant defenders fought before the enemy effected an entrance over their dead bodies. Seeing that all was lost, the prefect called for his official robes and seated himself in state in the upper gateway. The ruthless Japanese rushed in and seized him by his garments and attempted to make him bow before them, but the first one received such a kick in the stomach that he rolled over on the floor. An instant later he was struck down by their swords. Just before the enemy entered he bit his finger till the blood came and with it he wrote on his fan "The duty of a subject to his King comes before that of a son to his father, so here I die without seeing you again." This he delivered to a trusty servant to give to his father. To his trusty friend Sin Y6 go he said, "There is no need of your staying here to die, make good your escape while there is time." But Sin replied "I have enjoyed pleasures with you and now I prefer to suffer with you." So the two died together. The Japanese general in command was so impressed with the bravery of this Prefect, Song Sang hyun, that he had his body decently buried and erected over his grave a wooden monument on which he wrote, "A Loyal Subject," an epitaph than which none could be more grateful to a true Korean gentleman. Tradition, which delights to embellish such accounts, avers that for two years a red light could be seen glimmering at night above the gate where this man met his end.

When General Yi Gak, the cautious, and General Pak Hong, who was with him, heard of the fall of Tong-na, they took to their heels, and consequently their forces did likewise. And here it should be noted that cowardice evinced itself almost exclusively in the generals and other officers. We shall find that in almost every instance the soldiers stood by their officers to the last man.

As the forces of the Japanese moved northward the prefects fled to right and left. The governor of the province, Sim Su, hearing of the battle at Tong-na, advanced toward that place with all the forces at his command, but his determination seems to have wavered, perhaps on account of the growing rumors of the prowess of the Japanese; for before he came in sight of the invading army he returned to the west and south, alarming all the prefects as he went, and so it is said that the whole portion of the province was practically depopulated.

When the Japanese arrived at Yong-san they found it empty. They swarmed over Chuk-w6n Pass like ants and filled the plain beyond. Pak Jin, the prefect of Mi-nyang, burned all the provisions and arms and fled to the mountains. Not so with So Ye wan, the prefect of Kim ha. He stayed inside his fortress and defied the invaders. The latter could not effect an entrance until they went and cut down a large field of barley in the neighborhood, which they tied in bundles and heaped against the wall till they were able to scale it. Having done his best and failed, the prefect made good his escape. U Bok-yong, prefect of Yong-gung, as in duty bound, called in his retainers and started to join the banners of his chief, Yi Gak, whose whereabouts at that time was rather uncertain, as we have already seen. During a halt for dinner two hundred soldiers from the town of Ha-yang passed them on their way to join the forces of the governor. U Bok-yong seems to have had so large an opinion of himself that he was enraged because these soldiers did not dismount when they passed him.

They were of course ignorant of his rank, but he had them all seized and executed, and sent a note to the governor saying that he had destroyed a band of two hundred robbers. For this meritorious service he was elevated to the rank of district-general.

Meanwhile General Yi Gak, the provincial general, was flying from place to place in momentary fear of encountering the enemy. His troops were disgusted at this, for they had made some raids guns that would throw pebbles, and they thought if they could have a fair chance at the Japanese they could give them a whipping.

On the seventeenth, four days after the landing of the Japanese, the startling news reached Seoul. The city was thrown into a sort of panic. The ministers hastened to the palace to consult about ways and means for defence. Yi Il was the highest actual field officer in the country. He was of the third military rank, but the two above him were simply the Minister and Vice-Minister of War, who always stayed with the King. General Yi Il may then be said to have been the General-in-chief of all the armies of Korea at the time.

There were three main roads leading up from the south to the capital, any one of which might be chosen by the Japanese. The most direct of these was the central one leading over the mountain chain at the celebrated Ch6-ryung (Pass). Another to the east crossed the mountains at Chuk-nyung (Pass), and a third to the west led through the centre of Ch'ung-ch'ung Province. To guard these three approaches the King ordered General Yi Il to go south by the middle road and station a garrison at Ch6-ryung, the most important strategic point in the Japanese line of march. General Pym Geni was to be stationed in charge of this garrison; the eastern road was to be guarded by General Yu Geuk-nyang, and Pym Eung-song was made prefect of the important southern town of Ky6ng-j6. All these men were ordered to start for their respective posts that very day. At a late hour of that same day came the news of the fall of Pusan, for some-one from the summit of a neighbouring hill had seen the red banners of the Japanese swarming over the walls into the doomed town.

These generals who had been ordered to start in such hot haste were practically without forces. When the military rolls were looked up it was found that the army was mostly on paper, and that a large majority of the men were either "sick" or "in mourning." So the whole force that General Yi Il could muster amounted to just three hundred men. Even these could not be mustered at an hour's notice, and so, in order to obey the King's command, the unfortunate general had to start off alone, trusting that this pitiful handful of men would follow him. The sight of the General-in-chief of the armies of Korea starting out alone to meet the mighty army of invasion would be comical were it not so pathetic. Of course the intention was to gather soldiers as he went, and we shall see that he did succeed in getting together at least the semblance of an army.

The Prime Minister Yu Sung-nyong was made Minister of War and was charged with the duty of gathering a competent force to cope with the dreaded Japanese. Sil Yip was also appointed Vice-Minister of War. He seems to have been specially trusted by the King, for the latter gave him a splendid sword and sent him south with the injunction to kill anyone who should prove unfaithful, even though it be General Yi Il himself. Here we see another grievous mistake, in thus giving a man an independent command over the head of the General-in-chief. It well illustrates a defect that has brought disaster to many an army—namely, the confusing of authority. As Sil Yip came out from this audience with the King he slipped on the stone steps and his count hat fell from his head. The attendants looked upon this with dismay, for it was considered an omen of ill-success. The general went south only eighty li and stopped at Yong-in.

Kim Sung-il, who will be remembered as the man who accompanied the cowardly envoy, Whang Yun-gil, to Japan, and who had so severely censured him for his craven conduct, was now made commander of all the forces in the western part of Kyung-sang Province. He started for his post immediately and in a few days arrived at the important town of Chiu-j6, just as the Japanese were approaching. His escort had become somewhat scattered, but he was not going to take a backward step even to save his life. Dismounting he seated himself in the official chair, having with him only a corporal and a dozen soldiers. It was a common custom for the Japanese to wear hideous masks for the purpose of terrifying the Koreans. On this occasion, when the van of the Japanese army entered the town it was led by a burly fellow wearing an extremely large and extremely ugly mask. The corporal strung his bow

and let fly a shaft which pierced the mask and laid its wearer low. His followers bent a hasty retreat supposing that no one would be shooting arrows about like that unless there was a considerable force of soldiers in the immediate vicinity. We are not told as to the fate of the bold general. In this part of the provinces the prefects seem to have been made of better stuff than those further south, for they sent to each other urging the necessity of standing at their posts and offering whatever resistance they could to the advance of the enemy.

By this time Gen. Yi Il had collected a considerable force, had crossed the great Ch6-ryung (Pass) and was stationed at Song-j6, in the very path of the invading army. It did not take long to measure his calibre, for no sooner did the rumour of the approach of the Japanese reach him than he turned and fled up the pass. This was bad enough, but his next act was little less than traitorous; he made no attempt to block the pass, even though a mere handful of men could have held it against thousands. It was his one great opportunity to distinguish himself and that he did not improve it speaks as poorly for his generalship as it does for his patriotism.

Meanwhile an equally reprehensible event was transpiring in the south. Governor Kim Su, who had turned aside from meeting the enemy, sent letters to all the prefects ordering them to have soldiers from all the districts rendezvous at Tagnand and await in camp the arrival of generals from Seoul. The order was obeyed and a large force was congregated at the appointed place; but day after day passed and no generals came. The Japanese were sweeping northward and would soon be upon them. Under the circumstances it should cause little surprise that the camp broke up, each man returning to his own district. This is but one of many cases which go to show that in almost every instance the blame rested not on the soldiers but on the generals and other officers. They were always willing to go where the generals would lead them.

When Gen. Yi Il fled in panic over Ch6-ryung and left it undefended, his followers naturally objected to remaining under the command of a man who was not only no commander but was a coward to boot. So at last the dauntless general found himself stranded in the town of Sang-j6 without a soldier at his back. He had hoped to find some troops there under the command of the Prefect, Kwon J6ng-gil, but when he found that there were none, he flew into a rage and was about to decapitate the prefect, but let him off on condition that he should find some troops immediately. This the poor fellow tried to do, but as the whole population was a farming one, not a man could be found who had ever borne arms or who knew anything about fighting. Nevertheless, to save his head, he got together some nine hundred recruits. At this juncture a messenger came post haste from Ka-ryung saying that the Japanese were coming and were already near. Gen. Yi replied, "You lie, this is only a scheme to get me to leave, so that I will not levy any more troops here. Off with his head." So off it came. That very night the Japanese encamped at Ch'ung-Ch'und-i a few miles away, but Gen. Yi knew nothing about it as he had no pickets out. The next morning Japanese scouts were seen on the opposite bank of the river reconnoitering. The Koreans saw these scouts but as one man had been beheaded for telling of the approach of the Japanese no one dared to tell the general, and it was not till he heard the firing of guns that he became aware of the proximity of the foe. Then he rushed out and formed up his little garrison as best he could behind the fortifications. Ere long his attention was called to several columns of smoke arising from the town. He sent some of his aides to discover the cause but they fell into the hands of the Japanese and were immediately cut down. When Gen. Yi learned of this he was genuinely alarmed and his anxiety was added to by seeing two long files of Japanese deploying to right and left and rapidly inclosing him and his forces. There was only one thing to do. Mounting his steed he fled by the only way that was not already blocked. Being hotly pursued he abandoned his horse and the greater part of his clothing and fled into the mountains where he managed to elude his pursuers. In a day or so he appeared at the town of Mun-kyung where he wrote a letter telling of his defeat, and sent it to Seoul. Hearing that Gen. Sil Yip was at Ch'ung-j6 he hastened to that point and joined him.

Gen. Sil Yip had some time since arrived at his post in Ch'ung-j6 and had prosecuted his work of collecting soldiers with such zeal that he had mustered a force of some eight thousand men. It was his intention to push straight for Ch6-ryung, the key to the whole situation, but when he heard of the flight and defeat of Gen. Yi Il he fell back to

his strong position in Chung-ju. One of his lieutenants, Kim Yô-mul, expostulated with him and said, "We cannot cope with them except in such a place as Choryung were the roughness of the land will be of material aid to us," but the general replied, "No, they are infantry and we are cavalry. If we can once get them into the plain we can use our battle-flails on them with deadly effect." One of his captains told him that the Japanese had already crossed the Choryung, and that night he left the camp secretly and went on a long tour of inspection in order to ascertain whether this was true. When he came back he ordered the instant execution of the captain. This midnight expedition speaks well for his courage and his loyalty.

A few days after the fugitive general, Yi Il, joined the forces of Gen. Sil Yip, the Japanese forces approached. In order to carry out his pet scheme of fighting the Japanese in an open plain where his soldiers could make good use of their battle flails, Gen. Sil selected a spot that seemed to him most suitable. It was a great amphitheatre made by high mountains, while on the other side, like the chord of an arc, flowed the river T'ang-gu-da. The only approaches to this plain were two narrow passages at either end where the mountains came down to the river bank. In this death trap, then, Gen. Sil drew up his entire command and awaited the coming of the invaders. It is easy to imagine the glee with which the Japanese saw this arrangement, for it meant the extermination of the only army that lay between them and Seoul. Strong detachments were sent to block the passages at the ends of the plain while the main body scaled the mountains and came down upon the doomed army as if from the sky. The spears and swords of the descending legions flashed like fire while the roar of the musketry made the very earth to tremble. The result was an almost instantaneous stampede. The Koreans made for the two narrow exits but found them heavily guarded by the Japanese. They were now literally between "the devil and the deep sea," for they had the appalling spectacle of the hideously masked Japanese on the one hand and the deep waters of the river on the other. The whole army was driven into the river or mercilessly cut down by the swords of the Japanese. Gen. Sil Yip himself made a brave stand and killed with his own hand seventeen of the enemy before he fell. Out of the whole army only a handful escaped, and among them, we are almost sorry to say, was the coward Yi Il, who managed to get across the river.

KINSHIU MARU-MIYAGAWA MARU COLLISION.

The *Kobe Herald* contains the following decision of the Osaka Marine Court in the *Kinshiu Maru-Miyagawa Maru* collision case—

Fujiwara Rihei, *Helm*, living at No. 403, Koguchi Mura, Kojima Gun, Okayama Ken, F. J. Brown, British subject.

Having examined the circumstances of the collision between the *Miyagawa Maru* and *Kinshiu Maru*, it is found:—Fujiwara Rihei was Captain of the steamer *Miyagawa* (registered tonnage 257) owned by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, No. 64, Tomishima-cho, Kita-ku, Osaka; while F. J. Brown was Captain of steamer *Kinshiu* (registered tonnage 2,459), owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, No. 1, Yuraku-cho, Ichome, Kojimachiku, Tokio. The *Miyagawa*, which sailed from Akamagasaki in Nagato province on 24th October, of 33rd year of Meiji, for Osaka, in Settsu province, via ports in Chugoku, left Tomotsu in Bingo province for Tadotsu in Sanuki province at 5.28 p.m. on the 25th of same month, and at 6.08 p.m. passed the northern extremity of Kotobi Island in the same province, keeping about four cables distance. She there changed her course to S.E. by E. & E. Proceeding full speed, at the rate of 11 miles an hour, at 6.32 p.m., she made out the white and green lights of the *Kinshiu*, then about 2 miles distant and about 2 points on the port bow. The *Kinshiu* left Kobe in Settsu province for Hongkong, via Nagasaki, in Hizen province, at noon of the 25th. At 6.28 p.m. she passed the northern extremity of Takumi Island in Sanuki province, at a distance of four cables, and there changed her course to W. by S. & S. She was going at full speed, viz., 12 miles an hour. At that time Captain Brown, Pilot Kaya, and the third mate, Shirodzu Kozo, were on the bridge. At about 6.33 they saw the white light of the *Miyagawa* about 3 miles off, at about 2 points on the starboard bow. It was a gloomy moonlight night and there was a light N. E. breeze and about a quarter knot westerly current. The

islands in the neighbourhood could be seen very clearly, and Captain Brown entrusted the deck to the pilot and left the bridge to take his supper. At 6.32, at a distance of about 2 miles, a red light was seen in the same direction. The pilot then turned the *Kinshiu*'s head to the right in order to avoid the approaching vessel. At the same time the *Miyagawa* changed her course to the east. Then both steamers recognized three lights. Thereupon the pilot put the rudder to starboard to recover his former position. The *Miyagawa* at the same time turned quickly to the right in order to pass the *Kinshiu* on the port bow. The *Kinshiu* was changing slowly to the west and blew two short blasts of the whistle. The *Miyagawa* expecting danger, sounded several short whistles and turned suddenly to the right. At this critical moment both steamers gave orders to go full speed astern. At about 6.38 the *Kinshiu* was heading W.S.W. and the head of the *Miyagawa* was S.W. by S. The *Kinshiu* struck the *Miyagawa* at the rear part of the bridge on the port side. The *Kinshiu* was slightly damaged, but the *Miyagawa* was so badly damaged both above and below the water line, that she sank a few minutes after the collision, at about S.W. by W., one cable to the S.W. by W. of the position where the collision occurred; that is, she sank 1½ mile S. & W. of Sanagi Island in Sanuki province. Before that time, Captain Brown, who was taking his supper, heard a whistle and ran up on the bridge as quickly as he could and gave orders to go astern. But it was too late to avoid a collision. After the collision happened, he ordered the engines to be stopped and endeavored to rescue the passengers and crew of the *Miyagawa*. On the other hand Captain Fujiwara Rihei, notwithstanding the fact that his steamer was sinking rapidly, took no measures to rescue lives, and of a total of 147 on board at the time 50 persons were drowned and 6 were missing. These facts are made clear by the evidence taken at the preliminary examination by the Osaka Marine Court of Enquiry of Captain Fujiwara Rihei, Captain F. J. Brown, Kono Zenichichi, Minematsu Takejiro, Shiota Wajiro, Shiga Monji, Ota Jinkichi, Yasukura Hachisaburo, Shirodzu Kozo, Asakura Fukutaro, Odahawa Ichizo, Nakano Sinto and an Austrian named P. P. Staffa, and also by the notes sent the Osaka Marine Court by Pilot Kaya Yasuke and the reports forwarded by the Nagasaki Marine Court, the Marugame Police, and Hiroo Jiro, who gave testimony regarding Regulation No. 987.

After examining the foregoing facts, the actions of Captain Fujiwara Rihei when the collision occurred, the infringement of Art. 21 of the Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea, and his failure to adhere to his course, it is clear he erred in his duty and contravened clauses 2 and 3 of Art. 1 of the Seamen's Disciplinary Regulations. Therefore he must be punished according to clause 2. of the same regulations. On the other hand in regard to Captain Brown's actions on the *Kinshiu Maru* it is to be noted that he did not avoid the passage of the other steamer, nor lower the speed of his vessel, nor alter his helm in time. That was a mistake. But at that time the pilot was in sole charge of the steamer, so Capt. Brown cannot be held responsible for it. Nor is there anything to be said against him for the steps taken to rescue lives, his action in no way constituting an offence under Art. 1 of the Seamen's Disciplinary Regulations.

The decision is as follows:—The second grade certificate as Captain (*Otsushin*) of Capt. Fujiwara Rihei will be suspended for nine months. Captain Brown will not be punished at all. The costs of the enquiry, yen 77.70, will be borne by Capt. Fujiwara Rihei.

Osaka Marine Court of Enquiry, 5th day 4th month, 32nd year of Meiji.
Unemura Sadaaki, Director,
Yebiko Sai, Chief Judge.
Fuji Jinsaburo, } Assessors.
Ito Teiko, }

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

M. LOUBET IN THE COUNTRY.

Saigon, April 7.
The President of the French Republic has gone to spend two days at Montélimar, his native town, and has been warmly welcomed by his compatriots.

Saigon, April 8.
The President of the French Republic, speaking at a banquet given by the Municipality of Montélimar, asserted the at-

tachment which the country bears to its national army. He said that transitory difficulties and superficial agitations could not long defer the reign of concord in France.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR: REMARKABLE DEPOSITIONS.

Saigon, April 7.
The *Figaro* publishes the deposition of the *Juge d'Instruction*, M. Bertulus, who declares that the preliminary examination conducted by him proved that Made-moiselle Pays and Colonel Du Paty de Clam are the authors of the telegrams sent to Picquart over the signature "Blanche" and "Speranza." He adds that when he said to Colonel Henry that Esterhazy was the writer of the "bordereau," Henry did not deny it.

Saigon, April 9.
The publications of the *Figaro* continue, and are giving rise to numerous protests.

Saigon, April 11.
The *Figaro* publishes the depositions of Generals Zurlinden and Chanoine, former Ministers of War, affirming the guilt of Dreyfus.

FRANCE AND ITALY.

Saigon, April 9.
The Mediterranean Squadron, under Admiral Fournier, has proceeded to Cagliari to salute the King of Italy, who assists at the Sardinian fête.

FRENCH PREMIER ON THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Saigon, April 10.
The Prime Minister, M. Dupuy, in a speech delivered at a banquet which was given to him by his constituents at Puy, affirmed that the situation of France was generally satisfactory. Of the Dreyfus affair, the Premier said that it would be soon settled by the judgment of the Court of Cassation, and that, as soon as the judgment was pronounced, the sanctions of the law would follow if necessary. He added that the punishments which might eventually overtake the errors or the faults of individuals were incapable of reaching the national army, which constituted security in the present, confidence in the future, and the guardian of the country's independence and constitution.

EX-MAYOR OF ALGIERS ARRESTED.

Saigon, April 11.
M. Max Régis, former Mayor of Algiers, has been arrested in that town for delivering a violent speech against Governor-General Leferrère.

FRANCE CALM.

Saigon, April 12.
The opening of the General Councils has taken place amid the greatest calm throughout the whole of France.

NAVAL AFFAIRS.

Admiral Cuvelier de Cuverville, Chief of the Head-Quarters Staff of the Navy, has tendered his resignation in consequence of the recent decree with regard to the *points d'appui* of the Fleet. M. Lockroy, Minister of the Navy, who is now at Cherbourg, will give a decision on this subject when he returns to Paris.

FRENCH FLEET'S RECEPTION IN ITALY.

Saigon, April 13.
The press and the populace received the French at Cagliari with acclaim. Admiral Fournier, Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Squadron, gave a

déjeuner on board to the Authorities. The Crowned Heads arrived in the afternoon.

THE AUTHORSHIP OF THE BORDEREAU.

The deposition of General Gonse says that Dreyfus alone can have written the "bordereau." General Deloye's report refutes the deposition of Hartmann.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

London, April 7.
Le Figaro continues publishing the depositions taken by the Criminal Chamber of the Court of Cassation. They contain those of General Roget, who detailed several strong points against Dreyfus. He insisted strongly that the items mentioned in the *bordereau* were only known to the officers of the Department where in Dreyfus worked. An official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs testified that the German and Italian Ambassadors and attachés positively denied all dealings with Dreyfus. M. Bertulus, Examining Magistrate, who interrogated Col. Henry regarding Col. Picquart's charges against Count Esterhazy, deposed that Henry declined to answer whether Esterhazy was the author of the *bordereau*, and that, besides, he made a scene imploring Bertulus to consider the honour

London, April 10.

The *Observer* says that Count Esterhazy has avowed that he wrote the *bordereau* by Col. Henry's order.

London, April 12.

M. Lorillier, former military secretary to the late Col. Henry, committed suicide on Monday last after receiving a telegram summoning him to Paris.

THE "FIGARO" REPORT.

Le Figaro, continuing its report (of Criminal Section trial), states that M. Casimir-Perier deposed that Gen. Mercier told him of one secret document submitted at the Court Martial, but that the witness was unaware that it was only communicated to the Judges.

CANADA AND BRITISH DEFENCE.

London, April 8.

The Dominion Government is considering a scheme of contributing to Imperial naval defence. It is proposed to train a thousand fishermen annually first ashore and then on board warships.

THE TRANS-AFRICAN RAILWAY.

The *St. James Gazette* reports that Germany has given the necessary guarantee upon the capital for the German section of the Cape-Cairo Railway, and also the guarantee of a certain percentage of interest on the line from Dar-es-Salaam to Ujiji.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes has abandoned the idea of British guarantee for the Tanganyika railway; and intends to raise capital without guarantee.

THE SAMOAN DIFFICULTY SETTLED.

The three Powers (England, America and Germany) have finally settled upon a Tripartite Commission in Samoa.

London, April 10.

Malietao Tanu was crowned King of Samoa on the twenty-third of March in the presence of the British and American representatives, the Germans holding aloof.

London, April 11.

Germany strongly protests against the intervention of the British and American men-of-war and the installation of Malietao

Tanu as King, as being contrary to the Treaty.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN ENTENTE.

London, April 10.

Reuter understands that the negotiations between Russia and England extended over other questions besides China, and had in view the adjustment of present or contingent difficulties.

IRISH LOCAL ELECTIONS.

The results of the County Council elections in Ireland show that Unionism is unrepresented in Munster and Connaught, scarcely represented in Leinster, and has suffered severely in Ulster.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

London, April 11.

A declaration by the Duke of Connaught was read in Diet of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, agreeing to assume the government of the Duchy in the event of any contingency arising.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION.

The Ministry of South Wales has appointed twelve members to the Council to outvote Councillors objecting to the Federal Bill.

"THE TIMES" ON JAPANESE FINANCE.

The *Times*, in a leader on Japanese finance, concludes its remarks by quoting the positive opinion of its Tokyo correspondent, that Japan is more than able to repay any foreign loan she can possibly require.

SITUATION IN SAMOA.

BRITISH-AMERICAN FORCE AMBUSCADED.

London, April 13.

The British-American force, being ambuscaded by Mataafans at Apia on the 1st of April, were forced to retreat. Lieutenant Freeman, of the British cruiser *Tauranga*, two American officers, and four sailors were killed and decapitated. The ambush occurred in a German plantation, the manager of which has since been arrested on the charge of inciting the rebels.

[The *Tauranga* is a twin screw cruiser of the 3rd class, for the protection of Floating Trade in Australian waters. Lieut. Angel H. Freeman was borne in her as Gunner Lieutenant, and received his commission to the *Tauranga* on April 1st, 1897.—Ed. J. M.]

THE LU-HAN RAILWAY LOAN.

The new Chinese five per cent. gold loan to the amount of 112,500,000 francs for the Peking-Hankow Railway has been issued by the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas and other French banks.

PLAGUE AT MECCA.

Two cases of plague have occurred at Mecca.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Manila, April 3.

Major General Otis, commanding the Forces at Manila, has issued a proclamation in which he advises the American troops to treat the Filipinos with consideration in order to disabuse the minds of the natives of the mendacious allegations of looting and ravishing sedulously circulated to incite the natives against the Americans.

Many natives are returning to Malolos and the vicinity, and the situation is hopeful.

(FROM THE "MANILA TIMES.")

NEXT U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. PROBABLE CANDIDATES.

New York, March 28.

It appears probable that the Republican Convention will nominate William McKin-

ley as candidate for President and Colonel Theodore Roosevelt for Vice-President. The Democratic Convention will probably adopt Bryan as candidate for President, and Admiral Schley for Vice-President.

No mention is made of Dewey. In answer to urgent appeals from prominent sound money Democrats, Admiral Dewey has written a letter to Judge Browley, of South Carolina, stating that under no circumstances would he consent to be a candidate for the presidency. He says he is not fited by training or temperament for the high office, and begs his friends not to consider his nomination a possibility.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE FRENCH MISSIONARY AFFAIR IN KOREA.

Seoul, April 10.

The missionary affair in Kang-kyong, Korea, was a petty quarrel arising from a bargain between Christians and merchants, and the local officials, in a panic, telegraphed gross exaggerations. The district is quiet, and the missionary is safe.

BOAT UPSET—THREE PERSONS DROWNED.

Tadotsu, April 12.

About 4 o'clock this morning a boat laden with passengers was upset on the way to the *Tongawa Maru*, and three of the passengers were drowned.

MURDERER AND MURDERESS EXECUTED.

Nagoya, April 12.

The priest Kuroda Suisei and his wife, who were sentenced to death for murder, were executed this morning.

STEAMERS IN COLLISION.

Hakodate, April 11.

Last night, the N.Y.K. steamers *Matsumai Maru* and *Tagenoura Maru* collided in the harbour, the latter suffering most damage.

DISASTROUS FIRES.

Kanazawa, April 11.

At 4.20 a.m. to-day a fire broke out at Ishiyakoji, Kanazawa, and the flames extended to Fukurocho and Yasuyecho. No fewer than 100 houses were reduced to ashes, including many well-to-do merchants' residences. It was not before 6.30 a.m. that the fire was got under control.

Aomori, April 11.

On Sunday night, 167 houses were burnt down by a fire in Shichinoe village, Kamikita district. The post and telegraph office and tax office shared in the destruction. One person was injured.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	City of Peking	1st April 19
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Salanie	Th. April 20
America	C. & O. Co.	Doric	Su. April 20
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. April 24
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. April 24
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. May 1
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. May 1
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. May 4
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. May 4
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. May 6
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. May 10

- 1 Left Shanghai on the 28th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 28th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 4th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 28th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. April 19
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. April 19
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. April 19
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. April 24
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Salanie	W. April 26
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. April 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. May 1
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. May 1
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. May 4
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. May 4
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. May 6
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. May 10

CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 415.

WHITE.
 1—R to R 3
 2—Q to B 3 mate
 3—Q to Q 4 mate
 4—Q takes R mate
 5—Q to Q B 3 mate
 6—Q to Q 3 mate
 7—R takes R mate
 8—R takes Kt or R to R 4 mate

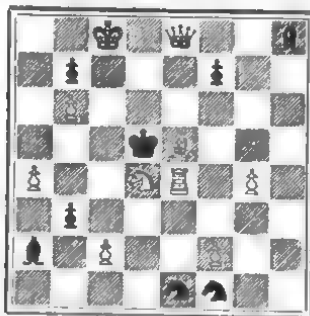
BLACK.
 1—K takes R
 2—R takes R
 3—R takes P
 4—R any other
 5—P to K 7
 6—K to B 5
 7—K to R 5 or Kt any other

Correct solutions received from Marco, F.G., and W.D.C.

PROBLEM No. 418.

First Prize Dreissiger Turnier des Aftenblattes.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 498.

THE WELSH CHESS TOURNAMENT.

Mr. A. Burn added another leaf to his laurels by again winning the major tourney at Llandudno on January 10th, 1899. Like last year, he scored 3 points out of a possible 10. Last year he lost to Mr. G. Bellingham. This year he did not lose a game, but, what was tantamount thereto, he drew with Messrs. Atkins and Jones. Mr. H. E. Atkins took second prize with 7½ points, Messrs. Bellingham and Schott tied for third and fourth prizes with 6 points each. In the second class tournament the prize takers were respectively Messrs. N. Clissold (Liverpool), J. E. Parry (Shrewsbury), and A. Mackenzie (Birmingham).

The following fine game between Messrs. Burn and Schott is taken, with the notes, from the *Times* (weekly edition):—

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—A. Burn. Black—G. A. Schott.

WHITE.
 1—P to Q 4
 2—P to Q B 4

BLACK.
 1—P to Q 4
 2—Kt to K B 3

This defence is proved unsatisfactory, because, whether Queen or Knight retakes the Pawn, White gains a move either by 4—Kt to Q B 3 or P to K 4, the latter being a very important move if the Knight takes.

3—P takes P
 4—Kt to Q B 3
 5—P to K 3
 6—Kt to B 3
 7—B to K 2
 8—Castles
 9—B to Q 2
 10—Q to B 2

3—Q takes P
 4—Q to Q R 4
 5—P to B 3
 6—B to Kt 5
 7—Q Kt to Q 2
 8—P to K 3
 9—Q to Kt 3

The Queen is not well placed on this square. We suggest P to Q Kt 3, followed by Q R to B and Kt to Q R 4.

11—Q R to Q sq
 12—P to K R 3
 13—P to K 4
 14—P takes B

10—B to Q 3
 11—Q to B 2
 12—P to K R 4
 13—P to K 4

With a crowded position, and nothing special threatened, the capture is not good. It led, as might have been expected, to a very exciting and difficult game for White, and his adventures are well worth following in detail.

15—Kt takes P
 16—K R to B sq

14—R P takes P
 15—Kt takes Kt

It is not at first apparent why White cannot safely retake the piece. But a little analysis will show that if P takes Kt, B to B 4 is difficult to

answer. It threatens Q takes P, &c. The game at this point is an uncommonly fine study.

17—B to K 3
 18—P takes Kt
 19—P to B 4
 20—B to Kt 4 ch
 21—K to B
 22—K to K 2
 23—R takes R
 24—K takes Kt
 25—K to B 3
 26—R to Q sq
 27—Q to Q 2
 28—Q takes R ch
 29—R takes Q ch
 30—K to Kt 4
 31—Kt to K 2

16—Castles Q R
 17—R to R 7
 18—Q R to R sq
 19—P to Kt 6
 20—Kt takes B
 21—R to R 8 ch
 22—R takes R ch
 23—Kt takes B
 24—Q to Kt 3 ch
 25—B to Kt sq
 26—Q to B 2
 27—R to Q sq
 28—Q takes Q
 29—R takes R
 30—K to K 2

And White wins.

GAME No. 499.

CHESS IN SYDNEY.

The following fine example of Mr. Hall's skill appears in the *Sydney Mail*. It is only once in a lifetime that such an opportunity occurs in actual play:—

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—Mr. G. B. Hall. Black—Mr. X.

WHITE.
 1—P to K 4
 2—P to Q 4
 3—Kt to Q B 3
 4—B to K Kt 5
 5—B takes Kt
 6—Kt to B 3
 7—Kt takes P
 8—B to Q 3
 9—Castles
 10—Q to Q 2

BLACK.
 1—P to K 3
 2—P to Q 4
 3—Kt to K B 3
 4—B to K 2
 5—B takes B
 6—P takes P
 7—B to K 2
 8—Kt to Q 2
 9—Castles
 10—P to Q B 4

This does not turn out well.

11—P takes P
 12—Kt takes Kt
 13—Q R to Q sq

11—Kt takes P
 12—B takes Kt

Rapid development, as in this game, usually wins.

14—Kt to Kt 5
 15—Kt to K 4
 16—Q to R 6
 17—Kt to Kt 5

13—Q to B 3
 14—P to K Kt 3
 15—Q to K 2
 16—B to Q 5

White's success is now assured.

18—B to B 4
 19—P to K R 4

17—P to B 4
 18—B to B 3
 19—B takes Kt P

Black should now have played B takes Kt

20—K R to K sq
 Fatal, giving White the opportunity to execute the brilliant manoeuvre that effects the mate; R to K sq should have been played.

White mates in six moves.

The *Mail* gives the position here as a problem to its readers. The solution is as follows:—

1—R to Q sq ch
 2—R takes P
 3—R to K sq dis ch
 4—B takes B ch
 5—Q takes R P ch

1—Q takes R
 2—Q to Q 8 ch best
 3—B to R 3
 4—R takes B

Mates next move.

NOTES.

The American chess players came out with flying colours against the British in the cable match which was begun in London and Brooklyn on Friday morning, the 10th March, the score being 6 to 4. Nearly from the start of this great annual contest the Americans seemed to get the better positions on the majority of the boards, and although only three players, namely, Showalter, Barry and Hodges, scored a win for America on each of the boards they were engaged in, no fewer than six games were drawn, and Champion Pillsbury had to resign his game against the British champion, Blackburn.

The following are the results, as recorded:—

United States. Won.	Great Britain. Won.
1 H. N. Pillsbury..... 0	J. H. Blackburn..... 1
2 J. H. Showalter..... 1	H. E. Atkins..... 0
3 J. F. Barry..... 1	T. F. Lawrence..... 0
4 A. B. Hodges..... 1	E. Jackson..... 0
5 K. Hymes..... 1	D. V. Mills..... 1
6 H. C. Voight..... 1	H. Jacobs..... 1
7 S. R. Johnston..... 1	C. D. Loeck..... 1
8 F. J. Marshall..... 1	G. E. Wainwright..... 1
9 C. J. Newman..... 1	G. Bellingham..... 1
10 D. G. Baird..... 1	H. W. Trenchard..... 1

Totals..... 6

Totals..... 4

The match at the American end was played at the assembly rooms of the Brooklyn Academy of

Music, and the big hall was filled with an enthusiastic crowd of spectators throughout the hours of play. It is needless to say that every result of the game, whether won by an American player or only drawn, was cheered to the echo. Very often moves which were registered on the giant boards came in for hearty sounds of applause when the spectators thought the move was a good one.

During the morning session on the last day of the tournament it became evident that Pillsbury could do no more than draw against Blackburn. The latter, however, played splendid chess and drenched his man on his first board after seventy-one moves.

Showalter's brilliant play on the second board against Atkins caused general admiration, and when at his forty-fifth move he announced a mate in seven moves the spectators nearly went crazy with excitement. Atkins, of course, resigned.

Barry, too, played excellent chess, and after fifty-one moves he had beaten Lawrence on the third table.

On the fourth board Hedges played very strongly and managed to beat Jackson after fifty-one moves.

Voight, who at first tried to play for a win against Jacobs, had to withdraw after fifty-four moves.

The Brooklyn champion, Marshall, let no opportunity slip to win his game right out, and he, too, had to be satisfied with a draw after sixty-two moves against Wainwright. Newman and Bellingham, who contested their game right up to the finish, agreed upon a draw after sixty-six moves, and Baird and Trenchard also drew their game after seventy-one moves.

After the conclusion of the match dispatches of thanks were exchanged by the clubs and by the promoters of the contest.

The contest, as were the previous ones, was played for a trophy presented by Sir George Newnes, president of the British Chess Club of London. The first match, in 1896, was won by the Americans, but the second and third matches, played in 1897 and 1898, were won by the British.

The magnificent trophy, consisting of a unique set of chessmen of Persian design and workmanship, which Mr. A. F. Walter has offered for competition in the next inter-parliament tournament between Great Britain and the United States, is thought to be the finest specimen of the carvers' art that has ever been seen in London. These beautiful figures, all of the purest ivory, are superbly chased and mounted on gold, the whole being enclosed in an exhibition case of tasteful design.

Capt. Chepmell, of Hongkong, has been compelled by medical advice to resign the championship and abandon chess for some considerable time. Black Bishop, of the *China Mail*, says the cup passes to Mr. M. J. Dautenberg, who had sent in a challenge before the news was known. As the challenger's (and present cup holder's) chess superiority to the other members is perhaps not quite so marked as that of Messrs. Pollock, Souza and Chepmell, good sport may be expected before the trophy finds a permanent resting place.

One of the greatest colonial chess events of the year will be the match by wire, on May 24th, between the Sydney and Melbourne Chess Clubs.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 7th April, Shanghai via ports, 1st April, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 7th April, San Francisco via Honolulu, 17th March, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, W. H. Cope, 8th April, Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 7th April, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,617, J. W. Wale, 9th April, Galveston, Texas, U.S.A. via ports, Kobe, 7th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. H. Watkins, 9th April, Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 8th April, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hakui Maru, Japanese Hospital steamer, Harvey, 10th April, Glasgow via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, T. Atkins, 10th April, San Diego, Cal., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nyson, British steamer, 2,880, D. Davies, 14th April,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 12th April, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

14th April.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and
General,—P. M. S.S. Co.

Per American steamer *Olympia*, from Hong-kong via ports:—Mr. S. P. Young, Mr. H. H. Kirby, Rev. F. G. Harrington, and Mr. W. Schroth, in cabin.

SUGAR.
The market is quiet; prices generally as last quoted.

SUGAR.
The market is quiet; prices generally as last quoted.

N.H.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, S.—Sales, St.—Steady
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

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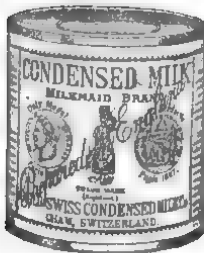
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YOKOHAMA, APRIL 8TH, 1899.

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[VOL. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	337
Political Parties and the Cabinet	338
Count Okuma on Current Politics	338
Petroleum in Hokkaido	338
Germany in China	339
Russia in the Far East	339
The New Political Party and Religion	339
Misconduct of Japanese Nobles	339
Unification of East and West	340
The Hwang-chiu Outrage	340
Silver Coins	340
The Press and Viscount Aoki	341
Blue Hoops	341
The Dreyfus Case	341
Arbitration between Foreigners and Japanese	342
Japan's Future Food Supplies	342
Contract Proposed by the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce	342
Japan Silk	343
Tenure of Land by Foreigners	343
The International Committee	344
Reduction of Armaments	344
Japanese Manufacturing Industry	344
The Nippon Yusen Kaisha	344
The Tokyo Stock Exchange	344
A Storm in a Tea-pot	344
Reduction of Military Armaments	345
A "Lecture Room Lawyer"	345
Iron	345
Police Misconduct	345
The Corruption of the Rev. and Treaties	345
The Shanghai Cotton Mills	345
The Kirin Brewery	345
Moral Brothers	345
R. L. P.	345
Literary Notes	345
Naval Army	345
Ferris Semion y	345
Leading Article—The Wealth of Japan	347
Monthly Summary of the Religious Press	348
The Late Mr. Kleinwort	351
Correspondence	351
Moral Standards of East and West	351
Endowed Occidental Theology and Japanese Christianity	351
Mutual for the South	351
Law Concerning Nationality	351
Japan's Preference of the M. K. Chu ch	351
A Shocking Crime	351
China Notes	351
News of the Week	351
The Japanese Invasion of Korea in 1897	351
Telegrams	351
Cable	351
Latest Shipping	351
Latest Commercial	351

The Japan Weekly Mail

"PRIX QUE DISE: ADVIENNE QUE POUVE!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH, 1899

DEATH.

On the 2nd of April, near Hakone, ALEXANDER KLEINWORT, a native of Sietlin, Germany, in his 50th year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A few cases of diphtheria are reported in the Akasaka District, Tokyo.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS will visit the Ongaku Gakko, Utsunomiya, on April 21st.

THE Easter Holidays were rather disappointing this year, rain falling nearly every day.

THE Yokohama International Committee's dinner on Monday evening promises to be a big success.

IN Berlin it is believed that Dreyfus conveyed to Russia details and specifications of the new French rifle.

THE Formosan authorities have made all preparations to open some normal schools from October 1st.

MATSUDAIRA, the notorious Ocha-no-miden

murderer, has been sentenced to penal servitude for life, the crime having been reduced by the Court to manslaughter.

YOKOHAMA is suffering from a "cold snap," the temperature on Thursday and Friday being much below the normal.

THE *Times* publishes a long correspondence on the progress of Siam, and in an enlogistic leader admits the claim of Siam for Customs revision.

PRINCE KAWIN will entertain the Ministers of State, the military high officials, the Foreign Ministers, and others on the 13th, 15th, and 18th inst.

THE iron chimney of the Glass Manufactory, Takashimacho, Yokohama, was blown down on Thursday morning. In its fall it cut down over 40 telephone wires.

OWING to fresh missionary outrages in Shantung, Germany has despatched troops to Ichow: she has declared, however, that she has no territorial designs.

MARQUIS NAB SHIMA will give an evening party at his residence at Sannenchō on April 12th, to which the Cabinet Ministers, their ladies, and others will be invited.

FOUR hours fighting took place between the Turkish and Bulgarian frontier guards at Kizilagach last week. A number of them were killed and wounded.

THE Public Hall was crammed to its fullest limit on Friday when Mr. W. G. Bayne made his farewell appearance in Yokohama in the farce "A Mother of Three."

NEWS comes from the Philippines of the death of General Egbert while leading a charge; and of a Ge man prince who had been staying in the Philippines for some months past.

At the Peace Conference, Japan, it is stated, will probably be represented by Baron Hayashi, Minister to Russia, and by the military attaché to the Japanese Legation there.

TWO pensions of 300 yen a year each, from the Imperial Household Department and from the War Office, have been granted, to Mr. Eckhart, the retiring Imperial Band-master.

A TWO-STORIED godown standing on Lot 31, Yokohama, was entirely destroyed by fire on Friday morning. The insurances on building and contents—mostly curios—amounted to yen 15,200.

THE farmers of Hoonmoku are endeavoring to foment an agitation against the Kirin Brewery Company by alleging that the oily products that flow from the Company's drains are injuring their crops.

BICYCLE races and athletic sports will take place at the Cricket ground on May 6th; on May 20th the Yokohama Spring regatta will take place, and on May 27th the Interport regatta takes place in Kobe.

YEMACU AN papers print a queer story regarding a man from whose family the Government bought the land on which Yokohama now stands. This man is demanding the restitution of the family's former property when the new Treaties are enforced.

A SHINTO shrine dedicated to the late Prince Kunshikawa is to be built in Taipei Prefecture, Formosa, the scene of his death. It will be completed by the 33rd fiscal year. A

museum may be established as accessory to the shrine.

THE Department of Agriculture and Commerce is about to despatch inspectors selected from the districts of Fukui, Kyoto, Kiryu, and Ashikage, to Italy, France, etc., on a tour of investigation into improved methods of silk manufacture.

THE War Department last year appointed a committee to compile a history of the Japan-China war. They sit weekly for the purpose. No definite method of compilation has yet been arrived at, and the work will occupy four or five years.

A FORMOSA despatch dated the 28th March shows that on the 25th and the following day 64 new cases of plague and 36 deaths occurred in Tainan Prefecture, and one new case in Taipei, making a total of 688 cases and 470 deaths since the commencement of this year.

REAR ADMIRAL DOUBISSOFF, Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Russian Squadron, and the principal officers of the *Vladimir Monomach* and the *Rossia* were received in audience by H.I.M. the Emperor, accompanied by Baron Rosen, Russian Minister, on the 4th inst. at 1.30 p.m.

MR. FUJIWARA RIKET, captain of the *Miyakawa Maru*, which sank in collision with the N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshu Maru* off Tadoussac last year, has had his certificate suspended for nine months by the Osaka Marine Court. Captain Brown, of the *Kinshu Maru*, has been exonerated from all blame.

FOUR Exchanges of various kinds are now established in Yokohama, viz., the Five Staples, the Four Staples, the Rice, Salt and Grain, and the Merchandise Exchanges. Owing to the narrow scope of their business, none of them are prospering and a project is on foot to bring about an amalgamation.

MR. A. KLEINWORT, head of the firm of Morf & Co., an old resident of Japan, while walking in Hakone on Easter Sunday was suddenly taken ill and died within two minutes from heart failure. He was a very popular member of the German community, and his funeral on Tuesday was largely attended despite the pouring rain.

A SHOP lifter named Suzuki Heikichi is in custody on a charge of stealing two coats (valued at 20 yen) from the Tensho do watch store, Iwazaki-cho, Yokohama, and over 40 overcoats and other garments from 21 different tailors and drapers. He is said to have spent the greater part of his life in jail and has been convicted nine times on various charges.

WHILE Capt. May, Superintendent of the Hongkong Police, was engaged in delimiting the Kowloon hinterland frontiers the other day, he was attacked by Chinese. A hut that had been temporarily erected for his use was burnt down. The Colonial Government at once despatched a torpedo boat and 100 infantry to Mira Bay, while the General at Canton sent 300 "braves."

THE South Western Railway steamer *Stella*, having on board 140 passengers and a crew of 41, bound for Guernsey, struck the Casket Rocks (to the west of the Island of Alderney), driving a lug on the afternoon of March 30th, and sank ten minutes later, the boilers exploding. Seventy-four passengers, comprising mostly women and children, and 19 of the crew, were saved by boats, while upwards of eighty were drowned.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE CABINET.

One of the great difficulties besetting the foreigner who seeks to ascertain the drift of political opinion in Japan is that the so-called "organs" do not really fulfil representative functions, but are just as likely to reflect the views of individuals as those of parties. The *Fimmin* is an example. It is regarded as the mouthpiece of the Liberals, but if its utterances justify that estimate on one day, they belie it on the next. Hence, although its attitude towards the Government's new regulations as to the appointment and status of officials is uncompromisingly hostile, we are uncertain whether the relations between the Liberal Party and the Cabinet are really in danger. The *Fimmin* declares that these regulations are opposed to the principles of constitutional government; that they are a device to perpetuate the tenure of power by superannuated nominees; that they are a means of insuring the appointment of incapables; that they will have the effect of creating a special class in the community; that they will augment the arrogance of men in office; that they will dangerously extend the power of the Administration; and that they will remove junior officials beyond the pale of discipline. That is a sufficiently sweeping indictment of the framers of the regulations, in other words, of the present Ministry, and if the *Fimmin* truly expresses the sentiments of the Liberal Party, a rupture between the latter and the Cabinet would seem inevitable.

If we turn to the organ of the National Unionists, a paper which usually lends most loyal support to the present Ministry, we find that it approves the regulations as calculated to cure the office-hunting fever of party politicians, but, at the same time, it frankly admits that they are likely to expose the Ministry to considerable hostility on the side of the parties.

The independent section of the press is, on the whole, favourable, but even the *Nichi Nichi* thinks that the effect of the regulations will be to extend too much protection to officials; the *Shogyo Shimpō* considers that the treatment guaranteed to men in office is too good, and the *Nippon* tempers some moderate applause with the criticism that Clan Government is perpetuated. As for the *Fiji Shimpō*, it conveys its views to the public through the medium of a cartoon, in which the Prime Minister is depicted flourishing a sword to drive off all applicants from a gate the panels and bars of which are constructed of the newly issued regulations. In one direction, an ungainly figure retreats precipitately, showing a perturbed face and carrying on his back a sack marked "emoluments 2,000 yen"; in another, a man having a star where his head should be, rides away on a diminutive donkey. This latter figure is an allegorical representation of Mr. Hoshi (*hoshi* means a star) Toru, and the animal he bestrides is a dwarf (*war*) mule (*ro*). That is to say, a homonym for "bribe" (*war ro*).

Whatever the issue of the event may be, it is universally regarded as a severe slap in the face for the Liberals, and the latter's leaders will probably find some difficulty in preventing their followers from breaking away into open opposition. No one forgets that the Cabinet's tenure of power was not expected to exceed the term of the Diet's session,

and that its reconstruction so as to admit several Liberals was counted a foregone conclusion. But the reconstruction of the Cabinet on that basis would have opened a large number of official appointments to the rank and file of the Liberals had not these new regulations been promulgated. Thus the direct consequence of the Government's measure is to destroy one of the principal incentives to Cabinet reorganization, and indirectly it suggests that the Ministry did not feel at all secure against embarrassing enterprises on the part of their political allies.

If foreign opinion on such a subject has any interest for the Japanese, we can assure them that these new regulations will have the universal approval of Englishmen, at all events. The British Civil Service owes its excellence—we do not hesitate to use the word—partly to the fact that, with few exceptions, tenure of office is entirely independent of political vicissitudes. Men can confidently seek life-long careers in Governmental posts, and can devote their energies to the discharge of their administrative duty, instead of dissipating a considerable portion of them on political campaigns. If the instability that representative institutions have produced in Japan is to extend to the Administration, and if offices of State are to become rewards of political agitators instead of being filled by men of competence and experience, it would have been better for Japan had she never possessed a Diet.

The sequel of this incident seems to have been the usual compromise. On the 31st instant, the non-parliamentary members of the Constitutional Party held a meeting and passed a violent resolution, in the sense that by enacting such regulations without consulting the Party, the Government had treated the latter with contempt; that the General Business Committee must be held responsible for not keeping themselves informed of what the Government had in contemplation; that the Committee should be required either to resign or urge the withdrawal of the Regulations, and that, in the event of the Cabinet's refusing to withdraw them, the Party's connexion with it must be severed. On the evening of the same day, the Prime Minister gave a dinner at which Marquis Saigo and Count Matsukata were present, as were also the Liberal leaders, Count Inagaki, Mr. Hoshi Toru, Mr. Matsuda and Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi. What passed is not quite clear. Some say that the Liberal leaders asked for a modification of the regulations; but the more credible account is that Marquis Yamagata—acting doubtless, in conformity with a previous understanding—announced the Government's intention of issuing supplementary regulations by which the following officials would be regarded as political, not as purely administrative; in other words, would not enjoy the permanency of appointment guaranteed to officials in general, namely, Vice-Ministers of State, the Chief of the Metropolitan Police, the Heads of the Local Government Bureau and the Criminal Law Bureau in the Home Department, the Councillors of Departments, and the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet. Thus 22 posts are reserved for the "spoils system." We presume that the country is not ready for the more enlightened programme proposed by the Cabinet. Under the circumstances, probably the best plan would be to create an

additional post, that of parliamentary Vice-Minister, so that the administrative Vice-Ministers may not be disturbed on each change of Cabinet. Otherwise it will often result that the Departments of State are left entirely without responsible direction.

The Government's guiding principle in enacting these much-talked-of Regulations was unquestionably good, but the method pursued can not be said to have shown much political sagacity. It is plain that the Liberals might have been frankly taken into consultation, and that the Regulations, in a slightly modified form, might have been enacted with their consent. As matters stand, the Regulations have been enacted at the expense of a heavy strain on the link between the Ministry and the Liberals. One side feels that it was not trusted; the other has the unpleasant consciousness of being obliged to beat a partial retreat.

COUNT OKUMA ON CURRENT POLITICS.

Count Okuma thinks that Russia will come off second best in the negotiations now pending with England. It is impossible, he says, for the two Powers to draw a line across China and take it as the limit of their respective ambitions. Their discussion will turn upon a few definite points, and Russia will purchase England's complaisance by tangible concessions. As to the possibility of an international conference to decide the fate of the Chinese empire, the Count regards it with entire scepticism. The time is not ripe for anything of the kind. If there had arisen such a clashing of interests as to endanger the peace of the world, the Powers might be induced to confer. But there is nothing of that kind at present. Besides, though people talk glibly of the partition of China, such a feat would be immensely difficult. Perpetual friction, endless difficulties, and great bloodshed have marked the attempt to cut up Africa, which presents no difficulties comparable with those offering themselves in China's case. The Powers will not approach the task lightly. Even if China asked for a conference, the answer would be unfavourable, and as for Japan's taking the initiative, she has lost her opportunity. England wanted her to make a protest at the time of Kiaochow. But she would not do anything. Again, England plainly intimated her willingness that Japan should occupy Wei-hai-wei permanently, but Japan preferred to get the money due to her by China. It is too late for Japan to do anything now in the way of inviting a conference. These views are said to have been expressed by Count Okuma to a representative of the *Asahi Shimbun*.

PETROLEUM IN HOKKAIDO.

Vernacular newspapers announce the discovery of an extensive petroleum field in Hokkaido. It is situated near the course of the Abashiri River in Abashiri district, and is said to have an area of 40 or 50 square miles. Investigations are now being carried on, and important results are expected. So many announcements of this nature appear in the columns of our Tokyo contemporaries, and so invariably do they turn out baseless that we hesitate to place any credit even in the most circumstantial.

GERMANY IN CHINA.

Some very outspoken expressions of opinion are published by Tokyo journals—the *Asahi* and the *Yomiuri*—with reference to the latest step taken by Germany in Shantung. She is said to have violated all the principles of international law and grossly insulted the Chinese Government, inasmuch as she has sent troops into Chinese territory by way of preliminary to a demand for redress. That is precisely what she did in the case of Kiao-chou, and her conduct then elicited similar comments in Japan. Of course there is no denying the justice of these censures. All that can be said is that China stands outside the pale of international law. The German Government has evidently made up its mind as to the most effective and practical kind of procedure where China is concerned. It is a very simple process—place yourself in a position to enforce your demands before formulating them. Such a step, if taken towards any self-respecting Power, would necessarily be counted a declaration of war. To send troops into the territory of an independent State without the permission of its Government is an armed invasion, and would be so regarded by any Occidental Power or by Japan. China, however, seems to have an unlimited capacity for digesting these insults, and, if they suit her constitution, that is chiefly her own affair. Chiefly, but not altogether. As Englishmen we have a very strong interest in Germany's doings, being persuaded that her presence in the Far East will ultimately contribute to the ends which the Anglo-Saxon Powers have in view. Hence we can not regard with indifference these displays of violence, which appear not merely unnecessary but also quite disproportionate to the incidents constituting their pretexts. If Germany's recourse to armed pressure were prefaced by demands for redress, however peremptory, we should welcome her procedure as calculated to promote the cause of law and order, and to strengthen the Chinese Government by compelling it to reform its administrative machinery. But no such effects can be produced by *coups* of the Kiao-chou and Chin-chou kind. They must impair the competence of the Peking Administration and of the local officials by exposing their inability to preserve the empire against the armed invasions of mere handfuls of foreign troops. It is impossible to suppose that the vitality of the Manchu dynasty can long survive these repeated blows, any one of which would prove fatal to the Government of a people endowed with even a small modicum of national sentiment. Germany, we presume, does not want to see the Chinese empire tumble to pieces. Gentler methods would give her everything she aspires to possess, whereas, by precipitating the crisis, she will create a situation of which she is not yet prepared to take full advantage.

It is suggested by a Tokyo contemporary that the Peking Administration, strengthened by its recent experience with Italy, may decline to entertain any demands preferred by Germany until she withdraws her troops from their newly occupied positions in Chinese territory. We shall be much surprised if anything of the kind occurs, and still more surprised should events prove that Germany is acting in collusion with Russia, as the *Asahi* opines.

The Chauvinist view in Tokyo journalistic circles is that Japan should despatch a fleet of cruisers to guard the ports of Fuhkien, and that she should also demand from China a promise never to alienate any part of Che-kiang. Evidently the writers advocating such steps think that something like a crisis is at hand, and that, unless Japan gets her finger into the pie, she will presently find that all the plums have been extracted by more enterprising Powers. On the whole it is not wonderful that there should be some impatience among the Japanese. But since everybody sees that the Opposition organs have planned an assault upon the Cabinet from the direction of its foreign policy, these hostile utterances lose a great deal of their force.

RUSSIA IN THE FAR EAST.

There are sundry evidences of dissatisfaction with the present management of Japan's foreign policy, but they appear to be based chiefly on the fact that nothing of a striking nature occurs. The critics of the Foreign Office, not seeing any fireworks, imagine that there is no festival, and think that because Japan is not *en evidence* like the Great Western Powers, she is suffering effacement. Prominent among these critics is the *Yomiuri Shinbun*. Its editor seems to be one of the Japanese who believed that Russia had permanently effaced herself in Korea for the sake of devoting her whole attention to China, and he now believes that finding her Chinese designs checked by British influence, Russia is again stretching out her hand towards the peninsular empire. That apprehension appears to be based principally on the news recently received that Russia has been asking for whaling privileges, had demanded three fishing stations on the Korean Coast, and has been indirectly the means of driving the Cabinet out of office. Seeing no distinct signs that Japan is efficiently thwarting this new outbreak of energy on the part of the Great Northern Power, the *Yomiuri* concludes that the country's diplomatists are culpably inactive or incompetent. The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, however, combats these criticisms with its usual ability and breadth of view. It admits the magnitude of Japan's interests in Korea, but scoffs at the notion that her influence is in any danger of being eclipsed, and it reminds the cavillers that the belligerent kind of procedure which they apparently advocate, is not diplomacy at all, but a line of action consequent on the failure of diplomacy. If Russia gets new whaling privileges or fishing stations in Korea, Japan can get them also for the asking, but, as the *Nichi Nichi* truly observes, this clamour for increased privileges sounds absurd in the mouths of people who have made no use of the privileges already gained by them in foreign countries.

On the whole we gather that the telegram announcing the prospects of an *entente* between Russia and England with regard to Chinese affairs is regarded by Japanese journalists as an indication that the partition of the Chinese empire is at hand. There has not, as yet, been any general expression of newspaper opinion, but journals like the *Asahi* are very outspoken. They say that England has obviously abandoned the open-door policy in favour of spheres of influence, and that her agree-

ment with Russia will be on the latter basis. If so, the beginning of the end is in sight. Underlying these comments there is evidently a conviction that England alone stands between China and disruption, and that Russia stands in the fore-front of the aggressors. In our opinion the difference between the policies of the two great Powers is rather one of method than one of principle. Be that as it may, however, it is an exaggeration to say that an *entente* between Russia and England must necessarily be on the lines of spheres of influence, if "spheres of influence" signify that China's imperial authority is to be replaced by that of England over certain definite areas of the former's dominions. England and Russia might agree that each shall confine herself strictly within such and such limits, but England's consequent policy within her sphere would not be territorially aggressive. She would simply insist on the open door, on perfect freedom of enterprise for her nationals, and on non-alienation of any part of the regions delimited. What threatens China's integrity at present is first, her extraordinary incompetence to defend herself, and secondly, the clashing of foreign interests. The former source of ruin seems to be irremediable, and will assuredly prove fatal in the end. The latter would be greatly mitigated by an agreement between Great Britain and Russia.

THE NEW POLITICAL PARTY AND RELIGION

The new political party (*Kokken-to*) is still unborn, but seems likely to see the light of day at an early date. Its enemies are therefore beginning to bestir themselves. The *Yomiuri Shinbun*, for example, having declared that the party is compounded of a section of the clan followers and the *Nuye* folks—*Nuye* means a fabulous and shocking creature, in part monkey, in part snake and in part eagle—proceeds to announce that one plank in its platform will be "the development and extension of the ancient creed of Japan." On that text it is of course possible to preach a serious sermon about the evil of confounding politics and religion, and it is also possible to discredit the party by alleging that Buddhist money has been largely put up to meet the expenses of "organization and encouragement." Mr. Ishikawa Shuntai, Vicar of Hongwan-ji, whose name was so much in the mouth of the public when the Sugamo agitation became formidable, is said to have been the channel through which the funds were furnished. It is difficult to credit such tales.

MISCONDUCT OF JAPANESE NOBLES.

In the Japanese Peerage Regulations there is a provision to the effect that whenever the conduct of a noble is such as to bring discredit upon his order, or when he becomes pecuniarily unable to support his title properly, a council of his peers may be nominated by the Throne to investigate the circumstances of the case and make a report to the Emperor. Such a council has now been appointed, for the first time, we believe, in Japanese modern history. It consists of thirteen members. Of course nothing is publicly stated as to the nobles whose affairs are to be the subject of investigation.

UNIFICATION OF EAST AND WEST.

Nothing could exceed the perseverance of the *Fiji Shimpō* in preaching reform. We presume that our contemporary understands its own countrymen a great deal better than any outsiders can pretend to understand them, yet we are sometimes inclined to question the wisdom of perpetually holding up foreign examples to a people proud of their own traditions. On the other hand, the *Fiji's* methods bear indirect testimony to the spirit of the time. Six or seven years ago, no less persuasive text than Western views or Western fashions could have been chosen for an ethical homily addressed to the Japanese, and had the *Fiji* been required to act as a propagandist of good morality in 1892 or 1893, we are very sure that it would have moulded its thesis on different lines.

In one of its recent articles, our contemporary reminds its countrymen that all their modern progress is the gift of the Occident. Their political and administrative systems, their laws, their machinery of communications, their military and naval organization—everything comes from Europe and America. They have taken the material products of Western civilization very readily and successfully, but they still turn their backs on the moral side; still refuse to make any radical change in their manners and customs. It follows that they are still regarded by the Western world as Orientals, and they will never be regarded as anything else until they adopt Occidental ethics as well as Occidental articles. They are pursuing a thoroughly ostrich-like policy, hiding their heads under the superficials of foreign civilization and leaving exposed their unaltered, unimproved Oriental bodies. Descending to particulars, the *Fiji* denounces the displays of loose morality and immodest behaviour constantly made by its nationals; urges them to exercise more diligence in acquiring foreign languages, and taunts them with unreasoning prejudice in opposing Christianity because it is an alien creed, while they cling to Buddhism, which is equally alien, and in spite of the fact that one half of the nation has no religious belief at all.

No less than 28 articles in series have been published by the *Fiji* on the subject of Japanese houses. The writer is Mr. Tsuchiya Gensaku, and the articles have been collected and issued in the form of a brochure. They may be briefly summarized. Japan's modern progress has been confined to the regions of science, industry, administration, and legislation. Her people's manner of life has not undergone any change. That is notably true of her houses. There is no standard of architecture for dwellings. Simplicity and economy are the only objects kept in view. The frailty of the structures that have been adopted for generations is generally attributed to fear of earthquakes, but, if there were any genuine spirit of progress in these matters, architects would have endeavoured to devise some form of earthquake-proof building. They have done nothing of the sort. The people regard earthquakes as heaven-sent calamities and make no attempt to mitigate their effects. The old style of the South-sea islands, of Java, and of Borneo, has been in vogue from time immemorial. The free ingress of air in summer seems to have always been the

paramount consideration, and people have been content to sit on the floor and be always insecure against burglars. Interior decoration is limited to a little useless show—fine timber, gold screens, and painted doors. Sanitary considerations have never received any attention. The fundamental explanation of it all is that the Japanese house reflects the taste of the *Samurai*, the soldier. A man who has the possibility of death always before his eyes, who sets duty far above comfort, who cares little about changes of temperature, who is too poor to concern himself about burglars, who, being punctilious above the conventionalisms of etiquette, likes a troublesome arrangement of ingress and egress, who wishes to have many servants about him as an evidence of authority, and who regards his home as a kind of tent—such a man offers no encouragement to the architect. As for the rich merchant in Japan, if he built for himself a showy or substantial house, he at once became a target for extortion. Thus the habit arose of spending money in ways that did not strike the eye. The wealthy trader went abroad in cheap cotton garments but wore costly silks at home; furnished his house in the simplest style, but spent great sums on knotless timber for building it. The time has come, however, when the ancient influences must cease to be acknowledged and the ancient apprehensions laid aside. The Japanese must get off the floor, and carry the spirit of the new civilization into their lives.

It is interesting to observe the sharp contrast presented by the views of different Japanese writers with regard to the steps that the nation should take by way of preparation for mixed residence. One class of publicists, headed by the *Fiji Shimpō* and the *Chinō Shimbun*, assert that Japan should do everything possible to put her house in order; to correct the faulty, hide the unsightly, and repair the defective, prior to the advent of foreigners, for since the old order has been driven out before the new is established, there is much that the prying stranger will find to criticise, and it may end in his classing the Japanese with the Koreans and the Chinese. Another section of publicists, represented by the *Tokyo Asahi*, take precisely the opposite view. They observe that the conservative sentiment of anti-mixed-residence days has now entirely disappeared, and everywhere the people are prepared to welcome the coming of foreigners. No other preparation but that change of mood is needed, so far as the people are concerned. The Government, indeed, has certain duties to perform—duties with regard to the police, the jails, the administration of the laws, and so forth. But the people may await the event with "vacant hearts and level minds" (*kyōshin heiki*). The advocates of this policy of unconcern condemn the methods of the "fussy folks," for they say that to be continually urging the people to make reforms and improvements on account of the coming of foreigners tends to weaken the impulse of progress for its own sake.

All this talk illustrates a point which we have often noted, namely, the remarkable ignorance of many Japanese about the world's knowledge of themselves and their affairs. They seem to be quite unaware that they have been scrutinized closely for the past thirty years by philosophers, journalists, tourists, book-makers,

and residents, and that whatever there is of interest or novelty to be told about them has been told already. Their failings have been "sized up," their virtues extolled, and mixed residence will certainly not produce any new crop of literature about them or expose them to any fresh observation.

THE CHIONG-CHIU OUTRAGE.

Recently a sketchy rumour reached Tokyo to the effect that Japanese subjects had been roughly handled by Chinese in Chiong-chiu. Details are now published. Since Japan obtained from China a promise that the province of Fukkien should not be alienated, the Fukkienese, it is said, have become persuaded that their destiny is to pass under Japanese rule, and they accordingly devote themselves assiduously to currying favour with the Japanese. The effect of this new disposition has been manifested strongly in the domain of religious propagandism. The Buddhists of Hongwanji have representatives in Fukkien who are actively engaged in the work of proselytizing. Of late—that is to say, since the non-alienation engagement—marked success has attended the efforts of these propagandists. They have now a thousand converts in Amoy, eight hundred in Chiong-chiu and six hundred in Tswan-chiu. On the 20th of January, two Japanese engineers who had been engaged surveying the new settlement in Amoy, paid a sight-seeing visit to Chiong-chiu, and were shown round by their countryman, the Buddhist priest. While passing through one of the streets, they were set upon by a number of native Roman Catholics, dragged from their palanquins, haled off to the Roman Catholic Church, and treated with great indignity in the presence of a Spanish *padre*. The engineers shook the dust of Chiong-chiu off their feet as speedily as possible, but the Buddhist priest insisted on remaining, despite the urgent advice of the Japanese Consul in Amoy. Finally the Consul sent his constables to compel the withdrawal of the priest. But after the latter had retired to Amoy his former parishioners made constant applications for his return, and finally he went back to Chiong-chiu, the Consul having obtained an engagement from the local authorities of that place that they would protect him. Such is the story told by Tokyo newspapers. It is the first example of Japanese religionists' encountering difficulties which are only too familiar to Western propagandists.

SILVER COINS.

According to the *Yoroku Chōho* the Treasury has disposed of all the silver coins that flowed into its vaults in connexion with the adoption of the gold standard. Our contemporary alleges that the amount was only 7 million *yen*, but we presume that it refers only to the coins presented in exchange for gold, inasmuch as the aggregate value of the silver with which the Treasury had to deal was nearer seven times seven, than simply seven, millions. However, taking the item of intelligence for what it may be worth, we read that three millions out of the seven were coined into 50-*sen* pieces; one million was coined into 20-*sen* and 10-*sen* pieces, and the remaining three millions have been lent to the Bank of Formosa.

THE PRESS AND VISCOUNT AOKI.

April 4.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* continues its campaign against Viscount Aoki, probably on the principle that constant dropping wears a stone. As to the value of the attack, we need only mention the three principal counts. They are, first, that the Fuhkien guarantee has not been converted into a practical reality; secondly, that Japan did not take the lead in withdrawing her troops from Peking; and, thirdly, that Kang Yu-wei has been sent to England instead of receiving continued asylum in Japan. The first of these charges obviously means that Japan should insist on obtaining a naval station in Fuhkien. It can not mean anything else. Of course, such a demand preferred by Japan would be a complete subversion of the policy pursued by her towards China during the past two years; the policy which may be said to have been inaugurated by Count Okuma and which now has his explicit approval. Count Okuma is the leader of the Progressists, and the *Yomiuri Shimbun* is a Progressist organ. So we have Viscount Aoki attacked by a Progressist journal for not doing what the Progressist leader disapproves! That is certainly a case of any stick to beat a dog. Concerning the second count, that Japan did not take the initiative in withdrawing her troops from Peking, it is obviously not to be interpreted as a plea for greater gentleness towards China, because that would be quite inconsistent with the idea of appropriating a part of Fuhkien. What the *Yomiuri* means is that Japan should place herself in the van of all the Treaty Powers when Chinese questions are on the tapis. She should have been the first to send troops to Peking and the first to withdraw them. In short, Japan is expected by the *Yomiuri* to step into the place hitherto occupied by Great Britain in the Far East, and because she does not immediately carry out that "tall order," her Foreign Minister is abused! Kang Yu-wei's case has the same sweetly reasonable elements to recommend it. There has not been any question of refusing asylum to the rash refugee. What has happened is that he was assisted to transfer himself to England as a measure of temporary expediency. He need not have gone had he pleased to remain. We do not even know that the Minister of Foreign Affairs had anything whatever to do with the arrangement. If he had, it was certainly not in an official capacity, not is it to be interpreted for a moment as a concession to any representation made by China. The *Yomiuri* seems to have entered upon this campaign in a very light-hearted manner.

April 6.

Some of the Tokyo newspapers, led by the *Nippon*, continue their attacks upon Viscount Aoki. We have seldom seen a less substantial basis of assault. The allegation made is that Viscount Aoki, who was Japan's Representative in Berlin at the time of the Shimonoseki negotiations, failed to warn the Tokyo Government of the *coup* contemplated by the Three Powers with regard to Liaotung. It is late in the day to advance such a charge, and, as to its justice, any one at all familiar with the ways of diplomacy must understand that if the German Government desired to keep the Japanese

Representative in ignorance of negotiations which it was carrying on with Paris and St. Petersburg, no astuteness on the part of the Representative could have enabled him to penetrate the veil of secrecy. Berlin is not like Peking. If the German Foreign Office wants to hide its doings from the world, it can do so effectually at all times; none of its own officials will be found to betray its trust. Some happy chance might enable Viscount Aoki to discover what was on foot, but chance alone could have come to his aid, and we can scarcely blame a diplomat because chance does not always favour him. Germany's action on that occasion took the world by surprise. She probably looks back upon it with surprise herself now. The Government in Tokyo had no suspicions, though it received from Baron Gutschmid communications which are said to have been intended to convey a warning, and the Government in Berlin took thorough precautions to hide its hand from Europe. The British Representative in Peking did not inform Lord Salisbury that Russia was about to preler in Peking a demand virtually amounting to the cession of Manchuria, yet we have never heard him accused of incompetence or perfunctoriness. Another point which occurs at once to every thoughtful person, and which ought to occur to our Tokyo contemporaries if they had any desire to be fair, is that the Liaotung *coup* was planned in St. Petersburg, not in Berlin, and, moreover, that Paris ought to have been as favourable a place for collecting information as the German capital. Yet we have never heard the Japanese Representatives in St. Petersburg and Paris blamed for failing to warn the Tokyo Government of what was going forward. We do not know what standard of diplomatic acumen the journalistic assailants of Viscount Aoki may have in view, but we can assure them that their accusation in this instance assumes, in foreign eyes, the semblance of unreasoning prejudice.

BLUE BOOKS.

One luxury of modern civilization to which Japan has not yet aspired is the publication of blue books. Some of the despatches relating to the Shimonoseki negotiations were submitted to the Diet, and therefore found their way into the newspapers, but with that single exception we do not remember that the Government's correspondence has ever been presented for the nation's approval. Why should there be that marked difference between the practice of Japan and the practice of Western countries? We are aware that England has not published many blue books about Japan since 1871. But she did publish one of great interest and importance with reference to Treaty Revision, and there has not been any other affair specially calling for such procedure on her part. The *Chuo Shimbun* seems to have reason on its side when it urges that the best way to educate an intelligent perception of foreign policy is to publish blue books, and that if the Japanese people knew a little more of what is going on, they would be much better prepared to support the Government. Viscount Aoki might make a record by inaugurating the publication of blue books.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

The action of the *Figaro* in publishing documents connected with the Dreyfus case, and in continuing to publish them despite the institution of legal proceedings against the journal, seems at first sight very reprehensible. But, after all, what the French paper is doing in defiance of the law might be done by an English journal with impunity. Were the Dreyfus trial occurring in London, every word uttered in the Court and every document produced in evidence would appear in the newspapers within a few hours, and nobody would find anything blame-worthy in such publicity. They manage things differently in Paris. As Englishmen we disagree with their system, and are disposed to admire, rather than to censure, the *Figaro* for its courageous adoption of methods which we have learned to regard as sound and wholesome. It is unquestionably wrong to comment journalistically on a case which is still *sub judice*, but it can not be wrong merely to report the proceedings of a judicial tribunal from day to day.

We have just learned, with interest, the theory entertained about the Dreyfus affair in the best informed circles in Berlin. It is there confidently believed that Dreyfus, though he unquestionably violated the trust reposed in him, and therefore deserved to be punished, was not guilty of treachery in the ordinary acceptation of the term. His revelations were made to the Russian Government. Official application had been addressed by St. Petersburg to Paris for drawings of the new French military rifle and for explanations as to the manufacture of its ammunition. France expressed willingness to comply with her ally's request provided that Russia entrusted to French arsenals the duty of supplying the necessary rifles and ammunition. The Authorities in St. Petersburg declined to adopt that course, their objection being economical, namely, that, having workshops of their own, they did not care to incur the needless expense of going abroad for articles which they could manufacture for themselves. There the matter ended, officially speaking. But Russia took steps to obtain privately the information denied to her publicly, and Dreyfus assisted her efforts. He did not consider that there could be any question of treachery in making, to his country's ally, revelations which his superiors were avowedly willing to make in consideration of employment for French arsenals. He did not sell secrets, as has been generally stated. It is believed that no money passed—, the wealth of the Dreyfus family being opposed to such a theory—but that Dreyfus merely hoped to receive a Russian decoration for his services. Such, we are informed, is the version generally credited in Berlin. A further conviction entertained in Germany is that, had Dreyfus been a Christian, the world would never have heard anything more about him. But the Jews took up the matter, and by their money and influence succeeded in making it the cynosure of universal attention. That does not mean, of course, that the Jews sought to obstruct the course of justice; they doubtless believed honestly that an injustice had been done, and that it was their duty to redress it, if possible.

That is the Berlin version. We may

supplement it by saying that, so far as we know, the Jews were challenged originally by certain Parisian journals which imported the racial question into the discussion from the very outset.

ARBITRATION BETWEEN FOREIGNERS AND JAPANESE.

The Committee of the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce seem to have given very careful thought to the Arbitration scheme submitted by them to the Chamber at the last general meeting. It is an eminently practical idea that recourse to litigation should be avoided as far as possible, especially where full confidence is not felt in the ability of the Law Courts. Many years must pass before foreigners learn to lay aside the doubts that experience has engendered as to the competence of Japanese tribunals; and even though such doubts did not exist, wise men will always prefer to avoid the delays, vexations and expenses of the law. The public has consequently awaited with much interest the statement of this scheme which the Committee of the Yokohama Chamber were understood to be elaborating. Kobe had set the example but, as Mr. Flint Kilby succinctly pointed out at the meeting of the Yokohama Chamber, the Kobe project does not appear calculated to work well in practice. It provides for the appointment of two arbiters—a Japanese and a foreigner—and it further provides that, in the event of their disagreement, the question is to be submitted to an umpire. Now, in the great majority of cases, it is strongly probable that the arbiters would disagree. Mr. Kilby says—and the Committee of the Chamber endorse his view—that, as a rule, a Japanese approaches the task of arbitration with a conviction that his duty is to act as advocate for the Japanese party in the dispute, and it thus follows that unless right is on the Japanese side, there can be no agreement between the arbiters. Hence the net issue of the Kobe plan is that the onus of deciding will fall on a solitary individual, the umpire. Such an arrangement may occasionally succeed, but the objections to it are obvious. Yokohama's programme is different. It contemplates the organization of a joint Committee—ten from each Chamber—which Committee nominates as many of its own members, or of the other members of the Chambers, as may seem desirable, to act as arbiters. These arbiters investigate the case, and report their decision, if they arrive at one, to the joint Committee, who accept it as final. If, however, the arbiters can not agree, they simply submit their investigations and individual opinions to the joint Committee, and the duty of deciding by a majority vote devolves upon the latter. There is, finally, a provision that in the event of an equal vote in the joint Committee, the arbitration falls through, unless the joint Committee agree to appoint an umpire. On the whole this plan seems the best that can be devised. There is no apparent reason why it should not work satisfactorily, if the Japanese Chamber of Commerce agrees to cooperate.

JAPAN'S FUTURE FOOD SUPPLIES.

The report of the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce for 1898 indicates great care and research on the part of the compilers. This remark applies especially to the analysis of imports prepared by Mr. Sale, which shows, in a clear form, the tendency of the trade since 1892. Mr. Sale's manner of grouping the figures is very suggestive. His results confirm the contention so often advanced by the *Fiji Shimpō*, that Japan is becoming more and more dependant on foreign countries for food stuffs. Her imports in that category totalled nearly 87 million yen in 1898 against 14½ millions in 1892. Of course 1898 and 1897 were exceptional years, for, owing chiefly to bad crops of rice, the import of that cereal rose from its normal figure of 4 or 5 million yen to 21½ millions in 1897 and 48 millions in 1898. But even if rice be altogether excluded from the account, we still have the fact that the imports of bread stuffs aggregated 38½ million yen in 1898, against 12½ millions in 1892. Besides, apart from the quality of the rice harvest, it can not be doubted that the consumption of rice in Japan is increasing much faster than its production, and that the supply obtained from abroad will grow steadily.

Another fact emphasized by Mr. Sale's *résumé* is the gradual development of manufacturing industry in Japan. The imports of raw materials grew from 26 million yen in 1892 to 77 millions in 1898, and the imports of machinery and railway materials from 1½ millions to 18 millions. As to actual amount these are small figures, but their significance is not to be mistaken.

CONTRACT PROPOSED BY THE YOKOHAMA FOREIGN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

April 5.

Looking, as outsiders, at the form of contract proposed by the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce in the case of goods imported to Japanese order, we find some of its provisions decidedly harsh. For example, the 3rd Article says that "if arrival date is specified, the date of the arrival of the vessel in Yokohama is to be accepted, but over-carriage, and/or miscarriage is to be at buyer's risk, subject to any claim recoverable from the ship;" and the 5th Article adds that "the sellers are in no way responsible for any delay in shipment or arrival, if caused by circumstances beyond their control, including strikes, break-down of manufacturers' machinery, or accident to the vessel carrying the goods, and in the event of delay from such causes the buyers agree to extend date of shipment or arrival as may be necessary." Is it fair that all these risks should be placed on the buyer's shoulders? According to ordinary business principles it would seem to be right that a merchant who enters into a contract to deliver goods at a certain price within a certain time should be prepared to give practical effect to his agreement, and should not require the other contracting party to accept the whole responsibility for accidents or misadventures with which he, the second party, has no direct connexion. Delivery, it seems to us, should mean actual delivery to the buyer, not mere arrival in the harbour, for the buyer can not interfere in any way with the

transport of the goods until they are taken out of the ship and passed through the customs. Then again, incidents such as strikes and break-down of manufacturers' machinery may be made matters of negotiation between the foreign contractor and the foreign industrial, but they are entirely beyond the reach of negotiation by the Japanese buyer, and it does not appear just that the latter alone should bear the inconvenience of these mishaps.

The 4th Article, also, suggests a query. "should a part only of the goods be late," it says, "the option" (of cancelling the contract) "extends only to the part late, and the buyers agree to take delivery of all that fulfils the shipment or arrival date specified." It is easy to conceive certain classes of goods to which this provision could not be applied without great hardship to the buyer. Machinery is an example. Part of a plant of machinery might arrive up to date, and the remainder might be delayed so long as to fatally cripple the enterprise contemplated by the buyer.

Finally, Article 7 lays down that "should the goods on arrival prove to be somewhat different from sample (though not to such an extent as to alter their character) they shall be accepted under the contract on a reduction in the price being made to the extent of the difference in the market value on the day of arrival between the goods as received and the sample." It is easy to sympathise with the bitter experiences which prompted the insertion of this Article, but it is not easy to endorse the idea that a buyer should be bound by written promise to accept goods different from those that he orders. He may want them to match goods already in his possession, or he may have other reasons to desire exact agreement with the sample, yet he is obliged to give a pledge that he will be content with goods merely "of the same character" as those that he wants.

It strikes us that if the places of the foreign seller and the Japanese buyer were reversed, such a contract would be thrown out of court at once. No Occidental buyer would sign it. The foreign middleman owes his strong position in Japan's trade to the fact that he takes upon himself every legitimate risk—often he goes a good deal farther—and thus becomes an ideal agent. It would be a great pity if he himself abandoned that recommendation and put a weapon into the hands of competitors.

April 7.

With reference to our comments on the form of contract proposed by the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce in the case of goods imported to Japanese order, it has been pointed out to us that, although our criticisms may seem fair from an outsider's point of view, they do not commend themselves to persons possessing intimate knowledge of the conditions of the import trade in Yokohama. Experts are said to be of the opinion that such terms, or something very like them, are almost essential in the interests of sound trade. It is further anticipated that they will be accepted by buyers as well as sellers, and it is added that they are not simply conditions formulated by foreigners in their own interests, but that they will be endorsed and approved by leading Japanese importers, who fully recognise their desirability. To all these considerations every weight is due. It is for the

Sakamaki Yasu (40-, who, in conjunction with her son murdered her husband on April 30th of the 30th year of *Meiji*, and was sentenced to death in the Tokyo District Court, was executed at Ichigaya Jail on Wednesday morning, her appeal before the Court of Cassation being dismissed.

No. 1 China Filatures 71 F. 50-51
No. 1 Japan " " F. 49-50

" China silk is distinctly preferred to Japanese, taking the same category of silk; and as to China Filatures being

An idea seems to prevail in some quarters that the Minister of Foreign Affairs has recommended the issue of an Imperial Ordinance defining what is meant by "superficies" and what rights of land tenure will be enjoyed by foreigners under the Revised Treaties. Such a notion is very quaint. The Government would scarcely be disposed to assume the function of interpreter to the Judiciary, even though the latter were required to solve a really perplexing problem. But the whole perplexity is this case arises from the unwillingness of certain writers to admit that they have been discovering ambiguities where ambiguities do not exist. The question of "superficies" is clear as daylight, and would be perfectly clear to the most sceptical could they persuade themselves to imagine that although a particular provision of law is not found among the statutes of England, it may nevertheless be an intelligible and practical enactment. At any rate, if these good people intend to wait until the Government issues an Ordinance for the purpose of solving private doubts which have no basis of fact, we apprehend that their patience will be sorely taxed.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE.

It is a matter of public congratulation that the International Committee of Yokohama is to continue its labours. Under the able presidency of Mr. R. D. Robison, whose great tact and untiring diligence in the interests of the community deservedly elicited a special vote of thanks at the recent meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, the Committee has accomplished most excellent results. Not only has it been able to make valuable suggestions which have received due attention in Japanese official quarters, but it has also established between the foreign community and the Japanese Authorities relations of a useful and wholesome character. As a point of etiquette such a Committee can not obtain diplomatic recognition, for, being cosmopolitan, it has no claim upon the good offices of any particular Foreign Representative. Possibly that fact may hamper its operations, more or less, though we do not see why the British subjects on the Committee, for example, should not be able, in their national capacity, to obtain from the British Minister any information or advice that he is in a position to give. That is a secondary matter, however. The great point is that the Committee constitutes a direct channel of communication between the community and the Japanese Government, and that its representations do not savour of complaint or protest, but bear the character of suggestions prompted by considerations of mutual interest and benefit. We understand that the action of the Committee has the full appreciation of the Japanese Government, and that its usefulness is thoroughly recognised.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

The movement in favour of reducing the establishment of the Japanese army seems to be acquiring considerable dimensions. Two newspapers, the *Nippon* and the *Yoroku Choko*, have constituted themselves its champions, and are working the matter very cleverly. They claim that Count Inouye is on their side, and Count Inouye's name is one to conjure with. They also marshal as their allies Viscount Nomura, Mr. Kusaka and Viscount Miura, and they allege that even Marquis Yamagata, Viscount Katsura and Count Kaba-yama have been brought to the same way of thinking. Another point put forward—with what accuracy we can not tell—is that Count Okuma, when he occupied the post of Minister Resident, was disposed to introduce a scheme of military retrenchment, but encountered strong opposition from Viscount Kawakami, and that Count Inouye, when he held the portfolio of Finance, actually drafted a programme of reduction but was prevented by his colleagues from carrying it out. We find it very difficult to express our opinion clearly upon this point, for although our views are of the most emphatic character, and although we believe that the future lying before Japan is one which she can not possibly control and which she must be prepared to face boldly, we also believe that a newspaper ceases to be useful and becomes simply mischievous when it contributes in any way to the disturbance of international relations.

JAPANESE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Some very suggestive remarks about the prospects of industrial enterprise in Japan are made by the *Yoji Shimpō*. The comparative cheapness of skilled labour originally constituted this country's strong point in competition with other States. But that advantage has disappeared, in our contemporary's opinion. Wages have risen so rapidly during the past few years, in company with the appreciation of commodities, that the price of labour in Japan no longer contrasts, in any very marked degree, with its price in Occidental countries. What manufacturers should now make their chief aim is the development of skill on the part of artisans. There does not, however, appear to be any very plain evidence that progress is being made in that direction. In certain parts of Japan, as Joshu, Ashikaga, and so on, the apprentice system is followed at weaving establishments, and it results that really competent workmen are obtained; experts fully versed in every detail of their trade. But in the match-making and cotton-spinning industries a very different state of affairs prevails. Statistics for 1897 show that out of 71,000 hands, no less than 31,000 were changed within the year, and only 160 had stuck to the work for ten years. The consequences are that a large part of the official staff must devote their time solely to hunting up new *employés*, and that only a very small fraction of the hands develop anything like expert skill.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The time for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to make its half-yearly statement of accounts being at hand, conjectures are published by Tokyo newspapers as to the amount of the dividend that will be declared. Ten per cent. is the sum apparently regarded as most probable. The Company's circumstances are now very flourishing. During the past two years, it has been obliged to keep large sums of money lying idle—the price of steamers in course of construction in Europe—but that is now at an end, for the steamers, having been completed, will henceforth be a paying asset. Then, again, by the Diet's endorsement of the special subsidy bill, all anxiety as to the success of the European and American services is dispelled, so that, from every point of view, the shareholders may congratulate themselves.

THE TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE.

The new buildings of the Tokyo Stock Exchange were formally opened on the 2nd instant. They are situated near Yoro-bashi and are constructed in tolerably attractive style, which gains a great deal by comparison with its surroundings. There are six edifices, covering an area of 678 *tsubo* (24,408 square feet), and the sum expended on them was 280,000 *yen*. This Exchange is now a highly prosperous concern. When it was started, in 1878, the business done was a mere bagatelle, but the daily transactions at present average from twenty thousand to fifty thousand shares. Mr. Kaneko Kentaro is the Chief Manager, and under his able control the system has been largely improved.

A STORM IN A TEAPOT.

All things considered, Sendai is one of the most backward of Japanese towns. But it is not to be beaten in sensationalism. The more insignificant the incident the more momentous is it made to appear by the poorly educated scribblers who supply material for the local press. A case in point is the disturbance that took place at one of the Rev. S. S. Snyder's preaching stations on the evening of the 29th ult. It seems that in order to attract an audience Mr. Snyder has been in the habit of holding magic-lantern meetings in a house in Miya-machi, Sendai, and that on several occasions people who love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil, have utilised the opportunity to cut holes in *tatami* and otherwise injure mission property. Mr. Snyder, some weeks ago, applied to the police, and they promised to send a constable to attend each of the meetings, and up to the 29th fulfilled the promise. On that evening the absence of the policeman was taken advantage of by a lad to cut a large hole in one of the mats. He was caught in the act, and, just before the closing hymn was given out, Mr. Snyder's attention was called to what the lad had done. There being no policeman in the room, Mr. Snyder seized the culprit, and, in order to prevent his escape during the singing of the hymn, bound his hands together with a piece of the cord that was attached to the curtain hanging in front of the magic lantern. Just as the proceedings closed and Mr. Snyder was about to take the boy to the Police Station, a policeman arrived, who, however, was hopelessly tipsy. Mr. Snyder learnt subsequently that this man was not on duty, though he wore uniform, and had not been sent to the place by his superior officer for the sake of keeping order. The man seems to have blustered a great deal and to have annoyed Mr. Snyder so much that he threatened to turn him out of the house. As soon as Mr. Snyder discovered that the policeman had no authority to act, he sent off to the police station for another policeman, but before the latter arrived the first policeman had absconded, taking the boy with him, whom he immediately released.

Mr. Snyder reported the whole affair at the Head Police Office the next day, and asked whether policemen who were supposed to be off duty were allowed to go about the streets in uniform in a state of intoxication and were warranted in interfering in disputes of any kind between citizens. He asked for the name of the delinquent policeman, but did not succeed in obtaining it.

This story has been twisted into every conceivable shape by the local press and copied into one or two Tokyo journals. The fact that the policeman who interfered was tipsy has been carefully suppressed, while the dreadful outrage on one of His Imperial Majesty's subjects committed by the foreigner is, according to the newspapers of Sendai, about to engage the attention of the Japanese Cabinet. Not a word is said about the losses already sustained by the mission or the insults they have submitted to from the people of the neighbourhood. Day after day tissues of falsehood have been published and devoured by a gullible public which seems only too glad to find fresh reasons for abusing the foreigner.

If the newspapers of Sendai would call

the attention of citizens to the filthy habits of the lower orders, would condemn the insulting language often used to foreign ladies and children as they pass through the streets, the defacing of the names that foreigners put on their gates, the bespattering with mud the posts of their main entrances, and the commission of offences too indecent to be mentioned in print; if they would point out that many of the poorer residents of Sendai are on a level with very low-class Ainos as regards habits and manners—instead of writing in defence or extenuation of schoolboy insolence—they would show the world that they are competent leaders of public opinion. Whether the act which has given occasion for all the commotion—the binding of the boy's hands—was advisable is certainly open to question, other methods of preventing the culprit's escape being capable of adoption. But we are assured by Mr. Snyder himself that the interference of the drunken policeman and the mistaken accounts of the affair to which it gave plausibility are the real cause of the dimensions which a trifling incident has assumed. Sendai is one of the largest of Japan's cities, but the local press is by no means a credit to the town, and when mixed residence comes and foreigners pass under Japanese laws the amount of harm that the local sensation-mongers may do by anti-foreign agitation is a factor to be included in our forecast of the future. The local authorities are averse to giving information to the press, and are quite powerless to interfere with newspaper writers so long as these do not violate the press laws. It would greatly facilitate the easy working of the new treaties if official accounts of incidents that concern foreigners could be furnished by the departments which are in possession of all the facts. As regards the suppression of anti-foreign feeling, that the authorities could do much more than they have ever attempted is the opinion of all who have paid any attention to the subject. That insults to foreigners are winked at by school-teachers and others in Government employ is a well-known fact.

REDUCTION OF MILITARY ARMAMENTS.

Judging from the indications given by vernacular newspapers it would seem that the agitation in favour of reducing the scheme of military expansion is extending among Japanese statesmen. Count Inouye is still pointed to as the chief advocate of the idea, though it is not distinctly stated whether he recommends an extension of the period for completing the present programme, or advocates a reduction of the programme itself. The *Yomiuri* is the latest journal to champion this particular form of retrenchment, but the *Yomiuri* spoils its case by reckless statements. It alleges, for example, that the wealth of Japan is only from five to six thousand million *yen*. If that were the case, an annual expenditure of two hundred millions would be from 4 to 5 per cent. of the total wealth, a monstrously extravagant ratio. This renewal of an agitation which seemed tolerably powerful last year seems—if it has any substantial basis at all—to be mainly suggested by the difficulty which the Japanese Government experiences in obtaining money abroad on easy terms. There is no doubt

that Japan has injured her own credit. The political parties may place that achievement to their score. A recent return showed that the sums lying on deposit or at current account in the banks of London and its neighbourhood aggregate 300 million pounds sterling; that is to say, 3,000 million *yen*. That immense total is probably not earning more than 2 per cent., on the average, and its owners are anxiously looking out for better investments, while Japan, on her side, is crippled for want of funds, would gladly pay 4 per cent., and offers a perfectly safe investment. Yet the willing lenders and the anxious borrower can not come together.

A "LECTURE ROOM LAWYER."

Dr. Lönholm's digest of Japanese laws, compiled at the request of the International Committee of Yokohama, is a book of the greatest value to every one desirous of making himself acquainted with the systems under which we shall all pass a few months hence. But it is a book decidedly inconvenient to persons who find profitable employment in raising doubts about Japanese laws and Japanese systems. One of those persons recently referred to Dr. Lönholm's digest as "the vain imagining of a lecture room lawyer." Had this courageous disparagement been accompanied by any demonstration of its justice; had any serious attempt been made to prove that Dr. Lönholm merited such a description, the charge might have been excusable. But the writer did not concern himself about trifles of that kind. It suited his immediate purpose to belittle Dr. Lönholm, and he proceeded to belittle him with fine indifference to facts. It happens, however, that before Dr. Lönholm accepted the Chair of German Law in the Imperial University of Japan, he had served for many years as a judge in his own country, and, so far from being a mere "lecture-room lawyer," he is, consequently, a practised judicial official. He is very unlikely to trouble himself about such charges or to make any effort to refute them, but, since we are acquainted with the facts, it is our business to state them.

IRON.

An extraordinary statement appears in the columns of the *Kokumin*: namely, that the supply of iron ore procurable in Japan is quite insufficient for the purposes of the new Iron Foundry, and that recourse must be had to China. It is added that the real object of Professor Wada's visit to China is to negotiate the purchase of a mine at Siat-san, about 7 miles from Hankow, which produces excellent iron, as has been proved by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha's trial exports of the ore. We call this an extraordinary statement because it has been fully understood and officially stated that the project of the Iron Foundry, which is involving such a large outlay, would never have been seriously entertained had not there been solid assurance that the domestic supplies of iron ore would be found ample. Japan's position is not greatly improved by the possession of an iron foundry of her own if she is to remain dependant on a foreign country for her supply of ore.

POLICE MISCONDUCT.

Circumstantial accounts are published of gross misconduct on the part of two constables of the Water Police Mr. Murayama Jiro, a Superintendent of Water Police, returning from an entertainment given at Mukojima, discovered, as he supposed, that his watch had been stolen. His suspicions falling on a woman-servant named Aka, employed in his household, he communicated with the police, and they arrested the woman. The two constables who had apprehended her beat her so severely when they got her to the station that she confessed herself the stealer of the watch. But she was of course unable to give any indication of its whereabouts, and, while the police were questioning her, Mr. Murayama arrived to say that the watch had not been stolen at all, but had been lying, all the while, in the pocket of one of his coats. The two constables have been dismissed from the force in disgrace, and the sub-inspector who directed them to arrest the woman has been allowed to resign, but Mr. Murayama remains in office. We do not see why he should suffer at all, for he merely informed the police of his supposed loss, but some of our Tokyo contemporaries write as though he deserved condign punishment.

THE OPERATION OF THE REVISED TREATIES.

Information is published by the *Chiuo Shimbun* to the effect that the French Government has declined to ask the Chamber to alter the date for putting the Franco-Japanese Revised Treaty into operation. By an oversight on the part of the Japanese official charged with the duty of negotiating the Treaty, the date was put at August 4th instead of July 17th, and the French Government, very reasonably as we think, considers that the troublesome process of a special reference to parliament would not be warranted for the sake of so trivial a matter. Nineteen days sooner or later need not give any concern to any one. We presume that the Japanese Government does not contemplate the taxation of foreigners before October 1st, and there is really no other question of any great importance connected with the date.

THE SHANGHAI COTTON MILLS.

On Wednesday a telegram was published in Tokyo to the effect that the Cotton Mills in Shanghai had decided to put a stop to night working, and that the price of raw cotton had declined heavily in consequence. The following day, the intelligence was corrected, the correction being that only two mills had adopted that course, and that the step taken by them was for a limited time, ending on the 30th of last month.

THE KIRIN BREWERY.

Japanese newspapers allege that Kanagawa Prefecture is likely to be the scene of an agitation similar to that caused by the poisonous refuse of the Ashiwo Mine. They say that the crops in Hommoku district have suffered seriously from the oily emanations of the Kirin Brewery; that a meeting of farmers has taken place to discuss the matter, and that representations have been made to the Governor.

MURAI BROTHERS.

The Murai Brothers, who gained such unenviable notoriety last year in connexion with the "Virgin Cigarettes," are said to have sold their business to an American firm for 300,000 yen. The firm will take over the concern from July next, and will give employment to the Messrs. Murai. The latter are reported not to have made a success. They have liabilities aggregating 250,000 yen, and Dr. Hashimoto, of the Red Cross Hospital, having examined the "Hero" and "Sunrise" cigarettes, their principal articles of sale, condemns them as deleterious to the lungs, so that the Murai prospects are clouded. The *Chino Shimbun* tells this story, but we find it rather incredible.

R. I. P.

An incident worth notice has been brought to our attention. In 1868, an officer of H.B.M.S. *Sylvia* was taken seriously ill and landed on the island of Hiroshima, where he died and was buried. Naturally the grave, being situated in a place very seldom visited by Englishmen, received no attention at the hands of the dead man's countrymen. But the Japanese villagers seem to have considered that some duty of hospitality devolved on them in connexion with the event. They erected a tomb-stone over the remains of the unknown stranger, and tended the grave so carefully that it attracted the attention of Captain Conner, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, who had occasional opportunities of landing on Hiroshima during the course of his voyages to and from Shanghai. He mentioned the matter to Mr. T. B. Glover, who spoke of it to H.B.M.'s Consul in Kobe, and the latter, having addressed the Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture on the subject, received the following reply:—

[TRANSLATION.]

February 18th, 1899.

SIR.—Your letter of June 22nd, 1898, addressed to the Governor of Hiroshima Ken, requesting that an enquiry might be made regarding the grave of an officer of H.M.S. *Sylvia*, was referred to me, as no record was said to exist in that Prefecture. Taking it upon myself to reply to your letter I have the honour to inform you that investigations have been made with the result given below, the position of the grave, the tombstone, etc., being shown on the enclosed plan.

I have, etc.,

YOSHIWARA SABURO, [L.S.]

Governor of Kagawa Prefecture.

J. C. HALL, Esquire,
H.B.M. Consul, Kobe.

In the 1st year of Meiji, corresponding to A.D. 1868, H.B.M.S. *Sylvia* was proceeding on a voyage through the Inland Sea when an officer on board, named Lake, fell ill. He was landed on the island of Hiroshima, Hiroshima-mura, Naka-gori, in the province of Sanuki, Kagawa Prefecture, while the *Sylvia* proceeded along the coast of Hiroshima and cast anchor in Enoura Bay to await the officer's recovery. In a few days, however, he died; and Captain St. John buried his remains in ground belonging to the temple of Ikwoji above Enoura shrine, and, having set up a wooden cross to mark the grave, departed.

Several years afterwards, when this monument had almost decayed from the effects of wind and rain, frost and snow, Awaburi Tukuan, Superior of Ikwoji, and others said: "Truly it would be too sad if the grave of our solitary guest from afar, who has become a spirit in a strange land, were suffered to pass out of all

knowledge." Thereupon Terawaki Kaemon, head of a village company, and other sympathizers such as Oka Ryohaku, set on foot a scheme for the erection of a stone monument, and, the shore-folk all with one accord tending their help, the work was finally brought to completion. This was on the 7th day of the 11th month of the 4th year of Meiji, that is, 1871. Since then nearly thirty winters have passed, during which time the islanders have not neglected to take good care of the tomb. In particular, from the 10th to the 16th day of the 7th month, old style, there are still persons found who every year clean and sweep the grave, and, offering up flowers and incense, mourn for and console the spirit of the dead.

LITERARY NOTES.

There has just been printed at the Cambridge University Press a work by Professor Takahashi Sakuye entitled "Cases on International Law during the China-Japanese War." It has a preface by Professor T. E. Holland, and an introduction by Professor J. Westlake. From a prospectus of the Work, issued by Messrs. C. J. Clay and Sons, we take the following:—

EXTRACT FROM THE PREFACE BY PROFESSOR HOLLAND.

The author of this book, my friend Professor Takahashi, thinks that a few words of introduction from an Oxford colleague may commend it to English readers. I have therefore great pleasure in saying how deserving the work appears to me to be of the attention of all who are interested either in International Law or in the development of Japan.

Mr. Takahashi has exceptional claims to speak with authority upon the subject of which he treats. Becoming a Professor in the Naval College at Tokyo, he was directed to join the *Atakushima*, as legal adviser to the Admiral commanding the Japanese fleet, and remained on board the flag-ship nearly to the end of the war with China. Under his guidance, great pains were taken to observe in all questions of naval capture the best traditions of European Prize Courts. Several new questions were raised, and equitably dealt with. Mr. Takahashi's narrative is always clear, and his arguments are, as a rule, convincing. The value of the work is greatly increased by the official documents—proclamations, reports, opinions, conventions, and regulations—with which its statements are copiously illustrated.

EXTRACT FROM THE INTRODUCTION BY PROFESSOR WESTLAKE.

This book of my friend Professor Takahashi, who followed that war as adviser of the Japanese Admiral in matters of International Law, recounts the proceedings in it which bore on his science. As such it is a valuable monument of the history of the Far East, and the details with which it is enriched are the best testimony to the care with which Japan entered on a line of operations, naval and judicial, quite novel to her, while they furnish the student with an unusual opportunity of realizing the operation of the law; which is often presented to him only in the form of generalities.

On February 10th was published Mr. W. G. Aston's "History of Japanese Literature." Mr. Ed. Gosse, the projector and editor of the series in which Mr. Aston's book is included, tells us this:—

This history differs from those works which have preceded it in the fact that two-thirds of it are translation and only one-third history or criticism. The Japanese have cultivated a voluminous literature for upwards of twelve centuries, and it is probable that the richness and variety of their prose and verse will come as a revelation to English readers. One point that is very curious is that Japanese is the only language in which women excelled in classical times. Mr. Aston's estimate of and quotation from their work will be a feature of his book.

SALVATION ARMY.

On Saturday evening a successful Salvation Army demonstration was held in the Central Tabernacle, Hongo. The objects of the meeting were twofold, viz., to give a representation of

Salvation Army work in different countries and also to help the funds of the Army Home for Discharged Prisoners at Okubo, near Shinjuku. A very good audience attended and gave every sign of interest in the Army work. The platform presented quite an unusual appearance, with its representatives of Army work in India, Zululand, Maori land, China, America, Australia, and various European countries. The officers representing these countries were attired in national costume, sang a Salvation hymn, and gave the statistics of Salvation Army work in that particular country. Short addresses were also given by the Rev. M. Tomonaka, Chaplain of Sugamo Prison, and Mr. Hara, who is engaged in work amongst discharged prisoners in Tokyo. This is the first meeting of the kind held by the Salvation Army in this country, and the result was considered very satisfactory.

FERRIS SEMINARY.

The "commencement exercises" of the Ferris Seminary for young ladies were held at the Van Schaick Hall, No. 178 Buff, on Tuesday evening. The programme was very attractive, and all the musical numbers were exceedingly well rendered.

The items were as follows:—

Piano Duet "The Palms" Faure.
Kume Imai and Fusa Sugawa.
Chorus..... "Song of the Sunbeam"..... Macfarren.
English Essay..... "Unexpected Treasures" Ichi Imai.
Song..... "Meadow Talk" Fisher.
Nobuji Jimbo.
Japanese Essay..... "Our Way is One" Kane Matsumura.
Piano Duet "March of the Dwarfs" Holst.
Kume Imai and Yoshi Rokkaku.
Concert Recitation..... "The Children's Hall" Longfellow.
Chorus "Chandler."
a. "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah."
b. "Son of My Soul."
Japanese Essay..... "Woman and Literature" Hiro Wada.
Vocal Trio..... "Lullaby" Emerson.
Shizu Kurimoto, Ichi Imai, and Asada Hara.
English Essay..... "Cherry-blossoms and Japanese Spirit"..... Shizu Kurimoto.
Song "The Sweet Story" Marzials.
Shogakko.

Japanese Essay..... "Yearnings of the Human Mind"..... Koto Takemura.
Piano Duet "Hymn of Praise"..... Mendelssohn.
Tetsu Sato and Sada Hayashi.

DISTRIBUTION OF CERTIFICATES.

Address Rev. E. S. Booth.
Chorus..... "Farewell Song" Wiegand.

The piano duet, "March of the Dwarfs," was performed by two such very young ladies that they might be called dwarfs themselves. The song, "The Sweet Story," was sung most impressively and sweetly by six little girls of the Primary Department. The essays, English and Japanese, were all read with great clearness and distinctness of enunciation.

The graduates were as follows:—

Grammar Department (1899):—Hiro Wada, Koto Takemura, Kane Matsumura, Ichi Imai, and Shizu Kurimoto.
Special Department:—Fusa Sugawa.

After the distribution of certificates by the Principal, Rev. E. S. Booth, assisted by the Rev. K. Hoshino, Assistant Principal, an address of congratulation and farewell was given by Mr. Booth to the graduating class. He exhorted them not to be satisfied with blossoms but to seek to bear fruit—to find their highest enjoyment in learning to serve their fellowmen. Especially were they to reflect "the light of life" to all with whom they came in contact. In this way they would reflect the greatest honour upon the Institution, and the cause of Christian education.

The Farewell Song was sung by thirteen young ladies, with piano and organ accompaniment by Miss Tetsu Sato and Miss Hama Hirano. The proceedings were brought to a close by the pronouncing of the benediction by Rev. K. Hoshino.

THE WEALTH OF JAPAN.

LAST October we published statistics compiled by a writer calling himself "Onjōji Kyōshi," with reference to the wealth of Japan. The total sum, according to his estimate, was 7,898 millions of *yen*, and the items were as follows:—

	<i>Yen.</i>
Lands	3,527,085,739
Live Stock	59,896,722
Buildings	1,082,567,116
Furniture and Fittings	541,283,558
Railways	116,171,819
Shipping	28,440,536
Merchandise	428,380,142
Specie and Bullion	139,721,201
Miscellaneous	1,974,515,681
Grand Total	7,898,061,444

Referring to this table, we said:—

The above figures are based on statistics for 1894 and 1895. In our opinion, the value of lands should be nearly doubled, and that of buildings increased by fifty per cent. It is worth noting that Giffen's estimate of the wealth of the United Kingdom in 1875 was 8,548 millions of pounds sterling, or over ten times the figure for Japan. On the whole, a *yen* in Japan is approximately the representative of a sovereign in England.

Mr. KUSAKA YOSHIO has now undertaken the same calculation, and, after devoting six months to the work, has arrived at these results:—

	<i>Yen.</i>
Lands	10,000,000,000
Live Stock	75,000,000
Buildings	1,919,000,000
Furniture and Works of Art	788,000,000
Railways, Telegraphs and Aqueducts	90,000,000
Shipping	98,000,000
Mines	405,000,000
Mining Products	272,000,000
Capital (paid up) of Companies and Banks	241,000,000
Specie and Bullion	176,000,000
Miscellaneous	1,028,000,000
Total	15,093,000,000

It will be seen that Mr. KUSAKA'S total is nearly twice that of "Onjōji Kyōshi"; that he more than doubles the latter's figure for the value of arable and forest lands, and that he nearly doubles the figure for buildings. It appears to us that Mr. KUSAKA'S estimate is nearer the truth than that of the former economist. He arrives at his results thus:—

LAND.

The total area of the land, in Japan is 413,201,088 *tan* (103,300,272 acres), of which 274,678,144 *tan* (68,669,536 acres) belong to the Government and 138,522,944 *tan* (34,630,736 acres) to the people. Now the total yearly produce of the people's land is 1,000 million *yen* annually, half of which must be set aside on account of labour and other costs of production, so that the net income derived from the land is 500 million *yen*, and if that be regarded as 5 per cent. of the value of the land, we get 10,000 million *yen* as the aggregate value of the privately owned lands. With regard to the lands owned by the Government, there are no means of making any estimate, and Mr. KUSAKA consequently omits them altogether from the list.

It will be seen that Mr. KUSAKA assesses the gross average yearly produce of the land at 28 *yen* an acre, approximately, and the net produce at 14 *yen*, or 38 shillings.

That is a liberal estimate, especially since the question of forests and moors does not appear to be taken into account. The area of forest land owned by the people is 7,300,000 *cho* (18,250,000 acres), and the area of moor land is 1,060,000 *cho* (2,650,000 acres). Deducting these figures, we find that the area of arable land owned by the people is only 13,730,706 acres, and since we know that the gross income derived from the moors and forests certainly does not exceed 40 million *yen* annually, it would appear that Mr. KUSAKA estimates the yield of the arable land at about 72 *yen* gross per acre, or 36 *yen* net, which seems to us to be above the mark.

Two years ago, we also examined this question, and arrived at the conclusion that the gross produce of the land, exclusive of root crops, concerning which no statistics are available, amounted to about 700 million *yen* annually. There was thus a difference of 300 millions between our calculation and that of Mr. KUSAKA, but without a more detailed statement of his method of reaching his conclusion, it is impossible to query his accuracy.

LIVE STOCK.

	<i>Yen.</i>
Number of horned cattle 1,091,360, total value at 35 <i>yen</i> per head	38,000,000
Number of horses 1,477,021, total value at 25 <i>yen</i> per head	37,000,000

Total

These figures are certainly not excessive. An average price of seventy shillings a head for cattle and 50 shillings a head for horses—although the former are diminutive in Japan and the latter mere ponies—seems to err on the side of conservatism.

BUILDINGS.

	<i>Yen.</i>
Number of dwellings 7,884,263, value at 200 each	1,577,000,000
Number of Shintō 190,803, value at 1,000 <i>yen</i> each	191,000,000
Number of Temples 71,831, value at 1,000 <i>yen</i> each	72,000,000
Buddhist Edōda 36,498, value at 500 <i>yen</i> each	18,000,000
Schools 1,594, value at 10,000 <i>yen</i> each	16,000,000
Departments of State 10, value at 300,000 <i>yen</i> each	3,000,000
City and Prefectural Offices 50, value at 30,000 <i>yen</i> each	3,000,000
City and Prefectural Assembly Buildings 50, value at 20,000 <i>yen</i> each	1,000,000
Local (District) Offices and Police Stations 1,700, value at 1,000 <i>yen</i> each	2,000,000
Jails 50, value at 50,000 <i>yen</i> each	3,000,000
Military Divisional Buildings 7, value at 500,000 <i>yen</i> each	4,000,000
Military Brigade Buildings 28, value at 100,000 <i>yen</i> each	3,000,000
Naval Ports 3, value at 1,000,000 <i>yen</i> each	3,000,000
Total	1,919,000,000

It will be observed that, whereas barracks are included in the above list, fortifications are excluded, and so are arsenals, private dock-yards, harbours, and factories. As to harbours, dock-yards, and factories, Mr. KUSAKA doubtless includes their value in the paid up capital of companies. Arsenals, however, might fairly be added to the list, though fortifications are properly omitted.

FURNITURE AND WORKS OF ART.

The figure under this heading is ob-

tained by allowing an average of 100 *yen* per house.

RAILWAY TELEGRAPHS AND AQUEDUCTS.

The average net profit obtained from the State Railways in the last four years was 4 million *yen*, and if this be capitalized at 20 years' purchase, we have a value of 80 million *yen*. Thus the figures stand:—

	<i>Yen.</i>
State Railways	80,000,000
Telegraph 12,212 <i>ri</i> (30,530 miles) value at 450 <i>yen</i> per <i>ri</i>	6,000,000
Submarine Cable 387 nautical miles; value at 3,000 <i>yen</i> per mile	1,000,000
Aqueducts 100 <i>ri</i> (275 miles)	3,000,000
Total	90,000,000

We can not regard this estimate as quite satisfactory. Considering that the mileage of the State Railways has been steadily augmented year by year for several years past, the net profit during the last year of working would be a more correct figure for the purposes of such an account than the average profit for 4 years. But the difference would be only 20 or 30 millions at any rate. Mr. KUSAKA omits the private railways, doubtless because the cost of constructing them appears in the paid-up capital of companies. The propriety of the omission may be questioned. At the lowest estimate the market value of the private lines now in operation is 140 million *yen*, and if we subtract that sum from the paid-up capital (242 millions) of the companies and banks, we obtain 102 million *yen* as the value of all the factories, dock-yards, and other movable and immovable property of industrial and commercial associations in the empire. That is surely too low an estimate?

SHIPPING.

	<i>Yen.</i>
Foreign-model ship, 254,692 tons; value at 100 <i>yen</i> per ton	25,000,000
Japanese-model ship, 2,660,887 <i>hoku</i> ; value at 5 <i>yen</i> per <i>hoku</i>	15,000,000
Fishing, pleasure, and rowing boats and lighters, 200,000 <i>hoku</i> ; value at 5 <i>yen</i> per <i>hoku</i>	1,000,000
Men-of-war 112,760 tons; value at 500 <i>yen</i> per ton	56,000,000
Torpedo craft 1,898 tons; value at 590 <i>yen</i> per ton	1,000,000
Total	98,000,000

This is certainly a very conservative estimate so far as the Navy is concerned. The figure for men-of-war must be at least 100 million *yen* too small.

MINES.

The yearly yield of the mines is 40,506,833 *yen*, one half of which may be regarded as the cost of working. Hence capitalizing at 20 years' purchase as before, the resulting value is 405 million *yen*.

MARINE PRODUCTS.

The yearly yield is about 27,227,047 *yen*, half of which being regarded as net profit and capitalized at 20 years' purchase, the value is 272 millions.

CAPITAL (PAID UP) OF COMPANIES AND BANKS.

The total paid-up capital is 259 million *yen*, from which has to be deducted 17 millions, being the value (already included under the head of shipping) of the vessels

(165,000 tons) belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

MISCELLANEOUS.

There are no trustworthy data for estimating the value of miscellaneous properties. Mr. KUSAKA has therefore followed MULHALL, who adopts a figure representing 6.8 per cent. of the country's wealth. That method of calculation gives 1,028 millions of *yen* in Japan's case. It is difficult, however, to endorse such a manner of estimate. In Great Britain objects such as jewelry, plate, and books are included in the category of miscellaneous, and since they represent the accumulations of hundreds of years in a country where conflagrations are comparatively rare, their value must reach an enormous figure. Plate and jewelry have practically no existence in Japan, and the value of the public and private libraries does not, we think, amount to anything like as large a fraction of the national wealth as it does in Great Britain. Mr. KUSAKA, it will be observed, estimates the miscellaneous objects at a figure equal to one-tenth of the value of the land. It is a pity that he has not explained precisely what he includes under the heading. We do not pretend to assert that his figure is too large, however. What we desire to point out is the difference between England and Japan. If it be correct to assert that "miscellaneous" objects in Great Britain represent only 6.8 per cent. of the country's total wealth, then it can not be correct to say the same of Japan, where such objects are obviously of far less value comparatively than in England. On the other hand, the estimate for England may be too low. A tolerably easy way of approaching the matter is to consider, as the main basis of the estimate, the average value of the clothes, jewelry, books, household utensils, and other personal belongings of each unit of the nation. Mr. KUSAKA's figure—1028 million *yen*—gives 24 *yen*, approximately, per head of population, and that certainly does not appear excessive.

Mr. KUSAKA's principal object in making the above calculations is to obtain some means of determining what Japan's yearly national expenditure ought to be. He adopts as fundamental the rule that the State's ordinary annual outlays should not exceed $\frac{1}{10}$ of its total wealth, and thus arrives at the figure of 150 million *yen* for Japan, to which he adds 50 millions for extraordinary expenditures. So far as we are acquainted with the Government's estimates, there will soon be no difficulty in keeping the outlays within that total. Tokyo newspapers publish some other statements which they attribute to Mr. KUSAKA with regard to the comparative wealth and the burden of taxation in Occidental countries and in Japan. But we imagine that there is some mistake on the part of the reporter,

for the wealth of each unit of the British population is put at only 383 *yen*, on the average, whereas it is really about 2,300 *yen*.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* under the title of *Kokka bansai* and *Kirisutokyō* (The permanency of the State and Christianity), calls attention to the fact that since the war with China the words *Kokka bansai* have been on all lips both in season and out of season. But, says this organ, the unfortunate thing is that along with a universally expressed desire for the perpetuity of Japanese nationality, there is displayed an astonishing love of change, a fickleness of disposition that is most injurious to the country. There is little use in shouting "Long live the State," unless some adequate measures are taken to impart to our institutions and our life elements of permanency. This, in the opinion of the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun*, only Christianity can do. The writer we are quoting sees nothing but what is artificial or superficial in every direction. The hope of immortality only exists in the minds of a few devout men and women. The temporal, the secular, the worldly are in evidence everywhere. Even the writer who more than any other foreigner has lauded the Japanese, Mr. Lafcadio Hearn, is forced to acknowledge that the idea of eternal existence is quite absent from their thoughts. Transiency, says Mr. Hearn, is written on all the phases of their life and even on their dwelling houses and their clothes. To supply the missing element in Japanese thoughts is the work that Christianity has undertaken and must carry through, concludes the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun*.

The organ we have just quoted draws attention to the steady growth in the number of female criminals in Japan and urges the necessity of increased religious effort among women. The following are the figures given:—In 1889, the number of female criminals was 9,411; in 1890, 13,448; in 1891, 15,317; in 1892, 17,067; in 1893, 18,421, and in 1894, 19,195. Commenting on these figures, the *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* says, the Japanese woman has few interests outside of her family circle, her mind is dwarfed, and petty spite and jealousy lead her to commit crimes that a better education and different social surroundings would render impossible.

Mr. Uchimura Kanzō is totally opposed to the *Fukuin-domei Kai*'s display at the Imperial Hotel, noticed in our last Summary, and denounces the whole movement as worldly to the core. He thinks that Christians who have so little knowledge of the genius of the religion of Christ as the promoters of the meeting should be asked to leave the church. It seems that Mr. Uchimura was consulted about the scheme while it was still in embryo, and that he denounced it as claptrap and undignified, and understood that its promoters had agreed to abandon it. He now uses his powerful pen to hold it up to ridicule in the pages of the *Dokuritu Zasshi*. Why, he asks, was the name of a nobleman, who, as a Christian believer, occupies a back seat, paraded before the public as a

promoter? Evidently only for vulgar effect. In their zeal to attract attention and impress the public, the promoters have even given titles to those who do not possess them. What joke is this? asks Mr. Uchimura. The *Fukuin-domei Kai* must be purged of the worldliness that now characterises it, or its usefulness as an evangelistic agency will be seriously impaired.

Professor Tsuboi Shōgorō, the ethnologist, a short time ago published an article on the religion of the Ainos from which we cull the following:—The Ainos can hardly be called polytheists, since the gods they worship are too few to warrant that title. They worship the sun-god, the water-god, the fox, the bear, and owl. They use the symbols known in Japan as the *Gohei*. They are not idolaters. They believe in future rewards and punishments. The good are said to go to *Kamoi-yutan* (Heaven or paradise) and the bad to *Kokunamo Shiri*. Their graves are only about a foot long. The body is wrapped up in matting when lowered to the grave. The difference between a man's and a woman's grave is made plain, but epitaphs are unknown. Visiting the tomb for the sake of worship is practically unknown. When the head of a household dies, his dwelling-house is burnt. This is done as a kind of send-off by the women folk attached to his house who, according to Aino belief, are not, like the men, allowed to be reborn in another world. The widow has to live in retirement for years and is not allowed to remarry or to permit a man to enter the house she inhabits. The first-born sometimes inherits, but not always, the youngest son or the cleverest occasionally having this honour. The Ainos believe that while physical peculiarities come from the mother all mental traits are derived from the father.

Dr. de Forest has recently published in Japanese a little book entitled "Modern Civilisation and Christianity." The author sets out by stating his belief that the terms "Modern Civilisation" and "Christianity" are capable of being defined in a simple manner and that their relation to each other may be shown without involving lengthy discussion. The chief elements of Modern Civilisation Dr. de Forest considers to be five in number; all of which, he maintains, are based on Christianity. (1) *The perfect equality of all nations as recognised by international law*. Each Power has its representative residing in the capital of alien states, and strenuous efforts are made to settle all disputes in a peaceful manner by means of international law. This law is still very imperfect, and there are occasionally flagrant breaches of existing law, but after all it is an element of modern civilisation second to none in importance and the idea that forms its basis, the equality of nations, is no other than the Christian doctrine that we human beings are all brothers and sisters, with the only true God as our Father.

(2).—Another important element of modern civilisation is the *place of distinction that it accords to representative government*. Although the idea of popular representation, like that of national equality, originated with Occidentals and never was entertained till recent times by Orientals, it would not be true to say that it is our superior cleverness which has resulted in the development of the notion

that every man and woman is entitled to be represented in the governing bodies. The claim of all men to be represented is based on the dignity of man as man, and it is Christianity that has established that claim by showing what was man's origin and what is his destiny. To this religion belongs the honour of having abolished slavery.

(3).—Another element of modern civilisation is *the even-handed administration of justice* which it demands and the abolition of torture and other methods of perversion. This is a corollary of the doctrine of the equality of all men which Christianity proclaims.

(4).—The next element to be noticed is connected with *education*. The right of every child to be properly taught is acknowledged in Christian countries, though it has never been recognised in non-Christian lands. It is asserted in this country that Christianity is contrary to the Imperial Rescript and to the spirit of national education, but the truth is if it had not been for the Christian doctrine of the dignity of man, there would have been no Imperial Rescript and no such system of education as now exists.

(5).—The last element of modern civilisation to be noticed is *the position of woman and her equality with man*. It is acknowledged that Christianity elevated woman to her present rank in Europe and America.

The *Seikyō Shimpō* (No. 437) has a somewhat spun-out article on the failure of the present system of education in respect of moral teaching, and contends that without religion to back it instruction in morality is useless. While professing great loyalty to the throne the teachers in elementary schools certainly do nothing to carry out the commands of the Imperial Rescript, says this organ. The charges brought against school teachers by this writer are too general and stereotyped to merit notice here. To make school teachers responsible for the morality of the students who are only under their control for a few hours each day is quite absurd.

No. 66 of the *Kyōrin*, a Shintō organ, has an article by Mr. Kimura Takarō on "The object of the State and the Standard of State Religion" in which the writer endeavours to show that both Christianity and Buddhism are alien to the spirit and genius of the Japanese people and that Japan's only safe course is to purify Shintō from all the accretions of past ages and rely on it alone. According to Mr. Kimura, Messrs. Kamo Mabuchi, Motoori Norinaga and Hirata Atsutane are the only sure guides in religious matters.

Another article in the same magazine discusses in a very discerning manner the need of a reformation in Shintō. The writer is careful to state that by reformation he does not mean the adoption of new doctrines or the performance of new ceremonies, but he refers especially to a revival of interest in the time-honoured teaching of the cult and to the development of organisation suited to the age in which we live. Christianity is not successful in this country on account of its doctrines, but on account of its superior organisation. "When I say," observes Guizot, "that Christianity was connected with European civilisation and assisted its progress, I mean not Christian

doctrine, but the Christian Church." This remark shows great discernment, observes the writer we are quoting. Organisation impresses in a way that doctrines by themselves never can. At the present time Shintō is without the means of making its influence felt to any great degree. Neither our temples, nor our Associations, nor our men of letters are doing what they might to bring our teaching to the notice of men of the world. Our forces need re-organising. Will nobody appear among us who is capable of rendering this service to our national religion?

In an article on the "Religious World," published in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, it is alleged that the undoubted tendency of the Government is not to interfere with religion in any way, but that certain scholars have been busying themselves about the matter and are using what influence they possess in favour of restrictions on liberty. Most of these men are quite unqualified to pronounce an opinion on the subject, says the *Yomiuri*, having only a very superficial acquaintance with religious doctrines and practices. Yet they are endeavouring to run the Government. In the Council of High Class Education they made their voices heard and expressed the opinion that foreigners should not be allowed to establish schools in Japan. The ground we take, says the *Yomiuri*, is that if the Government decides to act in the matter, they must first supply themselves with reliable information. This was recognised by Count Itagaki when he was Home Minister, and he commenced to collect facts and even drafted a Bill to be presented to the Diet, but his tenure of office was short and his successor did not feel the same interest in the matter. It is quite plain that the present Government is not sufficiently well informed to warrant their taking any immediate steps, so action will have to be postponed to the next session of the Diet.

The *Taiyō* in discussing "Mission Schools" contends that they have proved failures. Their want of success is to be traced to two sources, says this organ. (1) The education which they impart is wholly foreign and hence is apt to have a denationalising tendency. This has been felt by Japanese connected with these schools who, in some cases, have given effect to their objections to the system of education pursued. (2) The religion taught by the missionaries connected with these schools is better suited to thoroughly uncivilised people such as are found in Africa than to the Japanese. These schools would no doubt be successful among savages. European and American missionaries are very foolish to try and induce the Japanese to accept their articles of faith. It is universally acknowledged that mission schools are on the decline. The Doshisha explosion was caused by an attempt to combine things that are incompatible. It is quite plain that the Christianity taught by missionaries, and the Christianity which thoroughly loyal Japanese are prepared to accept are quite different things and all attempts at combination of effort with foreigners in education make this more and more manifest. The article in the *Taiyō* (No. 4)

* We have translated the quotation from the Japanese without verification.—(Writer of the Summary.)

which we are quoting resolves the whole difficulty connected with Mission Schools into deep-seated, ineradicable antagonism between Christian doctrine as taught by the majority of the missionaries and Japanese national sentiment.

Writing on Mission Schools for girls, the *Taiyō* says that the majority of the girls who pass through these schools do not become real Christians, and after finishing the course do not even keep up outward forms of Christianity. In recent years, continues the *Taiyō*, Mission Schools for boys have not been successful; partly owing to the fact that an equally good education to that offered by missionaries can be obtained at secular schools and partly owing to the refusal of the Government to exempt Mission School students from military service. Hence it is that the missionaries have concentrated their efforts on female education. Women are creatures of emotion, whose rational faculties are usually quite undeveloped. Consequently they easily receive impressions and naturally do not ask questions about the truth of what they are told. It is easy to perceive, says the *Taiyō*, that such soil is very suitable for receiving Christian seed. Then the paucity of good female schools in Japan helps to supply the mission schools with a never ceasing stream of candidates. . . . The *Taiyō* in a later part of the article asserts that the tendency of the religious teaching in mission schools is to make girls regard their own people as inferior as long as the latter remain "heathen," and proceeds to argue that when these girls become mothers the assumption of superiority learnt from the foreign lady teachers will certainly produce undesirable consequences. It is the practice of these foreign ladies, says the *Taiyō*, while sneering at our Japanese religious festivals and religious folk-lore, to speak of their own many superstitions as entitled to universal credence. Thus regarded from the philosophical standpoint, oriental superstition is exchanged for occidental. This is decidedly denationalising in tendency. If our women are to believe in superstitions, it is preferable that they should keep those that are current in this country. Why is it, asks the *Taiyō*, that we pay so little attention to female education and allow our girls to fill their heads with notions imported from foreign countries?

The *Koye*, the Roman Catholic organ, publishes an article entitled *Shinkyō Mukyō* (Protestantism is not Religion), which contains some remarkable assertions. Though Protestants pray, attend church and perform religious ceremonies, says this organ, at heart they are not really religious. The shallowness of their religious belief is illustrated by the fact that with them the advance of scholarship and the decay of faith go together. Their learned Ministers believe little and their Professors of Divinity still less. From the Divinity Chairs of Protestant Germany there come utterances that are designed to produce unbelief. The number of persons who in Protestant countries believe in the Bible as a Divine revelation has decreased enormously during the present century. . . . To come nearer home, the organ of the Lutheran Church in Japan, a magazine which maintained that the Bible is a Revelation, has been discontinued because

no suitable editor could be found who is prepared to defend such a theory. The fashionable theory among Protestants is that Christianity is a philosophy. You cannot have a religion unless you have some authority to which to appeal. We appeal to the Church. To this Luther objected, and taught men to appeal to the Bible instead, leaving them to interpret it as they please. This has ended in many cases in there being no Bible revelation left. If Luther could rise from the dead and see the use to which his doctrine has been put he would not be a little surprised. To believe the Bible to be the word of God, this is religion, but Protestantism, only regards it as a text-book of philosophy, and hence cannot be called a religion.

* * *

The vicissitudes of fortune which have marked current literature in Japan during the past twelve months have been specially manifest in Buddhist periodicals. No. 146 of the *Bukkyō* gives a list of magazines that have become defunct during the year; which we transcribe as follows:—The *Kyōkai Jigen*, the *Narita Shūin*, the *Hōshu Shūin*, the *Hana no Sono o*, the *Minoru no Haha* (A woman's organ), the *Mikuni no Hikari*, the *Shakai Hyōron*, the *Nori no Ame*, the *Katei Shimbun* and the *Tokiwa*. Some of these had only been running for a few months when they were discontinued, while others were old established organs. The *Shakai Hyōron* was suppressed by the Authorities.

On January 1st two new magazines appeared: the *Kokumin Dōmei kai* and the *Seikyō Jihō*. The *Hansei Zasshi* changed its name to the *Chūō-Kōron*. The Buddhist magazines of importance still in existence are:—The *Shōrai* [松嶺], the *Zengaku* (the organ of the Zen Sect); the *Kyōron* (the *Sotō Shū* organ); the *Myōshū*; the *Tōkō*, the *Shūsui Hōwa* and the *Shiun*. The principal books that the Buddhists published during last year are:—Mr. Anezaki's "History of Indian Buddhism;" Mr. Murakami's "History of Japanese Buddhism," and "Japanese and Chinese Buddhist Chronicles," and Dr. Inouye Enryō's "Refutation of Materialism," and "Indian Philosophy."

At the 17th meeting of the Hikaku Shūkyō Gakkai (Comparative Religion Society) held a few weeks ago, the various derivations of the Japanese word *Kami* (God) were discussed. The derivations which have found supporters are no less than 10 in number as follow:—

(1).—*Kami* is alleged to be a contraction of *Kangami* or *Kagami*, a mirror, and is said to be applied to Divinity, because He clearly reflects nature. This derivation is not old. Arguments drawn from Buddhist and Confucianist applications of the term are given by those who support this etymology.

(2).—*Kami* is explained to be the one who is 形上 *Keijō*, above all form, that is one who transcends all physical nature.

(3).—Another explanation makes the term to be equivalent to 上, above, only; God being regarded as "The Most High," the title He bears in other countries.

(4).—The word is said to be an abbreviation of 明見 *Akami*; the idea being that all things are manifest to God. He is the all-seeing one.

(5).—The word is derived from *Kashikomi*, reverence, awe, say some; and thus

* Literally, "The roaring of wind through pine-trees."

the Supreme Being is described as the chief object of reverence.

(6).—There are those who maintain that the characters 幽冥 *Yūmei* should be used for God, which are sometimes pronounced *Kami*, and bear the meaning of the Land of Shades, or the other world, and may have been applied to God as the ruler of that world.

(7) Others there are who would make out that *Kami* is a contraction of *Kakushi-mi* 隠身, and describes God as the one who hides Himself. But this, as was pointed out at the meeting, is a very forced analogy.

(8).—A very old derivation of the word *Kami* makes it to be a variation of the word *Kabi*, written 葦牙, and it is said to refer to the generation of a principle or a being during the time of the chaos that preceded the dividing of Heaven from earth and the separation of the male and female principles. This word has been divided up by Hirata Atsutane; the first syllable *ka* being explained to mean *kare*, and the second, *bi*, to be equivalent to *reimyō*, beautiful, but all this was pronounced fanciful at the meeting.

(9).—By others *Kami* is said to be derived from the *ka* of *Kasuka* (幽) indistinct and the *mi* of *mitsuru* (満) the idea being that, though invisible to human eyes "in Him all fulness dwells." This, too, was pronounced to be unconvincing.

(10).—The last etymology noticed was that which makes *Kami* to be a provincial rendering of *Kimi*, lord or master. The meeting was unable to come to any decision as to the derivation which is best supported.

* * *

Mr. Kimura Takatarō, the Nippon Shugi zealot, has published a book on the Government's recognition of Christianity entitled *Yesukyō Kōnin Kahi* (可否) *ron*, in which he has said all that is possible against Christianity generally, even quoting what Byron and other authors have written concerning its disfigurements and imperfections, and contending that such a creed should never be publicly recognised in Japan. This book is designed to prepare the minds of the unwary for the terrible ordeal through which they will have to pass during the latter half of this year.

Throughout the whole of the religious world, says the *Rikugō Zasshi*, there is a commotion over this question of the public recognition of Christianity. From every point of view this agitation is very silly. The truth of a religion does not depend on its being acknowledged by the State. Government recognition of Christianity could not in any way affect the hold that Buddhism and Shintō have on devout minds. The whole thing resolves itself into the raising of a false issue. Religions are to be tested by their general effect on the minds of people who are free to accept or reject them as they please, and confidence in a creed solely on account of Government recognition or antagonism to it on account of its not being publicly recognised are equally foolish. The persons who wait for State leading before they move in religious matters are a set of weaklings that are not worth the consideration of ardent propagandists, says the *Rikugō*.

Viscount Watanabe, formerly Minister of Finance, who is quite an authority on Buddhism, in the pages of the *Tenchi-jin* discusses in a concise and pointed manner

the merits and demerits of both Confucianism and Buddhism. No student of history can fail to see how numerous are the ways in which Japanese civilisation in by-gone days was assisted by the two creeds. But at the same time there are states of mind which originated with one or other of these systems that have been a serious drawback to the nation. To cite two noted instances: Buddhism has always taught men to despise the world in which they live and Confucianism has ever preached the doctrine of submission. The first doctrine has led some of the best men to regard with perfect indifference the conduct of public affairs. The second has produced servility and even effeminacy. There is little doubt that had the warlike spirit and military ambition which characterised the Japanese of Hideyoshi's time and the ages that preceded it been more fully developed, Japan's empire in the East to-day would be twice the size it is now. The spirit of enterprise that characterised our ancestors in the days of the Taikō, says Viscount Watanabe, was gradually crushed out of their descendants under the grinding despotism of the Tokugawa rule. It was under the last dynasty of Shōguns that both Buddhism and Confucianism were utilised to the utmost to teach submission. Under this régime the nation lost all the ambition that characterised it at an earlier period; to keep what it had was all it aimed at.

* * *

The Rev. Dr. Motoda Sakunoshi, in No. 13 of the *Shinseiki*, discusses the subject of Church Ceremonies. He is of opinion that many Japanese protestant churches err in the direction of having too little ceremony. As regards Church architecture in Japan, it is, says Dr. Motoda, of the most nondescript kind. There are churches that are like police offices, and churches that are like coach-hiring establishments, and churches that are like fire-engine sheds. These buildings are only known by the notices that are placed in front of them. The interior of the buildings is no better than their exterior. They resemble lecture halls rather than places of worship. There is not the slightest doubt that a feeling of awe and reverence is generated in most breasts by the interior beauty of the magnificent structures in which men and women worship God in Western countries. In some Japanese churches before the service commences there is talking, tea-drinking, cake-eating and even, on certain occasions, games. Thus the Church is turned into a kind of theatre. Dr. Motoda, being an Episcopalian, argues in favour of written prayers being used. He says that the objections which are urged against written prayers may be urged with equal force against extempore prayer. It is said that there is no life or spirit in written prayers. But this must depend on the persons who use them. At any rate there is a safeguard in these carefully thought out and reverently worded supplications against the flippancy and familiarity with which many Japanese are in the habit of addressing the Almighty. Some of the prayers, says Dr. Motoda, which I have heard, sounded as if addressed to the audience rather than to God.* On the whole there is far more insincerity and unreality about

* We ourselves once heard an aged Christian invoke the Almighty that the worshippers whose mouth-piece he was, had met that afternoon at half past two.—[Writer of the Summary.]

extempore prayer than about written forms. It is absurd to suppose that even in Churches where the pastor is expected to invent a prayer every week there are no forms. Every pastor has his own forms. His prayers are the product of one mind and not, as in the case of the written forms that have come down from antiquity, the product of many of the most devout minds. Dr. Motoda advocates the use of Church almanacks and dwells on the importance of developing musical talent and taste in Japan and of making music play the part in Japanese Churches which it plays in the West.

In the German Church organ, the *Shinri*, No. 109, the Rev. E. Schiller publishes his 4th article, on "Japanese Christianity," which, though full of interest, is too long to be noticed in this Summary. In the same number the Rev. H. Minami contends that a new Japanese translation of the Bible is needed. He says that just as in Germany the constant progress of thought and the better understanding of the scriptures have resulted in the publication of new translations by noted scholars, so in Japan Christians should not rest content with a translation that was prepared 20 years ago. Some seven or eight years ago there was a talk about undertaking a new translation, but at present there is no interest in the subject evinced anywhere. Rare listlessness, says Mr. Minami, on the part of the Christians who are always telling us that the Bible is the word of God. The present translation is in many parts most defective. Then the New Testament not being translated by one person, contains all sorts of styles and lacks unity. Mr. Minami goes on to inform his readers that he has himself translated the Epistle to the Romans, parts of which he quotes in the Magazine as a specimen of the style he thinks it desirable should be adopted. He further observes that a good translation of the Bible at the present time would doubtless help largely to settle that much discussed question, how far is it desirable that the written and spoken languages should be blended?

THE LATE MR. KLEINWORT.

The respect in which the late Mr. Kleinwort was held, and the sympathy aroused by the melancholy circumstances of his death, were shown by the large attendance at the funeral, which took place at Yokohama Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon. His untimely death occurred between Ashinoya and Hakone on Sunday. Mr. Kleinwort, who was holiday-making with some friends, felt unwell, and obtained a glass of water at a Japanese house. He then resumed his walk, but, becoming worse, sat down by the road side, and expired in a minute or two. He had been in poor health for some time. Mr. Kleinwort was born at the big German manufacturing town of Sietlin, and came out to Japan some twenty-one years ago. In Yokohama and Kobe he was well-known and liked by English and Germans, and his loss is greatly felt. His wife and children have been staying in England, and deceased recently telegraphed to hasten their depart for Japan, as he felt his health was not satisfactory. The funeral service, which took place in most inclement weather, was conducted by the Rev. M. Haas, who spoke eulogistically on the character of the deceased. A number of beautiful wreaths, many from Japanese, were sent, and the pall bearers were Messrs. Weinberger, Wismer, Bergmann, Luther, Alton, and Popp (of Kobe).

CORRESPONDENCE.

MORAL STANDARDS OF EAST AND WEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My duties as a missionary require me to travel quite a little in Miyagi Ken. In the course of this travel I frequently visit two towns each of about 10,000 population. They are quiet inland places, each being the centre of a *Gun*. The opinions of my Japanese friends and my personal judgment based upon some little observation place these towns upon a plane of at least average respectability as life in Japan goes. Yet in one of these towns there are two and in the other three establishments of infamy, the average number of inmates of each of these houses being somewhere between twenty and forty,—not including a large number of young girls who manifestly are in training for lives of infamy. These houses are all fronting on the principal streets and in at least some of them there is a good view of the inmates to be had every evening by whoever passes along the street.

My duties of travel also require me to lodge frequently in some of the best hotels of Miyagi Ken. I will not sully your pages with any descriptions of the foul proposals and indirect incitements to sin that have been made to me on several occasions in these hotels. The fact that these people know that my special calling among them was to proclaim repentance, the forgiveness of sins, and power of a holy life, was no protection from all this rottenness.

The considerable survivals of phallicism which are to be found in this Ken and the hold which that cult still has on many of the people are also indexes of moral conditions to one who has investigated the subject.

I am a native American and in my own country frequently lodged in hotels, but was never approached with immoral suggestions. I am also well acquainted with a considerable number of American towns of various sizes and in none of them is there anything which can in any way be compared to the moral conditions of the towns I have referred to above.

The editor of the *Mail* has referred to New York City in making comparisons, but is he not aware of the fact that the majority of the population of that city are not Americans but a conglomerate of the worst elements of the populations of various European countries?

Sincerely yours, E. C. FRY.

Sendai, March 22, 1899.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your Weekly Edition of the 18th inst. appears a letter over the signature of "A Lover of Fair Play" which is such a bundle of misrepresentations that it deserves and shall receive from me no further notice.

M. L. GORDON.

Kyoto, March 29th, 1899.

ENDOWED OCCIDENTAL THEOLOGY AND JAPANESE CHRISTIANITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Now that the Japanese Trustees of the Doshisha have retired from the false position they occupied and have handed over the control of the institution to the American Board and its nominees and friends, it is an opportune moment for discussing one or two interesting aspects of the conflict that has been carried on for many months, if we may not say many years, between the representatives of the orthodoxy professed by the Congregationalists of America and the free-thinking section of the Japanese Christian Church. It is quite evident that there has been a huge misunderstanding between the parties. Accustomed to the idea of endowed Theology, not free to preach anything not specified in the conditions of endowment, the Missionaries of the American Board have naturally been averse to allowing Japanese Christians to teach what they please, to permitting them to overhaul the

orthodox creed of the Congregationalists as they would a parcel of merchandise offered for sale, selecting and rejecting at will. The Japanese Christians, on the other hand, having little experience of the ways of the home Churches, deeming it conceivable that the miracles said to have been performed by Christ and his disciples rank little higher than the miracles ascribed to other religious teachers, holding that the doctrines of the Divinity of Christ, eternal punishment, original sin, &c., have been scientifically shown to be untenable, but still valuing beyond all else in the world the moral teaching of Christ, have ventured to think that they might be allowed by the missionaries to make a creed for themselves. The position that the liberal-minded Christians have assumed *vis à vis* the American Board may be thus stated:—"You shall not dictate our creed to us. You don't claim infallibility. You can think as you please, worship as you please, and interpret the Bible as you please. But give us the same liberty." Had some few of the advanced thinkers among the American Board missionaries been free from home control and influence, had they been able to shake off the thralldom of our Occidental system of perpetuating special dogmas by paying men to teach them exclusively, they would undoubtedly have granted to the Japanese Churches the liberty they asked for and been content to fall back on the motto, "Great is truth and she will prevail." But there is no man less free to choose what shall be taught or believed than the Christian missionary. He has to choose between strict loyalty to the creed of his sect or expulsion. There is no other alternative.

Of course this doctrine-endowing system of ours, so strikingly illustrated by the action of the American Board during the past two years, is pernicious to a degree that it is impossible to exaggerate. As was pointed out by Professor Huxley in the pages of the *Nineteenth Century* ten years ago, no surer method of preventing inquiry and no greater stimulus to insincerity could have been devised. In a series of striking articles Professor Huxley maintained that his rejection of supernaturalism was fully justified by the writings of "scholars and theologians of the highest repute in the only two countries, Holland and Germany, in which at the present time, professors of theology are to be found whose tenure of their posts does not depend upon the results to which their inquiries lead them." He then goes on to say "Imagine that all our chairs of astronomy had been founded in the fourteenth century, and their incumbents were bound to sign Ptolemaic articles. In that case, with every respect for the efforts of persons thus hampered, to attain and expound the truth, I think men of common-sense would go elsewhere to learn astronomy." "Hence the serious question is," continued the Professor, "whether theological men of science (German and Dutch) or theological special pleaders are to have the confidence of the general public." It is not only the occupiers of Chairs of Divinity at Universities that are required to echo the Shibboleths of their sects or give up their perquisites, but every Minister of the Gospel all the world over is no otherwise situated. Now the Japanese don't understand this system, at least a great many of them do not. I for one sympathise with them in their difficulty, and see quite plainly how their embarrassment was caused in the case which forms the basis of these remarks. Among Protestant bodies, excepting the Unitarians and the German Churches established by Mr. Spinner and his successors, there is no Church that allows so much liberty of thought and action as the Congregationalists. Their Kumiai Churches, in consequence of this, are somewhat of an eyesore to more orthodox Protestants, as has been stated in these columns by Japanese writers quoted in the Summaries of the Religions Press. The Congregationalists undoubtedly possess a fine set of men, but many of their very best men, if their published statements are to be relied on, regard with perfect indifference certain important articles of the Congregationalist creed.*

* Vide Mr. Oshikawa's remark on the Divinity

Even a man like Mr. Nijima, whose orthodoxy seems to have satisfied the foreign missionaries, evidently winked at heterodoxy in his brethren, as is shown by the public statement made by Mr. Tokutomi Ichirō, quoted in the Religious Summary that appeared in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of Feb. 18th. "In 1881," says Mr. Tokutomi, "I told Mr. Nijima that I was unable to accept certain articles of the Christian Creed and asked him to strike my name off the roll of members of the Church. My belief had not altered in 1890 when I was asked to become a trustee of the Dōshisha. This fact was known to Mr. Nijima." So here we have this champion of Occidental Congregational orthodoxy putting a heretic on the Board of Trustees of the institution that was intended to be a bulwark of respectable American Christianity. It amounts to this, there has been a large amount of trimming and make-believe all around. The Board missionaries have had to satisfy the Board at home while being anxious at the same time not to alienate their best men out here. Their position has been illogical throughout.

The whole Dōshisha experiment was bound to be a failure; as many discerning foreigners and Japanese foresaw. The Board, as they have conclusively proved, never intended to endow any kind of doctrine that chose to call itself Christian, but only the doctrine embodied in the creed of American Congregationalists. This for a very long time the Japanese failed to understand. Why? Because, though for years there were heterodox teachers connected with the Dōshisha, the Board took no steps to bring things to a crisis. Why did they wait so long? Because they were not urged to act by the men on the spot, who, though they had got into a mess, were naturally anxious to get out of it without exposing the weakness and inconsistency of the whole scheme. The final action taken by the Board was regarded with considerable alarm by missionaries who were anxious to preserve the respectable appearance of the gigantic affair. Many outsiders saw that inquiry would lead to a smash up of the whole concern, which was no other than a big speculation, as has been pointed out by several Japanese writers. But some of the Board missionaries were quite angry when it was predicted in these columns that the consequences of the investigation by the Representatives of the Board would be serious. This is human nature. We all hide our weaknesses and object to have our failures blazoned before the world. But the point I want to make is this. The uncertainty and vacillation of the Board missionaries in Japan through a series of years in their dealings with the Japanese heads of the institution was the real cause of the misunderstanding that occurred. On any other theory, it is not for a moment conceivable that a number of well-educated, intelligent Japanese such as constituted the late Board of Trustees should, in some cases through a series of years, be impressed with the idea that their connection with the American Board in no way robbed them of the right to decide on the fundamental principles which should control the institution. The years of indifference to heterodoxy within the precincts of the institution shown by the Board missionaries was undoubtedly the real cause of the failure of well-meaning and highly conscientious Japanese to see that in the last resort the Board would fight to the death for the right to endow their theological dogmas and would resent any attempt to misappropriate the endowment fund. The missionaries no doubt disagreed among themselves as to what ought to be done, and affairs were allowed to drift till certain alarming letters aroused the grave old men who sit on the Board at home and induced them to rely on the conflicting reports of the missionaries no longer, but to send out a special Commission of Inquiry, which was the beginning of the end.

The whole question is bound up with a wider subject, the future of Japanese Christianity. There is a large body of Christians which is anxious to perpetuate all that is best in original Christianity without any of the accretions of Christ quoted in the Summary of the Religious Press in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of March 18th,

after ages. The missionaries must either leave their Societies, or Boards, or disconnect themselves with these Christians. In many cases I venture to think that either course would be regarded with repugnance. The free-thinking Japanese Christians, such, for instance, as Mr. Minami, of the German Church, after reading all that the Germans and others have said against orthodox doctrine, have deliberately and conscientiously rejected it. They rightly think that where Protestantism differs from Roman Catholicism is in the authority it gives to reason as a means of discovering truth. They have followed the lead of reason and it has led them to regions that are far removed from the haunts of typical Occidental Christians. What can the Protestant missionary logically say to this? He dare not say, "you have no business to reason, Christian belief and reasoning are incompatible." If this is the situation with the ordinary Protestant Christian, it is very much more so with the Congregationalist, who extols reason more than his fellows. The Japanese are quite shrewd enough to see that, the infallibility of Churches being totally denied, and it being recognised that articles of belief have been revised over and over again as knowledge advances, no Church and no number of Churches can logically claim the right to dictate to other churches what they shall accept and what reject. "If," say the Japanese, "we can agree among ourselves what we want, that is all that is required. Whether Occidentals condemn us or approve of us is a matter of no moment. We are a thinking, educated people accepting Christianity in the Nine century Century for the first time, after carefully reading all that has to be said against it. The dogmas that have been the growth of ages in the West, which satisfied minds cast in special moulds and unenlightened by modern influences, are not to be saddled on us. Nothing will induce us to subscribe to your 39 Articles, your Westminster Catechism, or other formulae. What is to us credible, if supported by evidence, we accept. The rest we reject. And who shall say us, nay?"

"Take back your Dōshisha," say the old Trustees in spirit, if not in words. "Run it on your Occidental orthodox line; insist on the teaching of things that you think fundamental, and we do not. In the meantime we will follow a more excellent way. We will move with the times and will teach both by precept and example all that is best in Christianity without pretending that we believe the childish superstitions which mar the beauty of an otherwise matchless creed." Apologising for the length of this letter.

I am, yours, &c.,
March 23rd, 1899.

OBSERVER.

MAILS FOR THE SOUTH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—I beg to announce through your columns that a daily despatch from this office to Kobe (usually by noon train, but altered, if necessary, on mail days) for conveyance of mails for Hongkong, India, Australia, etc., is now opened. Mail matters for said destinations will hereafter be forwarded to Kobe only, and not to Yokohama.

European mails per P. & O., M.M., and N. D. Lloyd steamers will also be transmitted *via* Kobe, their times of closing being fixed accordingly.

Yours truly,

M. DOI,
Director of Tokyo Post and
Telegraph Office.

Tokyo, March 31st, 1899.

Rear-Admiral Schley was deputed to escort the remains of Lord Herschel from America to England on board the U.S.S. *Brooklyn*, but before the order could be conveyed to him, the British Government had directed the cruiser *Talbot* to bring home the body. Queen Victoria has telegraphed her thanks and the thanks of Great Britain for the courtesy and sympathy of the American Government and people.

LAW CONCERNING NATIONALITY.

TRANSLATED BY DR. L. LÖNNHOLM.

Art. I.—A child is a Japanese subject, if the father is a Japanese subject at the time of the child's birth, or, in case he died before the child's birth, if he was a Japanese subject at the time of his death.

Art. II.—If the father before the birth of the child loses his Japanese nationality by divorce or by a dissolution of adoption, the provisions of the preceding article apply with relation back to the beginning of the pregnancy.

These provisions do not apply if both parents quit the house together, unless the mother returns to the house before the birth of the child.

Art. III.—When the father is unknown or has no nationality, the child is a Japanese subject, if the mother is such.

Art. IV.—If both parents of a child born in Japan are unknown or have no nationality, the child is a Japanese subject.

Art. V.—An alien acquires Japanese nationality in the following cases:—

1. By becoming the wife of a Japanese subject.
2. By becoming *nyūfu** of a Japanese subject.
3. By being acknowledged by his father or mother, who is a Japanese subject.
4. By adoption by a Japanese subject.
5. By naturalization.

Art. IV.—The requisites for an alien's acquiring Japanese nationality by acknowledgment are as follows:—

1. The child must be a minor according to the law of his nationality.
2. The child must not be the wife of an alien.
3. The parent who first acknowledges the child must be a Japanese subject.
4. If both parents acknowledge the child at the same time, the father must be a Japanese subject.

Art. VII.—An alien may be naturalized by permission of the Minister of the Home Department.

Such permission can be granted only on the following conditions:—

1. The alien must have had his domicile in Japan for five consecutive years.
2. He must be at least twenty years old and a person of full capacity by the law of his nationality.
3. He must be a person of honest behaviour.
4. He must have either property or working ability sufficient for an independent livelihood.
5. He must have no nationality or must lose his nationality on acquiring Japanese nationality.

Art. VIII.—A wife of an alien can be naturalized only together with her husband.

Art. IX.—An alien who has his domicile in Japan at the time can be naturalized even though the condition specified in Art. VII., clause 1 does not exist, in the following cases:—

1. If one of his parents has been a Japanese subject.
2. If his wife has been a Japanese subject.
3. If he was born in Japan.
4. If he has resided in Japan for ten consecutive years.

The persons mentioned under clauses 1-3 can be naturalized only if they have resided in Japan for three consecutive years; but this does not apply if a parent of a person mentioned under clause 3 was born in Japan.

Art. X.—If a parent of an alien is a Japanese subject, and such alien has his domicile at the time in Japan, he may be naturalized even though the conditions specified in Art. VII., clause 2, clauses 1, 2 and 4 do not exist.

Art. XI.—The Minister of the Home Department may with the sanction of the Emperor permit the naturalization of an alien who has done specially meritorious services to Japan, without regard to the provisions of Art. VII., clause 2.

* *Nyūfu* 入夫 is a man who marries a woman being the head of a house and thereby enters her house.

Art. XII.—A naturalization permit must be published in the *Official Gazette*.

A naturalization can be set up against third persons acting in good faith only after such publication has been made.

Art. XIII.—The wife of a person who acquires Japanese nationality acquires it together with her husband.

These provisions do not apply, if the law of the wife's nationality provides to the contrary.

Art. XIV.—If the wife of a person who has acquired Japanese nationality did not herself acquire it according to the provisions of the preceding articles, she may be naturalized even though the conditions specified in Art. VII., clause 2 do not exist in her case.

Art. XV.—A child of a person who acquires Japanese nationality acquires it together with the parent, if the child is a minor according to the law of his nationality.

This provision does not apply if the law of the child's nationality provides to the contrary.

Art. XVI.—A person naturalized, a person who, as being the child of a naturalized person, has acquired Japanese nationality, or a person who has become the adopted child or the *nyūfu* of a Japanese subject, has not the following rights:—

1. The right to become a Minister of State.
2. The right to become president, vice president, or councillor of the Privy Council.
3. The right to hold the position of a *Chokunin* official of the Imperial Household.
4. The right to become a Minister Plenipotentiary.
5. The right to hold the position of a General or Admiral.
6. The right to become president of the Supreme Court, the Board of Audit, or of the Administrative Litigation Court.
7. The right to become a member of the Imperial Diet.

Art. XVII.—The Minister of the Home Department with the sanction of the Emperor may except from the restrictions of the preceding article a person having been naturalized under the provisions of Art. XI. after five years, or any other person after ten years from the time when he acquired Japanese nationality.

Art. XVIII.—A Japanese woman who marries an alien loses thereby her nationality.

Art. XIX.—A person who by marriage or adoption has acquired Japanese nationality loses it on divorce or the dissolution of the adoption only in case he is to recover his foreign nationality.

Art. XX.—A person who voluntarily acquires a foreign nationality loses thereby his Japanese nationality.

Art. XXI.—If the wife or child of a person who has lost his Japanese nationality acquires the nationality of the husband or parent, she or he loses the Japanese nationality.

Art. XXII.—The provisions of the preceding article do not apply to the wife or child of a person who lost Japanese nationality by divorce or the dissolution of adoption, unless the wife, in case of the dissolution of adoption of her husband, does not procure a divorce, or the child quits the house following the father.

Art. XXIII.—If a child who is a Japanese subject acquires by acknowledgment a foreign nationality, he loses his Japanese nationality. This provision, however, does not apply to a person who has become the wife, the *nyūfu*, or the adopted child of a Japanese subject.

Art. XXIV.—Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding five articles, a male person of the age of seventeen years or upwards cannot lose his Japanese nationality, unless he has already performed his service in the army or navy or is not bound to perform such service.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding six articles a person who holds at the time a civil or military position cannot lose his Japanese nationality unless after he has lost such position.

Art. XXV.—A person who, having lost Japanese nationality by marriage, after the dissolution of such marriage has his domicile in Japan,

may, by the permission of the Minister of the Home Department, recover Japanese nationality. But this provision does not apply when any of the persons mentioned in Art. XVI. has lost Japanese nationality.

Art. XXVII.—The provisions of Arts. XIII., XV. apply correspondingly in the cases mentioned in the preceding two articles.

ADDITIONAL PROVISION.

Art. XXVIII.—This law takes effect from the first day of the fourth month of the 32nd year of Meiji.

JAPAN CONFERENCE OF THE M. E. CHURCH.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29TH.—The sixteenth of the Japan Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church opened at Aoyama Tokyo, in Goucher Hall at nine o'clock on Wednesday morning, March 29th, with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, conducted by Bishop Earl Cranston, D.D., LL.D. At the conclusion of this ceremony the Bishop made an impressive address, referring most feelingly to the accidental death of Miss M. E. Simon in Yokohama and of Mrs. Alexander in Hiogo, by fire.

The Conference was organized by Rev. J. Soper, D.D., English Secretary, and Rev. Kawaumi, Japanese Secretary, Rev. C. W. Huatt, Statistical Secretary and Treasurer, and the appointment of the usual Standing Committees. Miss J. S. Vail was requested to act as organist.

The half hour from 10.30 to 11 a.m. was arranged for the introduction of visitors and reception of fraternal delegates. The Rev. Mr. Hara was introduced and spoke on behalf of his work for prisoners. The reports of the presiding elders of the Nagoya and Sapporo districts (Revs. D. S. Spencer and C. Bishop) were read and the character of the presiding elders and each elder in these districts was passed.

The afternoon session was giving up to collecting statistics and reports of money raised by each charge for missions, &c. Monday morning, April 3rd was fixed for the election of a delegate to the General Conference.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30TH.—Second day of Conference. The devotional exercises were led by the Rev. Mr. Kawaumi. Bishop Cranston, at the opening of the business session, referred in feeling terms to the death of Rev. A. J. Kynett, D.D., Secretary of the Church Extension Society of the M. E. Church, which occurred suddenly while he was attending an anti-saloon convention in Harrisburg, Pa. The Church Extension Society was due largely to the efforts of Dr. Kynett, and he was a leading worker in the temperance movement. In the death of Dr. Kynett the Church has lost a most able organizer and leader. The report of the presiding elder of the Hakodate district was read, and showed excellent work accomplished during the past year. The Bishop remarked that some of these Brethren had been making in warm in that cold country. Rev. Ishizaki, presiding elder of the Sendai district, read his report, and was highly commended by the Bishop. Mr. J. L. Cowen, Treasurer of the Japan Mission, and Book Agent, was then introduced to the Conference.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31ST.—Mr. Mitani led the devotional exercises. The Committee reported the examinations of the candidates for admission to Conference. At this point the Bishop said:—I think we have come to the most important work of the Conference. In every conference there are some men who cannot be appointed satisfactorily to themselves and the people. The place to correct this evil is at the entrance to the Conference.

Dr. W. N. Whitney was introduced and spoke on behalf of the Scripture Union. The laymen from the Lay Electoral Conference were presented. When Dr. M. Takaki, lay delegate to the General Conference, was introduced the Bishop remarked, "Here is all

there is of the General Conference of 1900." Dr. Takaki, lay delegate, is the first to be elected. He is a graduate of the Anyama Gakuin, was the first to be graduated from that school, is an alumnus of Syracuse University, and of Johns Hopkins University, U.S.A., and at present occupies the position of lecturer in the Imperial University, Tokyo, and Aoyama Gakuin.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST.—A large part of the business session was taken up in discussing the question of what to do with a probationer in the conference who was accused of smoking tobacco. The M.E. church requires that all its preachers shall not use tobacco in any form, and any infraction of this rule makes the person liable to trial. A class of three was presented for admission to Conference. The Bishop addressed this class, and among many good things said:—"You are to be faithful and loyal to your country. You have duties to your country that only God can absolve you from. Our Church is not in Japan to create sedition. You expect protection from the Government in the exercise of religious freedom and you are to be faithful in your obedience to the laws. If you cannot love or persuade those of other religions from their errors you must let them alone. Remember how patient the Master has been with you. You should first know and then keep the law of your own Church. There is one peril that is before you, the failure to realize the sacredness of an obligation. The meaning of this consecration is clear. These men certainly have not come here to receive more pay than they would receive in other callings. You are not to institute new church laws, nor to establish a new church, but you come here to say that we like your church and are satisfied with your discipline. We have a right to expect that these men will be faithful to those who have trusted them; and we have a right to expect that a few extra dollars will not bribe them away."

In the afternoon a large part of the Conference and the ladies went to Shinjuku for a picnic, while the Bishop and Presiding Elders remained to wrestle with the appointments. Rev. Mr. Yaman, an evangelist of the M.E. church, held a meeting on Friday afternoon.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND.—All the services of the Conference on Sunday were instructive and deeply interesting. The weather was most beautiful, and a large audience gathered at 9 a.m. to attend the Love Feast, and by 10 o'clock the hall was well filled. Bishop Earl Cranston, D.D., LL.D., preached a strong sermon on the credibility of the great fact of Christianity, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Rev. T. Ukai, pastor of the Ginza Church, interpreted this sermon.

At 2 p.m. the Ordination services were held, and Bishop Cranston ordained those who had been elected to Deacon's and Elder's offices. The memorial service in charge of Rev. B. Chappel was very impressive. Miss Dickerson read a memorial of Miss M. E. Symons, in English, and Rev. Kawaumi spoke in Japanese. Miss Otto read a memorial of Mrs. Alexander, in English, and Rev. Mr. Nakada spoke in Japanese. The exercises of the day closed with a Missionary sermon by Rev. S. Kurimura, followed by a Revival service.

A SHOCKING CRIME.

Just after 4 a.m. on Monday, Ichibara Kinzaburo, aged 62, a retainer of Marquis Ikeda, ex-Daimyo of Okayama, murdered Nakamura Hagi, chief steward to the Marquis, and his adopted son Asao, and then committed suicide after setting fire to the victims' house. Mr. Nakamura's residence stood near Meguro Station, and was built only three years ago. It was a spacious and pretty building with beautiful garden plots and pine trees surrounding it. It was occupied by four persons, Mr. Nakamura himself, his aged mother, his adopted son, and his wife. Mr. Nakamura, who had made it a habit to get up early in the morning and to assist in the domestic work was engaged in the kitchen

† Kunai Chokunin Kwan.

with his son on the morning in question, when Ichihara, attired in foreign dress, with an antiquated hat, and carrying a rifle under his arm, came and pushed open the *shoji* of the porch. After enquiring where the master was, he went round to the kitchen, and shot Nakamura in his shoulder. The latter fell, and the murderer attacked him with a sword and inflicted mortal wounds on the head of the victim, who had attempted to run out of the room. Nakamura's adopted son attacked the murderer, but the latter wounded him first in the left hand and then in the right, and lastly ran him through the chest. He then tore the *shoji* out of their places, heaped them on a *hibachi*, and set fire to them, afterwards cutting his own throat with the sword, and also shooting himself with the rifle. The parties had been on bad terms for some time, and Ichihara is supposed to have been specially annoyed by the steward's conduct the other day at a meeting of retainers held in connection with the marriage of their master's daughter.

CHINA NOTES.

Owing to the dangerous state of affairs in Kansu, due to Mahomedan unrest, orders have been sent by the Empress Dowager to Viceroy T'ao of Lanchow, authorising him to raise extra troops for defence and also informing him that large consignments of quick-firing field pieces and machine guns, will be sent at once to him sufficient to arm not only his levies but also all the Manchu garrisons at Hsining and elsewhere. One or two well-known lieutenants of Generals Tung Fu-hsiang and Chang Chiu will also be sent back to Kansu to take charge of the organising of the new troops and defence work generally in Kansu province.

The future Italian squadron on the China station is to consist of the *Amerigo Vesputti*, *Kiba*, *Etna*, *Marco Polo*, *Piemonte*, and *Stromboli*, flagship.

An island in the Mekong, partly under cultivation and with big trees on it, has entirely disappeared. The owner searched for it unsuccessfully for three or four days.

The provincial authorities in Soochow, says a Chinese paper, have decided to adopt foreign drills for the eight battalions of troops in that city and some of the German instructors formerly at Woosung have been engaged for that purpose.

The *Universal Gazette* states that the Suching Silk Filature in Soochow, under official management, has ceased working, owing to a difficulty with the Provincial Judge who imposed a tax of \$3 per picul on 300 piculs of cocoons bought by the Company, which the Directors strongly objected to pay. Negotiations are being made to bring about a compromise. The silk produced in this filature has been pronounced by foreign experts to be the best turned out in Soochow but owing to heavy expenses the Company has not been able to realise any profit.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Kobe Choral Society will give Sterndale Bennett's pretty pastoral, "The May Queen" at the Gymnasium theatre on April 11th.

The Communications Department recently offered prizes for the best design for letter boxes. The first prize was 100 yen, and over 200 designs with illustrations were received. As the result of the examination the first prize was awarded to Mr. Wada Tamotan, of Azabu, Tokyo, whose apparatus combines the advantages of simplicity, strength, and cheapness.

The Japanese Minister and Madame Kato intend to leave the Japanese Legation about the middle of April on their return to Japan. They will be accompanied by Madame Kato's sister, Miss Iwasaki, who has been in England the last two years for educational purposes. The many

friends of both the Minister and his wife, says a home paper, will hope to see the one return to the post he has so ably filled on behalf of his Government, and the other to the social position she has gracefully filled, early next year. Mr. and Mrs. Kato proceed *via* America, and per Canadian Pacific steamer Vancouver to Japan.

A report has reached us of a disastrous collision between the steamers *Hokushin Maru* and *Kilami Maru* off Ofuyu Cape, in the province of Teshio, Hokkaido, early on the morning of the 30th ult. The *Hokushin* went down immediately with all hands, about 36, while the other vessel made for the shore as fast as she could. Some convicts and their guards who were on board the ill-fated steamer are supposed to have been all drowned.

The Superintendent of the Yokohama Police has issued an order that cyclists will not be allowed to ride round the road encircling the Cricket-ground for 15 days beginning April 1st, as the cherry-blossoms will attract such crowds of people to the park that bicycle riding would be dangerous to riders and pedestrians alike. Bicyclists must therefore dismount at the outer gates.

An Islington dog-show recently described itself in the advertising columns of a London paper as a "Colossal Canine Carnival commencing contemporaneously, comprising countless captivated Champion Canine Curiosities, contentedly couching, carefully curled, curiously clipped, creatures; complacently contemplating company congregated; charming costumes, cooking comestibles, cheerful comedians." Was there ever such a carefully concocted concatenation of consecutive "Ca"?

Yokohama appears to have been almost the centre of the earthquake which occurred on Wednesday about 1 p.m. The shake was a decidedly severe one, but fortunately no serious damage has been reported. The shock was apparently not felt over a wide area, for this morning's Japanese papers only contain telegrams from Matsugaki and Urawa, stating that the earthquake was severely felt there.

At a quarter to five this morning Supt. Morgan received an alarm of fire from Lot No. 31, Settlement. It was found that the interior of a two-storied stone godown belonging to Madame Maigre was in flames. The Brigade immediately broke the door open and began work from two hydrants. The police brigade soon followed using the other two hydrants and the fire was put down in two hours, but unfortunately the godown and contents were almost completely destroyed. It is understood the godown was insured for yen 1,200 and the contents for yen 13,000. The fire must have started last night, but the cause has not yet been ascertained.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF KOREA IN 1592.

By HOMER B. HULBERT, A.M.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

So far as the writer is aware, the following account of the Great Invasion is the first exhaustive one that has been attempted from purely Korean sources and from the Korean standpoint. It is to be expected that every country will colour its own history to suit itself. It will magnify its own graces and explain away its own faults. And yet it remains true that the history of such an invasion as this must be drawn from the accounts given by people who lived on the spot where the events took place, rather than from the accounts which the unsuccessful invaders took back with them to their own land. Nor will it be found that the Koreans have tried to excuse themselves for their inability to cope with the Japanese. Unstinted candour has been meted out to the cowardly and inefficient by their own historians. The account, as here compiled from a number of independent sources, which a long residence in Korea and the kindness of many Korean gentlemen have placed in the writer's hands, will go far to prove that the Korean is possessed of a fair amount of the historical instinct, if it may be so called. Plaus-

ibility is not necessarily a proof of accuracy or credibility, and yet we venture to say that the account here given carries on its face the evidence of a fair degree of both. I have not attempted to harmonize the Korean version with the Japanese. This will be found to be a purely Korean narrative. But it must be remembered that at the time when these events occurred Korea was immeasurably ahead of Japan in the matter of literary attainment and general culture, and it must not for a moment be supposed that the present relative status of the two countries can be taken as a gauge of the relative accuracy of their accounts of this great war.

Wherever possible I have given Japanese the names by which they are known to the Japanese but in some cases this has been impossible. In that case they are given their Chinese names. For instance Hideyoshi is commonly known to Koreans as P'yung Sung-il. In some cases where there is danger of ambiguity the Chinese characters are appended in a footnote.

H. B. H.

Sŏul, Korea, March 25, 1899.

CHAPTER I.

KING SUN JO TAKES THE THRONE—A MEMORABLE REIGN—REFORMS—NORTHERN INVASION—A PROPHECY—MOURNING COSTUME—RISE OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES—PARTY STRIFE—LITERATURE—BORDER WAR—CONDITION OF AFFAIRS IN KOREA—CHANGE OF EFFEMINACY UNTRUE—CONDITION OF JAPAN—JAPANESE ENVOY—HIDEYOSHI—HIS DEMANDS REFUSED—SECOND ENVOY—DELAY—KOREA'S CONDITION ACCESSED TO—RENEGADES EXECUTED—CONSPIRACY—A COWARD ENVOY—HIDEYOSHI'S ULTIMATUM—KOREA REFUSES TO COMPLY—TAIRANO—THE KING'S ANSWER TO HIDEYOSHI—THE KING INFORMS THE EMPEROR—PREPARATIONS FOR WAR—GENERALS COMMISSIONED.

In 1568, as King Kyoung-jong lay dying, his Queen summoned the officials in consult about the succession, but ere they arrived the King expired. They asked her to nominate a successor, and she named Prince Ha-song, a youth of seventeen, second cousin to the deceased King. He is known by his posthumous title, Sun-jo Soryung Taewang. The Queen who nominated him acted as regent until he should reach his majority.

This reign is perhaps the most memorable of any in this dynasty, for in it occurred the great Japanese invasion which brought the land to the verge of destruction, and which has ever since coloured the Korean conception of the Japanese.

The first years of the reign were spent in correcting the abuses brought about by "Little Yun" and in removing from office all those who had been connected in any way with him. The whole kingdom was canvassed for wise and scholarly men to put in the places of those who had been removed. Books intended for the instruction and elevation of the people were published and distributed far and wide.

The wild Ya-in across the Ya-lu were crossing that river and taking possession of fields in Korea proper, near the town of Kang-gŏ. The King sent a force under Gen. Kim Dong yang to dislodge them. The intruders were chased across the river and into a narrow defile, where they turned on their pursuers. Taken thus by surprise, the Korean forces were thrown into confusion and were put to flight, but not till after their general had fallen. A second expedition chased the intruders to their villages, and burned them out.

In the following year the Prime Minister Yi Jun-gyung died, but before he expired he gave voice to a prophecy which has become historic. He said:—"Since I have begun to examine men's minds I find that opposing factions will arise and that in their train great evils will follow. The King should studiously avoid showing favouritism to either of these factions. The first symptom of the rise of such factions should be met with stern resistance."

In the year 1572, the relations with the Japanese were as follows:—Since the seventh year of King Chung-jong, when the Japanese in the three ports revolted, there had been little communication between the two countries, but a few Japanese had been allowed to live in the three settlements by sufferance. But now the Japanese sent a friendly message asking that the old relations be resumed. The prefect of Fusan added his influence in favour of granting the request, and the Japanese were allowed to resume operations at Fusan alone, three $\frac{1}{2}$ below the prefecture, which means about half way down the bay from the present village of Fusan. From that time the former relations seem to have been renewed, but no envoys went from Korea to Japan. It was decreed by the Korean government that should a Japanese land anywhere upon the coast except at Fusan he should be dealt

with as a pirate. Officials were set to watch the Japanese and see to it that they did not overstep the strict regulations.

It had not been customary for the people to assume mourning on the death of a royal personage, but when the Queen Regent died in 1575 the custom was begun, and each citizen wore a white hat, belt, and shoes.

This year, 1575, was signalized by another event of far-reaching importance and one which exerted a powerful influence over all subsequent Korean history. It was the formation of the great political parties. At first there were only two, but soon they split into four, which are known as the No-ton, So-ton, Nam-in, and Pak-in. These mean "The Old Men's Party," "The Young Men's Party," "The Southerners," and "The Northerners." These terms are not at all descriptive of the composition of the various parties but arose from trivial circumstances. These parties have never represented any principles whatever. They have never had any "platforms," but have been, and are, simply political clans each bent upon securing the royal favour and the offices and emoluments that go therewith. The story of their rise shows how frivolous were the causes which called them into being, and the remainder of these annals will show how they have cursed the country.

During the palmy days of the odious "Little Yun" of the preceding reign, a man by the name of Sim Eui-gyun, happening to see a blanket in the reception room of the universally hated favourite, asked to whom it belonged. When he was told that it belonged to one Kim Hyo-wun, he exclaimed, "He is called a good man, but if so how can he sleep in the house of such a man as 'Little Yun'?" So he opposed this Kim with all his might, and was opposed by him in like manner. The matter grew into a family feud, and kept on increasing until at the time of which we are writing two hostile clans had arisen, the one called So-in, or "Westerners," because their leader lived in the western part of Sŏn. The other was at first called Tong-in, or "Easterners," perhaps because their leader lived in the eastern part of the city. The two men through whom the quarrel first arose had now left the field of active politics and the So-in and Tong-in parties were led respectively by Pak Sun and Ho Yop. It is said that from this time impartiality in the distribution of offices was a thing unknown in Korea. A So-in would help a So-in and a Tong-in would help a Tong-in, right or wrong.

The long fight was immediately begun. A slave in Whang-ha Province was accused of murder and was held in prison waiting the decision of Pak Sun, the leader of the party in power. He did not believe the man guilty, and delay followed. Ho Yop, the leader of the opposition, took advantage of this and accused his rival of neglect of duty. Then followed a running fire of charge and counter-charge between the leaders and between their partisans. The Tong-in, or So-ton, as they soon came to be called, won in this first encounter, and two of the opposing faction were banished. The Prime Minister urged that this fight was utterly useless, and would cause endless trouble. The King agreed and determined to stamp out the cause of the disturbance; so he banished the two men Kim and Sun, who had originated the factions. This had no effect, however, upon the now thoroughly organized parties, and affairs kept going from bad to worse.

In 1579 Pak Il-gol said to the King, "All the people have taken sides in this senseless war, and even though a man be a criminal there are plenty who will defend him. This means the ultimate destruction of the kingdom, and the King should act as a peacemaker between the factions." Others urged the same point before the King, but they were unaware that it was beyond the power of any King to lay the evil spirit of factional strife. In the fifteenth year of his reign the King threw himself into the cause of literature. He believed that neglect of the classics was the cause of the factional strife in his kingdom. He ordered the publication of the "Religion in the Mind," "Picture of the Good and Evil Will," and "The Legacy of Kim Si-seup." He called together a large company of scholars, and in company with them threw himself into the study of the classics.

The year 1583 beheld a fierce invasion on the part of the northern savages under Pan-ho. The prefecture of Kyŏng-wun, in Hamgyŏng Province, was taken by them, but Sil Yip, the prefect of O-ŭng, went to its succour, and, after a desperate fight before the town, broke the back of the invasion, drove the marauders back across the Tu-man and burned their villages.

A novel method was adopted for raising recruits for the army on the border. A law was made that sons of concubines, who had always been excluded from official position, might again become eligible by giving a certain amount of rice or by

going themselves and giving three years' time to border guard duty along the Ya-lu or Tu-man. Two chieftains, Yul Bo-ri and Yi T'ang-ga, advanced by separate roads upon Chŏng-sung with 10,000 mounted followers, but the little garrison of 100 men fought so stubbornly that the siege was raised and the two chieftains marched on to attack Pang-wun. Fortunately government troops arrived just in time to drive the invaders back.

The Minister of War was working faithfully, forwarding troops as fast as they could be got ready, but the opposition made charges against him on the ground of the neglect of some trifling technicalities, and he forthwith laid down his portfolio and retired in disgust. When the King asked the Prime Minister about it, that careful individual, fearing to compromise himself, would give no definite answer, and the King consequently said, "If my Prime Minister will not tell me the facts in the case it is time he retired," so he too lost his footing and fell from royal favour.

Having reached now the threshold of the great Japanese invasion of Korea, it will be necessary for us to pause and examine the state of affairs in Korea and Japan, and institute a comparison between them, in order to discover if possible the causes of Japan's early success and subsequent defeat.

Korea and Japan may be said to have been at two opposite poles. Beginning with Korea, we notice, first, that her relations with the Ming dynasty were eminently peaceful. Unlike the Mongols of an earlier date and the Manchus of a later date, the Mings did not have their origin in the north, and therefore were brought less into contact with Korea along her northern border. They belonged to Central China and were not a horde of brutal pillagers, as were the Mongols and Manchus. Hence it was that, so long as Korea was friendly and held her own way quietly, the Ming Emperors concerned themselves very little about her. To this day Korea looks back to the Ming dynasty as her true patron, and realizes that the Manchu supremacy is an alien one. Korea had been strongly unified by the statesmanship of the first Kings of the Chosŏn dynasty, the present one, and had been ruled so well, as a general thing, that there was no sense of insecurity and no particular fear from the outside, except such as arose from the occasional intrusion of a northern tribe or a piratical raid of a few boat-loads of Japanese. The only need of a standing army was to guard herself from such attacks. The arts of peace flourished, the country was peaceful. There is little reason to believe that she was smitten, as many have averred, into a state of shameful effeminacy. In fact, there is much to indicate the opposite, for almost up to the very year in which the invasion occurred the policy of reform instituted by King Sŏng-jun was adhered to, and the rulers, however unwelcome they may have been, surely did much for the sake of literature, art, and public morals. You will scarcely find in the annals of history that the kings who ruled during times of great public degeneracy when luxury sapped the vital power of the nation, spent their time in giving to the people treatises on moral, scientific, social, and literary topics, as these Kings unquestionably did even up to the day when the Japanese calmly swept the country. It had not been a hundred years since an unworthy King had been driven from the throne by his disgusted people and had been refused the posthumous title. That King was succeeded by one who made the land even puritanic in the severity of its morals, who fostered the arts and sciences as hardly any other had done and who crowned his work by publishing the *Ok-pyŏn*, which marked an era in the literary life of the people. He had been followed in turn by a King who continued the work of progress, and who, among other things, caused the construction of a complicated astronomical instrument. The following reign was the one in which the invasion occurred. No candid reader can believe that the country was steeped in such absolute degeneracy as the Japanese annalists would have us believe, and which other writers who had not access to the Korean annals have described. But some may say that the good work of the Korean Kings does not necessarily argue a good people. This again is a mistake, for there could scarcely be found a people that has taken their cue more directly from the court than have the Korean people. When the Kings have been lax the people have followed the example, and when the Kings have been true men the people have been brought back to honest living. The reputation of this calumny, then, needs but a careful perusal of the Korean annals; not those which have been written under government sanction and are therefore prejudiced, but those which, like these, have been drawn from the private and popular histories of the dynasty and are presumably reliable. For

centuries Korea had been at peace, except for insignificant uprisings on the border, and the arts of peace had gradually taken the place of martial prowess. A man is not an object of contempt simply because he is not a warrior. If he is, then let us go back to the post-smoke of our ancestral hovel.

Having shown this reason for Korea's inability to hold the Japanese in check to have been a false one, it will be necessary to account for it in some other way. This can easily be done. The reason was three-fold. In the first place, the Korean people, having no use for a large standing army, had not been trained in large numbers to military life. Secondly, the Japanese were armed with firearms, while the Koreans had absolutely none. The first firearm that was ever seen in Korea was given the King by a Japanese envoy just at the outbreak of the invasion, as we shall see. This alone would account for Korea's inability to cope with the invaders. In the third place, the rise of the political parties had brought in a spirit of jealousy which made it impossible for any man to reach celebrity without calling down upon himself the hatred of the opposing party and his consequent ruin. This we deem the main cause of Korea's weakness. The following pages will show whether this view is upheld by facts or not. It was the mutual jealousies of opposing parties that proved the bane of the land, and not the supineness and effeminacy of the people.

We must now glance at Japan and see of what stuff the invaders were made. Unlike the Korean people, the Japanese had never been welded into a homogeneous mass. Feudalism was the most marked feature of Japanese life. It has been only thirty years since Japan became a unit. It was feudalism and its consequent spirit of liberty (for feudalism is liberty in embryo) that made possible Japan's phenomenal development during the past three decades. Her feudalism is therefore not to be decried, but one of its necessary evils was a state of almost continual civil war. For two centuries preceding the invasion of Korea, Japan had been one great battle-field. War was the great occupation of the people. While Korea had been busy producing Japan had busy destroying, and when at last Hideyoshi, the great Taiko, found himself the virtual ruler of a temporarily quiet kingdom, he had on hand an enormous army which must either be given occupation or must be disbanded. The latter he dared not do, and the former he could not do without finding a field of operations abroad. But we are anticipating.

It is well known that the government of Japan was not administered by the Emperor in person but by an official called the Taiko, or Kwambak, as the Koreans say. For about two centuries this office had been in the hands of a family named Wun. Hideyoshi had been a retainer in the family of the Taiko. Being a bold and successful fighter, he won his way to a generalship and from this point of vantage killed the Taiko and assumed that title himself. It had been the dream of his life to strike at China. He had tried it once unsuccessfully by boat, attacking her at Chul-gang. He changed his plan and decided to make Korea a stepping-stone to the conquest of the Ming empire. His initial move was based on his statement "Year after year our envoys have gone to Korea, but they never send one in return."

In pursuance of this policy a Japanese envoy named Yamashiro appeared at the Korean court in 1587, bearing a harshly worded and insulting letter demanding that the King send an envoy to Japan. The only notice taken of this demand was a polite note in which the King stated that, as the journey by sea was a long one and the Koreans were not good sailors, he would have to be excused from complying with the demand. When Yamashiro placed this missive in the hands of his master he was promptly ordered into the hands of the executioner.

The opening of the year 1588 found Korea still suffering from outbreaks on the far northern border, and General Yi It took a small force of men, crossed the Tu-man River on the ice, and attacked the Chin do tribe. Being successful in this, he took 3000 men, crossed the same river at four different points simultaneously, and attacked the Si-jun tribe by night, burning 200 houses and killing 300 people.

In the spring of this year there arrived from Japan a second envoy, or rather three envoys, Yoshinoshii, Tairano Tsugimobu, and a monk Gen-sho. Of these, Yoshinoshii was the chief. He is described by the Koreans as being a young man, but coarse and violent, and of such a fierce nature that the other members of his suite dared come into his presence only on their knees. They

* This is a strong argument against those who claim that Korea has been a vassal of Japan. Korea received many more envoys from Japan than she sent that country.

dared not look him in the face. Yoshitoshi and his suite were comfortably quartered at the Tong-p'ying wwan near the present Japanese settlement in Sô-ul, and, having renewed the demand that Korea send an envoy to Japan, he waited month after month hoping that the King would accede to the demand and leaving to go back without success, lest he should meet the same fate that Yasuhiro, the former envoy, had suffered.

At last the King announced that he would send an envoy to Japan on one condition, namely, that the Japanese Government seize and send back to Korea a number of Korean renegades who, under the leadership of one Sa Wha-dong, had run away to Japan and had since led marauding bands of Japanese against the southern seaboard of Korea. To this condition the Japanese envoy gladly consented, and Taihano was despatched to Japan to carry it out. But it was not till the seventh moon of the following year, 1889, that the pirate Sa Wha-dong and three Japanese freebooters, together with certain other Koreans, were brought back from Japan and delivered up to justice. With them came a letter from the Japanese Government saying, "We are not responsible for the evil deeds of these men. The Korean Sa Wha-dong is the cause of this trouble; so we send them all to you and you must mete out to them such punishment as you see fit." The culprits were immediately decapitated outside the West Gate. This seems to have thawed somewhat the reserve of the King, and Yoshitoshi was called to the Palace for the first time, where he was presented by the King with a handsome steed, while he in turn gave the King a peacock and some firearms, the first that had ever been seen in Korea.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

FRENCH COLONIAL FORCES.

Saigon, March 30.

The French Chamber has voted an increase of 2 Colonels, 6 Lieut.-Colonels, 35 Majors, 149 Captains, 154 Lieutenants and Sub-Lieutenants, 142 Adjutants; 45 Sergeant-Majors and 400 Sergeants, to ameliorate the condition of the reliefs of the Colonial Forces.

THE BUDGET.

Saigon, March 31.

The debate on the Budget has been concluded in the French Chamber of Deputies.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

The Court of Cassation has terminated the examination of the secret dossier in the Dreyfus case, and has risen for the Easter recess.

THE CHAMBERS.

Saigon, April 1.

The Chamber of Deputies has adjourned until the 2nd of May; the Senate until the 9th May.

"THE FIGARO" IN TROUBLE.

Saigon, April 2.

The *Figaro* has commenced the publication of documents produced in the Criminal Chamber's inquiry into the Dreyfus affair.

The *Figaro* has been prosecuted.

THE CASKETS DISASTER.

It is announced from London that the steamer *Stella*, carrying tourists for Jersey, has been lost on a reef. Ninety persons were drowned.

MARCHAND.

Saigon, April 2.

The Marchand Mission has arrived at Adis-Ahaba, where it was warmly welcomed.

"THE FIGARO."

Saigon, April 4.

In spite of the legal prosecution instituted against it, the *Figaro* continues to publish the documents relating to the Dreyfus inquiry.

THE BORDEREAU QUESTION.

M. Cavaignac, ex-Minister of War, takes pains in his deposition to demonstrate the guilt of Dreyfus, even though the supposition be admitted that Esterhazy was the author of the "bordereau."

THE DREYFUS CASE.

Saigon, April 5.

The *Figaro* publishes the deposition of the former Ministers Poincaré and Beville, establishing the fact that General Billot, ex-Minister of War, declared to them the culpability of Dreyfus. General Roget, in his deposition, expresses the conviction that Dreyfus is the only possible author of the "bordereau." He also speaks of a document which, in the most explicit manner, affirms the guilt of Dreyfus.

FRENCH NAVAL REORGANIZATION.

Saigon, April 6.

A decree has been issued regulating the attributes of the Departments of Marine and of the Colonies, respectively, with regard to the *points d'appui* of French squadrons.

POLITICAL LEAGUES IN PARIS.

The preliminary examination in the case of the political leagues has been concluded in Paris. Several Presidents and Vice-Presidents are cited before the Correctional Police.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

London, March 30.

Experiments being made on wireless telegraphy between Boulogne and the South Foreland, messages were transmitted with perfect ease and regularity.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

The entire Court of Cassation closed its doors while examining the secret dossier in the Dreyfus case.

BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House of Commons has adjourned till the 10th of April.

DENMARK IN THE FAR EAST.

The Danish Parliament has voted a credit for the dispatch of a cruiser to China.

SAMOAN TROUBLE CONTINUES.

London, March 31.

Reuter's agent at Apia, Samoa, reports under date of 23rd March, that the German protégé Mataafa is continuing to disregard the treaty. On the British and American Consuls and naval officers sending an ultimatum, the Mataafans responded by attacking Apia. In the engagement which ensued three bluejackets and one American were killed and several wounded. The British and American warships then bombarded the place when the Mataafans and Germans took refuge aboard the *Falke* (German cruiser).

ANGLO-FRENCH AGREEMENT.

The *Times*' Rome correspondent wires that the Anglo-French agreement (recently concluded over African boundaries) is bitterly resented in Italy, because it is regarded as excluding Italy from an eventual occupation of Tripoli and its hinterland.

TERRIBLE SHIPPING DISASTER.

London, April 1.

The South Western Railway steamer *Stella*, having on board 140 passengers and a crew of 41, bound for Guernsey, struck the Casket Rocks, (to the west of the

Island of Alderney) during the fog of Thursday afternoon, and sank ten minutes later, the boilers exploding. Seventy-four passengers, comprising mostly women and children, and 19 of the crew, were saved by boats, while upwards of eighty were drowned.

BRITISH PROSPERITY.

The revenue year ending March 31st shows a net increase of £1,841,039.

THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF CHINCHOW.

London, April 3.

The *Norddeutscher Allgemeine Zeitung* observes that Germany does not intend to occupy Chinchow permanently, but has only taken temporary possession for the protection of missionaries and experts there.

THE SAMOAN AFFAIR.

Great Britain, the United States, and Germany have consented to hold a conference to settle the Samoan Affair, with King Oscar of Sweden as mediator.

TROUBLE IN THE BALKAN STATES

London, April 4.

Four hours fighting took place between the Turkish and Bulgarian frontier guards at Kizylagach. A number of them were killed and wounded.

THE SAMOAN QUESTION.

It is stated in Washington, D.C., that the three Powers concerned reached an understanding over the Samoan question obviating the necessity of King Oscar's umpirage.

IRISH FACTIONS TO RE-UNITE.

London, April 5.

The conference of the Nationalist Commoners, at Dublin, has agreed to Dillon's proposal for the re-union of the (Irish) party under a Parnellite chairman.

PROGRESS IN SIAM.

The *Times* publishes a long correspondence on the progress of Siam, and in an eulogistic leader admits the claim of Siam for Customs revision.

BRITAIN AND SAMOAN COMMISSION.

London, April 6.

The British Government has assented in principle to the Samoan Commission, but is delaying the final assent until the composition and powers of the Commission are settled.

THE IRISH REUNION.

The leading Parnellites absented themselves from the Conference at Dublin and it is believed that the unity proposals have led to nothing.

GERMANY ON THE ALERT.

HER CRUISER AT MUSCAT.

The German cruiser *Arcona* has unexpectedly arrived at Muscat and also visited other ports in the Persian Gulf.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Hongkong, March 29.

Since Saturday last the Americans have cleared the rebels out from Marquina and Marilao, for a distance of twenty miles, advancing on Malolos. The insurgents offered a most stubborn resistance. The American losses were 31 killed and 230 wounded. The rebel losses are described as severe. It is expected that they will offer a strong resistance at Malolos, where they are heavily entrenched.

They are destroying the Railway, the property of an English Company, as they retreat.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 414.

- WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to R2 2—Kt takes Kt
2—Q takes Kt mate if 1—Kt takes Q or moves
2—Kt to K7 mate if 1—R takes R
2—Q to Q B2 mate if 1—R any other
2—Kt takes Kt mate if 1—K to Q6
2—Kt takes R mate if 1—K to B4
2—Kt to K7 mate

Correct solutions received from Voila and Marco.

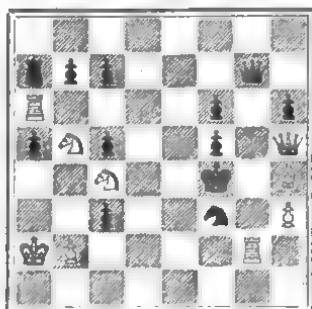
PROBLEM No. 417.

By KONRAD ERLIN.

From Das Neue Illustrirte Blatt.

One of three Problems in commemoration of the Jubilee of Emperor Franz Joseph.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 496.

THE BRILLIANT GAME, VIENNA TOURNAMENT.
The committee has awarded the prize for the most brilliant game played in the Vienna Tournament to the American champion, H. W. Pillsbury.
We published this game on 13th August, 1898, as it appeared with notes in the *Illustrated London News*, but now reproduce it with further detailed notes by Emil Kramery:

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

White—Halpin. Black—Pillsbury.

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------------|-----------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1 P Q4 | P Q4 | 21 Kt x Kt (g) | Kt B6:h |
| 2 Kt KB3 | Kt KB3 | 22 K Kt2 | B Kt-q(h) |
| 3 P K3 | P B4 | 23 R Kt-q | P B4 |
| 4 P QK3(a) | P x P | 24 Kt B3 | P K5 |
| 5 P x P | Kt B3 | 25 B K2 | R K-q |
| 6 P B4 | B K5 | 26 Kt K5(i) | P B5 |
| 7 B K2 | P K3 | 27 Q R3(k) | P K6 |
| 8 Castles | P x P | 28 P Q6 | Kt K4 |
| 9 P x P | R B-q(b) | 29 B x Kt | P B6ch |
| 10 B Kt2 | B K2 | 30 K R2 | R x B |
| 11 Q Kt Q2 | Castles | 31 B Q3 | B Q3 |
| 12 Q Kt3 | Q B2 | 32 P x P | Q Kt5 |
| 13 OR B4 | K R Q-q | 33 B B-q | R R4 |
| 14 Q K3(c) | B Q3 | 34 R B2(l) | R x Kt |
| 15 P Kt3 | Q R4 | 35 R Q2 | R K4 |
| 16 B Q3 | Q Kt4 | 36 Q Kt2 | R x Kt |
| 17 Kt K5 | P K4(e) | 37 Q x QKt | B B3 |
| 18 P Q5 | Kt Q5 | 38 Q Kt2 | P B7(a) |
| 19 P R R4(f) | P K R3 | 39 Resigns. | |
| 20 Kt (K5) | K4 | | |

NOTES.

- (a) Better was P to Q B4 or P to Q B3. The P to Q Kt3 and B to Kt2 development is good enough for the defence. By adopting this play White loses time, and, in fact, the advantage of first move.
(b) He could not well play B takes Kt and Kt takes Q P, for White plays B takes B and B takes Kt P. The text move is much stronger. White's centre Pawns are not easily guarded, and Black places his forces so as to bear on them.
(c) Better perhaps, was K to K-q.
(d) Well played. If White captures the Pawn, then B takes P follows. Black obtaining the command of the open Q file. If, however, P to Q5 is played by White, then his opponent continues Kt to Q5, which strengthens the attack.
(e) K takes Kt could not be played. Black answers P takes B, and he will win the adverse Kt at Kt5.
(f) He could not play B (Q3) takes Kt, for

Kt to K7 ch would have won the exchange. Nor was Q takes Kt any better. Black answers B to K B4 and B takes B, again winning the exchange. Had White played B (Kt2) takes Kt, then Kt takes Kt would at least have won the exchange.

(h) A powerful move. Black maintains his Bishop, and by continuing P to K B4 will obtain an irresistible attack. White's game is compromised. He can dislodge the adverse Kt from the commanding position it occupies. If B to K2, then Kt takes R P ch and B takes B may follow. If, however, Kt to Q2 is played, then Kt takes Kt, B to B6 ch, P to K5 and eventually Q to Kt5 leads to a winning attack.

(i) With the intention to continue Kt to Q4, followed eventually by Kt to K6 and Kt to B4. Black, however, has a splendid reply on hand, which virtually forces a win.

(k) He could not well play P takes P. Black answers Kt takes P ch, and if K to B5 q is played, then B takes P, leading to an easy win.

(l) Black threatened R takes P ch, Q takes P ch and Q to Kt6 ch, followed by mate, against which the text move guards. Black, however, wins the Kt, for he can safely play R takes Kt. Better, perhaps, was Q to Kt2, but the game was beyond repair.

(m) Threatening Q takes Kt P mate. White can not guard without losing at least a Rook.

GAME No. 497.

The following pretty game was played in the Championship Tournament of the City of London Chess Club.

ENGLISH OPENING

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| White—T. Gibbons. | Black—Herbert Jacobs. |
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1 P Q B4 | P KB4 |
| 2 Kt QB3 | Kt KB3 |
| 3 P Q4 | P K3 |
| 4 Kt B3 | P QKt3 |
| 5 P K3 | B K2 |
| 6 B Q3 | B K2 |
| 7 Castles | Castles |
| 8 P Q5 | P x P |
| 9 B x P | P x P |
| 10 Kt K5 | Kt B3 |
| 11 Kt x QP | Kt x Kt |
| 12 Q Q5ch | K R q |
| 13 B x Kt | Kt B4 |
| 14 Q Q-q | B Q3 |
| 15 B R3 | Q K-q |
| 16 Q B2 | Q R4 |
| 17 P B4 | OR K-q |
| 18 B Q3 | Kt B3 |
| 19 B Q7 | R K2 |
| 20 B x Kt | B x B |
| | WHITE. |
| | BLACK. |
| | 21 OR K-q |
| | 22 Q Q-q |
| | 23 P K3 |
| | 24 P K4 |
| | 25 B B2 |
| | 26 Q B3 |
| | 27 R (B2) K2 |
| | 28 K R q |
| | 29 P B5 |
| | 30 Kt Q5 |
| | 31 Kt B4 |
| | 32 P K K4 |
| | 33 R KB-q |
| | 34 P Kt4 |
| | 35 Q K3 |
| | 36 R x R |
| | 37 K R2 |
| | 38 R x R |
| | 39 Resigns |

WORLD'S CHAMPIONS.

The Chess Champions of the world for the last 113 years are as follows:—
1780—Philidor, unbeaten.
1800—Deschappelles, unbeaten.
1834—L. B. Bourdonnais, unbeaten.
1843—Staunton, lost to Anderssen in 1851.
1851—Anderssen, lost to Steinitz in 1866.
1866—Steinitz, lost to Lasker in 1894.
1894—Lasker, present Champion.
The remarkable fact is that there have been only seven Champions in this long period.

NOTES.

Towards the middle of this year a Northern Chess Tourney is to be held at Copenhagen.

The Vienna and St. Petersburg correspondence match has ended, as has for some time been foreseen, by the second game being abandoned as a draw. Vienna, therefore, wins the match by 1½ to ½.

An interruption has occurred in the arrangements of the details for the forthcoming match between Messrs. Jacobson and Wallace for the championship of Australasia. Briefly, the chief difference lies in the inclusion of a certain clause in the dead of rules governing the match, a strict interpretation of which would mean the exclusion of the press. Mr. Wallace apparently insists on this rule being inserted, whilst Mr. Jacobson is no less firm that it should not be included, pointing out that no such rule obtained in the match by which he acquired the championship. It is to be hoped that an early date for the commencement of this interesting match will be appointed.

The "Pillsbury National Correspondence Chess Association" has now become an institution of great prominence, which, in a vast country like

the United States of America, is not to be wondered at. There chess players living far away from cities or towns find it hard or impossible to meet an opponent over the board, for they might have to travel 100 miles to do so. What more natural then that they should indulge their liking for the game, and strive to keep up their practice of it by entering the lists of a great correspondence medium like this. . . . It appears that each entrant in a division or section has to play with every other in that division or section, and that the scores are reckoned by the percentage of games won. The first tournament had 117 entries, the second 86, and the third, which is now in progress, 116; but there are many private correspondence matches going on of members who prefer to take no part in the tournaments. There is also an Auxiliary Association. . . . Arrangements are being made for a team-match, of 100 players a-side, with the Canadian Chess Association, which we think will be the biggest thing in correspondence chess which has ever taken place. —B.C.M.

Dr. Tarasch's favourite remark, says the *Pester Lloyd* of June 20th, is that "it is not sufficient to be a good chess player—one must play good chess." The doctor is genial in manner, sarcastic, and witty. "Ah!" he said, when one of the Vienna masters brought about a draw. "I am here in Vienna, among the Remismonde." But the *Pester Lloyd* tells a much more amusing story about an unnamed visitor, who sat for two hours apparently intent on following the progress of a game between Herr Schlechter and Mr. Showalter, and who afterwards acknowledged that he knew nothing about chess. His real interest had been in watching the ceaseless swing, eastward and westward, of Mr. Showalter's American lace shoes, and the equally ceaseless swing, northward and southward, of Herr Schlechter's Austrian patent leather pumps.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, April 1st:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	...	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	...	14,380,030
Amount of convertible notes issued	...	183,342,836
Government deposits	...	36,474,050
General deposits	...	3,020,035
Exchange liability	...	174,202
Total	...	267,391,212

	Dr.	Yen.
Discount notes	...	25,518,615
Foreign discount notes	...	11,365,001
Loan to Government	...	22,000,000
General loans	...	61,543,531
Exchange liability	...	1,237,255
Government bonds	...	45,077,283
Property	...	1,791,227
Bullion and Specie	...	98,858,297
Total	...	267,391,412

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—
Amount of convertible notes issued... 177,996,601

Bullion and Specie:—
Gold ... 96,994,518
Silver ... —

Securities:—
Government bonds ... 32,499,121
Government certificates ... 22,000,000
Government bills ... 11,603,018
Commercial notes ... 14,899,914

Total ... 81,002,083
The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	...	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	...	164,709
Silver	...	—
General loans	...	2,777,943
Government deposits	...	877,656
General deposits	...	1,461,360

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Rossia (28), Russian cruiser, 12,130, Captain Donajeff, 1st April.—Nagasaki, 29th March.
Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 3rd April.—Kobe, 1st April, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Athenian, British steamer, 2,426, Mowatt, 3rd April.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 1st April, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Vladimir Monomach (16), Russian cruiser, 5,993, Capt. Onitonesky, 3rd April.—Nagasaki, 29th March.
Babelsberg, German steamer, 1,379, Pfaff, 4th April.—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 28th March, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Fau Sang, British steamer, 1,410, N. Moncur, 4th April.—Portland, Oregon, 14th March, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Dunreagan, British barque, 1,477, W. P. Honeyman, 5th April.—New York, Oct. 23rd, Keystone Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Tientsin, British steamer, 2,555, G. H. C. Weston, 5th April.—London via ports, Kobe, 4th April, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantou, 5th April.—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 20th March, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Dwyer, 6th April.—London via ports, Kobe, 5th April, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. Jones, 6th April.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Kobe, 5th April, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Oceanian, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 7th April.—Shanghai via ports, Kobe, 6th April, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, J. Hutchison, 1st April.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. Manly, 1st April.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Nomia, German ship, 1,925, F. Rowler, 2nd April.—Tahiti, Chili, Ballast.—R. Laas & Bros.
Sirane, German ship, 1,410, B. Stumpe, 2nd April.—Tahiti, Chili, Ballast.—Otto Reimers & Co.
Tientsin, British steamer, 1,250, Dawson, 3rd April.—Cheloo via Muji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, T. Murai, 3rd April.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Tsuji, 4th April.—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. de B. Lockyer, 4th April.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Canton, British steamer, 2,164, D. C. Gregor, 5th April.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, Mowatt, 5th April.—San Francisco via Vancouver and Victoria, General.—C. P. R. Co.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 5th April.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fau Sang, British steamer, 1,410, Moncur, 5th April.—Feb.,—Hongkong, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Amara, British steamer, 1,566, C. J. Matlock, 6th April.—Mororan, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantou, 7th April.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,281, H. Batt, 7th April.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer **Athenian**, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss E. Smith, Miss B. Smith, Mr. W. P. Smith, Mr. Heimkerk, Mr. A. E. Muller, Mr. W. H. Tully, Mr. Hensett, and Miss Graham, in cabin. In Transit:—Mrs. Hensett and child, Mr. R. Shewan, and Mr. R. Norton, in cabin; 1 Maori man, 79 Chinese, and 64 Japanese in steerage.
 Per American steamer **Victoria**, from Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. E. J. Libraud, and Mr. C. M. Libraud, in cabin. For Kobe:—Miss M. Muller, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss L. Sydmet, and Miss R. Newell, in cabin. For

Hongkong:—Mr. W. A. Badley, in cabin; 31 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer **Oceanian**, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Mathieu, Mr. Wamcosky, Mr. Nakagawa, Mr. Seghen, Mr. Haardt, Mr. Valette, Mr. Bourcier, Mr. and Mrs. Overbach, child and amah, Miss Budie, Mr. Maurice O'Leary, Mr. Richter, Sœur St. Jean, Misses O. and Ch. Satow, Mr. Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. Leary, Mr. Henry Jenny, Mr. R. Zimmermann, Mr. F. E. White, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Mitchell and infant, Mr. Poir, Mr. Walter L. Crow, Mr. E. J. Donbath, Mr. Nakamura, and one Japanese, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Canton**, for London via ports:—Mr. E. Popp, in cabin.
 Per British steamer **Athenian**, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. Denny, Mr. R. J. Irving, Mrs. Kessell and child, Mr. C. K. M. Martin, Mrs. C. K. Martin, Mr. A. Merton, and Mr. Robt. Shewan, in cabin.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
America	T. K. K.	Hong Kong Maru	F. April 8
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. April 9
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 10
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. April 10
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	Tu. April 11
America	P. M. Co.	China	Th. April 13
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. April 13
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. April 17
Hongkong	M. N. Co.		Th. April 19
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. April 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. April 24

- 2 Left San Francisco on the 17th ult.
- 2 Left Hongkong on the 20th ult.
- 3 Left Vancouver on the 20th ult.
- 4 Left Nagasaki on the 1st inst.
- 5 Left Hongkong on the 31st inst.
- 6 Left San Francisco on the 1st inst.
- 7 Left Hongkong on the 31st inst.
- 8 Left San Francisco on the 4th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Hong Kong Maru	Sa. April 8
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 10
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu. April 11
Europe, via S'hai.	M. N. Co.	Oceanian	W. April 12
Shanghai	N. V. R.	Kobe Maru	W. April 12
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. April 14
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. April 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	F. April 14
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. April 19
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. April 19
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. April 24
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. April 26

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been practically no enquiry for yarns or grey shittings, and the market for fancy cottons and woollens is also dull. Quotations are nominally as last week.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey shittings—8 1/2 in, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.60
Grey shittings—9 1/2 in, 34 1/2 yds, 45 inches	3.00 to 3.10
1 1/2 in, 7 1/2 yds, 44 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo shittings—24 yds, 44 inches	2.20 to 2.50
Prints—Arrol's, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Falmes and Batters Black, 52 inches	0.18 to 0.38

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	10.40 to 0.60
Its inner cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de laine, 24 yds	0.16 to 0.25
Cloth—Flo, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.61
Cloth—Presidents, 44 to 50 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloth—Union, 44 to 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Sisal and Green, 3 to 5 1/2 per lb	0.62 to 0.75

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria 1 awns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Red—2 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	6.00 to 8.20
Turkey Red—3 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47 1/2

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nov 16 1/2, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.50
Nov 18 1/2, Singles	Nominal
Nov 20 1/2, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nov 22 1/2, Singles	48.00 to 49.50
Nov 24 1/2, Singles	53.50 to 45.50
Nov 26 1/2, Singles	61.00 to 65.00
Nov 28 1/2, Singles	80.00 to 81.00
Nov 30 1/2, Singles	99.00 to 100.00
Nov 32 1/2, Singles	77.00 to 80.00
Nov 34 1/2, Singles	90.00 to 93.00
Nov 36 1/2, Singles	117.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$10.00
Indian Branch	18.50
Chinese	20.00 to 21.00

METALS.

Only a small business has been done in bar iron, tin plates, and wire nails. Quotations are nominally as last week.

	PER POUND.
Round and square (1 inch and upward)	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 5.00
Sheet iron	5.15 to 5.40
Galvanized iron sheet	6.75 to 11.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.25 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	6.30 to 6.60
Pig iron, No. 3	2.80 to 3.00
Block iron (\$ to 1 inch)	3.75 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

There is practically no change to report.

	PER GALLON.
American	\$1.00 to 1.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	1.95 to 2.00

SUGAR.

The market is quieter; prices slightly lower on the whole.

	PER POUND.
Brown Tanco	\$1.90 to 3.00
Brown Manila	5.40 to 6.20
Brown Fairing	3.85 to 4.30
Brown Canto	4.90 to 6.00
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 7.00
White Refined	7.70 to 9.15

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A few purchases have been made at advancing prices, the demand from Europe and America having shown some revival, while the stock in the country is greatly depleted.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Flatiron—Kata, Fine	Nominal
Flatiron—Kata, Coarse	Nominal
Flatiron—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Flatiron—No. 1, Coarse	\$1.00 to 1.60
Flatiron—No. 2, Fine	1.90 to 3.00
Flatiron—No. 2, Coarse	1.00 to 1.60
Flatiron—No. 3, Fine	1.00 to 1.60
Flatiron—No. 3, Coarse	1.00 to 1.60
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-refined—Kata	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 1	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 2	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 3	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 4	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 5	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 6	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 7	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 8	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 9	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 10	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 11	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 12	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 13	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 14	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 15	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 16	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 17	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 18	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 19	Nominal
Re-refined—No. 20	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

Some fairly large purchases have been made at rates which show a tendency to advance in view of diminishing stock.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER POUND.
Noshi—Flatiron, Good	\$1.10 to 1.30
Noshi—Flatiron, Good	1.00 to 1.10
Noshi—Oshu, Best	1.15 to 1.30
Noshi—Oshu, Good	1.05 to 1.15
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	
Noshi—Bushi, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Bushi, Good	no stock
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	
Noshi—Inaba, Good	
Noshi—Inaba, Fair	
Noshi—Inaba, Best	
Noshi—Inaba, Fair	85 to 95
Noshi—Inaba, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Inaba, Fair	30 to 35
Noshi—Inaba, Best	30 to 35

TEA.

Prices quite nominal; no stock. The season is now definitely closed.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER POUND.
Choicest	
Choice	
First	
Fine	Nominal
Good Medium	no stock
Medium	
Good Common	
Common	

[MESSRS. BISSET & URU'S LIST]

Yokohama, April 6th.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations to-day:—Sales of H. & S. Binks at 27 1/2 per cent. premium, Buyers of National Bank at \$21, Sellers of China Rates at \$82. Sales of Hongkong Rates at \$295. Sales of H. & W. Dicks at 330 per cent. premium, Sellers of H. & K. Wharls at \$88. Sellers of Doglasses at \$57. Sales of Indian Rates at \$69. Sales of H. C. & M. Steamboats at \$29.50. Buyers of Panjom Mines at \$5. Sales of Rand Mines at \$60.50. Sales of Hongkong Lands at \$79. Sales of Union Insurance at \$230. Sales of China Traders at \$62. and Sales of Straits Insurance at \$4. China Sugars can be had at \$172. Rand Mines changed hands locally to-day at \$61.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Iron Works can be placed at yen 205. Japan Brewery old shares are offering at yen 315; new fully paid up shares changed proprietorship at yen 157.50. Grand Hotels are procurable at yen 222.50. Club Hotels are wanted at yen 90. Oriental Hotels have buyers at yen 105. Nagasaki Hotels have sellers at yen 40. Belts are obtainable at yen 9.50. North & Rees are in demand at yen 200. Laughlins are now steady at yen 135. Hyogo Gas shares can be had at yen 170. Y. U. Clubs are offering at yen 108 and Japan Brewery Debentures at the same rate, both ex accrued interest as usual. Oriental Hotel Debentures have sellers at yen 108. Nagasaki Hotel Debentures can be had at par (yen 100).

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., 5%	205 40
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., 5% Old	315 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., yen 30	157 50 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., 5%	222 50 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., 5%	90 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., 5%	105 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Ydra.), 5%	40 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 100	40 S.
North and Rees, Ltd., 5%	200 S.
Pratt & Co., Ltd., 5%	9 50 S.
Laughlins & Co., Ltd., 5%	135 S.
Hyogo Gas Co., Ltd., 5%	170 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., 5% Deb., 5%	108 S. & S.
Kobe Club 5% Deb., 5%	10 S.
Yokohama United Club 5% Deb., 5%	108 S.
Yorit & Co., Ltd., 5% Deb., 5%	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., 5% Deb., 5%	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., 5% Deb., 5%	100 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, yen 10,000; 2, yen 3,000 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property
1. yen 17,770.50; 4. yen 10,000 44.

N.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, S.—Sales, St.—Steady,
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Enquiries.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 6th.

Silver unaltered from London, sterling from China higher, and rates locally firm at an advance of 1/4 to-day.

Bank T.T.	2/0 3/4
Hills on demand	2/0 3/4
4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
6 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Paris—Bank sight	158 1/2
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	26 1/2
America—Bank Bills on demand	49 1/2
Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2
Germany—Bank sight	109 1/2
Private 4 months' sight	213 1/2
Hongkong—Bank sight	4 1/2 dis.
Private 10 days' sight	5 1/2 dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	76 1/2
Private 10 days' sight	77 1/2
India—Bank sight	153
Private 30 days' sight	156
U.S. Silver (London)	27 1/2

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 13.]

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YOKOHAMA, APRIL 1ST, 1899.

月三年五十二癸
西曆者係四月十一日

[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	377
Political Notes.....	378
Queen and Empress.....	379
Young Japan and America.....	380
Mr. Eckhart.....	381
The latest American Victory in the Philippines.....	382
The "Jiji Shimpō" on Foreign Policy.....	383
Japanese Consular Reports.....	384
Wills and other Things.....	385
Silk.....	386
Japanese Women.....	387
The Osaka Harbour Works.....	388
The Court of Cassation.....	389
"Chinese Caries".....	390
The Imperial Library.....	391
A Neutral Zone.....	392
The Imperial Estate.....	393
Chinese Idiosyncrasies.....	394
Bornos.....	395
Omniscient Journalism.....	396
The Dreyfus Case.....	397
The Railway Purchase Scheme.....	398
New Degree Holders.....	399
Manila.....	400
Massacre near Newchwang.....	401
The Tokyo Trust Company.....	402
Baron de Siggesbeek.....	403
The Civil Service.....	404
Leading Article:—Rights of British Subjects.....	405
Signs of Civilization.....	406
Immense Committee.....	407
The Verbeck Memorial.....	408
The Shashi Affair.....	409
M. Feli Régancy.....	410
New Privy Councillor.....	411
Methodist Episcopal Conference.....	412
Ladies' Paper.....	413
Foreign Mail Regulations.....	414
A Cryptic Telegram.....	415
Admiral Mori's Dinner.....	416
Baron Nakajima.....	417
The Meredith.....	418
Japan Brewery Company.....	419
News of the Week.....	420
Chinese Notes.....	421
Bank of Japan.....	422
Continental Note.....	423
H.M.'s Court for Japan.....	424
Telegrams.....	425
China.....	426
Latest Shipping.....	427
Latest Commercial.....	428
Supplement:—Yokohama Chamber of Commerce: Annual Meeting. The Leopold Bankruptcy.	

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PISCES QUE MOIT: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE North Borneo Company is issuing 350,000 shares.

BARON ITO MIROYI has been appointed a Privy Councillor.

CAMBRIDGE won this year's Varsity Boat-race by four lengths.

LADIES now take part in the paper-chases of the Y.C. & A.C.

THE Foreign Office is about to open a vice-consulate in Seattle.

MR. J. P. MOLLISON has been re-elected President of the Y.C. & A.C.

BROWN NAKAJIMA, the well-known Japanese politician and diplomatist, is dead.

A BICYCLE and Athletic Sports meeting will take place on the cricket ground in May.

THE annual meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday.

In case Mr. Kawashima resigns the presidency of the Japan Industrial Bank, Mr. Takahashi,

a member of the House of Peers, is likely to succeed him.

THE Grand National Steeplechase has resulted thus:—Manifesto 1, Ford o'Fyne 2, Elliman 3.

THE Fouran Mission of exploration has arrived in Algiers from Lake Chad, in an excellent condition.

THE Soudan railway has already been pushed fifty miles south of Atbara and is to be completed by November.

THE Government has issued series of important regulations relating to the qualifications and status of officials.

TERRIBLE accounts of famine accompanied by typhus fever are arriving from Samara and other Volga provinces of Russia.

MR. S. KOMAI, Councillor of the Financial Department, has been appointed the President of the Higher Commercial School.

THE annual meeting of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club was held on Monday. The accounts showed an overdraft of yen 1,583.

PART of the Tokyo Technical College, including a painting class room, has been destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at yen 2,000.

ON Saturday Admiral Mori, Harbour Master of Yokohama, gave a grand dinner to the Consuls and other public men at the Club Hotel.

A sword of honour was presented to Col. Mathias, of the Gordon Highlanders, at the annual dinner of the Pembroke Club on Saturday.

In the House of Commons on March 24th Mr. W. St. John Brodick stated that America has proposed a modus vivendi over the Alaskan boundary.

THE Court of Cassation has rejected the application of Madame Dreyfus, challenging three Councillors, and has sentenced her to a fine of 100 francs.

THE International (foreign) Committee of Yokohama entertain the leading Japanese of the town at dinner at the Oriental Hotel on April 19th.

An agreement has been arrived at between England and France on the African question. Both French and English journals express satisfaction with the settlement of the question.

YOSHIE RYOKICHI (32), who murdered his master Fujisaki Chutai and his wife at Tokyo because he was dismissed on account of disolute conduct, was executed at the Ichigaya Jail on the 25th inst.

JUDGMENT was delivered on Thursday in the insurance case against the China Fire and China Traders' Insurance Company. Both companies will have to contribute to the indemnification of the plaintiff.

OPERATIONS have been continued in the Philippines, the Americans defeating the insurgents at Manila. The Americans had 166 killed and wounded, and the Filipinos lost 400. An attack on Polo failed.

FIVE students of the *Saisei Gakusha* (the medical school founded by Mr. Hasegawa Tai), living at the house of a man named Saeki, of 6-chome, Hongo, Tokyo, were arrested on the 28th inst. on a charge of gambling.

IYO Province has lost an old inhabitant named Suya Gineuke, 102 years of age. He was with a convivial circle celebrating the 1st of the 1st

month of the old calendar, and came home in high good humour. Next morning he was found dead in bed. He had made a pilgrimage throughout the whole of Shikoku Province, notwithstanding his great age.

MR. OKURA, of Tokyo, is constructing a spacious brick building in his compound at Akaoka as a private museum. Pictures, writings, and curiosities will be exhibited, and the museum will be thrown open to the public.

A CHINAMAN named Wu Tsai Tu (22), in the employ of the Yen-tai Exchange, 72 Settlement, Yokohama, obtained by false pretences yen 800 from his previous master Heng ta, 136 Settlement. He was arrested, but liberated at his ex-master's request.

THE steamer *Kohsu Maru*, belonging to Ishimori Saisuke, Ohara-mura, Oshikagori, Miyagi Prefecture, while on a voyage to Ishimaki the other day, encountered a severe storm, and was on the point of foundering when she was rescued by the coast-guards.

A FIRE broke out the other day on the sailing vessel *Koro Maru*, anchoring off Honmatscho, Kyobashi district. It originated from a quantity of lime on board, and, in spite of the strenuous efforts of the crew, much damage was done before the flames were extinguished.

A PETITION to H.M. the Queen, signed by 21,000 Uitlanders, has been transmitted by Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of Cape Colony, declaring their position to be intolerable and praying for enquiry. The *Times* asks: "Will President Krüger disregard warning until too late?"

A FORMOSAN despatch dated the 27th ult., states that on the 24th 29 new cases of plague were reported in Tainan prefecture, 19 proving fatal. On the following day three new cases occurred in Taipei prefecture, two of the patients dying. On the 26th, one new case and one death were reported from Tai-chin Prefecture.

A GIRL, apparently 16 years of age, committed suicide on Sunday by placing herself before a train at Shiba, Tokyo. She was completely cut to pieces. The next morning, the body of a girl about the same age was discovered floating in the sea. They were friends, and had decided to commit suicide at the same time for a trifling cause.

RUSSIA is said to have finally settled the Newchwang railway difficulty entirely to British satisfaction, the Czar expressly intimating his desire to give a tangible proof of peaceful disposition on the eve of the Disarmament Conference. It is further said that a Convention defining the respective spheres of influence will be signed shortly.

DET-ILS of the fire at Kawawa-mura, Hamanaguni, Shizuoka Prefecture, are to hand. The fire originated at some wood-cutting works, and extended across the Tenryu river to the town of Kakezuka opposite, destroying 300 houses there. The flames also found their way to Komaba Sodehagi village, and reduced seven dwellings to ashes.

A FEW days ago a party of five students engaged a boat and went for a row in Shinagawa Bay. As they had not returned at a late hour in the evening, and a strong wind was blowing, the owner of the boat went out in search of them, but in vain. Some sailors state that they saw the students tossing about at night in a high sea off Shiba beach. Their fate is unknown.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Saturday, March 25.

There is an evident attempt on the part of some Opposition journals in Tokyo to organize a campaign against the Foreign Office. It is one of the most irrational and inconsequential campaigns hitherto witnessed. The San-moon episode was first taken as a point of attack, and because Japan, like every other civilized Power, remained quiet the officials in charge of her foreign affairs were denounced as incompetent. Then came a rumour that the United States had asked for an allotment to form a settlement in Amoy. That procedure was regarded as infringing the pledge given by China against the alienation of any part of Fuhkien, and again the Foreign Office was condemned for not protecting Japanese interests. Events having proved that, so far as China was concerned, Viscount Aoki knew his business very much better than his assailants knew theirs, Korea is now taken up as a new weapon, and an effort is made to show that Russia has once more appeared upon the scene in Sŏul; that the recent overthrow of the Cabinet was due solely to its hesitation about granting her demand for whaling concessions, and that she is about to send troops to guard the Emperor's palace. Local colour is imparted to this last item by explaining that the Emperor recently ordered the evacuation of a school in the vicinity of the palace, with the intention of providing a barracks for the expected Cossacks. These extremely silly attacks do not appear to interest anyone.

Tuesday, March 28.

We find many comments in vernacular newspapers about the Liberal irruption into Fukushima Prefecture. Originally, as has been already explained, Fukushima was a Liberal strong-hold, and Mr. Kono Hironaka commanded the fort. Mr. Kono Hironaka also aspired to be the head of the Liberal Party; which ambition brought him into such sharp collision with Mr. Hoshi Toru and Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, that he finally went over to the Progressists. The event assumed quite sensational dimensions at the time, for Mr. Kono was the leader of the Party in the Lower House, and it seemed that his disaffection must have serious consequences. Many curious explanations were also offered; some of them not at all creditable to the deserter's integrity. Fukushima then fell under the sway of three politicians. Mr. Kono retained a great deal of his old influence there, but a section of the local magnates followed the flag of Mr. Abe Hankou—the stubborn Conservative who, in 1893, made himself notorious by opposing mixed residence—and another section attached themselves to Mr. Shiba Shiro, the organizer of the numerically insignificant but morally important Reform Party (*Kakushin-to*). All three sections joined the Progressists at the time when the *Kaishin-to* and the various minor parties, dissolving their separate organizations, coalesced to form the *Shimpo-to* (Progressists). It happened, however, that Mr. Kusaka Yoshio was at one time Governor of Fukushima. Mr. Kusaka is well known to foreigners. He formerly controlled the affairs of Kanagawa Prefecture and subsequently those of Nagasaki, and his great abilities would long ago have carried him to a high place had they been accompanied by a more tolerant

mood. During his governorship of Fukushima Mr. Kusaka won a large following among the local politicians, and, now that he has joined the ranks of the Liberals, after long abstention from public life, he becomes at once a power in Fukushima. On the other hand, Mr. Kono Hironaka finds himself a nobody among the Progressists. Whether his union with them is incongruous or whether they can not forget his old associations, he does not make head-way, and is disappointed. At this moment of dissatisfaction he sees his influence still further weakened by the loss of supporters who have gone over to Mr. Kusaka, and the general impression seems to be that he will return to his old allegiance. Meanwhile the Liberals have invaded Fukushima, without encountering any of the fierce opposition that the Progressists were expected to organise. On the 25th they had a monster meeting in that town, and their speakers, including Count Itagaki, were excellently received. It seems to be taken for granted that if Mr. Kono Hironaka returns to the Liberal Party, his temporary aberration will be forgiven and forgotten. Tolerance is not one of the virtues that the Japanese lack. *En passant* we may express our sincere satisfaction at seeing Mr. Kusaka once more enter public life. The Liberal Party has certainly gained greatly in influence and talent since last autumn.

Wednesday, March 29.

The Liberals had a very successful lecture meeting in the Kinki-kan at Kanda on the 27th March. The principal speakers were Mr. Hoshi Toru, Mr. Ebara Soroku, and Count Itagaki. Mr. Hoshi spoke in the plainest terms without any reserve whatever. He attacked Count Okuma and the Progressists vehemently, and charged them with gross inconsistency, inasmuch as, after voting for the *post-bellum* programme, they declined to agree to the taxes necessary for carrying it out. Altogether he laid no less than twenty-five sins to their charge. He included Viscounts Miura and Tani in his assault, and he then passed on to eulogise the doings of his own Party. The Liberals, he said, had stepped into the breach at a time of great danger. Had they not joined hands with the Government, the Cabinet must have fallen or the Diet must have been dissolved. In either case the suspension of a part of the Constitution would have been probable, and the completion of the scheme of armaments expansion would have been indefinitely postponed. Hence it might be said of the Liberals that they had saved the Constitution, had preserved the people's rights, and had enabled the country to carry out its system of defences. In short, the Liberals deserved to have a vote of thanks from the nation. Mr. Hoshi's speech lasted two hours. It elicited some signs of dissent from the audience, but the voices of applause overwhelmed every other sound. Mr. Ebara Soroku discussed the moral responsibilities of the Party in his usual undemonstrative style, and Count Itagaki, whose oratory is said to have been marked by many graces of language and gesture, set forth the policy of the Liberals.

It is confidently asserted that Count Itagaki is to become a member of the Privy Council. That means, of course, that he will cease to be a party leader, and we presume that Mr. Hoshi Toru will henceforth be regarded as the head

of the Liberals, unless—which is very probable—some older statesman joins their ranks.

The Progressists are certainly not riding on the tide of success at present. The wind seems to be filling the sails of the Liberals only. Of course no one imagines that a party led by Count Okuma and including in its ranks at least a score of unquestionably able men, can be permanently effaced. But the Progressists are labouring under the difficulty of not being able to find a platform on which they can raise themselves into prominence. Their recent attempt can not be called successful. They proclaimed a policy of financial retrenchment, declaring that they advocated a reduction of the Land Tax and a diminution of 17 million *yen* in the Ordinary Expenditures. It was by a Progressist Cabinet, however, that the outlays on account of the second-period armaments-expansion programme were presented for parliamentary approval, and their rivals are not slow to point out that inconsistency. Moreover, the addition of Viscount Miura's name to its roll of members has not enhanced the Party's reputation. Viscount Miura is regarded as a man of obsolete, not to say mediæval methods.

QUEEN AND EMPRESS.

Whatever may have been the personal character of the late Queen of Korea, she was certainly a factor of political unrest. Foreigners coming into close contact with her soon learned to love and respect her, but the outside world knew her chiefly as a centre of Court intrigue and national dissension. Mademoiselle Om, who is now endeavouring to reach the throne, seems likely to wear her predecessor's political mantle. Apparently her influence with the Emperor does not suffice to accomplish her ambition, or—which is more probable—the Emperor is too weak to carry out her wishes without aid from his courtiers. Hence the lady is plotting on her own account. She has already organized a strong following, and of course, as her partisans grow in number, her enemies also multiply. She will probably succeed in becoming Empress, but not without sowing seeds of future trouble. On what foreign Power does she lean? It would be an incredible novelty were any political intrigue conducted in Sŏul without some appeal for alien interference. Rumour says that Mademoiselle Om is pro-Russian. There is also a whisper that she inclines to Japan. At all events, she does not rely equally on both, and it may be taken for granted that she will not help to smoothe the relations of the rival Powers. Many Japanese imagine that Russia has permanently effaced herself in Korea. We do not believe anything of the kind. Even though Vladivostok were to be a mere outlying station of the Trans-Asian Line, Russia could hardly take the risk of having a strong Power sandwiched between that important depôt and the Liaotung Peninsula. But the extensive works now in progress at Vladivostok can not be reconciled with the idea that it is to be a place of secondary grade. The Korean peninsula is destined to play a great part in Far-Eastern history, and the Empress Om may be one of the prominent figures in the scene.

YOUNG JAPAN AND AMERICA.

Young Japan, as represented by the *Nippon*, shows a strong inclination to espouse the cause of the Filipinos. It was from the distinguished editor of that newspaper that Aguinaldo's Secretary recently received an invitation to meet at dinner a number of Tokyo journalists, and thus obtained an exceptionally good opportunity to ventilate his views. The *Nippon* devotes its leading columns to some statements which are almost sensational. The Americans, it says, have now a force of twenty-five thousand men in Manila. Yet they are unable to produce any permanent impression on the Filipinos, and if they want to conquer the islands, they must increase their army by fifty thousand, an effort which will tax their strength almost beyond endurance. Then the *Nippon* goes on to relate, in regretful tones, the alleged excesses committed by American soldiers; the breaking into houses, the violating of women, and the general want of discipline, all of which our contemporary seems to accept with bland credulity. Presently fever, and malaria, and the fierce heat of a tropical summer will range their forces on the side of the Filipinos, and then America will find herself in the dilemma of the Chinese proverb's ram in a bush (*shiyō shokushan no himkyō*), unable either to advance or retire.

The moral of this gloomy story, according to our contemporary, is that Japan ought to throw her weight into the scale in behalf of the Filipinos. The *Nippon* alleges that when Count Okuma held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, he addressed to the American Secretary of State a despatch explaining that if any satisfactory method could be devised for granting autonomy to the Filipinos under the suzerainty of the United States, such a solution of the problem would have Japan's hearty approval. Recently, again, President McKinley, seeking an expression of Marquis Ito's view, received from him also an assurance that Japan had no ulterior designs whatever, and that she would willingly fall in line with any scheme for granting a measure of independence to the Filipinos. Thus Japan is pledged to the policy of an independent nation in the Philippines under American protection, and since the problem has now become extremely difficult for America to solve, a little display of resolution on the part of the Japanese would doubtless tend materially to promote the desired solution.

If the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* spoke with authority, its definition of Japan's proper attitude towards the Far Eastern Question would be very interesting. Even as an individual statement of policy it is instructive, statesmanlike, and dignified. Russia and Japan, we are told, have mutually agreed to observe certain limits in their dealings with Korea. We believe that Russia will fulfil her engagements, and that other Powers also will show a like spirit. It is asserted in some quarters that Russia stepped out of Korea on condition that no obstacle to her doings in China was offered by Japan. That is quite erroneous. Japan did not pledge herself to any course in China *vis-à-vis* Russia. It is further stated that Russia is again beginning to interfere in Korean affairs, and that Japan's powerlessness to check her is palpable. There are no grounds for the assertion, and it may be confidently declared that if Russia violates any of the

cardinal conditions of her agreement with Japan, or acts in contravention of its spirit, Japan will not be a consenting party. Russia must be well aware of that fact and will keep it in view. Japan's policy towards China and Korea is perfectly plain and above-board. It may be succinctly stated. "Her first object is to maintain the independence of Korea and to preserve the peace of the Orient. A course of paltry acquisitions and aggressions (*koku taru sunjo seikido*) is not regarded by her as worthy or necessary. Neither will she trouble herself to offer aid in this quarter or opposition in that because of the selfish designs of one or two States. Her foreign policy is perfectly plain and intelligible. She need not concern herself about securing small footholds and stationing handfuls of troops there in order to establish her sphere of influence and guard it in times of crisis. She is separated from the cardinal points of China and Korea by a mere strip of sea that can be crossed in one bound. Who could measure strength with her in the day of emergency? Certainly no Power that is burdened with the responsibility of guarding many territories. Should Russia take steps leading to a collision with another Power in Korea she would not find Liaotung sufficient for her purpose. We can rely on ourselves. There is no occasion to feel any apprehension."

That is certainly spirited writing. Nor can we accuse the writer of exaggerating the strength of his country's position. Japan occupies a coign of vantage in the Far East. She need not join in any precipitate scramble, but may bide her time quietly. All that she has to do is to prove herself alert, not inert.

MR. ECKHART.

Mr. Eckhart, who has held the position of Musical Instructor to the Imperial Band for many years—some fifteen, if we remember rightly—is about to leave Japan. A farewell entertainment was given in his honour on the 24th ultimo, in the Imperial Musical Academy at Ushigome, their Excellencies Viscount Tanaka and Baron Sannomiya acting as hosts. Mr. Eckhart's departure will be a great loss to this country. A quiet, unobtrusive, but thoroughly competent expert, he has done admirable work. Music in Japan owes him a heavy debt, for not only has he contributed largely to the technical progress of the art, but also his adaptations and compositions have permanently and valuably enriched the nation's musical repertoire.

THE LATEST AMERICAN VICTORY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

It has been remarked that the losses reported to have been suffered by the Filipinos in their latest fight with the United States' troops do not bear a particularly favorable ratio to the American losses. The figures were 400 on the side of the Filipinos and 100 on the side of the Americans. But that question depends almost entirely on the character of the conflict. If it was a battle in the open, the figures would not be satisfactory. But if, as is more than probable, the Americans had to attack the Filipinos in an entrenched position, the relative losses are not by any means unfavourable.

THE "JIJI SHIMPO" ON FOREIGN POLICY.

We do not recognise the eminently sober, practical *Jiji Shimpō* in the newspaper which now discusses Japan's foreign policy with so much vagueness and so little apparent rationality. Article after article at present appearing in our contemporary's columns may be summarized as nothing more or less than an outcry for a *coup* of some kind or other, no matter what. There is certainly a great deal of truth in the contention that Japan is becoming more and more dependent on foreign countries for her food supplies, and that, since she closely resembles England in that respect, she ought to follow England's eminently practical example in providing for the safety of her over-sea routes. But we do not see how the people's want of inclination for enterprises abroad can be laid to the charge of the Foreign Office's inactivity. It is apparent that the Japanese have no strength at present to essay commercial or industrial undertakings on the Asiatic continent. They have made no use of the settlements acquired for them in China under the Shimonoseki Treaty. They can not build the Formosan Railway. They have obtained a concession for a Sōul-Fusan line, but there is no talk of commencing its construction. What has all that to do with the Government's foreign policy, however? The *Jiji* seems to think that there is a good deal of connexion. It avers that when some Chinese recently applied for a loan on the security of a mine, Japanese capitalists declined to render any assistance because they placed no reliance on the strength of the Government's policy in China, and it hints pretty plainly that if some step were taken to convert the Fuhkien guarantee into a reality, a spirit of over-sea enterprise would immediately be developed among the people. Well, that is assuredly a view which finds no confirmation in English history. The British Government has invariably followed, not led, the over-sea enterprise of its people. Nor do Japanese annals justify such a contention. The war with China was a tolerably striking *coup*. If any act of foreign policy could stir the Japanese people, they ought to have been moved by the drama of 1894-5. But they have not made any resolute attempt to gather the fruits of that war. They have done nothing in China, and very little in Formosa. It may be that we wrongly interpret the *Jiji*'s meaning, but if it really intends to suggest that some bold stroke of foreign policy should be made merely to rouse the people from their languid mood, it is giving pernicious and ill-considered advice.

JAPANESE CONSULAR REPORTS.

A vernacular contemporary refers in terms of strong condemnation to the trade reports compiled by Japan's Consuls abroad. They are declared to be not only belated, but totally devoid of originality and quite useless to commercial folks. Mr. Consul Brennan's report is instanced as an example of the kind of document that should be prepared. The *Kokumin* says that the Japanese themselves learned a great deal from it about their own country, and that it must have conveyed most valuable information to those for whom it was written.

WILLS AND OTHER THINGS.

Experience has shown that newspaper discussions in this Settlement with regard to questions of law or treaty seldom lead to any useful result. The parties to the controversy think very much more of gaining some paltry verbal advantage than of elucidating the facts, and are content with any argument that serves their turn, however bewildering the effect may be upon the public. An example is before us. On the 13th instant a writer in the *Japan Herald*, discussing "The Prospect under the Treaties," said:—

Whilst on this line of thought, we may call attention to two very important questions upon which more exact information with proper references should be obtained from Dr. Lönholm. One is the matter of superficies, which he extends in a way that could never be expected from the Civil Codes, and the other is the matter of wills. It might be convenient if all questions on wills were to be determined by the law of the testator's nationality, but we have never heard of such a thing being done, and we are anxious to know whether Dr. Lönholm's statement is correct. If the will is to be governed in the usual way, that is by the law of the testator's domicile, there will arise many difficult questions, and the Japanese Courts may even claim that all old residents are domiciled in Japan.

Now this is a very simple matter. The whole question, as propounded by the writer we have quoted, is whether the Japanese Code provides or does not provide that matters relating to wills shall be governed by the law of the testator's nationality. There is an excellent translation of the Japanese Law concerning the Application of Laws in General. It is accessible to everybody who chooses to spend a few shillings on acquiring it. Yet the writer in the *Japan Herald* had the splendid effrontery to declare that he had not consulted the translation, though he undertook to publicly discuss the law governing wills! We doubt whether in any other part of the world a journalist would have the impudence to come before the public with such a confession on his lips. Why did he not consult the Law? What did he mean by his nonchalant declaration "we have never heard of such a thing"? If he had not heard of it, his own laziness was solely to blame, for the whole matter is set forth by the Law in the plainest terms. Noticing our contemporary's paragraph and wondering at the ignorance it displayed, we quoted the 26th Article of the "Law concerning the Application of Laws in General," which runs thus:—

The existence and the effect of a will are governed by the law of the nationality to which the maker of the will belongs at the time of the making.

The revocation of a will is governed by the law of the nationality of the maker at the time of revocation.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs, the law of the place where the act is done may be followed as to the forms of a will.

Nothing could be plainer. In the face of these provisions, there is not the most infinitesimal room for doubt. Had it been the object of the writer in the *Japan Herald* to assist his readers to a knowledge of the conditions that will really exist "under the Treaties," he would have frankly acknowledged the significance of the Law as quoted by us, and let the matter rest there. What he did, on the contrary, was to pen the following reply:—

On the question relating to wills, the *Mail* refers to Dr. Lönholm's translation of the Code as a proof that Dr. Lönholm's statement in his other book is correct. We are quite aware that the two things are consistent, but what we want to know

is whether either of them is a correct statement of the Japanese law, because when it is an universally recognised principle of International law, that wills are to be construed according to the law of the testator's domicile, it is startling to find that, if the will is to take effect in Japan, it will be construed by a law which may be quite different.

It is really worth while to compare this paragraph with the original statements of the same writer. At the outset he declared that "more exact information with proper references should be obtained from Dr. Lönholm." Now Dr. Lönholm could not possibly furnish any information except the provisions of Japanese law itself, or give any references except his own translation of that law. Yet, when the translation is quoted *verbatim* by us, the quaintly quibbling reply is that Dr. Lönholm is the translator, and that to cite Dr. Lönholm's translation in support of Dr. Lönholm's digest is inconclusive! Moreover, the writer having explicitly informed us in the first instance that "he had never heard of such a thing" as "questions on wills being determined by the law of the testator's nationality," avers, in the second, that he is "quite aware" of the existence of a Japanese law in that sense as translated by Dr. Lönholm. Of course his criticisms are simply persiflage and prevarication. And the most comical point is his latest declaration:—"What we want to know is whether either of them" (Dr. Lönholm's statement or Dr. Lönholm's translation) is a correct statement of the Japanese law." Is not that amusing? Why should not this befogged writer consult the law? What right has he to throw doubt upon the interpretation or the translation of a competent jurist like Dr. Lönholm if he will not take the trouble to examine the meaning of the law himself and to compare the translation with the original? This is precisely on a par with the effrontery of his former assertion that he was "anxious to know" a thing which he should have made it his imperative business to ascertain before venturing to speak at all. He might just as well announce that he is "anxious to know" how a word is spelled, but that really he finds it too troublesome to consult a dictionary. The moral of the whole incident is that the duty of helping to enlighten the public is altogether subverted to controversial ends by writers like those we have quoted. They do not care what confusion they create provided that, like the cuttle-fish, they can conceal their own blunders under an inky cloud. "Superficies" is simply the right to occupy and use land for building or planting purposes during a long term of years. There is not the smallest ambiguity about it. But our local critics, having, *more suo*, blundered at the outset by interpreting the law without consulting it, applied themselves thenceforth to save their face by quibble after quibble, until they can now claim the honourable record of having perniciously perplexed the public and mischievously discredited a privilege which it is of the greatest importance to foreigners to understand and enjoy.

SILK.

A very marked "difference of doctors" is discovered by contrasting some observations elicited by a *Fiji Shimpō* reporter from Mr. Nakamigawa, Manager of the Mitsui Bank, with certain opinions recently expressed by foreign experts in these columns on the subject of sericulture and silk-reeling in Japan. Mr. Naka-

migawa is a man of much eminence in the business world of his country, and his views deserve to be received with all deference. But we are inclined to think that, in this instance, his information is defective. He asserts that Japanese silk has so greatly improved in quality as to leave its Chinese rival far behind, and even to oust Italian silk for weaving purposes. Starting from that premise, namely, that the position of Japanese silk in the markets of the world is now assured, Mr. Nakamigawa goes on to reason that Japanese sericulturists are cutting their own throats by parting with their product at needlessly low prices. He tells them, in effect, that the quotations in New York are virtually ruled by the quotations in Yokohama, and that if Japan chooses to "keep a stiff upper lip" she can permanently raise the profits on her silk industry to a much higher level than they now occupy. In fact, he predicts that, if his advice be followed, a thousand *yen* a bale will become the normal figure instead of the exceptional. In the margin of these comments Mr. Nakamigawa avers that, in the face of the low price of Japanese silk, the Chinese found it impossible to run the filatures started by them some years ago. The establishment of those filatures produced an unpleasant sensation of alarm in Japan, and we should have thought that, in accordance with the elementary principles of competition, Mr. Nakamigawa would welcome their disappearance from the field as the removal of a serious danger to the Japanese staple. But his remarks read as though he imagined that Japan's prices ought to be raised so as to leave a margin for rivalry. The foreign experts, whose opinions we recently quoted, take a very different view. They say that Japan's silk trade is gravely menaced owing to defective sericulture and unscientific reeling. European and American manufacturers are beginning to look at it askance, and will not purchase it now if they can get the Italian or French substitute. In short, so far from commanding the foreign market, Japan obtains ready access to it only in the event of a shortage of the European crop. Mr. Nakamigawa may be right when he alleges that, owing to the essentially domestic methods of the Japanese sericulturists, they have no definite idea of what their silk costs, and consequently sell it at prices below the proper figures. We hesitate to think, however, that he can be right when he issues a general invitation to his countrymen to raise their prices. Such a course would certainly deprive Japanese silk of one of its advantages in competition, and, moreover, Mr. Nakamigawa seems to altogether overlook the fact that the foreign middlemen who purchase the silk work on margins of profits so narrowed by their own rivalry that the Japanese seller could not possibly hope to do better though he had direct access to the markets abroad. Several attempts have been made by Japanese middlemen to export silk on their own account. They have always ended in failure, and the plain inference is that the foreigner has so organized the business as to make it yield a maximum of profit to the Japanese grower and reeler. For the rest, it is impossible for any rational person to believe that Japanese silk, which is of limited quantity and represents only a fraction of the world's produce, can be manipulated in such a way as to dictate terms to the world. A special

product for which there is a special demand may be sold at monopoly prices; and a product of unlimited quantity for which there is a general demand may control the market by underselling all competitors. But to say that the price of the world's silk can be arbitrarily raised by a demand asserted on behalf of a small portion of it, is a singular and inexplicable proposition. However, the most dangerous feature of Mr. Nakamigawa's thesis is his assertion that Japanese sericulturists and reellers have reached a high plane of excellence and are now in a position secure against rivalry. That is precisely what our foreign correspondents denied most strenuously, and, since Mr. Nakamigawa's words will obtain wide circulation through the columns of the *Yû Shimpô*, they may work untold mischief; unless, indeed, he is right, and the foreign experts of Yokohama are egregiously wrong.

JAPANESE WOMEN.

The *Yû Shimpô's* advice to the women of Japan is that they should revolt against the immorality of the stronger sex. Our contemporaries regard its countrymen as hopeless, for the present at all events. They will neither mend nor conceal their evil ways. But the women should differentiate themselves by plainly evincing their dissatisfaction. The tacit consent which they now give to their husband's infidelities tend not merely to encourage the sinner, but also implicate the sufferer indirectly. The near approach of mixed residence is urged as an additional incentive to reform. Foreign ladies, the *Yû* predicts, will have nothing to do with their Japanese sisters if they see that the latter countenance such abuses.

In this campaign Europeans and Americans will heartily endorse the *Yû's* efforts. That most execrable of old-time precepts, that a wife's first duty is to divest herself of jealousy, can not be too soon dethroned from the pedestal it has long occupied in Japan. But, after all, what hope is there for Japanese women so long as the law does not recognise their rights? The new Civil Code provides that a husband may obtain a judicial divorce on the ground of his wife's adultery, but no such provision exists for the protection of the wife. That is one of the worst features of the new Code, but no protest has been raised against it anywhere.

THE OSAKA HARBOUR WORKS.

The third issue of the Osaka Harbour Works loan bonds seems to have entailed a rather difficult negotiation. The Third National Bank is the Municipality's *vis-à-vis* for the financing of the loan. It appears that the civil authorities, in view of the greatly improved condition of the money market, thought that the bonds—they carry 6 per cent. interest—should be taken by the Bank at 95; a price slightly higher than their present market value. The Bank fought for more favourable terms, and finally obtained the bonds at 92½. The amount of the issue is 2,600,000 yen. This transaction vividly illustrates the difficulties that beset Japan's attempts to finance her public undertakings in the home market. Six per-cent. bonds sold at 92½ is anything but a rosy operation.

THE COURT OF CASSATION.

It is not easy for folks of ordinary intelligence to follow the reasoning of critics who, like the editor of the London *Spectator*, arguing from the fact that the French Government asked the Chambers to transfer the Dreyfus case from the Criminal Division of the Court of Cassation to the whole Court, contend that such a course is "to pack the highest Court rather than it should pass an unpopular verdict." That contention admits of one interpretation only, so far as we can perceive. It amounts to saying that, although the Criminal Division of the Court of Cassation could be trusted to do justice, the whole chamber, of which the Criminal Division is a part, could not be trusted. From an English or American point of view it is impossible to endorse, on general grounds, the course taken by M. Dupuy. In truth, so long as the fabric of Anglo-Saxon administration and Anglo-Saxon Society stands intact, the idea of parliamentary interference with the Judiciary's discharge of its functions is scarcely conceivable. That aspect of the incident certainly invites criticism. But surely logic is a little at fault when it is claimed that to enlist the wide wisdom and large responsibility of the whole Court instead of the comparatively limited capacities and authority of one section of it, is to pack the tribunal in the interests of the Anti-Dreyfusites? France has suffered terribly over this Dreyfus business. She has presented to the world the spectacle of a nation dangerously deficient in moral ballast, though in truth the drama derives much of its suggestiveness from the lurid light that racial passion and prejudice have cast on it. But in this matter of the Court of Cassation, it is not difficult to detect special reasons which, in M. Dupuy's opinion, may have outweighed the general inexpediency of inviting the Legislature to interfere with the Judiciary. The Dreyfus problem had assumed colossal dimensions. The reputation of the nation, if not the safety of the Republic, was involved in finding a speedy and satisfactory solution. It had reached the Court of Cassation, the country's supreme tribunal of appeal. If the verdict of that Court did not terminate the pernicious conflict of opinions and collision of races, the very gravest results must be apprehended. But doubts had been thrown on the impartiality of the Criminal Division of the Court by which the case was to be heard. They were proved to be entirely baseless doubts. Still, the mere fact of their existence showed conclusively that the Criminal Division's decision would not terminate the crisis. If it did not, what then? Nothing would remain but chaos. Was it not, therefore, a statesmanlike procedure on the part of M. Dupuy to propose that the acumen and credit of the whole Court should be at once enlisted in the cause of public tranquillity? Beyond a judgment of the whole Court of Cassation, sitting with all its Divisions united, France can not go. That is her last word. M. Dupuy and the two Chambers of the Legislature wanted to get that word at once. They saw that nothing else would suffice. So, at least, we interpret their action. And we must emphatically add that to talk of the whole Court of Cassation as "packed" because it is asked to pronounce a decision which the

French nation will not accept conclusively on the authority of only one section of the Court, is as insulting to France as to the intelligence of the public.

"CHINESE CURIOS."

There was recently put up for sale by auction in this Settlement a collection of porcelains and other objects described as "Old Chinese Curios," and the advertisements of the sale stated that the collection comprised:—"Blue Hawthorn Jars, Five-Colour Kwong-hi, and Five-Colour Ming Porcelains, Ming Cloisonné Vases, Old Bronze, Keen-lung Blue and Five-Colour and Tao-wang Porcelains, &c." These things were doubtless offered in perfect good faith by the firm of respectable auctioneers who managed the sale. Auctioneers, we believe, have no responsibility in such matters if they choose to disavow it, as was doubtless done in the case we are considering. A client sends certain goods to an auctioneer, and accompanies them with descriptions which the auctioneer accepts, at the same time warning buyers that they must purchase at their own risk and on their own judgment. We do not know the owner of these "old Chinese curios." He, too, may have been acting in good faith. But we are informed by a connoisseur in whose competence we have full confidence, that the advertised description was grossly misleading, and that the so-called Ming porcelains, Kang-hsi porcelains, Kien-lung porcelains, tao-kwang porcelains, Ming cloisonné vases, and old bronzes, were all—with one insignificant exception—articles of modern manufacture. Possibly it will be said that we are exceeding our journalistic duty when we allude to this affair. But it seems to us that if information of a deception calculated to cause loss and disappointment comes to us, we are bound to publish it, especially when a collection so erroneously described is not merely advertised in the ordinary manner, but is also brought to public notice by an editorial eulogy, as was the case with these particular "Old Chinese Curios." There is a point at which silence assumes the character of collusion, and that point is reached, we think, when sales such as the above are suffered to pass unnoticed by those who are in a position to protect the public against being deluded by them.

THE IMPERIAL LIBRARY.

The building in Ueno Park now used for the Imperial Library is a structure not at all worthy of its purpose, and during the past eight years the officials of the Education Department have been endeavouring to obtain a suitable site for a new edifice. The Shibiya parade-ground and the public garden at the foot of Kudan (Ushigafuchi, as it is called) were contemplated originally, but some difficulty arose in each case, and it appears that a site in Ueno Park, which belongs to the Department, has at last been selected *faute de mieux*. There is said to be much dissatisfaction about this site. It is proverbial that the Household Department, owing to its significant political influence, can never succeed in obtaining favourable consideration for its projects, and the failure in this instance is attributed to that cause. Certainly Ueno Park is an exceedingly remote place for the principal public library in the country.

A NEUTRAL ZONE.

We observe that the latest charge brought against the Americans at Manila is that they failed to "preserve" a wide neutral zone between the two forces," and their failure is declared to have been the cause of the collision which ultimately occurred. The inventor of that most ridiculous accusation writes as though he were an Englishman, but acknowledges himself to be "a friend of the Filipinos." It is in the latter capacity, we presume, that he sets himself to create ill-feeling between Britons and Americans by pretending that the Government at Washington has been playing fast and loose with John Bull, simulating willingness to negotiate with him about the Alaskan Boundary, and promising to support him in China if he abrogated the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, which promise has been unscrupulously broken. It is not surprising that men should be found to concoct malicious falsehoods of that kind. There will be liars and mischief-makers in the world so long as human nature remains human. But it is surprising that any newspaper calling itself British should lend its columns for the circulation of libellous inventions the palpable object of which is to set England and America by the ears in order that the Filipinos may benefit by their dissensions. That is patriotism of a high type. The neutral-zone talk saves the situation, for its comicality disarms indignation. In order that a neutral zone may be preserved between two military forces, it is necessary that each should be a consenting party to the arrangement, and if each is a consenting party there can be no fighting. The sapiently critical "friend of the Filipinos" would have been equally sensible and more direct had he abstained from circumlocutionary prattle about a neutral zone, and declared at once that "General Otis ought to have exacted from the Filipinos a promise not to fight, and then there would have been no fighting." All this talk about the wrongs suffered by the poor unoffending Filipinos, and the cruelties to which they have been subjected by the inhuman American soldiers, is becoming very tiresome. A great many people would sympathise with the Filipinos if they stood up stoutly and fought a straightforward fight for independence, but their attempts to turn the scales in their favour by falsehood and slander are earning for them contempt and ridicule, and if they imagine that by such methods they can demonstrate their competence to be autonomic, a very bitter disappointment awaits them.

THE IMPERIAL ESTATE.

We recently published some figures relating to investments made by the Imperial Estates Bureau in various enterprises. A full list is now given by the *Yoji Shimpō*, as follows:—

Name of Investments.	No. of Shares.
Yusen Kaisha	80,550
Bank of Japan	60,660
Specie Bank	30,200
Japan Railway	24,422
Tanaka Railway	18,460
Kyoto Railway	3,000
Gan-Yetsu Railway	2,000
San Gu Railway	1,143
Fifteenth National Bank	1,111
Su Bu Railway	720

The total number of shares in 231,266, and their total value at present market prices is 41,970,971 yen.

CHINESE IDIOSYNCRASIES.

It is remarked by a Tokyo journalist that people are mistaken who consider China to be in a parlous condition. The Manchu dynasty is menaced with disaster, but the Chinese nation will always retain its individuality. That is suggestive. We have often thought that the Chinese are the Jews of the East. They seem to rival the Hebrew in extraordinary tenacity of national idiosyncrasies. You can not Europeanise a Chinaman. Indeed, it is more possible to denationalize a Jew; for though the Jews, *en masse*, have never thoroughly coalesced with the Gentiles, individual Jews have become so nearly German, or French, or English, or Russian, that the type alone differentiates them. Can we say as much of the Chinese? How many Chinamen are there who have obliterated their Celestial spots and put on an American or European skin? There are a great many Japanese. Indeed, the Japanese accomplish the metamorphosis easily enough. But the Chinese are a highly specialized order of beings. They can neither assimilate their surroundings nor be assimilated by them. The repeated object lessons they have received during the past hundred years ought to have taught them the value of protection by mimicry, a principle which their neighbours, the Japanese, appreciated very quickly. But the Chinaman has not mastered even the alphabet of that important knowledge. He appears to constitute one of those types which nature takes peculiar care to preserve. We may not endorse nature's good taste in the matter, but we can scarcely ignore her resolution. The Chinaman seems to be a permanent institution.

FORMOSA.

Telegrams from Formosa are to the effect that the rebel chief Ko Ti-at has made act of submission. This man, though only 26 or 27 years of age, is said to have wielded great influence. He had his head-quarters in the Kagi district, and whenever he raised his standard numbers of insurgents flocked to it. There were originally four recognised leaders of rebels in Formosa; namely, Tin Chiu-kiok and Lin Ho-ong of Taipei; Hong Kok-tim of Taichu, and Ko Ti-at of Kagi, the last being far the most formidable. The three first had already been brought under control, and only Ko remained. The train of events by which his submission was brought about is said to have been this:—When Baron Kodama sent a force to clear out the Tainan rebels, the latter's leader, Liu Tek-sek, was taken prisoner. Finding that Liu had formerly held the rank of Major-General in the Chinese army, the Japanese treated him with due consideration, and, instead of subjecting him to the punishment of a rebel, gave him safe conduct to Amoy. Liu was so moved by this act of grace that he despatched letters to his former chief Ko Ti-at, urging the latter to submit to the Japanese, and Ko has now followed his some-time lieutenant's counsel. It is now expected, according to Tokyo newspapers, that the days of disturbance in Formosa are virtually over. We should be glad to think that the forecast is justified.

OMNISCIENT JOURNALISM.

Under the heading of "Imaginative Journalism" the *Japan Times* politely charges us with "gratuitous misrepresentation," because we said, "many Japanese imagine that Russia has permanently effaced herself in Korea." Our contemporary is also good enough to warn us that "too frequent a recourse to imagination is dangerous, especially in the field of every-day journalism." We fully appreciate the courtesy of the language in which the accusation is couched, and also the value of a warning coming from such a competent source. But we venture to suggest that omniscient journalism is also perilous, and that when the *Japan Times* undertakes to declare that "no such idea is entertained by any Japanese of intelligence," it lays claim to a monopoly of knowledge which can hardly be admitted. As a matter of fact several Japanese have expressed to us, and have controversially maintained, the view which our contemporary graciously attributes to our own imagination, and though it is possible that they may not have been qualified to rank as "intelligent Japanese," according to the standard of the *Japan Times*, they belonged to that category in the estimation of common work-a-day folk like ourselves. Russia's sudden exit from the Korean stage after M. de Speyer's celebrated ultimatum was interpreted by more than one foreign publicist to mean that she had decided to make Talien her chief point of exit in the Pacific, and that, Vladivostok being thus relegated to a secondary place, the Korean peninsula lost much of its strategical value in her eyes. To say that a similar interpretation of the incident commended itself to some Japanese minds also, may seem to the *Japan Times* like "indulging in the gift of imagination at the expense of the Japanese people," but it appears to us that the "imagination" is chiefly on the side of a journal which thinks that all clever persons must share its own view, and that no Japanese could be so lacking in intelligence as to entertain the opinion which several foreigners held. Our contemporary also indulges in a gracious sneer at "the secluded study of the Editor of the *Japan Mail* in Nagasaki." We regret to find that the editor of the *Japan Times* has learned to look back with so much contempt on the place where he received his own journalistic training, but for his sake we ought to be glad, doubtless, that he has reached an elevation which enables him to spurn the ladder that raised him.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

The first pronouncement of the Court of Cassation, as telegraphed this morning, has been unfavourable to the Dreyfus party. Madame Dreyfus seems to have challenged three of the judges constituting the Court, and, having failed to establish the grounds of her challenge, has been condemned to pay a fine of 100 francs. It is, of course, a bad blunder to essay a step of that nature unless success is tolerably certain, for failure creates an impression highly disadvantageous to the applicant. The Court itself, however, may be trusted to discharge its duty with strict justice irrespective of all sentimental incidents.

THE RAILWAY PURCHASE SCHEME.

It is alleged that the Committee appointed to investigate the question of nationalizing the principal private railways are divided into two sections. One, which is called the Government Party, maintains that the price paid for the lines should be twenty times the net annual profit now realized from them. The other, or Railway Party, insists that the price should be twenty-five times the profit. The aggregate net profits of the four roads are 7 million *yen* in round members, so that the two prices in question are 140 million *yen* and 175 millions. Evidently, before pronouncing any opinion in such matters, we must know the rate of interest which the bonds are to bear. If the rate is 5 per cent., then the price advocated by the Railway Party means that the shareholders would exchange an income of 7 millions for one of 8½ millions. On the other hand, the property will obviously become more valuable as time passes. If foreign traffic-managers were placed in charge of the lines, the income derived from them could probably be raised, very soon, to 9 or 10 million *yen*, and even under the present very defective system of control, a greatly increased income will be obtained a few years hence. It is only fair that the shareholders should derive some benefit from the increment. Probably there will be another example of compromise, and the multiplier chosen will be 22½.

NEW DEGREE-HOLDERS.

A degree-conferring ceremony was held in Tokyo on the 27th March. No fewer than 100 degrees were conferred, thirty falling to the lot of teachers in the Imperial University and 71 to specially selected candidates. Among the gentlemen thus distinguished, we observe the name of Mr. Tsubouchi Yuzo, better known by his *nom de plume*, *Sho-yo*, one of the best romancists of the time, and of Messrs. Taguchi Ukichi, the celebrated economist, Uyeda Mannen, Professor of the Japanese language and literature, Nakamura Yaro, the prominent politician, Nitobe Inazo, the well-known agriculturist, Sakatani Yoshiro, who has won much credit as Government Delegate for the Finance Department, and Soyeda Juichi, also an able financier.

MANILA.

The news from Manila suggests that a conflict of some magnitude has taken place between the Americans and the Filipinos. It is unfortunate that the telegram is not more explicit, for it leaves us uncertain whether the insurgents or the United States' troops were the assailants. Probably the latter. General Otis is doubtless pushing on with expedition so as to strike the strongest possible blows before the hot weather sets in. So long as he can find the Filipinos in sufficient force to give some signal value to victory over them, he must be counted fortunate. The harassing and difficult situation will commence when the insurgents take to purely guerilla warfare, never offering a sufficient target for effective strokes. It is possible, however, that they will sue for terms rather than see their organization reduced to the plight of fragmentary resistance.

MASSACRE NEAR NEWCHWANG.

The Newchwang correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes:—

"The victims of the Liuchiatien massacre are more numerous than was at first stated. Over forty names of the dead have been reported to the Kinchow magistrate, and these, it is believed, do not exhaust the list. Among them are women, children, and others quite unconnected with the deportation, cut down by Russians who were hunting for fugitives. One result has been the emigration of many Chinese from Liuchiatien and the vicinity, who are seeking homes further north among their own people. The matter was reported by the Kinchow magistrate to the Tsungli-Yamen, who made it the subject of representation to the Russian Minister. He, however, disclaimed responsibility, and referred them to the home Government; the inference being that the Russian officials in the Port Arthur district are not under his control."

We (*Japan Mail*) re-publish this intelligence for what it may be worth, but every reader of modern newspapers has learned that very little reliance can be placed on sensational stories of such a nature. Whence was the information obtained in this instance? Obviously from Chinese sources. We know what that means. Were the same tale told of English soldiers by Chinese peasants, no English paper would credit it for an instant, and the *N.-C. Daily News*, if it gave the matter a place in its columns, would do so merely for the purpose of denying the *canard* indignantly. When the Filipinos recently circulated a rumour to the effect that American troops had shot down women and children near Manila, the assertion was greeted with scornful incredulity. Why a similar tale should be blindly accepted merely because Russians are the persons accused, we can not see. Let us first hear what the Russians themselves have to say.

THE TOKYO TRAM COMPANY.

It has taken a long time to settle the question of the Tokyo Tram Company's fares. Perhaps our readers remember that the Police, some months ago, fixed a superior limit for the number of passengers carried by a train-car, and the Company consequently sought and obtained permission to raise its fares. Inasmuch, however, as the shareholders were receiving dividends of about 30 per cent., the public expressed considerable indignation against the new schedule, and the Tokyo City Assembly voted that steps must be taken to restore the old rates. But it appears that the Police could not be induced to modify their regulation restricting the number of passengers. They insisted that the crowding of the cars as previously practised facilitated pocket-picking, impaired morality, and was hygienically unwise. A compromise has now at last been effected. The police regulations are to be enforced and the Company is to charge the increased rates, but, by way of a sop to public opinion, a sum of 5,000 *yen* is to be paid out of the profits during a term of 3 years for purposes of street repairing.

BARON DE BIEGLEBEN.

We find the following in a home journal:—"The Emperor of Austria has been pleased to confer the rank of Privy Councillor on Baron de Biegleben, late Minister Plenipotentiary of Austria-Hungary to the Court of Japan, who has been a winter resident in Cairo since his retirement from active service."

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The Government has issued important regulations, the effect of which, broadly stated, is to place the Civil Service on nearly the same footing as the Judiciary and to close the higher offices to all persons not specifically qualified. The regulations are divided into three classes, the first relating to appointments, the second to the status of officials, and the third to disciplinary measures.

As to appointments, the qualifications of *Sonin* and *Hannin* officials have hitherto been duly fixed, but not those of *Chokunin*. It is now provided that the only persons eligible to become *Chokunin* shall be (1) officials of first-class *Sonin* rank; (2) officials who have held *Chokunin* posts for a full year, or persons who have passed the examination for high-class officials; (4) officials who have served as *Chokunin* Public Procurators for a full year.

The regulations with regard to status provide (1) that officials may not be deprived of office unless they have been judicially convicted of crime, or administratively pronounced guilty of fault, or are physically or morally incapacitated; (2) that officials may not, contrary to their own wishes, be transferred to an inferior post unless a reduction of the official establishment is necessary, in conformity with fixed rule or for purposes of reform.

The regulations relating to disciplinary measures provide for the organization of punishment committees of two grades, one for *chokunin* officials and the other for officials of lower rank. The former is to be composed of a president and six members, the president being a Privy Councillor; and the members, the Chief Judge of the Administrative Court, or *Chokunin* Judges of that Court, &c. They will be nominated by the Minister President, and will hold office for 3 years. The organization of the ordinary punishment committee need not be described in detail.

Of course the object of these excellent regulations is to make administrative officials independent of political changes of Cabinet; to give security of tenure, and to do away with the abuses of nepotism hitherto more or less frequent. But another palpable effect will be to put an end to the office-hunting propensities of party politicians. Under this new system it would be impossible to pitchfork into the position of *Chokunin* Councillors of Departments a number of men without any qualification except their prominence on the platform or in the rostrum, as was done last year, and it would be equally impossible to give posts as *Chokunin* Governors to party leaders.

It is alleged that the publication of these regulations—which are to become operative from April 10th—has greatly offended the Liberals. They recently adopted a resolution that no attempt should be made to obtain official appointments, but they did not propose to carry the virtue of self-denial so far as to refuse appointments if the Government offered them. Moreover, they think that they ought to have been consulted about the regulations, whereas the Cabinet did the whole thing without saying a word to any one. In short, the Liberals think that they have been slighted, if not actually insulted, and they are about to discuss the expediency of taking some decisive steps. Such, at any rate, is the account of their attitude given by Tokyo newspapers.

RIGHTS OF BRITISH SUBJECTS.

THE *Japan Times* of the 29th ultimo contains a clever and weighty article with reference to the source from which the subjects and citizens of states other than Germany will derive the right to hold land in Japan as superficiaries, after next July. Sir ERNEST SATOW's letter to Mr. WHITEHEAD of Hongkong is the text of the article. Her Majesty's Minister, speaking, of course, with reference to British subjects only, claims that they will be entitled to acquire a superficies for two reasons; the first based on a point of terminology, the second on the most favoured nation clause.

The question of terminology, though at first sight a little perplexing, is really very simple. In the 3rd article of the Revised Anglo-Japanese Treaty, it is provided that British subjects "may own or hire and occupy the houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops, and premises which may be necessary for them, and lease land for residential and commercial purposes, conforming themselves to the Laws, Police, and Customs Regulations of the country like native subjects." Now it is true that this Article recognises only one method of acquiring land, namely, by lease, and it is also true that in strict legal phraseology a superficies and a lease are two different and distinct things. Hence the apparent inference is that, under the provisions of the above Article, British subjects, though entitled to become lessees, will not be entitled to become superficiaries. But if an agreement between two parties is to be interpreted according to the strict letter of legal phraseology, we must be assured that it was drafted in conformity with that phraseology. In other words, before the Treaty between Great Britain and Japan is read by the light of the codified law of Japan, there must be some evidence that the high contracting parties had that law in view when they negotiated the Treaty. Is there any such evidence? To answer that question, we naturally turn to the Japanese Code, and we there find that the term used for "hiring" (i.e., leasing), is not the term used in the Treaty. The Japanese term is essentially juristic—a term used by jurists only;—the Treaty term is the simple every-day expression for "obtaining on hire." Sir ERNEST SATOW's point, as we understand it, is that the intention of the framers of the Treaty was to enable British subjects to enjoy every method of "obtaining on hire" sanctioned by the laws of Japan, and that, since "superficies" is such a method, they are entitled to become superficiaries.

The same argument was advanced more than a year ago in our own columns, without, however, the same reliance on phraseology alone. Our view is broader. The intention of the Treaty, as it presents

itself to us, is that when British subjects are guaranteed the right of "owning, or hiring and occupying, the houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops, and premises which may be necessary for them," an engagement is given that they may resort to every method of ownership contemplated by law. Now the 265th article of the Civil Code says:—"A superficies has the right to use another person's land for the purpose of owning thereon structures or bamboos and trees." Here is a distinctly specified method of owning structures. Moreover, it is the only satisfactory method—satisfactory from a business point of view—provided by the Code, short of owning the land also, which privilege is withheld from aliens. Can it possibly have been the intention of the framers of the Treaty, on the one hand, to enter into an agreement that British subjects should have the right of owning whatever buildings are necessary for trade or manufacturing purposes, and, on the other, to deprive that right of all practical value by limiting its exercise to a term of 20 years? We do not think that the Treaty can be rationally construed in such a restricted sense. Moreover, another consideration presents itself. Sir ERNEST SATOW contents himself with noting that the Japanese word "lease" in the English version is not identical with the Code term, and that, consequently, the restrictions attaching to the Code "lease" do not apply to the Treaty "lease." Without attempting to deny the conclusiveness of that differentiation, we think it may be further urged that the Treaty term is accompanied by a definition which materially expands its force. The language used is "lease land for residential and commercial purposes." The Treaty does not say merely "lease;" it says "lease for residential and commercial purposes." Surely it would be a little farcical to lease land for commercial purposes if the tenure were limited to 20 years? And surely when the high contracting parties agreed that such leasing should be in conformity with the laws of Japan as applied to Japanese subjects, they can not have intended to exclude it from the purview of the only law which makes land-leases valuable for commercial purposes?

It has also to be remembered that the revised Civil Code of Japan was not in existence at the time of the conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty. Hence the language used in the Treaty must be interpreted in the sense generally attaching at that time to terms such as its framers employed, not in the special sense of the highly technical terminology subsequently employed by the drafters of the Code. The British negotiators of the Treaty, when they spoke of "leasing land for residential and commercial purposes," may reasonably affirm that they intended the word lease to mean simply "tenure" of every

kind sanctioned by Japanese law, short of actual ownership.

The interest attaching to this question is chiefly academical. There is not the remotest intention, we presume, on the part of the Japanese Government to attempt to limit the land-tenure privileges of British subjects to twenty-year leases. The *Japan Times* fully recognises the non-essential character of the issue. We may remark, however, that, in essaying to impose such a limit, the Japanese Government would find itself in the very position which our contemporary condemns when taken by the British Minister. For, to use our contemporary's pithy phrase, *mutatis mutandis*, "it would be a dangerous principle to enunciate that an intention on the part of the Treaty-framers to exclude 'superficies' from the scope of 'leases' is deducible from the unique fact that the term 'lease' is rendered in a subsequently enacted Code by a word which does not include 'superficies?'"

Let us now briefly allude to the second reason on which Sir ERNEST SATOW bases his contention—namely, the operation of the most favoured nation clause. The Treaty between Japan and Germany was negotiated after the completion of the revised Japanese Civil Code, and the negotiators were consequently led to take the precaution of including "superficies" among the forms of land-tenure guaranteed to German subjects. Sir ERNEST SATOW contends that, under the most favoured nation clause, British subjects are entitled to enjoy the same privilege. The *Japan Times* denies His Excellency's contention on the ground that "the most favoured nation clause is specifically limited to matters of 'Commerce and Navigation,'" and can not, consequently, be extended to land-leasing. But surely this is a matter of commerce? The words of the British Treaty are, "lease land for residential and commercial purposes." In the face of these qualifying words "for commercial purposes" we fail to see how the non-applicability of the most favoured nation clause can be asserted.

Perhaps we ought to note that all this has nothing whatever to do with the meaning of "superficies," or with its practical value. Our contemporary explicitly recognises that the nature and scope of the rights embodied in the term are correctly defined by Her Majesty's Minister. Yet it may be well to note that Sir ERNEST SATOW's definition is not comprehensive. He says:—"Superficies is the right to use another person's land for the purpose of owning thereon buildings, in consideration of an annual rent, &c." An annual rent, however, is not the only form of consideration, as was recently pointed out in these columns, and great importance attaches to the fact. Sir ERNEST SATOW's letter was obviously never intended for publication in Japan, or, indeed, for publication anywhere, *qua* a

British Minister's pronouncement. Had it been written with that intention its phraseology would have been different and its definitions probably fuller. But it has been very useful, directly for the sake of the explanation it contains, and indirectly because it has prompted this discussion as to the source whence foreigners will derive their title to become "superficiaries" after July next.

SIGNS OF CIVILIZATION.

A correspondent of a Tokyo contemporary says that the roads in Tokyo are the worst in the world. That appears to us to be a slight exaggeration. Until the Tokyo streets can boast of a hole deep enough to drown a donkey, and of mud-lakes large enough to be lashed into billows when strong winds blow, the crown of disgrace must rest on Peking's brows. But Tokyo is well in the competition. Anywhere in the Japanese metropolis after a day's rain one may now see the same cruel sights that are witnessed in Chinese cities: men toiling along under loads made doubly heavy by the terrible condition of the track, and unfortunate animals—oxen and horses—subjected to harrowing brutality because their strength is insufficient to drag carts and carriages through morasses of dirt. This is the very crucial test of civilization. The discomfort and unsightliness of the thing are bagatelles compared with the enormous losses entailed upon the citizens, and the demoralizing effects of such maladministration. Tokyo is not civilized, and there is no use pretending that it is.

CUSTOMS COMMITTEE.

The *Shogyo Shimpō* makes a good point, we think, when it urges that practical business men should be included among the members of the Customs Committee. According to the new Customs Law, complaints against the action of the Customs officials may be carried on appeal to the Minister of Finance, and by him submitted to a Committee, of which the organization is to be determined by Imperial Ordinance. As yet no Ordinance has been promulgated, but rumour alleges that the Committee is to consist of judges of the Supreme and Administrative Courts, Councillors and Appraisers of the Finance Department, and Professors of the College of Science. Of course such a list is incomplete, but it seems to us very improbable that the Government will fail to employ business men on a tribunal whose chief function is to adjudicate upon questions of commerce.

THE VERBECK MEMORIAL.

We read in vernacular newspapers that the subscription list for the Verbeck Memorial closed on the 23rd instant. The principal promoters of this movement have been Marquis Hosokawa, Professor Hosokawa Junjiro and Mr. Tsuji Shinji. The memorial will take the form of a tomb-stone in Aoyama Cemetery. An independent subscription, as many of our readers probably remember, was got up by foreigners and produced a considerable sum.

THE SHASI AFFAIR.

The fact that the Shasi affair had been satisfactorily settled was published some time ago, and the terms are now stated. They are very simple:—(1) The local officials are to be instructed to apprehend and punish the rioters. (2) The policemen that sided with the rioters are to be dismissed and punished. (3) Liu Siang-pian, who was instructed, a month ago, to resign, is to be further examined and held responsible for his conduct, and the *Tsung-li Yamén* promises that he shall not be employed, for at least 4 or 5 years, in any office which brings him into direct contact with Japanese subjects. (4) The compensation due to the sufferers by the riot is to be determined by the Japanese Consul and the local officials in consultation, and effect is to be given to their decision within 30 days, if possible, from the time of formulating it.

M. FELIX RÉGAMÉY.

The celebrated M. Felix Régaméy is now in Tokyo. M. Régaméy holds the post of Inspector of Instruction in Designing for the City of Paris. He has come to Japan on a special mission, and is now residing at No. 18, Motomachi, in the Honjo district of Tokyo. On the 26th instant, he was entertained by a number of the leaders of art society in Tokyo at the chambers of the Geographical Society. It will be exceedingly interesting to hear the views entertained by such an authority on the condition of modern, as compared with old, designing in Japan.

NEW PRIVY COUNCILLOR.

The statement that Count Itagaki was about to be made a Privy Councillor has not been verified by facts. Baron Ito Miyoji has received that honour. The ceremony of appointment took place at the Palace on the 29th instant. It is now alleged that the original intention was to appoint Count Hijikata, Count Itagaki, and Baron Ito, but that action has been deferred in the case of the two Counts.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE.

The Japan Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church opened in Goucher Hall, Anyama, Tokyo, on Wednesday morning at nine o'clock and will very likely remain in session until Wednesday of next week. Each session will begin at 8.30 a.m., with a half hour devotional meeting, and close at noon. All the sessions are open to the public.

At seven o'clock on Wednesday evening the anniversary of the Home Missionary and Church Extension Societies was held; the Rev. T. Ukai, K. Ishizaka, and S. Ogata taking part. On Thursday, at 7 p.m., the Temperance Anniversary will be held; the speakers are the Hon. Taro Ando, the Hon. T. Fujita, and Mr. Kanitaka Ito.

On Friday morning, laymen from different parts of the Empire assembled to elect a representative to the General Conference, which meets in Chicago in May, 1900. On Friday evening, a laymen's meeting was held, and addresses given by Prof. E. Asada, Mr. T. Hanagawa, and Mr. K. Ito. On Sunday, at 9 a.m., the Conference love-feast taken place at 10 a.m., preacher, Bishop Cranston; at 2 p.m., ordination service; at 3.30 p.m., memorial service for those who have died during the year.

Miss Simons, of Yokohama, and Mrs. Alexander, of Hirotsuki. Owing to the memorial service, the regular English preaching service at Asabu, on Sunday afternoon, has been given up. On Sunday, at 7 p.m., the Rev. S. Kurimura will preach the Missionary Sermon.

On Monday, at 2 p.m., the Anniversary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society will be held; and at 7 p.m. there will be addresses on education, by Rev. H. Yamaka, and on Sunday Schools by Mr. T. Ikehara, the representative in Japan of the International Sunday School Association.

The Graduating Exercises of the School of Theology, College, and Academy of Anyama Gakuin, Tokyo, were held in Goucher Hall on Monday afternoon. The day was delightfully fine, and there was a large attendance of both Japanese and foreign friends of the institution.

The following was the programme:—

Vocal Trio "Father, Lead Me by Thy Hand,"
Miss Spencer, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Coates.

Devotional Exercises.

Quartet "Lead, Kindly Light,"

Messrs. Miller, Howard, Fisher, and Coates.
The Imperial Edict.—The National Anthem.

Conferring Diplomas and Certificates.

The President's Address.

Students' Reply Takayuki Namao.
Vocal Duett "Oh! that We Two were Maying."

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Cowan.

Address Bishop Earl Cranston, D.D., LL.D.
Vocal Solo "The Birthday of a King."

Miss Cranston.
The National Air.

LADIES' PAPER CHASE.

Emancipated woman is knocking at the door of the present generation, as Ibsen would say, with a vengeance. Our professions, our clubs, our games are invaded by the enterprising superior sex. They have conquered cricket, football, and baseball; they almost live on bicycles; they use the foils like fencing masters, and box like Peter Jacksons, only much more gracefully. But we did think that paper-chasing still remained one of man's few undisputed territories. It seems, however, we were mistaken, for last Saturday these took place the very newest thing in this line—a hare-and-hound race in which two hares—we do not know whether they should be called heiresses—were ladies, and where nearly half the pack were also of the sex which—for the moment—is still content with petticoats. Really the nomenclature of the pastime will have to be altered. The men who turned out on Saturday to chase the two lady hares and Mr. C. K. M. Martin and Mr. Lambert Pummer (the male hares) may be called hounds, but what of the feminine pursuers? We should hesitate to apply a term so unceremonious to Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Hyde Pearson, Misses Pollack (2), Mrs. Mitchell, Misses Tripler (2), Misses Hartnoll (2), Misses Morse, Powell, Copmann, Eldridge, Nina Smith, and Bishop. Some other name, more befitting the circumstances, will have to be invented if woman's occupation of the field she has invaded proves permanent, and if for the moment, through lack of imagination we retain the old appellation and call them "hounds" it must be understood that we use the term in a purely Pickwickian sense. The mere men who followed were Messrs. Leather, Potts, Fradgley, White, Gann, Hyde Pearson, Davis, Owen, Stewart, Mollison, Lian, and Parlett. The hares set out from the rifle range at three o'clock, and had a start of ten minutes. The course was across the fort, by the skating ground on to the Negishi Road, thence by Hope's Islet to the race course, and down via Miharashi to the rifle range home. The ladies ran like little deer—or little dears, as some admiring spectators said—and if they do not repeat the experiment it will not be through discouragement from want of success in their initial experiment. *Vive la femme!* Some up-to-date "feminist" author ought to supplement Dumas' *Fils Les femmes qui tuent et les femmes qui sont tuées* by *Les femmes qui font "paper chase."*

FOREIGN MAIL REGULATIONS.

The "Universal Postal Convention" was revised and put into force from the 1st January, 1899. The following are some of the amended stipulations and also the gist of the notices that were simultaneously issued, both having relation to the general public:—

1.—"It is not permitted to make use, in the international service, of postage stamps produced with an object special and peculiar to the country of issue, such as the so-called commemorative postage stamps of temporary validity."

2.—"Post cards, which, though fulfilling the conditions (regarding the indications, dimensions, external form, etc.) laid down by the 25th Article of the Detailed Regulations of the "Universal Postal Convention," yet owing to some casualty are considered as unavailable, are charged double the postage for post cards. Those not fulfilling the conditions above mentioned are treated as letters. It should also be noted that the laws of Japan do not permit the circulation of post cards emanating from private industry."

3.—"Engravings or advertisements may be printed on the face of post cards. They must not, however, interfere in any way with the clear indication of the address, or with the stamping or marking of the postal service."

4.—The maximum weight for sample packets was formerly 250 grammes, but it is now enlarged to 350 grammes.

5.—"Articles of glass, packets containing liquids, oils, fatty substances, dry powders, whether dyes or not, as well as packets of live bees, may be admitted to transmission as samples of merchandise, provided that they be packed in the following manner:—

a. Articles of glass must be securely packed (in boxes of metal, wood, leather, or cardboard) in a way to prevent all danger to the correspondence and postal officers.

b. Liquids, oils, and fatty substances easily liquified must be enclosed in glass bottles hermetically sealed. Each bottle must be placed in a wooden box furnished with sawdust, cotton, or spongy material in sufficient quantity to absorb the liquid in case the bottle be broken. Finally, the box itself must be enclosed in a case of metal, of wood with a screw-top, or of strong and thick leather. When use is made of perforated wooden blocks of the thickness of at least 2½ millimetres in the weakest part, with a sufficient quantity of absorbent material inside, and provided with a cover, the blocks need not be enclosed in a second case.

c. Fatty substances which are not easily liquified, such as ointments, soft-soap, resin, etc., the transmission of which offers less inconvenience, must be enclosed in an inner cover (box, bag of linen or parchment, &c.), which must itself be placed in a second box of wood, metal, or strong and thick leather.

d. Dry powders, whether dyes or not, must be placed in cardboard boxes, which themselves are enclosed in a bag of linen or parchment.

e. Live bees must be enclosed in boxes so constructed as to avoid all danger and to allow the contents to be ascertained."

6.—"Transmission at the sample rate is accorded to articles of natural history, dried or preserved animals and plants, geological specimens, &c., when sent for no commercial purpose and packed in accordance with the general regulations concerning samples of merchandise."

7.—"Pupil's exercises with corrections, but without any comment on the work, are considered as commercial papers."

8.—Modifications with regard to printed matter are as follows:—

a. "To add in manuscript, on printed visiting cards, good wishes, congratulations, thanks, condolences or other formulae of courtesy expressed in five words at most or by means of conventional initials (p. l. &c.)."

b. "To add a dedication on Christmas and New-Year cards."

c. "To add, in manuscript or by a mechanical process, to cuttings from newspapers and periodical publications the title, date, number, and address of the publication from which the article is extracted."

d. "Albums containing photographs are considered as printed matter."

9.—"The fee of 5 sen will be charged for enquiries, made after posting, as to the disposal of registered articles, if the sender has not already paid the special fee for an acknowledgment of delivery."

10.—Domestic postage and conditions are applicable to mail matters to and from the following places in China where our post offices are established: Amoy, Chefoo, Hangchow, Shanghai, Shashi, Soochow, Tientsin.

11.—The following are alterations in money order fees: Universal Orders: For the first 100 francs, 10 sen per 25 francs or fraction thereof; and for all sums beyond the first 100 francs, 10 sen per 50 francs or fraction thereof. Hongkong Through Orders: For Straits Settlements only, 15 sen per the same amount.

12.—The business of foreign money orders, except the payment of Hongkong Orders, is now transacted at any branch office.

A CRYPTIC TELEGRAM.

The *Japan Times* had the following quaint paragraph in its telegraphic news on Sunday:—

ELLIMAN ISSUES MANIFESTO.

A Grand National Manifesto has been issued by Fordoffyne Elliman: (?)

We were genuinely puzzled by this first, never having heard of Fordoffyne Elliman, and being quite at a loss as to why he should issue a grand national manifesto, or to whom it might be issued. Then came a flash of inspiration. The Grand National is run at this time of the year, and the name of the race, as well as those of the first three horses, were evidently telegraphed by Reuter, who apparently relied on the sporting knowledge of the Far East being sufficiently profound to interpret the brief message correctly. The *Japan Times* attempted the task, with the funny result indicated above. An Australian paper the other day did much the same thing. The winners of the Two Thousand Guineas were telegraphed as "Two Thousand O'Connell, Patriot, Enthusiasm." The paper which received the message constructed the following paragraph:—"The Patriot O'Connell addressed a meeting of two thousand people to-day. Great enthusiasm was displayed." Equally good was the interpretation, by a Sydney paper, of a telegram announcing the capture of Mr. Savage Landor by the Tibetans:—"A savage landor was captured near Lhasa to-day. The landor was dreadfully tortured, and is not expected to survive."

ADMIRAL MORI'S DINNER.

On Saturday night a grand dinner was given by Rear Admiral Mori, Director of the Yokohama Harbour at the Club Hotel. Although 64 invitations were issued only 38 gentlemen sat down. The Consular body was represented the U.S. and the Chinese Consul Generals, the British, Dutch, German, and Danish Consuls. The company also included Governor Asada, accompanied by the Secretary, Chief of the Police, and Councillor of the Ken, the Chief engineer of the Lighthouse Bureau; Mr. Ishibashi; the President and Chief Procurator of the Chitoh Saibansho; the Superintendent of Customs, the Director of Posts and Telegraphs; Mr. Matsunaga, the Private Secretary of the Minister of Communications; Captain Sakii, Naval Harbour Master of Yokosuka; Naval Chief Surgeon Yoshikawa; Mr. Saito, the Director of the Revenue Office; the Mayor of Yokohama; Mr. Otani, President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Asano, President of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha; Mr. Kurusu, Vice President of the Dock Co.; Mr. Hayashi, Manager, and Captain Iwato, Marine Superintendent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; Messrs. H. C. Litchfield, W. W. Tull, F. W. Mitchell, A. Conil, W. T. Payne, F. Wimmer, E. T. Osborn and H. Rose, Marquis de Nembrini Gonzaga, Commander Amano, I. J. N., Commander Squire, R.N., and Dr. Rokkaku, Port Surgeon. The dining and waiting rooms were beautifully decorated with plants and flowers, with the flags of all nations having treaties with Japan, and with anchors, chains, life and boat buoys, ropes, and sounding leads effectively disposed. The menu was excellent and did great credit to the chef de cuisine and to the Manager of the Club Hotel. Several toasts were given, the speeches being very ably translated from Japanese into English and vice versa by Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, H.B.M.'s Consul at Yokohama. The whole affair was a great success.

BARON NAKAJIMA.

Baron Nakajima whose death is announced was born at Tosa, in August of the 3rd year of *Kokwa*, and was a *samurai* of the Kōchi clan. It was in the beginning of the *Meiji* era that he first entered official service, and he has since successively filled the important offices of governor, judge, and senator. He was once the governor of Kanagawa Prefecture. He organized a party entitled the *Rikken Seito* (Constitutional Party), and was Vice-President of the Liberal Party. When the Diet was convened for the first time, he was returned as a member of the House of Representatives for the 4th Parliamentary District of Kanagawa Prefecture, and was elected the first President of the House. At the extraordinary election that followed, he left party politics, and, again entering the Government, was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Italy. Afterwards he was created a Baron, and nominated by the Emperor a member of the House of Peers. Recently he was attacked by consumption, and has since been endeavouring to recruit his health in retirement at Shonan. He was 54.

THE MEREDITH CULT.

(By A. PHILISTINE.)

The existence of an extensive body of Meredith worshippers is a problem most painful and puzzling to those who still have faith in a great intelligence directing the course of this world. Of Mr. George Meredith himself we need not complain. Nature probably attempted originality when she moulded him, and, profoundly dissatisfied with the result of her effort, sent him into the world a mere eccentric. But that any considerable body of ordinary men, presumably in the possession of their senses, should regard his guarded and inhuman sentences as inspired, and actually form a cult round the utterances of so ungainly and unintelligible a prophet, is a thing to make the angels weep. It is as pathetic a spectacle as would be presented by a body of men who, surrounded by all the luxuries of a French table, preferred to eat cocoa nut-matting and drink dirty ditch-water. If England had produced no literature, but only Meredithisms, we could understand the literary appetite eating greedily of even this barren fare. But with the noble work of the past four centuries behind us, to enjoy and digest as we please, it seems amazing, pitiable, pathetic, that sober Christian people should actually prefer to devour such husks as the Meredithian chaff-cutter produces for their satisfaction.

Mr. Meredith has been at it again. He is a man of unfortunate industry, and grinds out his cryptic verse with much regularity as a Italian nobleman grinds tunes from his barrel organ. His latest crime is of a most revolting character. It is entitled "Epigrams of the Earth"—but anyone sanguine enough to anticipate epigrammatic writing will be woefully disappointed. The essence of an epigram is supposed to be its point, lucidity, and felicity of expression. Mr. Meredith's writing is distinguished, as usual, by an elephantine clumsiness, a most appalling obscurity, and a quite wanton distortion of language. If there were any great thought, any new and striking light, any flash of inspiration behind the wall of unintelligibility with which the poet fences his writing, we might forgive his eccentricities of style. But there is none. The ideas are poor, commonplace, and threadbare. There is not one which has not occurred to every child of school-age from the time of Seth onward. Mr. Meredith's verse is a great, hairy, awkward, hideous cocoon—with nothing inside. One has the labour of cracking it, of tearing off the harsh envelope, and penetrating the inner shell; and after all this work there is neither nut nor milk inside to reward one's misapplied perseverance.

For instance, in this latest volume, the poor, anæmic, washed-out little idea occurs to him that nature, after all, may not be an unnatural mother; that the Earth apparently brings forth the heroic virtues only to destroy them, but that

this is not really so—"she reaps them as the sower reaps." Put in plain grammatical English—in language in which subject, predicate, and object follow each other with something like sane ordination—this is as puny an offspring as the poorest intellect might be delivered of. To make it a great and inspiring thought it requires the touch of a Magician (as his admirers call him) like Mr. Meredith. The Wizard waves his intellectual wand, and our pigmy is forthwith transformed into this giant:—

"The sighting brain her good decree
Accepts; obeys those guides, in faith,
By reason hourly fed, that she,
To some the clod, to some the wraith,
Is more, no mask; a flame, a stream.
Flame, stream, are we, in mid career
From torrent source, delicious dream,
To heaven-reflecting currents clear.
And why the sons of strength have been
Her cherished offspring ever; how
The Spirit served by her is seen
Through Law; perusing love will show.
Love born of Knowledge, love that gains
Vitality as Earth it mates,
The meanings of the Pleasures, Pains,
The Life, the Death, illuminates."

This obscure rubbish is too much even for the *Saturday Review*, usually so appreciative of the outpourings of this "pious and painful teacher," as it calls him. The reviewer admits that it is "gnomic poetry," and wonders if the bard might not have expressed the same thing in a less contorted form. For myself, having only a common intellect as guide me, I cannot see any meaning in it at all. If there be a Meredithian in Japan, will he kindly explain what is meant by "To some the clod, to some the wraith," or elucidate the proposition that "flame, stream, are we, in mid career, from torrent source, delicious dream, to heaven-reflecting currents clear?" I am quite prepared to be told that I have no spiritual insight, that it requires a gift akin to the poet's to grasp fully the "deep hidden meaning" of his "message," etc. That is the usual manner in which these superior ladies and gentlemen evade the queries of a patient enquirer after truth—a method singularly adroit, as implying that the said enquirer is more or less an idiot, and that they (the superior ladies and gentlemen) actually possess the touch of genius necessary to grasp the "inner meaning."

Here again is a characteristic passage:—

"Interpret me the savage whirl:
And is it Nature scourged, or she,
Her offspring's executioner,
Reducing land to barren sea?"

What is "a savage whirl" in this connection? As a description of Meredithian verse it would be tolerably apt. Here again:—

"Bursts from a sowing flax in flaws
The young green leaflets harrier, sworn
To strew the garden" &c.

I have no space for the whole passage, but the context affords no clue whatever to an ordinary mind. There is of course a "deep hidden meaning," "a Sunken Beauty," "a Submerged Truth," in it all; but no one except a Meredithian can detect it, and even he will be unable to explain it to a man of common clay. I have heard these people decanting on some verbal savagery of the kind. "See," one of them will ecstatically cry, "see this living gem snatched from the deep Mine of the Unknowable and Unpronounceable, polished so beautifully by the master hand of this dialecticallapary:—" Yes," reply you, poor plain Common-sense, a little abashed in the presence of the Awful, the Unknowable, the Actual, the Sublime, and other things beginning with capital letters, "Yes, but what does it mean?" "Mean?" is the disdainful reply. "Well, really, if you are an deficient in spiritual insight, if you have no sympathetic imagination, if you have nothing in you that responds to the magic touch of genius, then I must leave you to yourself. You are hopeless. Be content with the Obvious. Read Shakespeare, Æsop, and Mark Twain. Meredith is not for you."

I am indebted to the *Saturday Reviewer* for some light on Mr. Meredith's literary methods. Mr. Meredith sees reflections in a river, as

people have done before. Thereupon he calls it a "reflective river" which is clever and incomprehensible. He sees branches on a leafless tree that remind him of the shape of a hand. These he calls "Sprays that paw the naked bush." A prong that has teeth he calls "toothsome." Can wilful distortion and mutilation of a noble language go further?

I have room for only one or two more extracts. Shakespeare, says Mr. Meredith, "knew thee, Mother Earth," and,

"Thence had he the laugh
We feel is thine, broad as ten thousand beaves
At pasture!"

Here is another cryptic passage, referring, it is confidently believed, to the mental twist of modern pessimism:—

"That little twist of brain
Which moved some weighty leader of the blind
Unwitting 'twas the god of personal pain,
To view in curst eclipse our Mother's mind,
And show us of some rigid haridan
The wretched bondmen till the end of time."

This poetry, according to the *Saturday Review*, is calculated to foster "bracing, manly virtues." I cannot see that it is calculated to foster anything but a splitting head-ache on the part of a man who tries to read it understandingly, and an intolerable priggishness in those who pretend to see an "inner deep hidden Verity" in stuff which to common intelligence would seem mere high-sounding nonsense, with no strength beyond its impregnability to the ordinary reason.

E. R. T.

JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY.

Mr. J. Dodds presided at an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Japan Brewery Co., held on Wednesday afternoon. The others present included Messrs. Bennett, Bent, A. B. Wallford, W. Hayemann, Baehr, F. S. James, Wylie, Hecker, Satter, and Jas. Stewart, Secretary.

The following resolutions, confirming the decision to reconstruct the company arrived at at the meeting some weeks ago, were submitted and unanimously adopted:—

(1).—That it is desirable to reconstruct the Company, and accordingly that the Company be wound-up voluntarily, and that James Dodds and James Stewart be and they are hereby appointed liquidators for the purposes of such winding up.

(2).—That the said liquidators be and they are hereby authorized to consent to the registration of a new Company, to be named The Japan Brewery Company, Limited, with the Memorandum and Articles of Association which have already been prepared with the pivity and approval of the directors of this Company.

(3).—That the draft agreement submitted to this meeting and expressed to be made between this Company and its liquidators of the one part, and The Japan Brewery Company, Limited, of the other part, be and the same is hereby approved, and that the said liquidators be and they are hereby authorized, pursuant to section 149 of the Companies' Ordinances 1865, of the Legislature of Hongkong, to enter into an agreement with such new Company (when incorporated) in the terms of the said draft, and to carry the same into effect with such modification (if any) as they may think expedient.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The death is announced of Mr. Okabe Ynsaku, a member of the House of Peers, who passed away on the 24th.

At 12 o'clock on Sunday night Supt. Morgan received an alarm of fire. It was found that a large pile of lime slaked by rain had set on fire a fence on Lot No. 90, belonging to Messrs. Sieber and Co. The flames were extinguished in a few minutes, and the only damage done was to the lime and the fence.

The Yaami Hotel, Kyoto, which was almost destroyed by fire on Sunday, was occupied by about 30 foreigners. Most of the inmates were out walking at the time, but

those still in the house, chiefly ladies, were in a state of great excitement. A strong wind was blowing, and, the supply of water being insufficient, three foreign style buildings and cook's rooms were destroyed before the flames were mastered.

At half-past eleven on Wednesday Supt. Morgan received a call from one of the servants of No. 92, belonging to Mr. H. Grauert. On arrival he found there was a fire between the roof and ceiling near the chimney in Mr. Grauert's office. The fire was put out in a few minutes. The fire superintendent found that the chimney had snapped, and this of course caused the wood work to ignite. Had it been a night fire the result might have been serious.

The Japanese torpedo-boat destroyer *Yagiri* (Evening Mist), which was launched from the yard of Messrs. John I. Thornycroft and Co., underwent on 14th February satisfactory full-speed official trials at the Maplin Sands. The contractors guaranteed a speed of 30 knots when carrying a load of thirty-five tons, and the result obtained was 30.15 knots, during three hours' continuous steaming.

During a march-out at Kowloon on March 15, in connection with the Fleet, a blue-jacket from the *Centurion* fell out, feeling faint, and was left leaning against a tree in charge of the doctor and the captain. On the men returning they found their late comrade dead. Heart disease is supposed to have been the cause of death.

The command at Singapore, which falls vacant in April, will be given to Col. J. B. B. Dickson, C.B., now commanding the Cavalry Brigade at Colchester, with the rank of Major-General. Colonel Dickson's successor is likely to be either Colonel Hemming, formerly Military Attaché in Japan, or Colonel Babington, now A.A.G. in the Punjab.

Judgment has been delivered in the Tokyo Appeal Court in the case of Ma Cheong-on and Chan Ming-tai, the Chinese who were sentenced each to a year's imprisonment on a charge of smoking opium on board the N.Y.K. steamer *Riojun Maru*. The Appeal Court found Ma Cheong-on not guilty, but dismissed the appeal of Chan Ming-tai.

It is mentioned in one of the accounts of the fire at Yaami Hotel, Kyoto, that an English guest, who managed to save some of his property, left behind a bag which contained his money. He had intended leaving that day for Nara. He dug among the debris for traces of his money, but only recovered fifteen sovereigns.

A correspondent writes to a financial paper:—"Formosa has shown decided progress in her trade and internal administration during the year 1898. The natives are apparently increasing in wealth, as their trade has greatly expanded, and the labouring classes have benefited from the great increase in wages. The total sum of the import and export trade for 1896 was 20,033,000 yen, and the trade for 1897 suddenly increased to 25,418,000 yen. For the first half of this year the total trade amounts to 14,421,000 yen; so that the whole year will probably reach something like 28,000,000 yen. This is about double the amount of trade for 1894—the last year of the Chinese administration in the island—and is even higher when compared with preceding years. The import and export trade in tea, sugar, oil, and flour is gradually increasing, but camphor, owing to the low prices in the market, and high wages, has decreased."

Crisanto Lichanco and Gregorio Agoncillo, as attorneys of Emilio Aguinaldo, the leader of the Filipino Forces in the Philippines, are suing the H. and S. Bank for the recovery of a sum of \$200,000 and interest accrued, deposited with the Bank on 3rd January, 1898. The Bank is willing to pay, but only to the proper persons whose names are endorsed on the deposit bond, and neither of the plaintiffs appear in this document. Hence the litigation. The *China Mail* headed its report

on the first day "The Spanish Purchase Money," whereupon the Filipinos lost their tempers and got their lawyers to make a motion in Court that the proprietor of the *China Mail* be committed for contempt on the ground that the heading was distinctly calculated to prejudice the minds of the jury against the plaintiffs. Eventually calmer counsels prevailed, and the Filipinos decided to abandon any further proceedings against the paper. The action against the Bank is still proceeding.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Oriental Hotel, Co., Ltd., was held on Monday afternoon, at Kobe, under the presidency of Mr. A. H. Groom, when the following resolutions were passed:—

1. That the Directors having borrowed in excess of their powers, and the monies outstanding on the 15th day of March, 1899, having been 120,000 yen, viz.—Debentures to the amount of 75,000 yen, and loans and an overdraft aggregating 45,000 yen, the company does hereby ratify and confirm the aforesaid action of the Directors.

2. That in Article 51 of the Articles of Association the words "one hundred and fifty thousand yen" shall be substituted for the words "twenty-five thousand dollars."

The resolutions were passed without discussion. The first was proposed by Dr. Moore-Graham and seconded by Mr. Lightfoot; the second resolution was proposed by Dr. Moore-Graham and seconded by Dr. Miller.—*Hogo Evening News*.

A desperate encounter with robbers occurred about midnight on the 21st inst. at a house in Midzuki-dori, Hogo. The robbers had entered the house by cutting away the door. There were six persons sleeping in the house at the time—an old samurai named Ono (50 years of age) and his wife, their two sons (24 and 18 years old respectively), and two younger daughters. One of the sons had been practising stage performances with a sword and had gone to sleep with the sword by the side of his bed. This was one of the first objects the robbers appear to have alighted upon, and then, after the manner of experienced Japanese burglars, they proceeded to arouse the sleepers. Noticing, however, that one of the robbers had taken up the sword the two brothers pretended to be fast asleep until a favourable opportunity occurred for them to show that they were very much awake. The robbers had gone into an adjoining room. By this time the old samurai was aware that robbers were in his house, and, having roused his wife, took up a *fulon* to try to beat the robbers down (and smother them presumably). The two sons, coming to the assistance of their father, sprang upon the robbers, and a desperate encounter occurred, as each robber had a knife such as is used by Japanese cooks.

CHINA NOTES.

The Volunteers of Shanghai have been shooting down all unmuzzled dogs that they find on the streets. This is due to the large number of hydrophobia cases that have occurred in the Settlement during the past two years.

A fatal accident occurred off Broadway, Shanghai, shortly after one o'clock on Saturday afternoon, March 18th, resulting in the death of three Chinese coolies and the injury of two others. On the property belonging to the China Merchants' Co., adjoining the Old Dock, excavations were being made for the foundation of some offices to be erected for the Shanghai Engineering Works, and whilst the workmen were digging on the Dock side of the area mentioned, some thirty feet of a wall, which partly encloses Farham & Co.'s premises and partly forms a side to one of their godowns, collapsed, burying a number of the coolies at work. Assistance was immediately procured, and every effort made for the prompt extrication of the unfortunate men. Two, however, were taken out dead and three injured, one of whom died on arrival at St. Luke's Hospital.

Shanghai mandarins have received news from Peking to the effect that the Empress-Dowager

is about to appoint Yü Ch'ang, only recently made Governor of Honan, and younger brother of Yü Lu, Viceroy of Chihli, to be Tartar General of Fengtien (Lower Manchuria) *vice* K. k'6 tang à deceased. The probabilities are, therefore, that another Manchus, Ching Sing, the Provincial Treasurer of Honan, will be appointed Governor of that province, while some other Manchus will be promoted to take his place. It is significant, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that we now hear only of officials of Chinese descent being superseded by Manchus, but very rarely of Manchus being ordered to give way to Chinese.

The dredger *St. Enock* is doing excellent work in Wei-hai-wei harbour, lifting over 100 tons per hour.

It is reported from Peking that the Grand Secretary Jung Lu, not content with having the powerful post of Generalissimo of the land and naval forces of the Peiyang Administration, or, in a word, the control over more than 300,000 modern-armed troops, is intriguing for the Generalissimship of the Nanyang naval and military forces also. The latter consist of the land and naval troops of the Liang-kiang, Hukuang, and Minché provinces, that is to say of Kiangsu, Kiangsi, Anhui, Hunan, Hupeh, Chékiang, and Fukien provinces. The Empress Dowager is at present afraid to give this immense power to a single subject.

Referring to the sad and untimely death of Mrs. H. P. Wilkinson, the *North China Daily News* says:—Mrs. Wilkinson was born, brought up, and married here, and was the embodiment of all that is best and brightest in Shanghai. She was the soul of goodness and kindness, and could not have had a detractor or an enemy; her untimely removal by the epidemic that has fallen on Shanghai this winter is a loss to those who knew her which it will take them a long time to forget.

Mr. W. Ferd. Tyler, the Acting Coast Inspector, issues a *Notice to Mariners*, announcing that the Light at Liuchiao-chiang, at the North Channel entrance to the Yangtze, was exhibited for the first time at sunset on the 3rd March.

Mrs. Rijnhart, the widow of the unfortunate missionary who disappeared in Tibet as recently narrated in our columns, was a month ago at Tachienlu waiting to see what the authorities would do.

The *Universal Gazette* learns that the recently circulated stories regarding Yü Mantzu are not true. He has not risen in rebellion again, and the erroneous intelligence lately current originated through a band of local desperadoes giving trouble in that region, but they were quickly put down by the soldiers.

The China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Tamsui*, Capt. Brown, which left Shanghai on March 23rd for Newchwang, was run into by the Norwegian steamer *Hermes* M. Woosung. The collision occurred at 1.5 p.m. off Gough Island, the *Hermes* steaming towards Shanghai at the time and flying light. When a collision appeared to be imminent the *Hermes* went full speed astern, but too late to avoid the crash. The *Tamsui* received a terrific blow on the port beam, and, while she was apparently not injured very much above the water line, there was a considerable rent below and it is believed several plates have been started. On the wells being sounded it was found necessary to beach her and she now lies high and dry on Gough Island. Lighters were set to work, the cargo being discharged as rapidly as possible. The *Hermes* was badly injured, but all above water. Her bows were stove in, and rails and stanchions carried away.

M. Duckerts was entertained on the 14th February at the Grand Hotel, Brussels, on the eve of his departure for China with the object of extending Belgian commerce in the Far East. The Minister of Foreign Affairs presided. Great hopes are entertained of M. Duckerts' mission, which has been undertaken on the initiative of King Leopold.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, March 25th:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	...	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	...	14,317,779
Amount of convertible notes issued	...	171,007,631
Government deposits	...	35,596,394
General deposits	...	4,481,394
Exchange liability	...	60,008
Total	...	255,463,209

	Cr.
Discount notes	21,097,206
Foreign discount notes	10,554,311
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	58,765,588
Exchange liability	1,311,004
Government bonds	40,234,953
Property	1,778,879
Bullion and Specie	99,821,266
Total	255,463,209

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued	169,950,433
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Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	97,159,227
Silver	—
Total	97,159,227

Securities:—

Government bonds	31,015,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	11,000,000
Commercial notes	8,775,418
Total	72,791,206

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	—	400,735
Silver	—	—
General loans	74,220	—
Government deposits	477,091	—
General deposits	—	751,639

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

The port of Archangel, in the north-west of Russia, is open to navigation only for four months of the year. With the gradual development of the railway system in Northern Russia it has been felt that a port with a more favourable situation ought, if possible, to be found. To this end, two engineers, Ollendorf and Tokarev, in the service of the railway running between Moscow, Yaroslavl, and Archangel, set out from Moscow for the purpose of exploring the coast-line of the northern Arctic Ocean. The scene of their labours was mainly confined to the region lying between the 42nd and 45th degrees of longitude, east of Greenwich, where the Kuloi river flows into the Mezen Gulf on the eastern side of the entrance to the White Sea. A careful exploration of the Mezen Gulf revealed the fact that not only is there more than one spot at which navigation is possible for more than four months of the year, but also that the little bay at the mouth of the river Kuloi, about twelve miles south of the Arctic Circle, is open and free from ice all the year. It is said that the local hunters and fishermen have long known and used the little bay, which lies in a sheltered position from the north-east winds. The Moscow and Archangel Railway Company now intends to extend the line from Archangel in a north-easterly direction to the Kuloi Bay, as from the terminus of the projected line the northern Arctic Sea can be reached all seasons of the year. By means of reindeer sledges the two explorers set out from Mezen on their return journey to Archangel on Christmas Day. Their way lay across the desolate region of "Tundra," and, as their arrival at Archangel was greatly delayed, it was

feared they had perished by the way. The most likely cause of the delay seemed to be, that as the reindeer along their line of route are suffering greatly from scurvy, their trains had fallen victims to this disorder, and that the explorers were thereby stranded and awaiting relief. However, they at length safely reached Moscow. The results of this expedition are regarded as being highly satisfactory and important. The explorers were extremely fortunate in being able to take and preserve a large number of photographic views, which will be of immense service in confirming their report as to the local conditions of the region in question.

The Hamburg-American Packet Company has just issued its annual report for 1898, showing a gross profit of m 14,745,830 (against m 8,847,569 for the previous year), but including an extraordinary profit of m 3,106,377 for vessels sold. After paying the interest on preference shares (m 540,000 against m 555,000 for 1897) an amount of m 10,082,118 is applied for writing off the fleet and for increasing the assurance reserve by m 1,000,000 (for 1897 m 6,064,063 have been written off). The remaining net profit amounts to m 4,123,711, out of which m 4,000,000 are distributed as a dividend of 8 per cent. on the paid up capital of m 50,000,000, while for 1897 m 2,700,000 have been distributed as dividend of 6 per cent. on the capital, then of m 45,000,000. The traffic of the company has been disturbed by the Spanish-American War, and especially the passenger traffic has decreased. The line of freight steamers to East Asia has developed well, and especially during the last months of 1898 a steady demand for steamers arose in consequence of the approaching Customs increase in Japan. The very good rice crop of that country filled the steamers on their return voyage. The commercial development in Japan and the opening of China also caused an improvement in the commercial relations between North America and East Asia.

An attack of the Chinese Legation in Paris fired a revolver at the First Secretary of the Legation, Lien Yung, on the 10th Feb., and killed him. He then committed suicide. The man had suffered from cerebral trouble, and had an idea that Lien Yung wished to drive him to return to China. The murderer and his victims were both Manchus belonging to the same clan and had been friends from their earliest years.

The financial situation in Turkey, appears to go from bad to worse. The Vali of Salonica lately announced that the army contractors refused to continue their supplies without a payment of at least £30,000. Other messages in the same sense have come from other quarters, and the Council of Ministers has finally compiled a provincial Budget, according to which is provided a sum of £300,000 for the army for nations alone, without pay, and a sum of £170,000 for a month's pay for the officials at Beiram. These £500,000 are to be provided by a loan from the Ottoman Bank of £300,000, guaranteed on the sheep-tax, on the *dimes*, by the sale of goods in kind taken by the Customs, £30,000, and by £170,000 taken out of the Greek War Indemnity.

The emigration from Hamburg to foreign countries during January, 1899, amounted to 3,076 persons, against 1,225 persons in the same month of 1898. In December, 1898, the passengers despatched from Hamburg amounted to 2,736 persons.

M. Pichon, French Minister at Peking, has been raised to the rank of Minister of the first grade.

The Ottoman Government, says the *Saturday Review*, is evidently preparing for every eventuality in the Balkan Peninsula. According to rumour, large purchases are being made of arms, horses, and stores. The danger is that the almost insane fears of the Sultan may lead him to inflame racial passions in order to promote massacres, Albanians in Macedonia playing the part of Kurds in Armenia. When

the warnings of Russia and Austria will be sufficiently potent to restrain the mutual jealousies of the Christians is doubtful.

Of the six Presidents who have sought to control the destinies of France during the existence of the Third Republic, two have died while in office—M. Carnot, who was assassinated in June, 1894, and M. Faure. The others resigned office, the last to do so being M. Casimir-Perier, whose term of service was the shortest recorded, beginning in June, 1894, and ending in January, 1895. M. Grévy, who was twice President, resigned in 1887. Marshal MacMahon in 1879, and M. Thiers in 1873, after less than two years at the Elysée.

It is stated that the four destroyers recently built for the Chinese Government by Herr Schichau, at Elbing, have steamed at the rate of 35.2 knots over a measured course of 18½ miles with 25 tons of coal, their full bunker capacity being 65 tons. France still sticks to her original moderate speed of 26 knots, but tries her destroyers with their full load, and perfect solidity of machinery to any extreme rates of speed.

H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before His Honour Judge WILKINSON.
THURSDAY, March 30th.

THE INSURANCE CLAIM: JUDGMENT.

His Honour gave judgment in the insurance claim brought by Ehsanbhai Pabani, an Indian merchant, trading at Kobe, against the China Fire Insurance Company and the China Traders Insurance Company, for indemnity for loss by fire. The judgment was in the following terms:—

This suit was originally instituted as a suit against the defendants, the China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, on a policy of fire insurance effected by plaintiffs with that company. The policy is one for twenty-five thousand dollars running from the fifteenth day of September, 1897, to the fifteenth day of September, 1898, on goods and merchandise stored on or to be stored during the currency of the policy in the godown No. 37 situated at Ono, near Kobe. On the 7th of February, 1898, the policy was at the request of the plaintiffs transferred to cover a similar risk contained in the Per Company's Compound, Kobe. On the night of the second or morning of the third of March, 1898, while the policy was still current, a fire broke out on the Per Company's compound, and destroyed 404 bales of cotton, part of a larger quantity there stored belonging to the plaintiff, and the suit was brought to recover from the Company a portion of the loss thereby sustained.

The Company by their answer denied liability for the loss, on the ground that the same goods were covered from loss by fire by three Marine policies issued by the China Traders Insurance Company, Limited, and that the fire policy was not intended to cover any goods except such as were not covered by a Marine policy. Other defences were set up, but, after the hearing began, and after it had been admitted that the three Marine policies had been issued in respect of the same goods, it became clear that the question mainly at issue was whether the loss was to be borne by the one company or by the other, on the one hand, and the China Traders Insurance Company Limited (which I shall call the Marine Company) were with their consent and the consent of the original parties, added as defendants, so that that question might be settled without circumlocution. All the other defences have been withdrawn by the China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, (which I shall now call the Fire Company) and the issues have consequently been very much simplified.

The cotton for the loss of which indemnity is claimed formed part of two consignments of 500 bales each shipped in Bombay by two separate vessels, and the marine policies, which are dated respectively the 21st, 26th, and 27th of January, 1898, were for the full value of the risks on the voyage from Bombay to Kobe, and had also a marginal clause in the following words:—

"Including risk of loss at loading port and including risk of fire at wharf or quay where ship discharges, and in continuing such risk until arrival at warehouse where to be stored, unless already covered by a Fire Policy, and provided that no risk shall attach hereto for a longer period than to days after landing from the ship."

The cotton forming the portion of those consignments at risk when the fire broke out was landed

between the 25th of February and the 2nd or 3rd of March, and consequently within the ten days named in the clause, and the Marine Company admit that, except so far as the loss is covered by the fire policy, it is covered by the Marine policies.

The first question then to be decided is, did the fire policy cover or attach to the cotton referred to? The cotton had been landed and was stored on the Fire Company's compound at the outbreak of the fire, and it came within the words of the fire policy so far as regards the description of the goods, and within the words of the endorsement so far as regards the place of storage. It is said, however, on behalf of the Fire Company that the policy and endorsement ought to be so read as to exclude cotton covered by a marine policy, on the ground, first, that there was an agreement between the Fire Company and the insured that it should be so construed, and, second, that, apart from any such agreement, the words "similar risk" in the endorsement are ambiguous, that the nature of the original risk may be looked at and the effect of the policy limited accordingly, that goods in a godown are never covered by a marine policy, and that the policy should, therefore, when transferred to apply to goods on the pier, be limited to apply only to such goods as were not so covered.

Taking the last ground first, it has not, it appears to me, been shown that marine policies never do cover goods after their arrival in the warehouse. The old form of marine policy certainly would not do so, for it continued only until the goods were "discharged and safely landed." But the marine policies in this case continue the risk "until arrival at warehouse where to be stored," and it may be that there are policies issued which extend beyond arrival at warehouse. The only evidence given on the subject was that of Mr. Tevison, who is in the employ of the agents at Kobe of the Fire Company, and who, in answer to the question put by counsel for the Fire Company: "Would it be possible in the ordinary course for marine policies to attach to goods in the warehouse at Ono?" said, "It is possible, but I don't think it is probable. To the best of my belief it would not," and in further cross-examination by Counsel for the Marine Company, with regard to the form of marine policy in this case, he said, "It attaches up to door of warehouse, but not in warehouse. It is not customary for marine policies to attach to goods in warehouse." This falls short of saying that marine policies never do attach to goods in the warehouse, and that proposition has not in my opinion been established. But it appears to me that, even if it had been established, it would not have been sufficient ground for putting the limited construction on the policy sought to be put upon it.

The question turns on the meaning of the words "similar risk" as used in the endorsement, which is as follows:—

"It is hereby declared and agreed that the within policy is transferred to cover a similar risk contained in the Per Company's compound Kobe to the extent of Dollars Twenty-five thousand only. Kobe, 7th February, 1898. P. P. Monahan, Hermann & Co., W. D. S. Edwards, Agents."

It may be observed that the word "risk" as used elsewhere in the policy seems only to mean the danger or degree of danger of fire to which the goods may be exposed, and as used in this sense the words "similar risk" leave the matter of the goods insured wholly unaffected. But in the co-insurance clause attached to the policy the word "risk" has a wider meaning, and while in matters of insurance generally the word has primarily reference to the perils insured against, it is also sometimes used to include the subject matter of insurance, and that seems to be an admissible meaning in this case, so that the risk in the policy which is referred to in the endorsement, may be taken to be:—

Insuring against loss or damage by fire the following, viz:—On goods and Merchandise Imports in Exports including Raw Cotton, in press packed bales being his own property, or held in trust, or on Commission, or on joint account with others, or sold but not delivered, stored or to be stored during the currency of this Policy in the Godown No. 37 built of brick, with tiled roof, iron doors and shutters, situated at Ono near Kobe.

Taking the risk as thus described, the words of the endorsement, leaving out of consideration extraneous circumstances, must mean simply the substitution of the words "in the Per Company's Compound, Kobe" for the words "in the godown No. 37 built of brick with tiled roof, iron doors, and shutters, situated at Ono, near Kobe." Now, as it has been recognised in a long series of decisions, an assurance on articles answering to a certain

description as to their nature, ownership, and locality means an insurance on all the articles answering to that description, and the insurance on the goods and merchandise described in the policy was an insurance on all such goods. A similar risk contained in the Pier Company's Compound must also, when considered apart from extraneous circumstances, be deemed to include all goods in the Pier Company's Compound answering the same description. The only extraneous circumstance we have to consider at the moment is the supposed fact that marine policies do not attach to goods in a godown, and we are asked to say that the fact of marine policies attaching makes such a difference in the risk that the risk cannot be said to be similar. But there appears to be a complete answer to this argument in the co-insurance clause, which it is admitted forms part of the policy, and which says: "This Policy is declared to be in conjunction with any Policies effected, or that may be hereafter effected on the same interest in the within mentioned premises, the assured undertaking to declare such co-existing risks when requested."

It was therefore clearly contemplated that there might be other policies covering the same goods at the same time, and it was as clearly agreed that the effect of the existence of such other policies was to be not the suspension of the policy of the Fire Company as regards the goods so covered, but a concurrence with any such other policies so far as they might cover the same goods at the same time. And no exception is made as to whether any such other policies may also cover marine risks, or cover the risk of fire only and there is no reason shown why an exception should be inferred to exist. A marine policy covering the risk of fire, if concurrent with the Fire Company's policy, would be of the same advantage to the Fire Company as another policy covering the risk of fire alone. How far the case would have been different if there had been evidence of a usage of trade or of a course of business between the parties excluding from the subject matter of fire policies goods covered by marine policies, it is not necessary to enquire. There was no such evidence; and no such usage or course of business was sought to be set up.

We now come to the question of the agreement said to have been made between the Plaintiff and the Fire Company at the time of the transfer of the Fire policy.

The agreement is set out in the following addition, made by way of amendment, to paragraph 5 of the answer:—"The defendant company says that it was then and there agreed by the parties that the transfer of the policy as requested by the plaintiff should be construed to protect against fire only such goods on the pier as might not be protected against fire by a marine policy or policies or in respect of which the fire clause of the marine policy or policies might have expired."

This plea has been objected to as being wholly inadmissible on the ground that it contravenes the rule that in construing a written instrument the meaning of the instrument is to be determined by what the parties have said and not by what they may have really intended, and reading the plea with absolute strictness it may be open to that objection. The rule is thus laid down in Taylor on Evidence: "Although evidence of all the circumstances surrounding the author of a written instrument will be received to ascertain his intentions, yet those intentions must ultimately be determined by the language of the instrument, as explained by the extrinsic evidence; and no proof (however conclusive) can be admitted with a view of setting up an intention inconsistent with the known meaning of the writing itself. The duty of the court in all cases is to ascertain not what the parties may have really intended as contradistinguished from what their words express; but simply what is the meaning of the words they have used."

But I think if a wider construction can be given to the plea it ought to be given. It may be considered, as a plea by way of equitable defence, and taken with the part of the answer immediately preceding it amounts to this, that if the legal construction of the policy and endorsement is that the policy covers all goods of the description mentioned in the policy, then a mistake has been made, that it was agreed between the parties that the policy should be so transferred as to make the policy cover only goods not covered by marine policies and that it is inequitable in the plaintiff now to take advantage of the words of the transfer actually used, those words having been used by mistake. But there it is argued that rectification of the endorsement not having been asked for by way of counter-claim, this action must be treated altogether as a common law action, and must have applied to it the rules governing a common law action, as distinguished from those admitted in a suit in equity. But it is to be observed

that since the Judicature Acts this distinction has lost its force. By Section 24 of the Judicature Act, 1873, sub-section (2) it is provided: "If any defendant claims to be entitled to any equitable estate or right, or to relief upon any equitable ground against any deed, instrument, or contract, or against any right, title, or claim asserted by any plaintiff or petitioner in such cause or matter, or alleges any ground of equitable defence to any claim of the plaintiff or petitioner in such cause or matter, the said courts respectively, and every judge thereof, shall give to every equitable estate, right, or ground of relief so claimed, and to every equitable defence so alleged, such and the same effect, by way of defence against the claim of such plaintiff or petitioner, as the Court of Chancery ought to have given if the same or the like matters had been relied on by way of defence in any suit or proceeding instituted in that court for the same or the like purpose before the passing of this Act."

And, although in some of the cases decided under this section relief has been claimed by way of counter-claim, it has also been granted where not so claimed. To allow such a distinction, moreover, would at all times have been contrary to the guiding principle upon which our procedure under the Orders in Council is based, that the rules should be so framed as to secure as far as may be that cases shall be decided on their merits according to substantial justice without excessive regard to technicalities of pleading or procedure. And it would specifically be contrary to the combined effect of Rule 33, which says that every petition is to be taken to imply an offer to equity in the matter of the suit commenced by it, and to admit of any equitable defence, and of rule 48, which, subject to the control of the Court, allows evidence to be given in support of defences not expressly set up in the answer.

In the Courts of Common Law, moreover, before the Judicature Acts a distinction was made in the matter of equitable relief between the cases in which it was sought by the Plaintiff to assist him in his claims against the defendant and cases where it was sought by the defendant, in order to resist the claim made against him. An instance where an equitable defence was admitted occurs in the case of *Wake v. Harrop* heard in the Court of Exchequer in 1861 and confirmed in the Exchequer Chamber in 1862. The plea in that case was in some respects very like the plea in the present case. The defendants were sued for breach of a charter party in the body of which they appeared to be the freighters and the plaintiff's testator the shipowner. The defendants pleaded the following plea on equitable grounds.

"Plea on equitable grounds, that the defendants entered into the charter-party solely as agents for 'A. Davidson and Company,' of Messina, and that before defendants signed the charter, it was agreed and understood between and by Wilkinson [the plaintiff's testator] and the defendants, that the defendants as aforesaid, so as to bind A. Davidson and Co.; and were not to make themselves liable as principals for the performance of the charter. That the defendants signed the charter party, in the following manner:—'For A. Davidson & Co., Messina, T. W. & J. C. Harrop & Co., agents,' they (the defendants) also Wilkinson *bona fide* believing at the time that the charter was signed, that the defendants, having so signed it, would not be personally liable to be sued on the charter as charterers, notwithstanding the charter in the body thereof professed to be made between Wilkinson as owner of the ship, of the one part, and the defendants, as merchants and freighters, of the other part. That the defendants had power to bind 'A. Davidson and Company' by signing the charter as their agents, and that 'A. Davidson & Co., are bound by the charter, and are liable to be sued for the breaches of the charter in the declaration mentioned, and that the plaintiff is inequitable taking advantage of the mistake in drawing the charter, so as to make the defendants personally liable as charterers, contrary to the intention both of Wilkinson and of the defendant, to maintain this action against the defendants." This plea was demurred to. It was argued on behalf of the Plaintiff that the plea was bad, that it shortly amounted to this, that it was agreed before the defendants signed the charter party that they should only sign as agents, that the defendants were therefore seeking to give parol evidence to discharge themselves from liability on a written document and that that could not be done, and further that it was seeking to give parol evidence in order to put a construction upon a written document, and that could not be done, that the intention had to be collected from the document itself which was the sole evidence of the contract, and no matter what took place before the parties reduced their agreement to writing,

when that is done, that alone is the record of the contract.

These objections of the plaintiffs were overruled by the Court of Exchequer and the judgment of that Court was upheld on appeal. The grounds of the decision were given by Mr. Justice Cotton in his judgment, where he says (31 L. J. R. at p. 454.)

"I am of opinion that this judgment ought to be affirmed. The plea appears to me to raise a good equitable defence; and the reasons for so holding are sufficiently expressed in the opinions of the learned Barons in the Court below, and I agree with the reasons they have given. This is not a case in which it was merely not intended by the party signing that he should be personally bound, but it is a case in which there was an express agreement by both parties to the effect that the defendants, when they signed, were making the principal only liable and not themselves. I cannot help thinking that is an equitable fraud on the part of the plaintiff, somewhat like that in the case of *Daines v. Steinbank* to sue the defendants when it was agreed that they should not be sued. This again is not a case in which the defendants seek to put a different construction on the written document from that which the plaintiff puts. I agree that that would be no defence; and that if the parties have mistaken their rights under an agreement, they must abide by the consequences; but here the defendants simply seek to show that suing them is contrary to the express agreement of the parties at the time of signing, and it would be monstrous to say that this cannot be taken advantage of as an equitable defence. My Brother Willes in the course of the argument, put the case of an attorney, without fraud, misrepresenting the effect of an agreement before the parties signed, it would be monstrous to say that they could not obtain relief in equity under such circumstances. Suppose there had been a written correspondence, to the effect of the facts set out in the plea, before signing the agreement, and the parties had then signed, at law the previous writing could not be used to show what the intention of the parties was, which must be collected from the written instrument itself; but surely in equity there would be a remedy. There is no case in which equity has interfered when the parties have misunderstood and have acted upon a misapprehension of their rights under an agreement,—granted; but on the other hand, no case goes anything near the length of saying that Story's doctrine is not sound and that equity will not interfere where, by mutual mistake, a document has been signed having an effect in law directly contrary to the express agreement and intention of both parties."

The doctrine of Story which had been referred to is contained in section 115 of his Equity Jurisprudence and is as follows:—

"Equity may compel parties to execute their agreements, but it has no authority to make agreements for them, or to substitute one for another. If there had been any mistake in the instrument itself, so that it did not contain what the parties had agreed on, that would have formed a very different case; for where an instrument is drawn and executed which professes, or is intended, to carry into execution an agreement previously entered into, but which, by mistake of the draughtsman, either as to fact or to law, does not fulfil that intention, or violates it, equity will correct the mistake so as to produce a conformity to the instrument." There was one point of difference between the case of *Wake* and *Harrop* and the present case that, in the former case, the effect of the plea was to show that the plaintiff had no remedy at all against the defendant under the agreement there referred to, while, in this case, it is not sought to set aside the agreement altogether. The two cases, however, have this in common that the plea in each goes to show that the plaintiff has no remedy at all against the defendant in the particular matter of the suit, and whatever bearing the distinction may have had upon the power of a common law court before the judicature acts, it has no bearing on the power of this Court to grant relief. And it appears to me that the judgment just read applies to the agreement pleaded in this case, that evidence of that agreement may be given, and that the agreement if satisfactorily proved would be a good ground of defence.

We have now to consider what the evidence is. The agreement set up is a verbal agreement between Mr. Teveson on behalf of the Fire Company, Mr. Versey on behalf of the Plaintiffs, and these two gentlemen are the only persons who can speak on the subject. They have both given their evidence. Mr. Versey's evidence was not so full as that of Mr. Teveson but it in no wise contradicts it, and Mr. Teveson's account of what took place may be accepted as correct in every respect. Mr. Versey had written the following letter to the agent,

of the Fire Company:—Memorandum. From E. Papany, No. 42 Concession, Kobe, 7th February, 1898. To the China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., Dear Sirs, Enclosed please find one fire policy No. 4377 for yen 2,500 covering the risk on goods stored in godown No. 37 which please transfer on goods and merchandise stored or to be stored on the Fire Company's Wharf at Kobe and oblige. Yours faithfully, F. Pabaney.

Referring to this letter Mr. Teveson says:— I remember on the 7th February receiving an application from the plaintiff for the transfer of Policy No. 4377. On receiving that application, acting on instructions of Mr. Edwards, I went and called on Mr. Versey. After the receipt of the Memo. requesting the transfer of the Policy 4377 I went to 42 Concession, Mr. Pabaney's office, I saw Mr. Versey. I told him that I was very sorry I was afraid I could not make the transfer I was requested. If it was for only one or two nights I might possibly oblige him. Mr. Versey in reply said he wished the policy transferred to cover goods that were coming forward or might be coming forward. I inquired if his Marine Insurance Policy did not cover these goods. Mr. Versey replied, in most cases but not all. I further inquired was there not a stamped clause on the Marine Insurance Policy covering fire on the hatoba. Mr. Versey replied, in some cases but not all. I can show you; I asked Mr. Versey not to trouble. I inquired if he wished the policy transferred to cover goods which had not this clause stamped on them or printed on them, or that the allotted time allowed by the Marine Insurance clauses had expired. Mr. Versey replied, Yes. I then returned to the office, and consulted my senior, after which the endorsement was made, and the policy returned to Mr. Versey. I did not see Mr. Versey again about this policy until the morning of the 3rd of March.

And Mr. Teveson on cross examination said:— "This endorsement on this policy is my wording. It is signed by Mr. Edwards. Mr. Edwards is my senior. In a case like that I would refer to my senior. When I left Mr. Versey's office I had not made any arrangement. I said I would refer to Mr. Edwards."

Now upon that evidence, what conclusion ought I to come to as to the existence or mere existence of the agreement set up. One thing is well settled, that, whoever sets up such an agreement as against a written contract must prove it satisfactorily and conclusively. So far from this being done, it appears to me that the evidence that there was no such agreement. Mr. Teveson says that when he left Mr. Versey's office he had not made any arrangement, and after that he had no communication with Mr. Versey whatever until the policy with the endorsement signed was sent to Mr. Versey, and sent, as it appears, without note or comment. It may be conceded that after the conversation between Mr. Versey and Mr. Teveson the sending of the policy to Mr. Versey with the endorsement might fairly be construed by Mr. Versey, in the absence of any remark to the contrary, as giving to him what he had said he wanted—protection for goods not covered by marine policies, and that if the endorsement had failed to give him that protection, he might have good reason to complain. But the endorsement did give him that protection, and I can find nothing to show that there was any agreement that it should stop short at that. The endorsement did go beyond that, but, it was made on behalf of the Company and I am satisfied that it was made deliberately, and not by mistake or inadvertence. Probably, if the exact wording of the particular marine policies had been known, it would have suggested a different wording of the endorsement, and it appears that to meet some of the difficulties to which the fire in question gave rise a new clause has been agreed upon by the insurance Companies. But it has been conceded, and the evidence shows, that the plaintiffs are not responsible for any concealment or misrepresentation with regard to the policies.

I have spoken of the evidence of Mr. Teveson, as if that were the only evidence of the agreement except that of Mr. Versey, and the letter just referred to and, with that exception, it was the only evidence admitted. There was, however, sought to be put in evidence on behalf of the Fire Company; and as an admission of the agreement, a statement made by Mr. Crose, the legal adviser of the Plaintiff, in a letter written to the agents of the Marine Company. But I ruled it was inadmissible as against the plaintiff, on the ground that such letter was written by Mr. Crose as solicitor to the plaintiff before legal proceedings were instituted, and without communicating its contents to the plaintiff. It appears to me that in those circumstances Mr. Crose had no authority to make such an admission on behalf of the plaintiff, and that it is not evidence against the plaintiff. It was not, in any case, in the circumstances in

which it was made, such an admission as estopped the plaintiff, as against the Fire Company and certainly not such as estopped the Marine Company, who always denied its truth. It could not, therefore, in the face of Mr. Teveson's evidence, be considered as of any value. I consider then that the defence of the Fire Company fails, and I find that the fire policy does attach to the goods in question.

There is next to be considered the question whether and how far the marine policies attach to the same goods. It is admitted that they attach to the goods so far as they are not covered by the fire policy, but it is claimed on behalf of the Marine company that by virtue of the exception contained in the words "unless already covered by a fire policy" they attach no further or otherwise. On behalf of the Fire Company it is contended that the exception does not apply, on two grounds. First that the word "covered" in the exception means fully covered and the cotton was not fully covered by the fire policy, and secondly, that the word "already" refers to the time when the marine policies were issued, and at the time those policies were issued the fire policy, although issued, was not transferred, so as to attach to goods on the pier. As to the meaning of the word "covered," I cannot find that the word is used in the marine policy in any other clause than in that now under consideration. I can therefore find no assistance from that source as to the meaning of the word, and I have not been referred to any authority. Elsewhere I find it used in two different senses. As applied to the interest of the assured I find the word "covered" to be used in the sense of fully covered. Thus in Arnould on Marine Insurance I find the following (4th ed. p. 16): "The interest of the assured is technically said to be covered by the policy, when the sum or aggregate of sums insured in the policy is sufficient to afford him full compensation for whatever loss that interest may sustain. If the value of his interest exceeds the sum insured, the excess of interest is said to be 'uncovered by the policy' and the insured to be 'his own insurer' to that extent."

And in Bunyon on Fire Insurance (4th ed. p. 5):—"The simple effect of a condition of average is to place the assured in the position of an insurer for the amount uncovered by the policy."

On the other hand when I look at the policy of the Fire Company I find the word used in a different sense when applied to the subject matter of the insurance. It appears in the *pro rata* condition of average, which is as follows:—

"It is hereby declared, and agreed, that whenever a sum insured is declared to be subject to the Conditions of Average, if the Property so covered shall at the breaking out of any fire be collectively of greater in value than the sum insured thereon, then this Company shall pay or make good such a proportion only of the loss or damage as the sum so insured shall bear to the whole value of the said Property at the time when such fire shall first happen."

Here the very policy in question is spoken of in the policy itself as covering goods, when those goods are only partially insured by the policy, the property comprised in the policy is said to be covered by the policy, although the property is not fully covered by the policy. I am of opinion that this is the meaning of the word as used in the marine policy. I come to this conclusion, not because I consider the Fire Company bound by the use of the word "covered" in their own policy. But their so using it, shows that it is an admissible use of it, and I consider that that is the use of the word which was most probably intended. It appears to me to be highly improbable that the Marine Company should intend to limit the exception to the case where the goods were fully insured by a fire policy. One of the marine policies was for 125 bales only. It might very well have happened that those 125 bales should be the only bales burned, and the only bales landed and the only property at risk. In that case the fire policy would have fully covered them. Could it possibly have been intended that the exception should depend on the accident of more or less goods being at risk at the outbreak of the fire. I think not.

Again, as to the word "already" that may have either of two meanings. It may mean "before the present time," or, "before some time referred to."—in this case, before the issue of the marine policies, or, before the outbreak of the fire, and we have to determine which of those meanings was intended by a consideration of the whole circumstances. The marine policies in this case were, and in most cases usually are, taken out at the port of shipment, while the risk of fire referred to in the clause of those policies under consideration is a risk occurring subsequent to the landing of the goods at their destination,

and the fire policy covering such risk in this case was, and in most cases such fire policies usually are, taken out at the port of landing. The clause in each of the marine policies in a clause added to the policy, and provides for a prolongation of the liability of the underwriters beyond the time at which such liability would cease under the policy in its old form without the clause. And looking at the clause as a whole, and in view of the fact that it did not originally form any part of a Marine policy, we may, I think, fairly draw the conclusion that it was intended to afford protection to the owner of the goods until they should come under the protection of a fire policy and no longer. Whatever the goods might be it is a matter of indifference so far as regards the object of the clause how long before the outbreak of the fire a fire policy may have been taken out, so long as it was in existence at that time, and in the case of isolated shipments which must be taken into consideration insurance at the port of landing would not in the ordinary course be effected until the goods were on the point of arriving, and certainly not until after the goods had left the port of shipment. The word "already" then as used in the clause appears to me to mean at the outbreak of the fire. It is in fact the only meaning which will carry out what we must presume to have been the intention of the parties.

I find then that the fire policy in this case is such a fire policy as is contemplated in the exception to the clause and effect must be given to the clause accordingly.

There will then be a declaration first that the fire policy referred to in the pleadings attached to the goods there referred to, and, second, that the said fire policy is a fire policy within the exception to the fire clause in each of the marine policies referred to in the pleadings, and effect is to be given to such marine policies and to such fire clause accordingly. The parties will, I have no doubt, arrive at what the contributions of each company ought to be under these declarations, but there will be a formal reference to the Registrar to determine what under such declarations and the admission made and evidence given at the trial, and such further evidence as he may require, are the sums payable by each defendant company to the plaintiff and what repayment (if any) ought to be made by the Plaintiff to the defendants the China Traders Insurance Company Limited, and an order that such sums be paid accordingly, and that all parties have liberty to apply. The defendants the China Fire Insurance Company Limited will pay the Plaintiff his costs of the suit and reference.

H. S. WILKINSON, Judge.

Yokohama, March 30th, 1899.

Mr. Walford—As to the costs to the China Traders, your Honour?

His Honour—I have considered that, Mr. Walford, and I consider the costs of the suit have not been naturally increased by joining you, and the justice of the case does not require that you should receive any costs. You will understand by that that I think both offices have acted very properly in the way that they have done. As a matter of cost, I think you should not have costs.

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAM RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE ANGLO FRENCH AGREEMENT.

Saigon, March 24.

The French and English journals show themselves equally satisfied with the African settlement.

THE FRENCH NAVAL BUDGET.

The discussion of the French naval budget continues in the Chamber of Deputies. The Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy, has announced that, at an early date, he will submit a project for increasing the Marine Infantry and Artillery.

THE FRENCH AND LAKE CHAD.

Saigon, March 25.

The Foureau Mission of exploration arrived yesterday in Algiers from Lake Chad, in an excellent condition.

MADAME DREYFUS FINED.

Saigon, March 26.

The Court of Cassation has rejected the application of Madame Dreyfus, chal-

lenging three Councillors, and has sentenced her to a fine of 100 francs.

ANOTHER FIGHT AT MANILA HEAVY LOSSES.

The Americans have defeated the insurgents at Manila. The Americans had 100 killed and wounded, and the Filipinos lost 400.

RUSSIA AND THE NILE QUESTION.

Saigon, March 27.

The Russian press approves the Anglo-French arrangement with reference to Africa.

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Saigon, March 28

At Manila the Americans continue to make turning movements. They are suffering sensible losses. The attack on Polo (?) has failed.

[We imagine that the place referred to as "Polo" must be an abbreviation of Antipolo, a village of some 4,000 inhabitants in the military district of Morong, celebrated as the Church of the Virgin of Acapulco, whose image was brought to the Philippines in 1626.—Ed. J. M.]

DEATH OF AT EXPLORER.

Saigon, March 29.

M. Mizou, the explorer, is dead.

[M. Mizou was an officer of the French Marines who made himself known by his remarkable explorations in the regions of the Niger, the Congo, Benoué and Adamoua. His difficulties with the agents of the English Company also brought him into public notice in the United Kingdom. He had abandoned the career of geographical explorer some time back, and had been appointed Resident at Madagascar.]

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE NILE AGREEMENT.

London, March 24.

Both countries (England and France) appear to be satisfied with the Nile Agreement.

BRITISH PREMIER ON THE CONTINENT.

Lord Salisbury has gone over to the Riviera.

THE MAHDI'S REMAINS.

The Sirdar accepts entire responsibility for the dispersal of the Mahdi's remains. Lord Cromer entirely supports Lord Kitchener's action.

FAMINE AND PLAGUE IN RUSSIA.

London, March 25.

Terrible accounts of famine accompanied by typhus fever are arriving from Samara and other Volga provinces of Russia.

ALASKAN BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

In the House of Commons, Mr. W. St. John Brodrick stated that America has proposed a modus vivendi over the Alaskan boundary question.

NORTH BORNEO COMPANY.

The North Borneo Company is issuing 350,000 shares.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN ENTENTE.

Negotiations between Russia and Great Britain regarding differences over China have assumed a practical shape, and an early conclusion is hoped.

THE BOAT RACE.

The betting on the boat race now stands at eleven to four on Cambridge.

THE GRAND NATIONAL.

Result—Manifesto 1, Fordoffyne 2, Elliman 3.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN RELATIONS.

London, March 26.

According to the *Daily Graphic*, Russia

has finally settled the Newchwang railway difficulty entirely to British satisfaction, the Czar expressly intimating his desire to give a tangible proof of peaceful disposition on the eve of the Disarmament Conference. It is further said that a Convention defining the respective spheres of influence will be signed shortly.

THE BOAT RACE.

CAMBRIDGE VICTORIOUS.

Cambridge won the Boat-race by four lengths.

LONDON GOVERNMENT BILL.

The City of London Government Bill was read a second time, the vote standing 245 for and 118 against.

SWORD OF HONOUR FOR COL. MATHIAS.

A sword of honour was presented to Col. Mathias, of the Gordon Highlanders, at the annual dinner of the Pembroke Club.

UITLANDERS FORWARD PETITION.

London, March 28.

A petition to H. M. the Queen, signed by 21,000 Uitlanders, has been transmitted by Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of Cape Colony, declaring their position to be intolerable and praying for enquiry.

"TIMES" ON THE TRANSVAAL SITUATION.

The *Times* asks: "Will President Krüger disregard warning until too late?"

THE SOUDAN RAILWAY.

The railway has already been pushed fifty miles south of Atbara and is to be completed by November.

THE POPE RECOVERING.

London, March 29.

His Holiness the Pope is decidedly stronger and has resumed the celebration of the mass.

COUNTERVAILING SUGAR DUTIES.

Mr. W. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that all circumstances connected with foreign treaties had been fully weighed before the Indian countervailing sugar duties were decided upon.

(FROM THE "MANILA TIMES")

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

Washington, March 7.

Before the session closed, Congress passed a vote of one million dollars gold for the purpose of procuring complete surveys of the route proposed to be selected for the Nicaragua Canal.

PHILIPPINES' FUTURE UNSETTLED.

Washington, March 7.

Recent events in the Philippines have caused considerable alterations in the views of many men regarding the most desirable method of arranging for the future administration of the Philippines, and at the present moment opinions are so divided that it is impossible to tell what the result will be. The Cabinet has not come to any decision, and nobody has any specific detailed plan to propose as yet.

(FROM THE "KORE HERALD.")

SEVERE BATTLE OUTSIDE MANILA.

Shanghai, March 26.

On Saturday at daylight General MacArthur's Division advanced on East Calococan and then swung north, taking several towns, and inflicting heavy loss on the enemy.

The enemy retreated on Polo and the sea. Malabon was burned.

General Egbert was killed in the engagement. Losses on the American side 175.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

ANTI-CHRISTIAN FEELING IN PEKING.

Peking, March 25.

A placard has been posted at the gate of the Roman Catholic Church at Peking threatening to destroy the Church building and murder the believers. The head of the church reported the matter to the French Minister, and the latter has protested to the Tsungli Yamen.

RISEING OF MOHAMMEDANS IN CHINA.

Shanghai, March 25.

The Muhammedans in Kwangsi Province have risen and have circulated a manifesto in the cities of the adjacent provinces. A spread of the sedition is feared, and the Governor has telegraphed to Mr. Tung Fu-hsiang to return to his post.

(FROM JAPANESE SOURCES.)

FIRE IN A COLLIERY—TEN PERSONS SUFFOCATED.

Fukuoka, March 24.

Yesterday a fire broke out at the Hokkoku Colliery, and at least ten persons are known to have been suffocated.

GREAT FIRE IN MIYAGI PREFECTURE.

Sendai, March 24.

Fire broke out about 8 o'clock last night, at Wakayanagi-machi, Aitihara-gun, Miyagi prefecture. The flames raged till 2 a.m. to-day, and more than eighty houses were burned.

HOTEL DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Kyoto, March 25.

This afternoon the Maruyama Hotel here was burnt down. The fire originated in a chimney in the cook's room.

A JAPANESE VESSEL FOUNDERS.

Kobe, March 28.

About 2 p.m. yesterday, a small Japanese vessel collided with a schooner. The former was sunk. Thirteen sailors and passengers are missing, but it is thought probable that they were rescued by the schooner, which went on its way.

THE OCHA-NO-MIZU MURDER.

Sendai, March 28.

The trial of the Ocha-no-mizu murderer Matsumura Noriyoshi was opened to-day, when the accused stated that he had killed his wife by mistake. The Public Procurator asked for the quashing of the original judgment and a new prosecution.

SHOCKING AFFAIR.

Utsunomiya, March 28.

At 1 p.m. to-day, Murata Monji, of Hirado village, Kawachi district, was found murdered. His wife and adopted daughter were suffering from serious wounds. The affair is a mystery.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	M. N. Co.	Ernest Simmons	Tu. April 4
America	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	W. April 5
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. April 9
Canada, Etc.	C. F. R. Co.	Km. of India	Th. April 10
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Roetta	M. April 10
America	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. April 10
America	P. M. Co.	China	Th. April 13
Hongkong	C. F. R. Co.	Km. of China	Th. April 13
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. April 17
America	P. & O. Co.	Isle	Sa. April 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Gaelic	W. April 24

2 Left Hongkong on the 26th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 27th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 28th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

To	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. April 2
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. April 3
Shanghai	N. V. E.	Sakiko Maru	W. April 3
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	Th. April 6
Hongkong	P. R. Co.	Km. of India	M. April 10
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu. April 10
Europe, via E. Ind.	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simmons	W. April 10
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	P. April 14
Canada, Etc.	C. F. R. Co.	Km. of China	Th. April 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	F. April 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. April 17
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Doric	M. April 24

CHENS

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

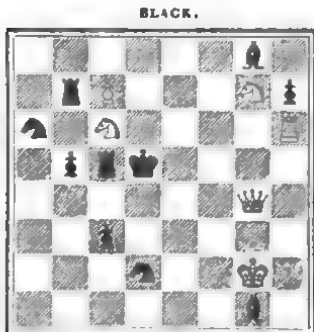
The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 413.

WHITE. 1—R to B3 2—Q to R2! 3—Kt to Kt4!! mate if 2—K to B4 3—Kt to K3 mate if 2—Any other 3—Q to Kt sq mate 2—P to Kt4 ch 3—Q to K3 mate Only "Marco" sent in a correct solution. "Voila" went wrong in this variation: 1—B to B3 2—Kt to K3 ch 3—Q to Q4 mate (?) No! R takes Q.

The Japan Mail problem competition for this year begins with the problem printed below. The Prize is given by W.H.S.

PROBLEM No. 416 By A. C. CHALLENGER First Prize, Hampstead and Highgate Express Tonnage.



WHITE. White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 493. Played at Cheltenham on November 24th, Lasker contesting against 30 members of the district, winning 24 games, drawing 4, and losing 2 to Colonel E. Law, of Deenhurst, and Rev. E. B. James, of Gloucester. The following is Colonel Law's win:—

ALLOAIER-THOROLD GAMBIT. WHITE. Lasker. 1—P to K4 2—P to K B4 3—Kt to KB3 4—P to KR4 5—Kt to K5 6—Kt takes P 7—P to Q4 8—Kt to B3 9—B takes P Col. E. Law. 1—P to K4 2—P takes P 3—P to K Kt4 4—P to K5 5—P to K R3 6—K takes Kt 7—P to Q4 8—Kt to K B3! 9—P takes P

Notes by James Mason. Capture of the Pawn may be delayed, but up to and including move 10, on both sides, the opening may be accepted as a model of correctness in this hazardous game.

10—B to B4 ch 11—B to K5 Now, however, 11—Q to Q2, with choice as to Castling, would yield a much more enduring attack. The exchange of this Bishop is unfavourable; even assuming no further sacrifice of force involved.

12—Castles 13—Q to K2 If 13—Kt takes P or 13, Kt to Q5, the reply might be the same, that is, 13..... Kt takes B; and Black's superior force would about as easily assert itself. Anyhow, the attack fails, and the solid difference of the piece remains.

14—P takes Kt 15—K to Rq 16—Kt takes P 17—Kt takes B 18—B takes Q 19—Q R to Q1 q

.....Or 16.... Kt takes Kt; there would be no harm in 17—R to B7, R to B7+, etc. White could not seriously prolong the contest two pieces behind.

17—Kt takes B 18—B takes Q 19—Q R to Q1 q

20—K to R2 21—R to Q4 22—P to Q B4 23—P takes P 24—B takes P With this Black makes further gain—wins as a matter of course. Here Lasker might have gracefully resigned.

25—B takes B 26—K to R3 27—B to Q5 28—R to Kt4 ch 29—R to Kt6 30—R to K B6 31—K to Kt4 32—R to Q5 33—R to Q7 ch 34—R to R B7 35—K to R5 36—R to Q7 37—K to Kt6 25—Kt takes R ch 26—K R to K sq 27—R to K2 28—K to R q! 29—K to R2 30—R to K6 ch 31—Kt to Q7 32—Kt to R5 33—K to R q 34—R to K q 35—Kt to Q3 36—K R to K4 ch 37—R takes B And White resigned.

GAME No. 494. The Singapore Championship Tournament has been won by Mr. P. A. Rentens with 7½ points out of 8 games played. He has been fortunate enough to win 7 games, and draw 1 with Mr. Elenn.

The following games were played in the Tournament:—

White—G. S. Rentens. 1 P K4 2 R B4 3 P KB4 4 Kt KB3 5 P x P 6 B K2 7 Kt Kt5(a) BxKt(b) 8 P x B 9 Castles Black—P. A. Rentens. 10 P Q4 11 R B4 12 BxKt 13 R x B(d) 14 B B5 15 BxPch(e) K x B 16 Q R5 h 17 Kt R3(f) Q KBch 18 Resigns.

NOTES FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS." (a) A queer move. (b) Black is enticed to take the piece in view of gaining a pawn.

(c) And thereby falls into a trap by which he must lose a piece in order to save his Queen. Q to Kt3 best.

(d) But he lost two pieces by castling instead of retiring his Queen. White was in a high state of glee while Black was perspiring profusely, in contemplation of his ruined prospects for the championship.

(e) A rash sacrifice which revived Black's hopes. (f) A fatal mistake. Kt to B3 would afford White a chance of still winning.

GAME No. 495. White—P. A. Rentens. 1 P K4 2 Kt QB3 3 B B4 4 Kt x Kt 5 B x P 6 Kt QB3 7 P Q3 8 Kt B3 9 Kt K4 10 P KR3 11 Kt Kt3 12 Q x B 13 B K3 14 Ctl. KR 15 B K5 16 Kt K4 17 B B6 18 Q O-q 19 P QB3 20 P QKt4 Black—W. Craig. 21 B x B 22 Kt B5 23 Kt x R 24 P QB4 25 Q R2 26 Q K4 27 P x Q 28 P K3 29 K K2 30 QR Q-q 31 P B4 32 R B3 33 R B2 34 P Kt5 35 P x P 36 Kt R 37 R x Kt? 38 K K3 39 K B3 40 K K4 41 K x P and wins (f)

NOTES. (a) Q to B3 seems best. (b) Q takes Kt P wins a P (c) This loses the exchange. (d) Kt takes P best. (e) P to KR4 best. (f) The game, not without some interesting points, was finished in about 15 minutes, which is far too fast for tournament play. After White had given up his R to his opponent's Kt, it should have ended in a draw.

LASKER ON THE "MODERN SCHOOL" Early in December last the world champion delivered a lecture on the Modern School, at the Insurance Chess Club, London, which the Standard reported as follows:—"The theme was the Modern School, a difficult subject, which Mr. Lasker handled diplomatically by emphasizing the principle of the pawn ending. What is the modern school, or the old school, for the matter of that? Up to late in the seventies no mention was made of a modern school. We played the games

of the past and contemporaneous masters, and distinguished only between good and bad games. All of a sudden, Steinitz started the new war cry of the quasi modern school, finding out suddenly that he was speaking prose all his life. It came about at the time when the correspondence match between the city of London Chess Club and Vienna was played. Steinitz then adopted a new style, which he caught from the late Mr. Potter, with whom he was constantly closeted, working upon the correspondence games. In earlier days before chess was so widely disseminated through the medium of the press and clubs, the ordinary amateur had no means of improving beyond what he could learn from the standard works on the game. Therefore, the first class players stood head and shoulders above the usual run of players. Now a days, the line of demarcation between master and first class amateur is thinner, owing to the facilities of publication mentioned; therefore, the former brilliant variations with which the master could vanquish the amateur fall to the ground, because the latter knows them as well as his opponent. The master has, therefore, to resort to steady, sound and careful play, and all he can achieve is a strategical advantage, or a better pawn position for the ending—and this is the Modern School! Careful and unimaginative players of all times may be said to have practised the principles of this Modern School. What we maintain may be noticed in a striking manner in simultaneous performances. Even the apostle of the Modern School in such a stance would adopt the Old School—viz, lively variations and attacking style against the bulk of his opponents, whilst he would resort (and will have to) to the style of the Modern School against the few top players of the team opposed to him, or, in other words, he would play what Lasker calls psychological chess. There are, however, exponents of the modern style, Lasker and Dr. Tartasch, for instance, but only because they have been educated in this style, and because they have adopted the sound principles of "position play." Charousek, for instance, belongs to no school; he adopts both styles—because he does play "psychological chess."

NOTES. At meeting of the Selection Committee, at the British Chess Club, the following were chosen to play in the forthcoming match by cable against America: Atkins, Brillingham, Blackburne, Burn, Jackson, Jacobs, Locock, Milk, and Wainwright. Reserves:—Trenchard, Walker, and Ward.

It is announced that an international tournament is being organised under the auspices of the Grand Cercle et Cercle des Echecs de Paris, to be held during the Exhibition of 1900 at the rooms of the Cercle. The committee have subscribed 10,000fr. towards the prize fund, and make besides the liberal offer to admit as temporary members to their club all subscribers of 100fr. The latter offer will swell the fund considerably, the Grand Cercle, 16 Boulevard Montmartre, being one of the best social clubs in Paris. This fin de siècle tournament should prove not only the grandest of the century but the greatest ever held.

It cannot be said that the French have been prompted to this step in a spirit of rivalry to the tournament which is being organised in this country, for they have held two tournaments before—during the Exhibitions of 1867 and 1878—and both surpassed every previously held tournament in any country.—Westminster Gazette.

During the past three months great progress has been made in the movement to organize an International Chess Tournament, to be held in London during the coming summer, and it is now announced that the committee have made arrangements to hold the tournament in the St. Stephen's Great Hall, adjoining the Royal Aquarium, Westminster. Play will last six or seven weeks, commencing on the 30th of May. Some little difficulty was anticipated in finding a suitable hall, the tournament being fixed to take place during the height of the London season, and the committee are to be congratulated on securing such a fine hall, capable of holding a very large company, and so well situated for sight-seers.

A very strong committee has been formed, of which Sir George Newnes, President of the British and City of London Chess Clubs, is President, and including, among the hundred or more names, the Marquess of Ripon, Viscount Cubham and Folkestone, the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S., a strong contingent of members of the House of Commons, including the Attorney General, Sir Wm. Hart Dyke, and Mr. Henniker Heaton, and the presidents of all the leading chess clubs and associations throughout the kingdom.

It is proposed to hold two tournaments the first a double round tournament limited to about 16 players, which, it is hoped, will include all the

finest players in the world, and secondly, a single round tournament of 20 or more players not competing in the double round tournament. The prize fund will, it is anticipated, amount to about £1,500, and towards this promises have been received by the committee of about £1,000. The joint honorary secretaries of the tournament are Mr. Junius L. Cope, honorary secretary of the British Chess Club, which is taking a leading part in the matter, and Mr. J. W. Russell, honorary secretary of the City of London Chess Club.

A performance of chess with living pieces recently took place on the grounds of the Vienna Jubilee Agricultural Exhibition. It was intended to represent the victory of Prince Eugene over Kara Mustapha in the battle of Zenta. No less than 340 persons and 15 horses were engaged in the contest, and the field was divided into 61 yellow and black squares, each of 16 square yards. Before the game commenced a grand procession was formed, with music and banners, Prince Eugene with his generals and his queen, all appropriately caparisoned, coming last, on the side of the White army. On the Black side there was a similar formation, and at a trumpet call they all arranged themselves on the field in battle array. The two kings stood on their squares on horseback, surrounded by eight generals or pachas, and all the other pieces and pawns were represented by groups of persons, varying from three to nine in number.

The Advantage of the First Move.—The general deduction derived from an examination of a grand total of over 3,000 games, is that White on the average wins 55 and Black only 45 out of every 100 games played.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 24th March,—Shanghai via ports, 18th Mar, Mails General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bertha, German ship, 2,895, K. Bunnings, 25th March,—New York; 29th Sept., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. de B. Lockyer, 27th March,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 26th March, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Amara, British steamer, 1,566, C. J. Matlock, 29th March,—Surabaya, Java, Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Tientsin, British steamer, 1,250, Dawson, 29th March,—Taiwanfu, 23rd March, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 29th March,—San Francisco, via Honolulu, 9th March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Tsuji, 29th March,—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 28th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 30th March,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 29th Mar, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, J. Hutclins, 31st March,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 29th Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, Albert C. Mose, 1st April,—Shanghai via ports, 25th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,281, H. Bait, 1st April,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 30th March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 24th March,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Sandai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, I. Nirei, 24th March,—Hongkong via Kobe and Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 25th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Fifeshire, British barque, 1,318, W. M. Caddell, 27th March,—Noumea, New Caledonia, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.
Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 28th March,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Francis Norman, 28th March,—Kuchinoshu via Kobe, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Nurnberg, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binzer, 29th March,—Havre, Amsterdam, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Taifu, German steamer, 900, Schuler, 29th Mar.,—Port Arthur via Kobe, Wharf.—Mr. Worbs.
Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, G. Duchateau, 29th March,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 29th March,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 30th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Bowhead, Argentine steam-whaler, 240, J. Cook, 30th March,—Arctic Ocean, Stores and Whaling Gear.—American Trading Co.
Fiery Cross, British barque, 1,399, Kain, 31st Mar.,—Tatlat, Chili, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer **Rohilla**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Woolley, 2 children and amah, Mr. Ng Wing Koi, Mr. P. J. Irving, Rev. A. R. Fuller, Mrs. Fuller, 2 children and amah, Mr. G. Morris, Mr. C. H. Van Dorp, Mr. Hodgkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Sykes, Mr. C. Carmichael, Mr. Hugh Pickney, Mr. J. Lovell, Mr. Howlett, Mrs. and Miss Cornwell, Mr. C. Newland, Mrs. A. C. Cmtis, and Mr. Lee Yum, in cabin; 23 in steerage.
Per British steamer **Gaelic**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. G. Nagasaki, 2 children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Macy, Master Ridway Macy, Miss Helen Macy, Mr. T. Matsumoto, Mr. K. Usumiomiya, Mr. O. E. Dutton, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Smith, Mr. A. H. Rutherford, Mr. Eugene Ross, Rev. C. H. Vatman, Mr. Robert Weiss, Mr. H. Muspratt, Mr. P. L. Foster, Mr. B. N. Foster, Mr. R. H. Taharudin, Mr. Robert Ashworth, Mr. J. S. Richmond, Miss F. C. Morse, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Flagler, Mr. L. C. Tuckerman, Miss C. J. Miller, Mr. Arthur Pierce, and Mr. T. Y. Dazushi, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. J. Sampson, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Schubart, Mr. W. S. Allen, Mr. Chas. E. Tripp, Captain W. H. Allaire, Mr. H. R. Lewis, Mr. G. S. Beebe, Mr. E. G. W. Pratt, and Mr. N. Chas. Brooks, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Empress of Japan**, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. P. Briffand, Mr. H. C. Cass, Mr. T. Davy, Mr. R. Dittell, Comte Pierre de Durtout, Mr. J. C. Eppelstein, Lieut. Rene Fabry, Mr. Alex. Flegelant, Mr. J. Harper, Mr. S. Hayakawa, Mr. O. D. Jerauld, Mrs. O. D. Jerauld and 3 children, Mrs. Lancaster and child, Mrs. Macnaught, Mr. E. E. Matheson, Mr. Majorbanks, Mr. S. Murray, Miss A. A. Muspratt, Mr. A. F. Nicol, Mr. Robt. Niven, Mrs. Wm. T. Payne, child and amah, Mr. G. F. Phillips, Mr. Wm. Porter, Mr. S. Porter, Mr. Robertson, Mrs. Robertson, Miss Sharpe, Mr. Newman Smith, and Lieut. Georges Vignon, in cabin.

Per American steamer **City of Rio de Janeiro**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Meyer, Mr. R. M. Rice, Mr. Hutchinson, D. W. L. Adams, Dr. Steele, Mr. Williams, and Mr. J. M. Mar, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business is still dull. Quotations are practically unaltered from last week.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER PICAL.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$2 60 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	3 00 to 3 10
1, 1 lb—7½ yds, 33 inches	1 90 to 2 00
Indigo Shirtings—21 yds, 14 inches	2 00 to 2 10
Prints—assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2 50 to 4 00
Cotton—Bahamas and Batters Black, 52 inches	PER YARD.
	0 45 to 0 58

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	10 40 to 0 60
Itians cloth, 30 yards	0 52 to 0 50
Mousseline de laine—Trape, 24 yds, 52 inches	0 16 to 0 25
Cloth—Polo's, 54 & 56 inches	0 10 to 0 15
Cloth—Presidents, 54 & 56 inches	0 75 to 0 85
Cloth—Union, 54 & 56 inches	0 55 to 0 65
Blankets—Saxet and Green, 3 to 5 lb per lb	0 65 to 0 75

	PER PICAL.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 10 00
Victoria lawns, 12 yards, 42½ inches	0 70 to 1 10
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1 00 to 2 20
Turkey Reds—3 to 4 lb, 24½ yds, 32 inches	2 45 to 3 45

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICAL.
Nos 16½, Singles	137 00 to 138 50
Nos 28½, Singles	Nominal
Nos 38½, Singles	42 00 to 44 00
Nos 31, Doubles	41 00 to 41 50

Nos 42, Doubles	15 50 to 41 50
Nos 2 60, Plain	9 00 to 10 00
Nos 2 80, Plain	70 00 to 81 00
Nos 2 100, Plain	99 00 to 110 00
Nos 2 60, Gassed	77 00 to 80 00
Nos 2 80, Gassed	90 00 to 95 00
Nos 2 100, Gassed	117 00 to 120 00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICAL.
American Middling	\$10 40
Indian Beach	18 50
Chinese	20 00 to 21 00

METALS.

There has been little business. Quotations nominally as last week.

	PER PICAL.
Round and square (inches and upward)	4 40 to 4 80
Iron Plates, assorted	4 60 to 5 00
Sheet Iron	5 15 to 5 40
Galvanized iron sheets	9 75 to 10 50
Wire Nails, assorted	6 25 to 6 50
1 in Plates, per bus	6 30 to 6 60
Pig Iron, No. 3	2 45 to 2 60
House Iron (8 to 12 inch)	5 45 to 5 50

KROSENK.

	PER PICAL.
American	\$2 00 to 2 10
Russian	2 00 to 2 05
Langkat	Nominal

SUGAR.

The trade remains steady, quotations being at the level of last week.

	PER PICAL.
Brown Taka	\$1 90 to 5 00
Brown Manila	5 25 to 6 20
Brown Mauritius	4 20 to 4 30
Brown Canto	4 90 to 5 00
White Java and Penang	7 00 to 8 50
White Refined	7 75 to 9 35

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Trade has not been brisk, and stock is greatly depleted.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Figures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Figures—Extra, Coarse	Nominal
Figures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Figures—No. 1, Coarse	\$100 to 110
Figures—No. 1, Fine	1 70 to 10 70
Figures—No. 1, Coarse	10 10 to 10 60
Figures—No. 2, Fine	10 40 to 10 50
Figures—No. 2, Coarse	Nominal
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-rech—Extra	Nominal
Re-rech—No. 1	Nominal
Re-rech—No. 2	Nominal
Re-rech—No. 3	Nominal
Kakadas—Extra	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 2	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 3	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 4	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

Some extensive purchases were made early in the week, but things have eased off for the holiday season.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Figures, Best	\$110 to 125
Noshi—Figures, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	no stock
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115 to 125
Noshi—Bushi, Good	95 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Joshi, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Figures, Best	85 to 95
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	50 to 55
Kibiso—Joshi, Fair	30 to 35

TEA.

The market is quite lifeless, and quotations are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	no stock
First	Nominal
Fine	Nominal
Good Medium	Nominal
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	12 to 20

[MESSRS. BISSET & UR'S LIST]

Yokohama, March 30th.

TELEGRAPHIC QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, March 30th, 1899, 12 30 p.m.:—H. & S. Banks 270 per cent, premium Sales, National Banks 221 Sales, China Fires 322 Sales, Hongkong Fires 295 Sales, H. & W. Docks 325 per cent, premium Sales, H. & K. Wharfs 384 Sales, Douglas 58 Sales, Indu-Chinas 369 Sales, Panjom Mines 55 Buyers, Rauh Mines 360 50 Sales, Hongkong Lands 378 50 Sales, Union Insurance 230 Nominal, China Traders

\$62 Sales, Straits Insurance \$4 50 Sales, and H. C. & M. Steamboats \$29 Sales.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Japan Brewery old shares changed hands to-day at yen 310. New fully paid up shares are enquired for at yen 150. Iron Works rule steady at yen 205. Grand Hotels can be had at yen 225.50. Club Hotels are offering at yen 90. Oriental Hotels are wanted at yen 100. Nagasaki Hotels have sellers at yen 40. Bets are obtainable at yen 9.50, while North & Raes are in demand at yen 200. A few Langfeldts are procurable at yen 145 and Hyogo Gas shares at yen 170. Japan Brewery Debentures changed hands to-day at yen 108 ex accrued interest and at this rate and on these terms a few more can be had. V. U. Clubs are wanted at yen 108. Oriental Hotel Debentures are obtainable at yen 108. Nagasaki Hotels Debentures at yen 100.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd. \$50	205 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. \$100, Old	310 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50	150 B.
Grand Hotel, Ltd. \$100	225.50 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. \$100	90 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. \$100	100 H.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Paris). \$100	100 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd. yen 100	40 S.
North and Raes, Ltd. \$100	200 H.
Reitt & Co., Ltd. \$100	9.50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd. \$100	145 S.
Hyogo Gas Co., Ltd. \$100	170 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb. \$100	108 Sa. & S.
Kobe Club Co., Ltd. \$50	90 S.
Yokohama United Club 7 1/2 Deb. \$100	108 H.
Reitt & Co., Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb. \$100	108 H.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb. \$100	108 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb. \$100	108 S.

Reserve Fund.—1. yen 10,000; 2. yen 5,000 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property
1. yen 17,770.50; 4. yen 16,298.44.

N.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, R.—Enquiries.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 30th.

Rates continue steady with small business doing, no alteration in silver or China exchange.

Banking—Bank C.T.	2/0 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/1
On Lyons—Bank sight	258
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261 1/2
On Amsterd.—Bank Bills on demand	49 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	109
— Private 4 months' sight	213
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4 1/2 dlia.
— Private 10 days' sight	5 1/2 dlia.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	70 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	77 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
On Siles (London)	47 1/2

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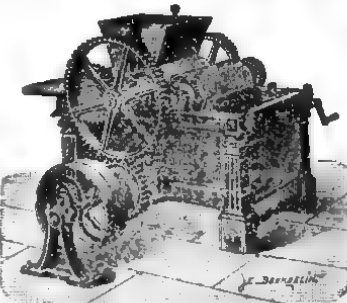
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Yokohama.—SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1899.

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

月三年五十二治制
可照舊例辦理

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE ACCOUNT.

AN ALTERATION OF RULES

ARBITRATION—IMPORTANT MEMORANDUM.

Mr. Dopps seconded.

REPORT ADOPTED.

BONDED GOVERNMENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. KARR seconded, and the motion was carried.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

COMPLIMENTARY:

SECRET Yan

E. & O. E.
Sch 28th, 180

Examined and found correct, 30th March. 1899.

P. C. POTTS, **Lauditors.**

J. E. BRADY, Secretary pro. tem.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE.

1898. REVENUE.	
Aug. 31. To Collection on an Assessment of 30 per cent. of the Guarantee Fund.....	Yen. 2,115.00
	2,115.00
1899.	
Jan. 1. To Balance Cash in hand	203.04
1898. EXPENDITURE.	
April 16. Mr. Hatoyama (Opinion)	100.00
May 18. Tiffin (Tokyo Club)	25.16
" 18. Carriages (Tokyo)	16.50
June 1. Printing	34.00
Aug. 8. Printing	8.00
" 8. Paid Dr. Lönholm (on account)	1,500.00
Oct. 31. Printing	34.50
Nov. 30. Printing	90.00
Dec. 31. Printing	21.50
Postage, Stationery, etc.	40.00
Woodruff, Collecting	42.30
	1,911.96
Balance.....	203.04
	2,115.00

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, March 28th, 1899.

Examined and found correct, 29th March, 1899.

P. C. POTTS,
W. G. MACVICAR, } Auditors.
J. M. BEALS, Secretary pro tem.

REPORT.

The meeting is called by Rule XV. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Committee and a statement of Accounts, to elect a Committee for the ensuing year, and for general purposes.

THE MINUTES of the last meeting have been circulated among the members.

From the Customs returns the Export Trade shows a decrease of yen 10,776,200, the figures being for 1898 yen 68,905,300 against yen 79,681,500 in 1897. Taking a glance at the tables, given at the end of this report, it will be seen that the decrease is chiefly to be found in the export of Raw Silk, the figures being yen 42,047,500 for 1898, yen 56,173,300 for 1897. The production was less than last year, but the figures are somewhat deceptive, the war between the United States and Spain having caused shipments to the first of these countries to be delayed till the spring of this year. Silk Manufacturers, on the contrary, show a satisfactory increase, the Export becoming steadily of importance, and taking second place in the list to Raw Silk.

	1898. Yen.	1897. Yen.
The Figures are.....	5,721,400	12,462,300
Waste Silk about holds its own	2,171,700	2,538,800
Tea shows a slight excess ..	5,389,400	5,176,500
Copper: Export has largely increased	3,203,000	2,688,800
Tobacco: the Export is only	18,600	83,200
Rice: the Export is only ...	17,300	12,800
Fish Oil: the Export is only ..	336,500	545,400

HARBOUR MASTER—Vice-Admiral Mori, having been appointed by the Japanese Government to that post, Port Regulations have been issued, and the Committee desire to acknowledge the courteous attention that they have received from this official whilst bringing before his attention the suggestions of their sub-Committee.

THE QUESTION AS TO WHAT THE PICUL WEIGHT is to be under the new Tariff has had the attention of the Committee. They have placed the matter before the Japanese Chamber, but without obtaining further information than was given at the last general meeting, viz., "The only mentioned in this Tariff is the Japanese weight. It is equal to 600 grammes of the Metric System of Weights, or 1.3227 lbs." This weight is adopted in paying Duties, but the custom of trade in buying and selling is unaltered. The Picul bought and sold is still 133.33 lbs. avoirdupois.

FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH JAPANESE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.—On the 21st March a meeting was held by Representatives of the Committees of the Japanese and Foreign Chambers, at which the following subjects were introduced:—

Courts of Arbitration; Weight of the Kin; Harbour Improvements;

on all which a friendly discussion ensued. Our guests were in favour of the proposed idea as to Arbitration, and asked for a translation of the Rules of our Chamber on the subject, which were supplied, without, however, bringing the matter to

any conclusion. This subject is treated later in the Report.

As to Harbour Improvements, they informed us that they had prepared a Report, which included many of the suggestions for improvement made by the sub-Committee of this Chamber, and we hope that the joint action of the two Chambers will have had its influence in the proper quarters. The meeting concluded with an hospitable invitation from the Chairman of the Japanese Chamber to a social meeting, which was accepted with thanks, but no definite time arranged for it.

The Committee are glad to be able to report that the relations of the two Chambers are of the most cordial nature, and they specially desire to acknowledge the readiness of the Chairman of the Japanese Chamber, Mr. Otani, to be of service to this Chamber.

AUCTION SALES.—The abuses brought before this Chamber at the last general meeting by combinations amongst Japanese buyers has been the subject of communications with the Japanese Chambers of Commerce, both here and in Tokyo, but they do not seem to have been able to make any suggestions to do away with the abuse.

COURTS OF ARBITRATION.—The Committee, being of the opinion that the subject was one of importance, have appointed a sub-Committee to report on the same, and the result of their labours will be found in the Memorandum placed before you, and on which the Committee hope for your opinion at this meeting. There can be no doubt of the practical utility of the suggestions made, if they can only be carried out effectually. With all respect for the new Codes, and for the Judges appointed to administer them, most Foreigners here will prefer to save the expense and risk of litigation if they can have matters of business dispute settled by Arbiters whose honesty and common-sense have been known to them for years, and on whose impartiality they can perfectly depend; whilst in disputes on commercial matters, both Japanese and Foreigners will soon find that such Courts of arbitration will serve to prevent friction and minimize differences of opinion at a much smaller cost of labour and money than by an appeal to the Law Courts, whose procedure is of necessity slow, and where expenses often run into larger amounts than that of the original claim.

CUSTOM HOUSE AND HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.—The sub-Committee of this Chamber having drawn up a valuable and exhaustive Report on this subject, this was sent in to the Customs Authorities by your Committee, and will have had its weight in the subsequent arrangements, which seem to be working satisfactorily. The subject has also been brought directly before the Foreign Office in Tokyo, and they have assured us that it has had, and is having, their attention, and we are led to hope that great improvements are on the eve of being commenced.

BONDED GODOWNS.—This has been a frequent subject of correspondence during the past year, and hopes are held out by the Authorities that more satisfactory arrangements will shortly be introduced, especially as to bonding Kerosene, Alcohol, and Explosives.

DRAWBACKS.—This subject has also had the attention of the Committee, and by one of the recent circulars issued by the Chamber it will have been seen that it is having the attention of the Authorities at the Foreign Office.

SILK BOUNTY BILL.—In spite of the protests of this Chamber, this Bill became Law on 1st April, but its duration was so short that it did but little harm, and it has since been repealed.

THE REVISED TARIFF came into force on the 1st of January. As was to be expected, goods had been hurried forward to come in under the old scale of duties, and considerable over-stocking has been the consequence, but, as they work off, it is hoped that trade will not be materially injured by the increased duties.

FORM OF CONTRACT FOR THE IMPORT TRADE.—The Committee now submit a form that they consider suited to the wants of the Import Trade, and the opinion of the meeting is solicited upon it.

DEATH OF MR. O. KEIL.—Unanimous feelings of regret have to be expressed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce at the loss they have sustained in the death of Mr. Keil, a man of high intelligence and great industry, having the interests of the Chamber at heart, whose loss will not easily be made good. It has been unanimously decided to place on record in the Minutes of this Chamber an expression of regret at his death.

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.—The season treated in this report is from 1st January to 31st December. The export figures for 1898 show a falling off of no less than 30 per cent. in the quantity exported, and of 25 per cent. in total value, the average value per bale being Yen 60 greater than for the previous year.

The crop of 1898 was estimated to be about 15 per cent. short of the previous season, but this only partly accounted for the falling off in export, which was chiefly due to the war between the United States and Spain having disorganised manufacturers' business for the time being in the United States; also to the state of political unrest in Europe, which curtailed the demand and left the market in Japan with an unsold stock of about 12,000 piculs at the end of December, which will go to swell the Export of 1899.

Another reason for the falling off in the Export is to be found in the growing complaints of inferiority in the quality of Japan silks, especially from the United States. Manufacturers in that country were compelled to give a preference to European silks, and it will be seen that very much of the shortage in the export of Japan silk to that market was made up by increased importations of Italian Raws towards the end of 1898. It was partly due, thanks to the falling off of supplies in Italy, that American buyers were again induced to return to purchases of Japan Filatures.

It is of the utmost importance to all interested in the Silk trade that these causes of complaint should be removed, for, with the astonishing increase in the production of Filature silk in China, especially in Canton and elsewhere, Japan silks will surely lose their place in consumption if the quality is not improved. This is all the more to be regretted because naturally the silk of Japan is quite among the finest in the world, and where Filature owners have followed the times in accepting the latest improvements the Filature silks thus produced have given the greatest satisfaction. The faults chiefly complained of are irregularity of size and that the silk, notably among Shinshu Filatures, is often "duvetene." But probably the most regrettable complaint is that well-known Filatures which have established a reputation for the excellence of the silks produced from the cocoons of their own districts are now in the habit of bringing cocoons from inferior districts, and, reeling from them, produce an inferior article which is sold under old and well-known chop tickets. By this consumers are often deceived and do not feel that they can depend on the quality. They therefore turn their attention to other silks which are dependable.

The following are the Export figures for the past two years:—

	America. Bales.	France. Bales.	Other Countries. Bales.
1898	28,717	13,820	4,821
1897	38,972	23,397	6,299
	Total. Bales.	Value. Bales.	Average value per Bale. Yen.
1898	47,358	42,047,500	887
1897	68,668	56,173,300	818

Japanese direct exporters shipped during the past year 11,359 bales, or nearly one-fourth of the total export.

The year commenced with No. 1 Filatures quoted yen 900/920. An increased demand then set in from America, and likewise for native consumption, which caused prices to advance to yen 920/940 by the end of February.

About the middle of March buying for Europe almost ceased, owing to the unsettled state of politics in that quarter, and prices commenced to fall, the decline being accentuated by the outbreak of war between the United States and Spain in April, when prices reached their lowest point, viz., yen 800/810 for No. 1 Filatures of coarse sizes, and yen 850/860 for No. 1 Filatures of fine sizes. May brought an increased demand both from Europe and America, and prices for coarse-sized Filatures rose yen 50 per picul, fine sizes remaining stationary. In June the market opened for the new Silk at yen 870 for coarse sizes No. 1 Filatures. But owing to unfavourable advices in regard to the new crop here, and the high cost to producers, prices rapidly advanced in July to yen 940/950 for fine-sized Filatures and to yen 900/910 for silk of sizes suitable for America.

Buyers for Europe continued to pay this advance, prices remaining steady until the end of October, when fine-sized Filatures No. 1 were quoted at 950/960. But the American market would not follow the movement, and at the same time silks suitable for that trade could be had at yen 880/890. In November there was a general decline in values of yen 35/50 per picul all round, owing to the accumulation of stock to 16,400 piculs and the eagerness of holders to sell. In December a revival took place, chiefly owing to large purchases by Japanese of silk for direct export to America, which brought prices up yen 45 per picul for coarse-sized Filatures, and a slight rise of yen 10 on fine-sized Filatures was also effected.

One good feature has been the decrease in the production of inferior qualities of Re-reved My-bashi, which have now almost disappeared from the market.

HAMATZKIS and SENDAI Silks of the best qualities have for the greater part come forward in the shape of Kakedas; whilst the lower qualities have mostly been absorbed by native consumers.

LAST YEAR'S SILK CROP.—The area of land devoted to the cultivation of the Mulberry steadily increases. According to the investigations of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, it is now reported:—

	Cho.
1896	288,937
1897	298,203
1898	305,856

This increase is particularly noticeable in the Bushu and Tokyo districts. The crop of cocoons was smaller than the previous year, but the chief deficit comes from the fact that the yield of silk from the cocoons was unusually poor owing to climatic influences at the critical period.

WASTE SILK.—At the beginning of 1898, the stock of Waste Silk was only 8,000 piculs, against 14,000 piculs on the 1st January, 1897. Prices were lower than during the previous year, on about the following basis:—

	Yen.
Oshiu Noshi	100 /110
Jo-shiu Noshi	57/60
Kikai Kibizo	80 /84

In spite of these low prices the market has ruled dull until the end of the season.

From the commencement of the season till towards the end of October, transactions were rendered comparatively small by the firmness of holders. During November and December our market was much more active, but, in spite of the advance in silk, prices remained almost without change. In January, however, prices advanced from 5 per cent. to 6 per cent., and the stock was rapidly exhausted without further advance being obtained.

At present the stock is reduced to piculs 1,500, most of which is very little suited for export, and we have seldom seen the market so poorly supplied. With the exception of some articles like Oshiu Noshi, which have sold at yen 120/125, prices for Waste Silk have not varied much during the season, the slight advance noted in January being very small in comparison with the rapid advance noted on Raw Silk. Our market closes quiet and dull, in spite of the small stocks, for consumers in Europe refuse to pay the prices asked here. Export for the year 1898 is as under:—

To Marseilles	Piculs 19,324
To Switzerland	5,662
To London	1,854
To America	300
To other Ports	6,591

Total

And this may again be subdivided as follows:—

Noshi Jo-shiu	4,600
do Oshiu or Iwashiro	2,900
do Shinshiu	3,000
do Kikai or Filature	1,500
do Hachioji	500
do Tegara	1,000
do Zaguri	600
do Sundries	500
Kibiso Kikai or Filature	11,500
do Zaguri	1,800
do Jo-shiu and Hachioji	2,900
do Oshiu and Shinshiu	500
do Sundries	500
Noils	750
Agamai and Bichomai	100
Carded	150
Pierced Cocoons	350
Sundries	500

Total

The trade in SILK PIECE GOODS during the year under review has been marked by some noteworthy features. The total quantity shipped shows a decided advance on previous records, while the excited demand and increase in value have not been equalled in the history of the industry. The year opened with a firm market and fair demand, the leading feature being a good enquiry for exceptionally light Yechizen Habutai. Fancies shared in the brisk trade which developed during the month, and in February all lines were moving at a good rate, scarcity of satisfactory material somewhat curtailing the business in plain goods. The Spanish-American imbroglio naturally had an effect upon the New York market in the Spring, and during April-May demand from

that quarter fell to a minimum. Prices weakened somewhat, but soon revived under the increased activity in Europe, for which destination a brisk trade was done in all grades of Yechizens. In June, the heavier Joshiu weaves came in for a share of the business, and buying was fairly general. In July, some New York speculators started operations which affected prices, but demand from Europe continued steady, and August opened with considerable activity. American purchasers quieted down again, until the Spanish question appeared to be approaching a solution, when they re-entered the market, and throughout September all lines of Silks were moving at a good pace. European demand eased off early in October, but revived later, the principal feature of the month being the very heavy deliveries of goods which had been contracted for during the preceding weeks of activity. November opened on a brisk trade, with prices on the upward track. Demand set in strongly from both America and Europe, and rates responded to the activity by rising to an unprecedented level. The excitement continued throughout December, and the year closed with prices showing an increase of from 10 to 15 per cent. upon the opening rates of the most popular lines. Naturally, the brisk trade has caused a scarcity of good material, and contracts have been heavily booked ahead, practically controlling the supply for the first six weeks of the new year.

The past year has seen a marked development of the trade with the Indian and Burman markets, which now absorb considerable quantities of light Brocades and low-grade Plain goods.

The Export of Silk Handkerchiefs to France shows a decrease, but that to other countries shows an increase. Prices have naturally been affected by the increased cost of Habutai and a higher scale of wages.

EXPORT OF SILK HANDKERCHIEFS AND SILK PIECE GOODS.

	1898.	1897.
To America	591,769	538,841
England	206,421	189,853
Continent	131,574	200,490
Hongkong and India ..	168,442	148,051
Australia	24,292	22,538
Other Countries	16,261	9,249
Total	1,138,659	1,109,628
Silk Piece Goods.	1898.	1897.
To America	367,058	258,708
England	50,974	37,775
Continent	203,273	158,024
Hongkong and India ..	185,955	146,083
Australia	13,114	6,355
Other Countries	5,547	4,762
Total	825,921	611,707

TEA.—The Tea Season of 1899 has been one of the most remarkable recorded for many years past, owing principally to the long talked-of duty imposed by the United States Government having come into effect on 14th June. Early in May, arrivals began to pour in freely, and the market opened at prices averaging fully 15 per cent. higher than those of the previous year. Throughout the season the quality of both cup and leaf—especially the former—was very satisfactory. The new Restriction Act for preventing the importation of inferior Teas into the United States continued strictly to be enforced and many rejections have been made. Common Teas have, therefore, mostly found their way to Canada, which country has not yet adopted a similar Act, although from recent discussions in the Canadian Houses of Parliament it is evident that the time is not far distant when they, too, will realize the necessity of protective measures. The levying of a duty has had a most disastrous effect on the trade in general, orders of considerable magnitude were cancelled in consequence, and a regular stagnation in the trade set in. Not only has the cost of labour, material, &c., used for Tea-firing greatly advanced as compared with previous years, but the prices paid to the Japanese for their Teas since the duty came into effect advanced also, a most extraordinary feature in the annals of commerce. A duty of 10 cents gold per pound seems abnormally high, and affects the pockets of the consumers to such an extent that they have been driven to find a substitute in coffee, 4 lbs. of the latter being retailed in the States for 25 cents gold. Dealers are therefore pushing the sale of coffee to the detriment of Tea, the ratio in price between the two commodities being so apparent as to greatly curtail the demand for the latter article.

Only a small percentage of New Season's Tea has been taken out of bond in America, dealers preferring to buy from old stock duty-free Teas

the only good resulting therefrom being the clearing up of all the old Teas in the country. With the bulk of last year's Teas still to be disposed of the outlook for the coming season is not very encouraging.

COPPER.—The past year is notable for an active demand at improving prices, large contracts being entered into for forward delivery.

Values have consequently risen considerably, but, though production has to some extent increased, the quantity shipped is not largely in excess of former years.

	1898.	1897.
The export from Yokohama is	7,440	6,760
do Yokohama and Kobe	14,570	13,710
Quotations closed at	Yen 29 to 31 for Slabs.	
do	32 to 33 for Ingots and Tiles.	

FISH OIL.—The insignificant stocks carried over from 1897 were sold out at from Yen 4.50 to 5.40 and were entirely exhausted by April. The summer catch netted about 2,000 tons, which may be looked upon as satisfactory. Holders managed, however, to further improve upon the price and up to Yen 6.15 was paid by exporters. The October catch was very short, and upon it becoming evident that the winter catch would prove a complete failure values went up Yen 2, and all sorts of "paper filtered" were also being disposed of at extreme rates.

The year 1899 opened with stocks totalling not much more than 2,000 cases.

The total RICE CROP of Japan for 1897 was smaller than for any year since 1890, being 33,039,293 koku, or about 12 per cent. below the average of ten years previously. There was, therefore, a very large import of Foreign Rice, amounting in all to 221,666 tons, valued at Yen 4,748,780, nearly the whole of which passed into consumption before the end of the year. The Export trade was consequently restricted in, say, piculs 1,050,000 of a declared value of Yen 5,920,181, as prices ruled too high to compete with the supply from other countries. The new crop is an exceptionally fine one, and according to Government returns it is estimated at 47,387,666 koku, while the average for the last ten years is only 38,564,468. Thus there is an excess of 40 per cent. over the previous year and about 25 per cent. above the average of the previous decade. The price of the new crop of 1898 opened in November at Yen 10.60 per koku, and fell to Yen 9.17/9.20 at the end of December.

As a large Rice Crop contributes to the prosperity of the country, this bumper harvest ought to improve trade prospects, as there is not only sufficient for home consumption but a margin for export.

Tobacco.—Since the operation of the Monopoly the Government have been paying very high figures for all grades of Tobacco, the effect of which upon the exporter has been to practically prohibit exports, the London market refusing to take the Tobacco at such rates, except a few special qualities. As a matter of fact, apart from the question of price, Europe is using less and less Japanese Tobacco. Unless, therefore, the price falls considerably, it is to be feared no business will be done. Most of the Tobacco shipped this year is old stock. Should a decline take place there is one regulation of the Government which will tend to facilitate the business, that is, the growers are being made to grade the Tobacco, and the bad, indifferent, and good leaves are now segregated.

IMPORTS.

Taking a general review of the total Import Trade of the country, we find from figures published by the Customs Authorities, that the imports into Japan have shown a rapid and continuous increase during the past seven years, as follow:—

YEAR.	YEN.
1892	71,324,776
1893	88,257,172
1894	117,481,955
1895	129,260,578
1896	171,674,474
1897	219,300,773
1898	277,270,728

But this remarkable development has been accompanied during the past two years, at least, with a distinct feeling of depression, and the difficulties of Trade have been very serious to the foreign merchants. By analysing the figures for the past three years of the principal articles of Import, the tendency of trade may be better observed and the reasons discovered for the position pointed out above.

The following figures show that the general improvement in living which has taken place since the China-Japan War has led to a steady growth in the import of Food Stuffs. The deficient Rice

harvest of 1897 accounts for a large proportion of the increase, but by no means for all of it.

IMPORT OF FOOD STUFFS.

	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.
Beans, Peas & Pulses.....	7,105,203	5,282,616	3,475,025	4,755,044
Flour	2,031,885	1,170,751	984,801	978,730
Rice	88,119,819	91,288,438	5,663,336	9,012,900
Sugar	28,380,095	19,799,090	7,711,737	9,459,619
Tea	199,518	17,759	300,385	70,664
Salted Fish	699,136	495,070	271,935	19,064
	85,264,066	49,201,662	24,374,211	24,645,800

The spirit of enterprise brought about by the result of the war with China reached its climax in 1896, and many undertakings commenced in that and previous years have been in progress during 1897-1898. This accounts for the comparatively large imports of Machinery and Railway Material in 1898, and even the larger ones of 1897; but the reduction during the past year is significant, and the falling off of private undertakings is even more marked than the figures would show, because Government purchases have not suffered any restriction.

IMPORT OF MACHINERY AND RAILWAY MATERIAL.

	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.
Railway Material	655,871	1,002,212	1,800,473	61,865
Locomotive and Rolling Stock	1,434,368	1,307,165	1,983,908	996,458
Machinery	8,980,869	10,891,897	6,006,979	999,451
Steam Engines and Boilers	697,173	1,239,068	822,604	180,547
	17,069,081	24,139,786	10,613,031	1,898,318

This decline in the way of industrial enterprise is to some extent reflected in the smaller ratio of increase in imports of materials for manufacture. The Cotton Spinning industry no longer advances by leaps and bounds, and if there had not been a very good demand from China for Japanese yarns, the figures would show this more clearly.

The largely increased imports of Dye Stuffs is an interesting feature of this year's trade, and the continued progress of the Match trade is shown by the imports of Phosphorus, Wax, and Potash.

IMPORT OF MATERIALS FOR MANUFACTURE.

	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.
Cotton	45,744,371	33,680,819	34,373,351	10,244,654
Wool	2,648,319	1,097,486	998,393	308,101
Flax, Hemp, Jute, & China Grass	590,517	651,791	708,361	213,665
Indigo	2,070,814	1,538,082	1,067,357	385,103
Antiline Dyes	1,218,248	931,197	1,199,990	418,481
Lowwood Extract	928,894	930,531	349,469	184,000
Phosphorus	368,293	800,656	774,997	86,085
Paraffine Wax	670,348	377,016	194,512	285,973
Chlorate of Potash	632,059	497,690	499,048	300,016
Leather	1,767,008	1,395,653	1,718,450	781,890
Cotton Yarns	8,547,628	6,045,231	1,379,001	723,019
Woolen Yarns	765,190	1,337,474	1,124,870	787,998
Principal Metals	13,156,729	17,933,472	9,683,800	3,251,077
	77,169,084	72,709,254	61,820,997	20,449,003

The import of Cotton Yarn in the foregoing tables shows a diminution, and while the following table exhibits an increase in the import of Textiles (this may reasonably be attributed to imports in anticipation of the New Tariff. Compared with 1896, there is a great falling off, and the figures for the three years seem to show that the tendency is for Japan to supply her own needs in the way of Textiles, a tendency which will be fostered by the New Tariff. The serious decline in this branch is reasonable evidence of the difficulties experienced by traders during the past two seasons.

IMPORT OF TEXTILES.

	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.
Cotton Prints	1,176,789	986,443	1,295,164	436,644
Drills	109,749	350,734	311,511	187,499
Satins	1,245,230	1,706,070	2,530,480	521,419
Velvets	813,800	707,050	1,001,354	525,374
Grey Shirtings	4,284,909	3,473,808	4,057,769	1,797,185
Turkey Reds	433,494	404,394	545,088	378,353
All other Cottons	2,416,360	2,139,984	2,143,900	1,406,518
Blankets	480,313	61,028	1,439,480	518,973
Flannels	1,350,037	2,387,655	1,997,344	1,073,740
Italian Cloth	1,068,370	1,215,581	2,819,096	1,008,571
Mouseline de Laine	4,408,758	3,835,886	6,198,336	2,406,590
Woolen Cloths	1,803,677	1,643,331	3,497,150	640,417
Partly Woolen Cloths	444,144	590,543	706,990	196,618
	21,538,977	19,998,641	28,975,620	10,828,944

One of the principal features of the following table is the steady growth of the merchant marine of Japan by the purchase of high-class vessels, but these additions are the result of contracts given in times of prosperity, and it is not likely that the immediate future will see any further purchases of similar extent.

The largely increased imports of Alcohol, Wines, Tobacco, and Watches may be attributed to the prosperity of the masses.

IMPORT OF SUNDRIES.

	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen.	1897. Yen.
Alcohol	1,699,983	2,999,300	481,614	399,540
Tobacco & Tobacco	6,068,951	1,579,797	1,330,340	376,529
Wines and Liquors	1,398,331	843,666	700,122	8,203
Watches	2,060,212	1,901,813	1,897,180	485,593
Steam Vessels	7,488,193	8,339,648	1,774,496	431,873
Paper (printing)	9,083,314	856,957	773,437	457,836
Glass (window)	669,524	438,090	970,419	184,593
Kerosene	7,539,870	7,647,130	6,335,036	3,368,590
Timber	338,280	300,181	269,534	50,134
Cement	273,821	847,308	47,009	—
Paints	306,003	369,435	279,146	97,184

Oil Cake	4,614,967	3,315,587	3,800,600	804,651
Bleed	287,948	346,394	539,675	996,130
Dynamite	57,594	351,865	154,974	31,084
	Y. 25,381,331	26,244,091	27,865,065	7,446,845

From this general review it is evident that the increased trade of 1897-1898 is largely due to the wave of progress and expansion which passed over the country in 1895-1896, and that the impulse thus given to imports has continued during 1897 and 1898, although actual progress during these latter years had largely ceased.

The capitalists were the first to experience the result of the depression. The lower classes continue prosperous, as a result of work still on hand and probably also of the continued heavy expenditure by Government, which now averages about 240,000,000 yen per annum, against about 80,000,000 yen in 1894. But even the working people are beginning to realise that times are altered, and it seems not improbable that 1899 will show a diminished Foreign Trade in Imports.

The "liquidating" process of the past two years has not, however, been without its advantages. It is probable that if the period of financial development had continued the labour question would have become a very serious one for employers. As it is, there has been a pause in the upward tendency of wages, and, on the other hand, an increase both in cost and in the standard of living, and as a consequence, the labourer is coming more within control than was the case when a day's earnings were so largely in excess of actual needs. Further, the people have been able to take stock of their achievements, and it seems likely that the lessons gained will sooner or later result in further progress of a less spasmodic nature and based upon sounder principles.

The items mentioned in the above table account for about 90 per cent. of the import trade, and the figures have been taken from monthly and annual returns of the foreign trade of the Empire, as compiled by the Department of Finance.

The Cotton Spinning Industry in Japan does not seem to have done well of late, as the following information from reliable native sources shows. The returns for the latter half of the year give a very poor result. The mills at work in the second half of 1897 returned an average nominal profit per spindle of yen 1.23; in the latter half of 1898, some of these mills only earned a profit averaging less than 2 yen per spindle, and the remainder made a loss of 2½ yen per spindle, so that the outcome is a net loss per spindle of about 50 sen.

Proceeding to recapitulate, we come first to the returns giving the paid up capital and reserve, and here the record is sufficiently disheartening:—

	2nd half 1898. Yen.	2nd half 1897. Yen.
Paid up	21,695,357	21,167,791
Aggregate reserve up to the end of the previous half-year	4,795,005	5,585,366
Reserves for the half-year	210,850	251,875
Total	26,701,212	27,005,032

Now, during the last half-year some of the spinning mills set apart rather larger sums, comparatively, as a result of their having procured loans from the Industrial Bank. Even in spite of that, the aggregate reserves were cut into by about 800,000 yen, while, compared with the previous year's reserves, the corresponding sum for the last half-year was more than 45,000 yen less. All these facts are significant. Under the circumstances, the average rate of dividend declared for the last half-year was the poorest on record.

At the same time the exports during the half-year under review were far more satisfactory than those of the corresponding period of the previous year:—

	Quantity Exported. Cottias.	Value. Yen.
Latter half of 1898	39,053,290	12,547,736
Latter half of 1897	27,194,970	8,868,020

One of the principal causes that have brought about the discouraging result in the financial situation of the mills, in spite of such marked activity in export, is doubtless to be found in the extraordinary rise in the cost of production, as shown below:—

	2nd Half- year. 1897. Yen.	2nd Half- year. 1898. Yen.
Coal (per 10,000 catties)	30.040	27.460
Average daily wages } male ...	.2817	.2601
} female ...	.1397	.1587

The item of coal decreased by 8½ per cent., but that of wages increased by 13 per cent., on the average. It is true the market of raw cotton fell by about 10 per cent., but to counteract this the

market for yarns fell by as much as 20 per cent., another potent factor that worked disastrously on the business of the mills.

Altogether, it would seem that the spinning companies have been too prodigal of their resources during the few years they have been working. Running the machinery night and day without providing sufficient for a repaying fund; distributing their earnings too lavishly without thought or provision for a rainy day; and other actions of the same kind bring them into trouble when bad markets or other causes reduce their earning power.

COTTON YARNS.—The year 1898 must be recorded as a most disappointing one to all engaged in the Trade, the proximate cause being undoubtedly a belief—shared alike by Japanese and Foreign merchants, on what were considered good grounds—that the Revised Tariffs would come into operation not later than the 1st October. This belief led to an enormous amount of speculative buying from the middle of January until well on in March, the business done during that period exceeding all previous records within a similar limit of time, and Japanese dealers, when the excitement subsided, finding themselves committed to engagements that only exceptional trade conditions could possibly enable them to fulfil. These conditions, as said, before, did not exist. With definite knowledge of the postponement of the enforcement of the new Tariff came the inevitable reaction, and unfortunately Manchester values, under the influence of increasing estimates of the American cotton crop, and deprived of all support from Japan, began to fall, making the position a serious one. Contract Yarns kept arriving freely, and stocks accumulated to an alarming extent without the slightest attempt at clearance being made by dealers, until at length things came to such a pass that in self-defence a number of the principal importers were compelled to make a combined effort, which fortunately proved successful, to enforce the payment of interest and holding expenses on all Yarns increased after a certain period. This was timely, and, whether the result of this combination or not, the tact remains that from July to November deliveries showed a marked improvement. Unfortunately this arrangement was only for Yarns, and the Trade in Textile Fancy Goods remains in the former unsatisfactory condition. During September also a very considerable amount of fresh business was done for arrival before the end of the year, consequent upon the official notification that the new Duties would come into force on 1st January 1899. December was, however, another very dull month, and the year closed with a depressed market and a lack of confidence as regards the future in both Foreign and Japanese business circles.

GASSED YARNS continue to represent the bulk of the business in imported Yarns, being as yet comparatively free from the competition of Japanese mills, and they will doubtless maintain their position for some years to come, for, thus far, the attempts to produce this article in the Japanese mills have been more or less a failure—neither the quality nor the amount of production having been satisfactory.

2/4's and 3/2's, on the other hand, besides being specially overdone during the speculative movement already alluded to, are now largely produced in this country and of a quality good enough to compete with all but the very best imported spinnings. The outlook, therefore, for 2/4's and 3/2's is far from encouraging. 28/32, from the same cause, have almost been driven off the market, whilst in 16/24 only certain kinds are now wanted and only in decreasing quantities.

The comparative total Import figures, in piculs, are as follows:—

	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	100,395	92,044	113,046	71,293

and if these figures show an increase on the previous years' importations the explanation undoubtedly is that shipments were pushed forward in come in under the old duties, and from the commencement of this year we shall see a great reduction in imports.

GRAY SHIRTINGS have moved pretty much in the same groove as Cotton Yarns, namely, a large speculative business from January to March and practically none whatever afterwards, the result being long delayed clearances of contract goods and heavy stocks carried forward. Demand continues to increase for long-length goods, 46/48 yards, and to decrease proportionately for the ordinary 9 lbs. 38½ yards, whilst only a very limited quantity of 8½ lbs., chiefly of the better makes, is now imported.

The comparative total Import figures, in picers, are as follows:—

	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	852,639	700,300	804,900	604,295

T. CLOTHS would appear to have been imported to about the same extent as in 1897. Nevertheless, trade is undoubtedly dwindling in the face of native competition, and will eventually be lost to Lancashire.

INDIGO SHIRTINGS—Imports are considerably in excess of the previous year, but deliveries have kept pace with the arrivals, and stocks show a slight reduction. It is only the best qualities that continue saleable.

DYED SHIRTINGS AND TWILLS—Deliveries less than previous year.

COTTON BROCADES AND SILKES appear to be going entirely out of fashion.

COTTON PRINTS—Consumption of these appears to be increasing. Imports last year were very heavy, viz.: 216,180 pcs., but the deliveries almost balance these figures, and are 45,591 in excess of the average deliveries of the past six years. Stocks are rather heavier than they were last year, say, sufficient for 3 to 6 months' normal requirements.

COTTON ITALIANS AND SATENS—Deliveries under the average for the preceding six years and stocks carried over very heavy.

TURKEY REDS—Trade in these has again been disappointing after the revival shown last year. Deliveries dragged all through the year, and much of the business reported in 1897 was not closed up until well on into 1898. Although the imports are 16,600 pcs. less than in 1897 the stocks carried over are very heavy.

BLACK VELVETS—A larger business has been transacted in these, but owing to increased imports a large stock of common qualities has to be carried over. Prospects for these, however, look favourable owing to the large increase in the Import Tariff and substantial advance in cost of manufacture and dyeing. Deliveries exceed the average of the preceding six years by 6,853 pcs.

VICTORIA LAUNES—Business continues to be done in these and deliveries are in excess of the 1897 figures.

FLANNELS—Trade in these was of larger dimensions than shown by 1897. A fair business in Printed Cotton Flannels was put through last year.

BLACK ITALIANS—Business has been disappointing, the deliveries being about 30,000 pcs. less than the average for the preceding six years. Although the imports are less by 20,000 pcs. than in 1897, yet the stock carried forward shows an increase of 4,000 pcs. The cheaper qualities have been difficult to move, and their place in the consuming markets is being taken by the superior qualities of Cotton Italians.

MOUSSELINES—Imports have been considerably in excess of requirements, no doubt principally in expectation of the new Tariff. The native spinning and weaving establishment, to which reference was made in last year's report, in the meantime has commenced working. So far as appearances go, they are meeting with greater difficulties than they were prepared for, but in course of time they will no doubt cut largely into the foreign trade in this staple.

BLANKETS—The ordinary scarlets are being rapidly displaced by coloured striped rugs.

COMPARISON OF DELIVERIES AND STOCKS.

	Average of annual deliveries for the six years ending 1897.	Deliveries during 1898.	Difference.
Indigo Shirts...	1897.	1898.	
Dyed Shirts & Twills	102,264	133,630	+ 31,366
Prints	166,969	212,360	+ 45,391
Cotton Italians & Satens	57,418	55,460	- 1,958
Turkey Red Cambrics	111,582	81,260	- 30,322
Black Velvets	38,874	45,727	+ 6,853
Victoria Launes	76,985	82,680	+ 5,695
Flannel	62,585	72,540	+ 9,955
Italian Cloth	118,043	86,190	- 29,853
Mousselines	378,287	347,590	- 25,697
Blankets	317,723	151,950	- 165,773
	Stocks.	Stocks.	Difference.
Indigo Shirts...	31/12/97	31/12/98	
Dyed Shirts & Twills	12,600	13,410	+ 810
Prints	83,900	87,320	+ 3,420
Cotton Italians & Satens	37,700	40,660	+ 2,960
Turkey Red Cambrics	56,400	69,200	+ 12,800
Black Velvets	24,000	36,450	+ 12,450
Victoria Launes	33,400	20,400	- 13,000
Flannel	18,100	25,420	+ 7,320
Italian Cloth	58,600	62,760	+ 4,160
Mousselines	61,000	118,310	+ 57,310
Blankets	51,300	49,200	- 2,100
+ = Increase — = Decrease in 1898 against 1897.			

METALS—**BAR IRON**—Very large contracts were made for arrival in the first six or eight

months of the year, dealers having been very confident that the new tariff would come into operation from July, or at latest, September. This anticipation was not fulfilled, and so excessive were the supplies that not only was there much trouble in handling the arrivals but it was a serious difficulty to find storage accommodation. Judging from appearances at the close of the year, it will be a long time before the stocks in native hands will be reduced to their normal dimensions. The situation has been much relieved by a diminution of imports in the closing months of the year and by a rapid rise in prices in sympathy with increased cost in Europe.

PIG IRON—The imports have again increased, but supplies have been in excess during the last nine months of the year, and large quantities have to be carried over to 1899. Latterly prices have been affected by the sale of some thousands of tons of condemned water pipes manufactured by the now defunct Tokyo Cast Iron Company.

PLATE & SHEET IRON—The decrease in this branch noticed in 1897 still continues, but it is probable that the high prices which have been ruling in England for Ship or Boiler Plates have checked the demand.

GALVANIZED IRON—Imports are about the same as last year. This market could probably have taken a larger quantity, as the demand for its use for building purposes is growing, but imports have been deterred by the difficulty in dealing with corrosion, and until makers can provide some way of preventing this damage or dealers become more lenient in their claims, the business will remain unprofitable.

WIRE NAILS shows a further decrease; the imports are now mainly from America, and the larger sizes are being supplied by the Tokyo factory, which is not, however, a financial success.

TIN PLATES—The excessive supplies brought over from 1897 are reflected in the smaller imports for 1898, only 26,920 boxes having arrived against 56,000 boxes in the previous year.

KEROSENE OIL—During the period under review, the market has shown a gradual advance and the tendency has been upwards, an advance of 20 to 23 sen per case being established. Closing prices were as follow:—

American Oil-Chester.....	2.25 per case.
Russian Oil Anchor Brand ...	2.20 "
Russian Tank Oil in bulk	1.70 per unit.

Arrivals of all descriptions were 3,020,991 cases, or an increase of 143,472 cases on the previous year.

Deliveries were as follow:—

American.....	1,558,813
Russian	1,104,681
Langkat	132,125

AMERICAN OIL shows a decrease of 74,504 cases, and Russian an increase of 39,951 cases over the previous year.

LANGKAT is a new description, but ceased to arrive towards the end of the year, owing, it is stated, to a falling off in supplies at Langkat.

The production of Japanese Oil in the Echigo District continues to increase, but is not of sufficient importance to seriously interfere with the sale of the imported article, as the output is estimated at only 600,000 cases per annum.

SUGAR—**BROWN**—The receipts for the year were: from Formosa, 319,635 picls.; China, 258,499 picls.; Manila, 701,766 picls.

The import from Formosa, and, to a large extent, from the Philippines, has fallen into the hands of Chinese and Japanese, so that the business ceases to have much interest for other Foreign residents.

WHITE REFINED KINDS—The trade in this article showed further marked expansion, the importation being stimulated to a very large extent by the pressure towards the end of the year to get the Sugars in before the operation of the new Duties. The increase from Hongkong in this way was considerable and on German Beet Sugar very marked, the import of the latter showing an advance of no less than 125,000 piculs on that of 1897. Prices also ruled high almost throughout the year.

While refined Sugars have also come from Vancouver to the extent of 10,500 piculs, and from Glasgow to 7,140 piculs.

Sugar—Brown and White.	Quantities. Piculs.	Declared values. Yen.
Australia	134	820,720
Austria	3,392	23,183,630
Belgium	4,998	34,787,630
British America	3,278	27,145,160
British India	20,916	70,833,570
China	612,233	2,636,980,570
Dutch India	161,656	1,023,930,530

French India	790,215	5,255,287,460
Germany	790,215	5,255,287,460
Great Britain	3,528	24,438,240
Hawaii	—	—
Hongkong	1,967,003	15,549,890,860
Philippine Islands ...	878,342	2,967,023,040
U.S. of America	11,210	86,691,680
Other countries ...	107,148	718,317,400
Total.....	4,364,053	28,389,036,490

Sugar—Brown and White.	Quantities. Piculs.	Declared values. Yen.
Australia	—	—
Austria	25	181,840
Belgium	—	—
British America	2,754	20,033,680
British India	—	—
China	573,797	2,314,009,600
Dutch India	—	—
French India	600	1,800,000
Germany	519,118	3,341,212,980
Great Britain	4,202	28,599,500
Hawaii	1	6,240
Hongkong	1,484,823	11,628,237,850
Philippine Islands ...	602,767	2,322,110,420
U.S. of America	13,168	116,512,750
Other countries ...	4,621	26,386,760
Total.....	3,205,872	19,799,091,620

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.—Present Mileage.

Double	132 miles 75 chains.
Single	715 " 70 "

The traffic receipts for the fiscal year ended March, 1898, amounted to yen 9,727,489, and the expenditure to yen 4,786,048, leaving a balance as profit of yen 4,941,441.

These figures compared with the previous year show an increase of yen 1,453,847, or 17.6 per cent.

Of the Private Companies reliable information is not obtainable for the purposes of this report.

EXCHANGE opened on 1st Jan., 1898, with T.T. at 2.04, and 4 months Credits at 2.04. The fluctuations were very small until December, and then the maximum rates were T.T. 2.04, and 4 months Credits 2.12, so a half-penny may be said to be the entire extent of the fluctuation during the year.

Owing to the failure of the previous year's Rice Crop, large imports of Rice took place, and consequently money became plentiful, and, rates admitting of Gold shipments, large quantities of the metal were shipped away to America and Europe. This ceased, however, in great part at the end of May, and from then on a firmer feeling was apparent in the Exchange market.

During the Autumn a large Silk business was done, which gave full use to money, and in fact caused it to be very tight at the end of the year.

It may be pointed out that the result of the Rice crop has the greatest effect on the economic position in Japan, and the money market will be always to a great extent guided by this.

The **REVISED TREATIES** come into force in a few months' time, and your Committee has had under its consideration the many changes that thus surround the Foreign Community, and decided that steps ought to be taken to ascertain the status of Foreign Residents under Japanese Laws. They would have preferred to call a public meeting and thus learn the views and wishes of the whole community, but it was felt that under existing circumstances it was better not to do so. They considered that the Committee of this Chamber of Commerce is a representative body, elected by the Foreign Community, and that it was empowered under the circumstances to nominate a sub-committee, to specially study this question. With this object in view the International Committee was formed, comprising one representative of each of the nationalities in the Chamber of Commerce, with power to add to their number.

By them it had to be admitted that, as the Treaties with the various Powers were practically settled, Foreigners were bound to come under Japanese jurisdiction within a comparatively short time.

Accepting, therefore, accomplished facts, it was decided to ascertain the status of Foreigners under Japanese Laws; to watch their interests; to consider those points which appear to be detrimental to them; to endeavour to obtain by constitutional means amendment of those laws which appear to require it, and especially to furnish to Foreign Residents information as to the New Codes in a form that can be better understood than by a bare translation in strictly legal phraseology. With this object in view they sought the assistance of Professor Lönholm, who, having been engaged in assisting to form the Codes, seemed to be specially suited to explain them, and they also consulted Dr. Hatoyama Kazuo, the ex-President of the House of Representa-

tives and a man of high standing in the legal profession of Japan. To them the Committee submitted certain leading questions, as SANCTITY OF DOMICILE, ARREST OF GUILTY OR SUSPECTED PERSONS, DETENTION UNDER SUSPICION, RIGHT TO OBTAIN BAIL, TENURE OF LAND, &c. To these questions Dr. Hatoyama gave his written replies which have been printed and circulated among the supporters of the International Committee, but Professor Lönholm suggested that what was really required was a Digest of the Codes, pointing out those laws which interested Foreigners, and the Committee, agreeing with him, accepted his offer, and published for the International Committee a Digest of the Codes. The work was completed rather more hurriedly than the Committee had expected, as Professor Lönholm was suddenly called away to Europe, but he volunteered that he intended to complete it by a supplement with all the New Laws and by answering any questions that might be put to him by the International Committee or their supporters. This supplement will not appear for some weeks, as the Law that have passed the Diet have not yet obtained the Imperial sanction, but when completed it will be found to contain a great deal of valuable information that no Foreign Resident should be without.

The International Committee then took up the question of JAPANESE PRISONS, and visited three of those in Tokyo, reports on which were circulated, and the Committee have the satisfaction of knowing that their suggestions and recommendations were attended to, and that Prison Reform is having the serious attention of the Japanese Government. Since then their efforts have been given to obtaining useful information for their fellow-residents, and the result of these efforts is before the Community in the form of printed circulars. In certain directions they have the satisfaction of seeing that their work has been crowned with success, and they have at any rate the satisfaction of establishing the assurance that among the Japan official classes there is a strong desire to make the working of the Revised Treaties as smooth and easy as possible for Foreign Residents. The Committee have been invited to come to the Foreign Office direct with any difficulties that presented themselves, and they have cordially to acknowledge the great courtesy with which they have always been treated by the officials of that Department of State.

In the case of the Business Tax, the representations of the Committee resulted in the rectification of the law which dealt hardly with the Foreign Insurance Offices, and in several other matters information and assistance have been obtained by them of the greatest value.

It now remains for the Community to decide if the work of the International Committee has served a useful purpose, and if it is desirable to continue it by electing a new Committee who will now be able to learn from the Residents what their views and wishes are.

R. D. ROBISON, Chairman.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

MEMORANDUM RE ARBITRATION.

Yokohama, March 24th, 1899.
In drawing up suggestions for Arbitration, the greatest difficulty has been to adopt some scheme whereby the final reference to a single umpire may be lessened, if not altogether done away with, and another great object has been to do away with personal feeling in the matter, which is so apt to attach to simple arbitration by two parties, one chosen by each of the disputants. Experience of foreigners has been that their Japanese friends, to whom any dispute may have been referred, do not appreciate the main point of an arbitration, say to arrive at a fair and equitable decision on the merits of the case, but rather appear to look on arbitration as if each arbiter held a brief for the litigant by whom he was appointed, and that it is their duty to do the best they can for their side of the case. Arbitration thus becomes litigation, the only difference being that the dispute is between the arbiters instead of the parties themselves.

The present suggestion places the matter in the hands of an Arbitration Committee or Joint Committee (the actual number not stated, but may be arranged according to the importance or merits of each particular case), who appoint Arbiters, which Arbiters report to them, and the final decision rests with the Committee, the award being issued by the Chamber of Commerce, so as to eliminate all names of either the Arbiters or of the Arbitration Committee. An Umpire is permitted under the 13th Clause, but only in the event of the votes of the Arbitration Committee being equal,

and it is a question whether even this is advisable, and whether it would not be more likely to induce the Committee to come to some decision, if this possible reference to an Umpire were omitted.

The Committee desires to circulate these proposed forms for Arbitration and form of Contract for the Import Trade, hoping that the members of the Chamber of Commerce will kindly give these subjects their consideration prior to the General Meeting on the 29th inst.

R. D. ROBISON, Chairman.

ARBITRATION.

1.—The Chambers of Commerce of Yokohama (Japanese and Foreign) shall organize Arbitration Committees consisting of 10 members of each Chamber, to whom references for Arbitration may be made.

2.—For disputes between Japanese, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce shall act, and between Foreigners the Foreign Chamber of Commerce, shall act.

3.—For disputes between Foreigners and Japanese, a joint Committee, consisting of an equal number from the Arbitration Committee of each Chamber shall act.

4.—Applications for arbitration shall be made on the Chamber's authorized form, stating the points of dispute, agreeing to submit to the rules of the Chamber in the matter of the Arbitration and to their award.

5.—Applications must be accompanied by a Deposit of yen 50 from each party, and a guarantee to lodge such further amount as the Arbitration Committee, or Joint Committee, may consider necessary, before proceeding with the Arbitration, not exceeding the amount in dispute together with the estimated amount of expenses.

6.—The Arbitration Committee, or Joint Committee, may accept guarantee from a Bank in lieu of cash called for under Clause V., in whole or in part.

7.—If cash is called for under Clause V., same to be lodged in a Bank in the name of the Chamber of Commerce or joint names of the Chambers of Commerce interested.

8.—The Committee, or joint Committee, shall appoint such of their or other Members of their Chamber of Commerce, as they deem fit, hereafter called the Arbiters, to examine and report to them as to the matter in dispute, it being agreed that, if Foreigners and Japanese are interested, an equal number of Foreign and Japanese Arbiters shall be appointed.

9.—The Arbiters may hear the parties interested, examine goods &/or samples, receive documentary evidence, and examine witnesses or experts.

10.—If legal points are involved, the Committee themselves, or through their Arbiters or Representatives specially authorized in writing for that purpose, may take such legal opinion on the points of law involved as they may consider necessary.

11.—The Arbiters shall submit their decision, if a joint decision be agreed on, to the Arbitration Committee, or Joint Committee, and same shall be accepted as final.

12.—If the Arbiters cannot jointly agree on a decision, they shall submit their several opinions to the Arbitration Committee, or Joint Committee, who shall consider them carefully and arrive at a decision by votes of the majority of their number, which decision shall be accepted as final.

13.—In event of the votes being equal, the Arbitration must fall through, unless the Arbitration Committee, or Joint Committee, agree to appoint an Umpire whose decision shall be final.

14.—The Fees and other necessary expenses incidental to the Arbitration shall be defrayed by the parties interested, in such proportion and to such amount as the Arbitration Committee, or Joint Committee, may determine.

15.—The award shall be issued in duplicate over the seal of the Chamber or Chambers of Commerce interested, and signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and copies served on the parties to the Arbitration, the original, together with the documents of service, to be retained by the Chamber of Commerce of the parties benefitting under the award, and the duplicate by the other Chamber of Commerce interested, and shall be produced in such Courts of Law as may be required.

16.—The award once issued shall have the effect of a final and conclusive judgment relating to the dispute in question, and shall not be subject to any appeal to any Court of Law or any person, persons, or Guild whatsoever.

FORM OF CONTRACT.

Contract made between hereinafter called the Sellers, and both jointly and separately, hereinafter called the Purchasers.

The terms of this Contract are equally binding

on all signing it, both jointly and separately, whether their names are specially mentioned herein or not.

1.—The Purchaser hereby agrees to buy from the Sellers the Goods as per particulars at foot, and on the following terms:—

2.—If Shipment date is specified, the date of the B/Lading is to be accepted as conclusive proof of date of Shipment.

3.—If arrival date is specified, the date of the arrival of the Vessel in Yokohama is to be accepted, but over-cargo &/or miscarriage to be at Buyer's risk, subject to any claim recoverable from the Ship.

4.—Should the Goods be late the Buyers have the option of cancelling on giving immediate notice to the Sellers, and, should part only be late, this option only extends to the part late, and the Buyers agree to take delivery of all that fulfils the shipment or arrival date specified.

5.—The Sellers are in no way responsible for any delay in shipment or arrival, if caused by circumstances beyond their control, including strikes, break-down of manufacturers' machinery, or accident to the Vessel carrying the Goods, and in event of delays from such causes the Buyer agrees to extend date of Shipment or arrival as may be necessary.

6.—The Buyers bind themselves to take delivery by the time stipulated, or to pay Customary Storage expenses and also interest. Said interest to be at the rate of 2½ *sen* per 100 *yen* per day, and this liability shall not be disputed by the Buyers. It is further agreed that, if the delay exceeds 60 days, this Contract is at the option of the Sellers, who may resell the Goods, and in that case the Buyers shall reimburse the Sellers for all short proceeds, charges, and interest at the rate as above stipulated.

7.—Should the Goods on arrival prove to be somewhat different from sample (although not to such an extent as to alter their character), it is hereby mutually agreed that they shall be accepted under this Contract on a reduction in the price being made to the extent of the difference in the Market value on the day of arrival between the Goods as received and the Sample.

8.—The Goods shall be inspected by the Buyer within 15 days after they have passed the Customs, and no claim for any alleged difference in quality or other fault will be allowed after the lapse of these 15 days or after delivery has been taken, from which times all faults are at Buyers' risk.

9.—It is distinctly understood that Sellers are not responsible for condition of Goods if stored beyond the time stipulated for final delivery.

10.—Duty on this contract is calculated as per memo, at foot, and any difference between this and the Duty paid, whether arising from alteration in the rate of Duty or a different classification by the Custom House Officers, is to be for Buyers' account, either "for" or "against."

11.—For Contracts made in foreign currency the conversion to Gold *yen* to be made at the rate for Bank demand Bills of the day on which the Buyer takes final delivery as per Contract, unless otherwise arranged. If delivery be delayed the rate of Exchange to be calculated at the rate of the day on which delivery was due, or of the day of final delivery at Seller's option.

12.—The Buyers, in affixing their Seal hereto, hereby agree to all the conditions of this Contract.

13.—The Sellers hereby agree to all the conditions of this Contract, provided it bears the signature of their Firm or their Manager, or his duly authorised substitute.

If an Arbitration Clause is advisable, it is suggested:—

In the event of any dispute under this Contract, either party to it may claim an Arbitration through the Chamber of Commerce to which he belongs, to be arranged through the Chamber of Commerce in which the other party belongs, and both Buyers and Sellers hereby agree to the decision of such Arbitration.

Contract No..... Reference..... Buyer

Goods

Quantity, &c.

Duty calculated and Clause..... of the Tariff at Price.

Shipment or arrival date

Delivery from

Terms of payment

Subject to reply by

THE LEOPOLD BANKRUPTCY.

RESUMED EXAMINATION.

The examination of Charles Emil Leopold, a bankrupt, now undergoing imprisonment in H.M.'s gaol at Yokohama, was resumed on Friday morning before His Honour Judge Wilkinson. Counsel appeared as before, Mr. Lowder for the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, and Ahrens & Co.; Mr. A. B. Walford for the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; and Professor Terry, of Tokyo, for the debtor.

Mr. Lowder said there were one or two more points on which he should like to examine the debtor.

Mr. Lowder—In the particulars of securities sent by you to the Chartered Bank on the 31st April there are two items of 400 tons of coal valued at 3,400 yen. Can you tell me what has become of that coal?—I don't know. Nakajimeya will tell you what has become of it. If you refer to Uyeda he will know.

Do you know *nothing* about it?—Except through speaking to him about it at the time of making up my list of assets. It was unencumbered at the time, and should be now. It should be available for my creditors. Payment for the coal is included in that list of cheques I handed in.

This coal is not scheduled as an asset?—No, it is not in my possession now—Japanese possession.

Do you mean to imply that there is anything unlawful in the possession of this coal on your behalf by Uyeda?—Not that I am aware of.

I asked you the other day whether the lease of Lot 125 Settlement had been sold to the Laundry Company for 3,500 yen, and you told me that it had?—No, I did not.

At Mr. Lowder's request the official notes were referred to. They showed that debtor stated "I sold the lease of Lot 125 to the Laundry Company for 3,500 yen."

Debtor—I did not say that. I specially mentioned that I sold it to Mrs. Langfeldt.

And you wish to correct that now?—Yes.

A note was taken of the point.

I asked you what became of it, and you said that some was used in paying lawyers' fees, for trips to the north, and some for paying interest, you thought?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Mrs. Langfeldt is the wife of August Langfeldt, is she not?—Yes.

And August Langfeldt holds from you a lease of Lot 125, Settlement, for 12 years from September 1st, 1897?—Yes.

You held a lease of the same property from Mr. Lindau for 30 years from Oct. 1st, 1897, did you not?—Yes.

Where is it now?—I don't know. It may have been left in my office.

Where was it kept?—It was usually kept in my deed box. I haven't got it, because I searched for it when that other lease was made out.

Do you recollect when you last saw it?—No. It may be in the possession of Ahrens & Co. I don't know.

Why do you say that?—They took some documents away on the day I arrived in the hospital. But I am not certain.

Have you asked Ahrens and Co. for that document, or whether it is in their possession?—I believe I did ask them once, but I did not get it.

Whom did you ask, and state the exact answer you got?—I don't recollect, probably I wrote to them.

You must have a recollection?—There were so many things at that time that I cannot remember. I think they took it with them at the time I was in the hospital.

Who?—Wisner.

Have you asked Mr. Wisner for it back?—Yes.

When?—Oh, I can't remember. Probably last May or last June.

At the first meeting of creditors you were examined with regard to what property you had, and you said you could not say beyond certain leases and a life insurance policy in favour of Ishi Riye that the settlements on Ishi Riye were made for value received, and that you were unable to produce any copy of the originals, and that they were in the possession of Ishi Riye?—Yes, but that referred to 98 and 100 Bluff, and I think to a copy of what Mr. Lowder has in his hand—a duplicate. I think so, but I am not certain.

And not to No. 125?—No.

Then when you wished to make this sub-lease did you not make application to Mr. Wisner for the original lease?—No.

Now have you charged that lease in any way except to August Langfeldt?—Yes, to Ishi Riye, 98 and 100 Bluff being almost valueless at present.

Where is the document charging this lease in

favour of Ishi Riye?—I have made out no documents. I gave her the leases of 98 and 100 in her possession; further leases I have not made out.

Then there is nothing but what you tell me now to verify the fact that Lot 125 is charged in favour of Ishi Riye?—Nothing in writing.

The lease itself is for 30 years from 1st October, 1897, is it not?—Yes.

At a rent of 105 yen per month?—Yes.

The lease itself is not in your possession, and you don't know where it is?—No.

A term of the lease is that it may not be assigned without permission of Lindau, the lessor, is it not?—Yes.

Has his permission been obtained for assigning it to Ishi Riye?—No, she being a Japanese subject, I did not ask.

You wish me to infer that you did not consider it necessary because she was a Japanese?—I don't think she could hold it till the coming July, and therefore I didn't trouble about getting his permission.

When did you assign it to her?—I think it was about July. The date can be traced by the time Ishi Riye insured 98 and 100 Bluff.

You are quite certain it was not later?—I don't think so. The policies of insurance will show that (After reference to a document). The 6th August.

Mr. Lowder read the document, which was merely an application for the insurance of 98 and 100 Bluff.

There is no reference to No. 125 there?—No, I had torn all the buildings down; there was nothing on the plot. It was not transferred later than that.

The policies of insurance—did you procure them and hand them to Ishi Riye?—Yes. She paid the premiums.

Now, did you not at the same date give her the lease for 30 years from October, 1897?—No, it was not then in my possession.

Now, how do you make out that she, being a Japanese, could hold property on the Bluff and not on the Settlement?—I referred to both the Bluff and the Settlement.

But the leases of the lots on the Bluff, I understand you to say, are in her possession?—Yes.

And yet it was not necessary to get the permission of the lessor of Lot 125 because she could not hold it?—I was under the impression at the time that she could not hold it.

Did she ask you for an assignment of the lease of this property?—I really don't recollect what conversation we had on the subject. She did say something about making the documents out in order, so that we should have no bother on the subject, but I don't recollect anything more.

Then at all events, as far back as August last, so far as it was in your power, you had assigned this lease to Ishi Riye for her own?—Yes.

You couldn't touch it then?—No.

And three months afterwards, in November, 1898, you granted A. Langfeldt a sub-lease of the same property for 12 years from the 1st Sept., 1898?—Yes.

At an advanced rent of yen 200 per month?—Yes.

So that there was a profit of 95 yen per month for 12 years?—Yes.

And that was what you meant when you said the lease was of the value of some 13,000 yen?—Yes.

And that is the lease you allege that you sold to Mrs. Langfeldt for 3,500 yen?—That I sold; not that I allege I sold.

And you say that was the best you could obtain for it?—Yes.

And you refer to that in illustration of the manner in which all your securities were depreciated?—Yes.

Now what was it that you sold to Mrs. Langfeldt?—That lease that you've got in your hand.

Did you endeavour to sell it to any one else, and if so to whom?—Yes, I tried to sell it through Eyton and Pratt. There was a buyer, I don't know who—but after consulting their lawyer they would not buy. I tried Mr. Johnstone, too.

This that I hold in my hand, look at it again, please. It is a sub-lease for 12 years of 125 Settlement from you to August Langfeldt. Therefore he already held the sub-lease, and I don't understand how you could sell it?—I could sell it. He was paying me every month 200 yen. He had the sub-lease from me.

Mr. Lowder—Here is the lease, and this note:—"In consideration of the sum of 3,500 yen paid to me by Mrs. A. Langfeldt I hereby transfer to her the within-mentioned lease of 125 Settlement, Yokohama, for the unexpired term of twelve years." This is dated December 5th, 1898?—Yes. It was written by Mr. Lloyd at the request of Mr. Langfeldt and signed by me.

And approved by the attorney for the lessor, Mr. Lindau?—Yes.

Now it appears to me that August Langfeldt held the sub-lease. Now how can you assign a lease that you had already granted to him?—I was paying 105 yen a month rent for the lot, and was getting 200 yen a month, and for 3,500 yen I made it over to him, and Mrs. Langfeldt would collect the rents from him. I practically sold the profits of the lease.

Mr. Lowder—Oh (continuing)—This transaction took place on December 5th, 1898. That was the day before your trial commenced?—Yes.

Now where did this transaction take place?—In my house.

And who were present?—Myself, Mr. Langfeldt, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Kildoye. There might have been some Japanese there too.

Mrs. Langfeldt was not present?—No.

Had there been any negotiation with Mrs. Langfeldt prior to 5th December?—Yes, through Mr. Langfeldt.

You did not see Mrs. Langfeldt at all?—No.

And how long had these negotiations been going on?—I don't recollect exactly. Probably a fortnight or three weeks.

And did you tell Mr. Langfeldt or Mrs. Langfeldt that the lease was already vested in the name of the Japanese woman Ishi Riye?—I don't recollect it. I may have.

Her consent was not obtained?—Probably I told her I had let it. Yes, certainly I did.

There is no mention here?—No, not in writing.

And did you also tell her that you had appropriated the proceeds, 3,500 yen, to your own use?—Yes; she knew the reason I was selling it.

So that Mrs. Langfeldt purchased property for 3,500 yen which you estimated to be of the value of 13,000 yen?—That would have brought in 13,000 yen ultimately. It has to be capitalised, you must remember.

You yourself estimated it at 13,000 yen?—Yes, that would be the profit in 12 years.

What do you estimate the value of the lease will be after this term of 12 years is cut out of it?—I don't know. It would be impossible to estimate it.

When was this sum of 3,500 yen paid to you?—On the date of the transfer, as far as I recollect.

Who paid it to you?—Mr. Langfeldt.

Was it paid by cheque or in cash?—Some cheque and some cash, I believe.

Have you got any note in any book you can show me to indicate when that money was paid, and how it was paid?—No.

Have you got any entry in any book to show me what you did with that money?—No.

What makes you think part was paid in cash and part in cheques?—I recollect there was cash. I don't remember how much in cash and how much in cheques.

On what bank or banks were the cheques or cheques drawn?—I don't recollect.

To whom did you give the cheques, and how were they cashed?—I sent some one out for the cash. Whom I don't know. I was so confused that day that I don't recollect all these small details.

Did you give a receipt for the money?—No, nothing beyond that endorsement.

By whom was this 3,500 yen handed you?—Mr. Langfeldt.

Now you received this 3,500 yen on the 5th December, and on the 6th your trial commenced. Did you dispose of it before your trial commenced?—Yes.

Then you paid it away on the 5th December?—Yes.

Can you tell me to whom you paid it?—I can't tell you exact details. Some I sent up to my lawyer, and some was paid for a trip to the north.

Who paid it?—I did myself. Mr. Lloyd might have paid some. There were a lot of bills paid that day, and who paid them I don't know exactly now.

You can point to no entry in any book or paper pointing to the receipt or disbursement of that money?—No. I never had an opportunity after my trial.

You spoke just now about a laundry company. Are you interested in that laundry?—No.

Never been?—Never.

Are you interested in the Oriental Hotel?—No.

Never been?—No.

Mr. Lowder—I am unable, your Honour, to hand this sub-lease into Court, but I ask that a certified copy of the endorsement may be taken. Those are all the questions I have to put.

His Honour—Do you wish to examine, Mr. Walford?

Mr. Walford—No.

His Honour—Does any one else wish to put questions to the debtor?

The Official Receiver (Mr. C. D. Moss)—I have some questions I should like to ask. (To

Debtor). Are the answers you give to questions No. 1 to 50 and signed by you before the first meeting of creditors true?—Yes.

And you do not wish to amend them?—No. Lot 125 you valued at 13,000 yen odd. How do you arrive at that?—By the profits for the twelve years.

But that is only just over 13,000 yen itself? Do you think anybody would pay 13,000 yen cash down for that?—No, I expected about 5,500 yen.

After the twelve years have expired who will come into possession?—Ishi Riye.

On what title?—I have nothing beyond what I have told the Court.

Why should it not come into the possession of the Official Receiver?—Well, she has advanced me moneys, and I have given that as security.

No. 98 and 100 Bluff, who were the sub-tenants?—Capt. Ekstrand and Capt. Carst. I do not know if they are still there.

On what tenancy do they hold possession?—They are monthly tenants.

I see you purchased two dozen clocks from Ahrens and Co?—I never received the clocks. I believe they were clocks for H. Ahrens and Co. for their own godowns.

Can you explain the discrepancy between 65,997 yen which you are charged with on the Phoenix Saw Mills account and 30,000 yen with which you are credited?—It is apparently what they have paid to Respe and Co. I understand it has been 15,000 yen indemnity on kerosene boxes. I only authorised 10,000 yen.

Can you give me the names of your clerks and other employees since March, 1898?—Uyeda Yoshizo was in my employ, and Hoshino Torakichi, Yoshiwara Ginzaburo, and young Yoshiwara, and Mr. Lloyd. They were in my actual employ. Tada Ginzaburo was entrusted by me with property. In Kanazawa my agent was Kana Tokinawa; in Niigata or Aomori, Kondo or Wakabayashi; Hakodate, Tada Takakichi; at the mine Takahara.

Did you ever do business on your account in the names of either?—Yes. In the names of all of them more or less.

Did you send or receive bank drafts in their names on your account?—Those two lists of cheques that I gave you will show.

Is the house at the corner of Minato-cho yours or in your control?—No.

Has it ever been?—No. My family moved there since I have been in prison. The owner of the lease of the ground is Takashima, and the house belongs to Wakao.

Has anyone any deeds or securities of yours that have not been mentioned at this examination?—No.

Why did you at times select such peculiar places in which to transact business? Why not principally in your own office?—I don't understand.

You know what I mean?—No.

You remember one of your securities withdrawn under peculiar circumstances?—Oh, yes, that was in drawing up the transfer of the Yoshida Shinden to the owner of a certain house, and we were asked to come there to see him.

Debtor added something which was not intelligible to our reporter.

In Exhibit G, you write:—"I closed my books on 31st March, and shall hand you copies of my profit and loss account?" Did you produce these?—No.

Were the particulars you furnished to the Chartered Bank full, true, and particular accounts of securities against moneys advanced by them?—Yes.

You actually held those securities?—Yes, some were inspected by the Bank.

Did your letters to the Bank represent the truth?—Yes.

In reference to the Yoshida Shinden property, if, as you say, Uyeda and another protested against the sale, why did he give his consent to the sale?—Uyeda never protested.

He gave his consent?—Yes.

Do you think if I apply to Uyeda for your Hakodate account I shall have any difficulty in getting it?—I don't think so.

Why are exhibits R. and S. made out separately?—There is no reason.

This (produced) is a memorandum received from you of specific expenditures for Yoshida Shinden, Kanazawa land, and the Jiwakisha Company. Are they included in Exhibits R. and S.?—Yes.

If you signed receipts in full for the Nagasaki Hotel, how do you arrive at the conclusion that money is still due,—I considered it due, as it cost double the money.

Was the contract price paid you?—Yes.

What became of the bank drafts from London received from you since May, 1898?—They were used in house expenses, paying interest on Yoshida Shinden land, lawyers' fees, and so forth.

How many were there?—I don't recollect.

Will you give the amounts of as many as you can?—There were two at £100, I think; the rest I don't really recollect.

What bank did they come through?—The Shokkai Ginko.

All?—Yes.

From the rough books and memoranda that I have could a complete set of books be made up?—Yes.

How long would it take you to make these books up?—Probably months; it depends what time I am allowed to work.

Suppose you are allowed to work as long as you have been?—Probably two months. It might be less.

Have you kept any books during the last three years besides those in my possession?—No.

This is the last question I am going to ask you, and it is to give you the opportunity of clearing up anything that is not clear. Is there anything that you should have disclosed that you have not made clear?—Nothing, sir, I have disclosed everything.

This concluded the Official Receiver's examination.

His Honour—Are there any further questions or has any one anything to say against the examination being closed?

Mr. Lowder put one or two additional questions, and then, addressing His Honour, said:—"With reference to what your Honour asked just now as regards the public examination of the debtor, it is impossible for me to ask all the questions I should like to ask until the books are made up. If the examination is closed I should, I presume, be precluded from asking any further questions. If the books are to be made up—and I think it is very desirable that they should be—I should like an adjournment till that time.

His Honour—What time would you like to adjourn to?—

Mr. Lowder—Taking the answer elicited by the Official Receiver it would take two months for the books to be made up.

His Honour—Yes, but I think it is desirable that an effort should be made to do it more quickly than that. (To the debtor) I think if the books are made up you must do it as quickly as you can, and you ought to have it ready by the 5th May—that is, six weeks from to-day.

The Debtor—Yes.

His Honour—I think that should be sufficient. I will adjourn until Friday, the 5th May.

Mr. Lowder—There is certain other evidence which I should like to have an opportunity of taking, but I presume that should be the subject of special application either through myself or the Official Receiver.

His Honour—Yes, that must be a special application.

The Court then adjourned.

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三月二十五日
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CONTENTS.

Summary of News	289
Japanese Public Opinion and the Chinese Affair	289
Foreigners as Pilots	290
Japanese Statesmanship	291
Marquis Ito and the Siam Complication	291
Alliance of Political Parties	291
The Industrial B. & N.	291
The Japanese and China	291
Japan's Foreign Policy	291
Kobe's Demonstration	291
Slender	291
The Minister of War and Foreign Languages	291
The Chinese and Japanese Iron Foundries	291
The Toyo Kisen Kaisha and its Subsidiary	291
The Foreign Yoke	291
Chinese Students in Japan	291
Journalists in the Philippines	291
A New Iron Mine	291
The Specie Bank	291
"Superficies"	291
Tokyo	291
Intelligibility and Diplomacy	291
Prospect under the Treaties	291
A Struggle for Independence	291
The Railways	291
Japan's Foreign Loans	291
The Coming Event	291
The Movements of Political Parties	291
Telegraphic Intelligence	291
Liberalism and the Government	291
Leading Article:—Moral Standards of East and West	291
Korea	291
Maron Katsuka and the Doshisha	291
Young Japan	291
New Political Party	291
Monthly Summary of Japanese Current Literature	291
The Loban Railway	291
The Indemnity Accounts	291
Junkei's Concert	291
Correspondence:—	291
The Sugamo Prison Chaplain	291
Telegraph Rates	291
Japanese and Foreign Morality	291
The Outcome of the Hiroshima Case	291
The Faithful Servant Fund	291
First Aid Class	291
Short Notes	291
China Notes	291
News of the Week	291
American Notes	291
Bank of Japan	291
St. George's Society	291
The Leopold Bankrupt	291
Telegram	291
Chess	291
Latest Shipping	291
Latest Commercial	291

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DUIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH, 1899.

BIRTHS.

At Gifu, on March 18th, the wife of Rev. H. J. HAMILTON, C.M.S., of a daughter.

At Kanazawa, Kaga, on March 16th, the wife of Rev. JOHN G. DUNLOP, of a son.

DEATHS.

On the 20th at "The Niche," 156 Bloff, John Turner, only son of Captain and Mrs. J. TURNER HARRISON, aged 2 years and 11 months.

At New York, on the 18th inst., GUSTAVUS FARLEY, Jun., an old resident of Yokohama, (By Telegram.)

On the 17th instant, at Shanghai, ROSETTA MAAY, wife of Hiram Parker Wilkinson, H.B.M.'s Crown Advocate. (By telegraph.)

At Shiba Sannai, Tokyo, at 4 15 a.m., on the 23rd instant, Mrs. F. B. GLOVER, aged 49

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ENGLISHMEN in Yokohama will give a St. George's Ball on April 25th.

THE troubles in the Philippines still continue but the rigorous press censorship prevailing in

Manila prevents any news from circulating outside the lines.

AT Tainan 30 new cases of plague were reported on the 23rd; 9 proved fatal.

THE construction of the Shimbashi Bridge, Tokyo, will be completed next month.

MR. KANG YU-WEL, the Chinese reformer, left for America on Wednesday by the *Idzumi Maru*.

THE rowing season formally opens in Yokohama to-day with a procession of boats round the harbour.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha will hold a Spring Athletic Sports meeting at Mukojima, Tokyo, on April and.

A ZAROS fort is to be constructed at Kamishima, Ise bay, as soon as the Bu-ho Railway line has been finished.

SIGNOR MARTINO, the late Italian Minister in Peking, has left for Rome, and a successor has been appointed.

FRANCE and Great Britain have arrived at a definite agreement whereby France obtains access to the Nile.

IT seems that the Pope recently underwent an operation for the removal of an abscess on the thigh. He is now out of danger.

THE concert given in the Public Hall on Wednesday evening by the Junkei Choral and Orchestral Society drew a very large audience.

A CHINESE Language School has been established at Tottori and is to be opened on April 1st. Over 40 military officers will receive lessons in the language.

AT 2.50 a.m. on the 15th, a fire broke out in the house of Hayano Hasuhei, a shoemaker, at Shichome, Honcho, Higashi-ku, Osaka. Two lives and two houses were lost.

ACCORDING to an official telegram from Söul, dated March 22nd, Ma-san, Kun-san, Söng-jin, and Phöng yang will be thrown open to foreign commerce from May 1st.

THE Financial Department on Thursday issued war loan bonds to the amount of yen 28,000. This sum is to be employed in gifts in connection with the Japan-China War.

SEVERAL mysterious explosions have occurred of late in French Government arsenals and many lives have been lost. No clues as to the perpetrators have been discovered.

IN consequence of the adverse vote in the Reichstag the German Government consents to fixing the effective peace loaning at 495,000, instead of 502,000, as demanded in the Army Bill.

MR. OKUBO TOMITAKE, secretary of the Department for Home Affairs, is to marry the daughter of Mr. Kundo Rempel, president of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. The ceremony will take place early in April.

IN view of the operation of the new treaties, chief inspectors and clerks who understand English will probably be appointed at Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, Kyoto, Kobe, and Nagasaki jails in June next.

H.M. THE QUEEN REGENT of Spain has signed the Treaty of Peace with America, without admitting the same to the Cortes, owing to the unwillingness on the part of successive Cabinets to accept the responsibility of ratifying it.

As already reported, over 50 scholars were awarded the degrees of *Hakushi* (doctor) on

Wednesday. Mr. Teubouchi, the famous dramatist, and Mr. Taguchi, who is widely known as a master of economic science, are among the number.

MR. CECIL RUODAS has succeeded in the negotiations at Berlin to construct the Cape-Cairo telegraph through German territory, instead of via the Congo. A similar arrangement for the railways is almost complete.

FOR the enforcement of the new Tariff regulations, the Yokohama Customs house has decided to establish inspection offices in Uraga, Chiba, Choshi, Ishinomaki, and Kamimiyata, and will build a 70 ton steamer to be called the *Olina Maru* as a revenue boat.

ON the 18th, the opening ceremony of the Daido School, established by Chinese residents in Yokohama, took place. Count Okuma, Governor Asada, Mr. Midzokami, Superintendent of the Customs and others were present, and Count Okuma delivered a speech.

COUNT GOTO, president of the Shinagawa Tram Car Company, and Mr. Takasugi Kiyoshi, the manager, have been charged at the Tokyo Chihō Saibansho with a violation of the commercial law. The former was sentenced to a fine of 70 yen and the latter to one of 50 yen.

NAKAZATO HEIJIRO (58), Osawa-mura, Koga-gori, Kanagawa Prefecture, murdered his father-in-law Sohei (85), on Tuesday morning. The offender had formerly shown every respect to the old man but being somewhat angered by the harsh treatment accorded him, finally lost command of himself.

DETAILS of the explosion of dynamite cartridges at Kirino Colliery, in Fukuoka Prefecture, show that Isobe Katsunari, an officer, was handing five cartridges to a workman, when a spark from his cigarette fell into a box containing over 80 detonators. They exploded, killing the officer and injuring the workmen.

YOSHIDA SHIKAJIRO, aged 21, Mayeka Kosaburo, 21, and Nishimura Tamakichi, 16, coolies, of Hanazekicho, Yokohama, have been arrested by the water police on a charge of stealing window fittings (valued at yen 210), belonging to the N.Y.K.'s *Yawata Maru*. Ito Chujiro (28) has been arrested for buying the property thus stolen.

A RICE dealer named Matsubashi Zosaku (48), inspector of the Hakodate Rice Exchange, was arrested on the 13th instant. It appears that he suspected one of his employees of peculation, and mercilessly beat him, and confined him in the second storey of his house from the 3rd ult. to the 13th inst. These acts at length reached the ears of the authorities, and Matsubashi was arrested.

TWO wood-cutters, named Yasuta Kijuro (58), belonging in Kozu, Kanagawa Prefecture, at the close of their day's work at Yamato mura, partook of a quantity of sake and then said "good night." Both, however, had become quite intoxicated, and on their way down the mountain path Kijuro must have stumbled for his dead body was afterwards found in a forest, while his friend Tokujiro was discovered in a dying condition on a farm in Ono-mura.

DURING the discussion on the French naval budget in the Chamber of Deputies, the Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy, declared that the state of the fleet was excellent, and said that most of the squadrons in distant waters had been improved, and that the fortified naval bases had been commenced. He enlarged the submarine vessels, and announced that the *Gustave Zide* is now provided with vision apparatus which enables her to approach an adversary at will.

JAPANESE PUBLIC OPINION AND THE CHINESE AFFAIR.

Saturday, March 18.

The views expressed by Japanese journalists with regard to Italy's *coup* in China have been very distinctly but very unequally divided into two camps. The great majority of the Tokyo editors consider that the incident precludes China's final dismemberment, and urge that Japan must not sit with folded hands but must step boldly into the arena and claim her share. The *Fiji Shimpō* leads these publicists. They do not waste many words on abstract questions of international morality. There is none of the surprise and indignation that were evoked by Germany's performance at Kiaochow. Apparently the Japanese have taken fresh stock of the morals of Europe, and are prepared for anything. They recognise that China's old game of playing off one Power against another is at an end. She overlooked one rather important card, namely, her own proportions. No European Power has sufficient confidence in its digestion to contemplate swallowing her whole. She is so huge that she can be dissected into fragments large enough to satisfy any reasonable ambition, and numerous enough to go round the whole of the claimants. Further, when a State like Italy wants to take a hand in the cutting up, there is no longer the least reason for diffidence or compunction on the part of other countries. Italy *qua* Italy is the object-lesson that makes the Japanese "sit up." "Here is a Power," they say, "which has no material interests in China; which is financially crippled; which, to reach the Chekiang coast, has to send its ships across ten thousand miles of ocean; which is of all European leading States perhaps the worst equipped for an over-sea enterprise. Yet this impecunious, unprepared, pretextless Italy stretches out its hand to clutch some of the Chinese spoils, while we, the moribund empire's next-door neighbours, with an unquestionable title to its estates and a life-and-death interest in its fate, remain passive, neither helping ourselves nor seeking to prevent others from absorbing the whole." The sequel of these reflections is that to have obtained China's promise not to alienate Fukien, is counted of small value, and the newspapers urge the Government to prefer a demand for some part of the guaranteed province, so that Japan may have a basis of operations and be prepared for any contingency. The very small minority who object to this policy have nothing to say about the quality of its morality. Led by the *Asahi*, they simply contend that China's promise having been clearly given with regard to Fukien, there need be no apprehension of her ceding any portion of it to a foreign Power without previously consulting Japan, nor is there any likelihood of a foreign Power's demanding any portion of it at the certain cost of provoking Japan's enmity. The wisest plan, therefore, is to remain quiet instead of joining the depredators who are combining to partition China.

Count Okuma, also, has been delivering his views upon this topic, and, as usual, they are statesmanlike views. He is not surprised at Italy's action. Causes for it may be discerned in the state of her domestic affairs. But he agrees that it may be taken as an index of the Occi-

ent's very unscrupulous mood towards China, and he concludes that there now remains only one Power which the Peking Government can trust, namely, Japan. England long enjoyed China's confidence, but England, by supporting Italy in the San-moon enterprise, has destroyed her own credit and is now ranked with the general body of depredators. Against Japan only there is no score. China has been learning of late to trust her neighbour more and more. She is sending her military men and her students to receive their education in this country, and is showing in many ways that if Occidental civilization is ever to receive a friendly welcome from her, it will be by Japan's introduction. To destroy that happy state of affairs by a rash act at the present juncture would be, in Count Okuma's opinion, a fatal blunder. To put the matter briefly, he believes that events are driving China into Japan's arms, and that this country should be careful not to make any deviation from the friendly policy hitherto pursued by it. He looks to see Chinese troops organized and trained by Japanese military instructors, and the Chinese empire led by Japan into the only path where there is any safety against disintegration.

Monday, March 20.

The unexpected always happens. The public looked to see Italy enforce her demand by arms, or some friendly Power step in and effect a compromise, but it turns out that all the commotion was caused by a diplomatic blunder. So, at least, it is said, but we can not close our eyes to the fact that for several days before the finale, the Italian Representative in Peking had been conducting his negotiations with the Tsung-li Yamèn in such a manner as to convince the world that an appeal to arms would certainly follow China's refusal to yield peacefully. Yet, during all that time, the Government in Rome did not enjoin gentler methods. We are now told that M. de Martino exceeded his instructions when he sent in an ultimatum, but truly an ultimatum appears to have been the inevitable sequel of his procedure, and it is a little difficult to understand why he was not restrained at an earlier date if there was no intention of allowing him to follow to its natural goal the route upon which he had obviously entered. Information received in Tokyo goes to show that the so-called "ultimatum" was not accompanied by any threat. It was certainly couched in peremptory terms, for the Chinese were informed that an evasive answer, or an equivocal answer, or no answer at all, would be construed as a refusal. Still if M. de Martino's methods were not in excess of his instructions before the despatch of that last message, the message itself does not suggest any violently novel departure. In short, if the Italian Minister blundered at the end, he blundered also from the very outset, and if his Government imagined that he was managing things in a conciliatory manner up to the eleventh hour, the telegraph must have been used in a very misleading fashion. It is necessary, of course, to accept the explanation offered by Italy, and to congratulate her upon having chosen a wise exit from an embarrassing dilemma, but we regret that the situation was not controlled so as to avoid the necessity of a somewhat equivocal sacrifice. The only good likely to re-

sult from this unsightly incident is that it will stiffen China's back a little. She can scarcely fail to discover that she still possesses some capacity for resistance. It is to be feared, however, that she will greatly misinterpret the part England has played in the affair. The Japanese press seems to appreciate that, from the outset, England had no intention of countenancing any violence, but we suspect that China will be slow to arrive at the same conclusion.

Tuesday, March 21.

The fact that Italy has withdrawn her application for a lease of San-moon and disavowed her diplomatic agent because of his menacing methods does not appear to have allayed the excitement of Japanese journalists. A majority of them continue to insist that this country must not sit with folded hands, and that affairs have reached a pass demanding decided action. What is advised, however, is not an attempt to bolster up the Chinese Empire, but some step to insure Fukien against the encroachment of any Western Power. It appears to be considered that the safety of Formosa would be immediately imperilled were a foreign country to obtain a footing on the opposite coast. The *Fimmin*, for example, thinks that Fukien occupies towards Formosa a position precisely similar to that occupied by Korea towards Kiushiu in ancient times. The rulers of Japan found it quite impossible to preserve peace and tranquillity in Kiushiu so long as its coasts were exposed to the onsets of raiders from Korea, and they had no choice eventually but to strike at Korea itself. Hence it is argued that the guarantee given by China about Fukien must be converted from a mere paper promise into a tangible reality by obtaining a Japanese basis of operations in that province. There is quite a striking similarity, almost an identity, between the articles published by the *Fiji Shimpō*, the *Kokumin*, and the *Fimmin* on this subject, and when three journals of such influence speak with a common voice, we may be sure that a large section of the Japanese nation is listening.

FOREIGNERS AT PILOTS.

The question of granting licenses to foreign pilots is producing the usual crop of tergiversations and prevarications in the journalistic world of Kobe. It is insisted that when we referred to the danger of "allowing persons of alien nationality to acquire competence which endows them with highly dangerous potentialities in the event of war," we were thinking solely of competence to navigate a vessel safely among the shoals and rocks of the Inland Sea, and not at all of the special knowledge which a pilot possesses when military engineers have supplemented such difficulties of navigation by laying submarine mines and other obstructions. Our explanation that we referred solely to torpedoes and cognate obstacles is politely dismissed as false, and our extremely courteous contemporary persists in running tilts at his own interpretation of our words. Well, it really makes very little matter whether this thing or that thing was meant at the outset. The only point of interest is—would the licensing of foreigners as pilots be dangerous for Japan in the event of war. We say "Yes," because—and

the remark applies with special force to a body of water like the Inland Sea—, although modern science enables a country to organize in its territorial waters a system of obstructions which defy the approach of foreign war-vessels, modern civilization requires that such obstructions shall not interrupt the course of commerce, and the pilots of the country are consequently supplied with information by means of which they can steer a merchant-vessel safely through the zones of danger. Hence if some among the pilots were foreigners, the information they possessed might become available to war-ships of their own nationality. We are answered that, in such a case, a special body of pilots would be organized for the special service, and foreigners would be excluded. That, of course, is a frank admission of our contention. It is a confession that the foreign pilot would have to be excluded from the practice of his profession in case of war, or, even though war had not broken out, in case Japan deemed it necessary to place her coasts in a state of defence. In our opinion the most prudent plan is to exclude the foreign pilot altogether. There are only very few men engaged in the trade, and they will not be subjected to any hardship, since their licenses will doubtless remain valid. As to the latter point, however, it is to be observed that the new Law says nothing. It provides for the permanence of licenses granted to foreigners within five years after the date of its operation, but it is silent about licenses granted prior to that date. We recommend the present holders of licenses to assure themselves on this point, or, if necessary, to get their licenses renewed after the Law goes into force.

JAPANESE STATESMANSHIP.

Japanese publicists are usually in a hurry; Japanese statesmen generally act with great deliberation. On the present occasion many voices have been raised against the Foreign Office in Tokyo because it did not leap into the arena the moment Italy struck China's shield, and because it did not make San-moon a stepping stone to a Japanese basis in Fuhkien. The incident is temporarily closed as between Italy and China, but the clamour of reproach still echoes in Tokyo, and we have not yet heard any comment on the position in which Japan would now find herself had she acted as these "strong foreign politicians" recommended. The idea ought to present itself forcibly, however, for a very painful position it would be. Japan claims to be walking in the same path of foreign policy as England, and the claim is probably sincere. She says that the partition of China must not be contemplated except in the last resort, and that, in the meanwhile, every reasonable effort should be made to avert such a contingency. She says, further, that the best way to avert it is to keep the trade door open, and to lead China peacefully away from the conservatism which cripples her capacities for resistance. Suppose, then, that so soon as the Italian stiletto was pointed at China's breast, the Japanese Government had stepped forward and put a pistol to her head, declaring that this country also insisted on joining in the game of robbery, and suppose that it

had transpired, as it would speedily have transpired, that the Italian weapon had been unsheathed by mistake, what course would Japan have adopted? Could she have extricated herself from the false position by discrediting an envoy and declaring that she did not wish to embarrass her friend England? It would have been a humiliating repetition of an unsightly drama, but truly one fails to see what other bridge could have been found for retreat. Or perhaps Japan would not have retreated. Perhaps she would have pressed her point and obtained a pound of her neighbour's flesh. If so, she would have had to break away from her fellowship with England, and she would have stood confessed as an aggressor awaiting only an opportunity to strike at China's heart. Do the men who cried out for peremptory action, and those who still cry out for it, think of these things? Does it occur to them to reflect what kind of countenance their country would now show to the world had she been guided by the impulses that prompted their outcry? They ought to be very thankful that abler hands than theirs held the helm, and they ought also to be visited by a glimmering notion that the Foreign Office in Tokyo had probably much sounder materials for constructing its judgment than the flimsy fancies out of which their own conclusions were spun.

MARQUIS ITO AND THE SAN-MOON COMPLICATION.

It has been stated confidently by several Tokyo journals that the Chinese Government, acting through its Representative in the Japanese capital, sought counsel from Marquis Ito about the San-moon complication, and that the Marquis despatched a long telegram to Li Hung-chang, who, though he does not appear openly upon the stage, is exercising considerable influence behind the scene at this crisis. Such items of intelligence do not derive any additional credibility from the fact that they appear in several papers. That only means, as a rule, that they emanate from some news agency to which the journals publishing them subscribe. But there would be nothing at all surprising in an appeal from China to Japan at this juncture, for the most short-sighted of Chinese statesmen must have discovered ere now that safety from Occidental aggression is to be found solely in the path trodden by Japan. However, if the above intelligence was given forth with considerable assurance, contradictions of it are now published with still greater confidence. Marquis Ito, it is alleged, never regarded the San-moon affair seriously, or foresaw the least probability of its leading to war. He felt certain that England was not supporting any demand on Italy's part, though she might be endorsing a request, and that if her influence were thrown into the scale at all, it would be on the side of peace. That forecast does much credit to Marquis Ito's political foresight, but it does not prove that the Chinese Government did not consult him. It is added, however, that the exchange of telegrams with Li Hung-chang was a mere matter of courtesy. Probably the public will say that the time was ill-chosen for such civilities, and will prefer to believe the original version.

SILENCE OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* is the severest censor that Japan has at present. It criticises her in uncompromising terms, and the things that it says, though they often sound cruel, even ruthless, seem generally to have a substratum of truth. Thus, we can not choose but endorse the contrast it draws between the activity shown by party politicians in the field of foreign affairs two or three years ago, and their remarkable quiescence to-day. With such vital problems before their eyes as Italy at San-moon and America in the Philippines and at Hawaii, they seem quite indifferent to everything outside Japan, and occupy themselves only with selfish questions such as the emoluments of members of the Diet, the State purchase of private railways, the Law of Election, the restoration of hereditary pensions, the disposal of forests and moors, and so forth. The *Mainichi* compares the present mood of party politicians to the sleep of a drunken man, who slumbers on unconscious of the sun climbing above the horizon. These criticisms are a gentle specimen of our contemporary's style at present. It spares no one. As an outspoken denouncer of abuses and honest censor of morals it occupies an unique place among Japanese journals, and, indeed, among the journals of any country.

THE INDUSTRIAL BANK.

The Industrial Bank of Japan offers a discreditable spectacle at present. The officers and shareholders do not appear to be able to compose their differences. From accounts published by Tokyo journals we gather that the proximate cause of the trouble is the desire of the shareholders to obtain a larger grant in aid from the Treasury. Many of them purchased the Bank's shares at a premium, and, now that they find the institution paying only 5 per cent., their speculation looks far from rosy. A sweeping reduction of staff has been effected, but that seems to have injured the confidence reposed in the directorate, for the reduction was made under pressure and in the face of declarations by the President that it could not be accomplished. The question appears to have now narrowed itself to a determination on the part of the principal shareholders to choose a President themselves, instead of accepting a Government nominee.

THE JAPANESE AND CHINA.

The *Doshikai*, an association of influential Japanese having for its object the promotion of friendly intercourse between Japan and China, held a meeting in the rooms of the Geographical Society in Tokyo on the 17th instant. Among those present were Viscount Enomoto, and Messrs. Hanbusa, Shibusawa, Okura, Yokoyama, etc. It was decided that a school should be opened in China for the study of Japanese and a school in Japan for the study of Chinese, and that, in connexion with the schools, a Japanese-Chinese club should be organized to promote all kinds of enterprises in China. Methods of raising capital were discussed, but the decision arrived at is not reported by the press.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY

The *Fuji Shimpō* seems determined to employ its great influence in the interests of a strong foreign policy. Although the San-moon incident has been closed, for the present at all events, our contemporary continues to insist upon its contention that the guarantee obtained from China with regard to the non-alienation of any part of Fukkien, must be converted into a practical reality by obtaining a naval port in that province. The *Fuji* reopens the discussion of this subject in a somewhat sensational manner. It asks whether the people who so strongly advocate interference by Japan to maintain the independence of the Chinese empire, have fully considered Japan's competence to maintain her own independence. The time is not far distant when she will cease to be self-supplying in the matter of bread-stuffs. Her population grows much faster than her power of agricultural production, and since she will have to make constantly increasing purchases of food from abroad, it is essential that her sales of manufactured articles to foreign countries should increase correspondingly. China is her chief market. Were China closed to Japanese industrialists their existence would be seriously menaced. Hence the open-door policy is absolutely imperative, and it should be Japan's object to obtain a position which will enable her to insist on the observance of that policy. She must not take any risks. China is weak and irresolute. Under the menace of a strong State she might at any moment violate her engagement to Japan and surrender a part of Fukkien. Such a conjuncture would bring Japan *vis-à-vis* with an Occidental Power, and compel her to pay a heavy penalty for her procrastination. The *Fuji* thinks it wiser to take time by the forelock.

There is a great deal of sound sense in our contemporary's reasoning. We can well appreciate Japanese anxiety. But, after all, do not these reflexions lead us to the old goal that, instead of robbing China to prevent her from being robbed by somebody else, a much sounder and more logical plan would be that the Powers interested in preventing her spoliation should combine to rouse her to the necessities of the situation? Suppose that England and Japan addressed a joint note to the Chinese Government warning it that, in the interests of free trade, no alienation of the territories to which Japanese and British subjects have access by treaty would be tolerated. Does it not seem that such a course might effectually guarantee China's remaining possessions against foreign aggression? We should like to hear the *Fuji's* view upon that point, but, at the same time, we repeat our often-expressed conviction that China is doomed. The individual Chinaman has all the attributes that go to make a successful and respected member of society, but the trouble is that he is simply an individual, not an unit of a nation. The national side of his character has been obliterated, and nothing in the history of the world warrants us in supposing that the loss can be remedied. Still less does anything in his own recent history suggest that he can be roused to real solicitude for his country. The writing on the wall needs no Daniel to interpret it in China's case.

NORTH VERSUS SOUTH.

A very interesting problem is propounded by the *Fuji Shimpō*, a problem which has often presented itself to our minds, namely, the future centre of Japan's commerce, industry, and wealth. Probably the great majority of our readers will be disposed to answer without hesitation, "Tokyo." It is true that as the official capital, as the residence of the Court, and as the largest city incomparably in the empire, Tokyo's status seems assured. The second of these reasons would alone have sufficed, and sufficed amply, up to modern times. Before the Nara epoch, the metropolitan title of a Japanese city endured for the reign of one sovereign only. At his death another city received the honour. Nara ranked as the capital for three quarters of a century. Its successor, Kyoto, held the rank for nearly eleven centuries. Yet Kyoto, from the moment of its abandonment by the Court, fell from its high estate, and yielded the *pas* to the Emperor's new residence, Tokyo. To-day, as of yore, no conservative Japanese would admit the possibility of acknowledging any city to be the capital unless it was the residence of the Sovereign. But when we look behind these white-haired notions, we find that Tokyo's elevation to the place of capital was a paradox. The victory which carried the Emperor's Court northward was a victory of the south over the north. Tokyo may be said to have been invaded and captured, and Japan, from the point of view of the Restoration, may be regarded as two neighbouring States, the southern of which overthrew the northern and occupied its territory. It often happens, though such a sequence of events is abnormal, that an invader finds valid reasons for transferring his capital to the chief city of the invaded district. Such reasons undoubtedly existed in Tokyo's case. But they exist no larger. There are no political arguments in favour of Tokyo's continued supremacy. Are there, then, any commercial or industrial arguments? Perhaps the easiest way of answering is to set down the civic pretensions of the northern Japan side by side with the civic pretension of the south. When we do so, we find in the former catalogue Hakodate, Niigata, Yokohama, and Tokyo; in the latter, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, Shimonoseki, Moji, and Nagasaki. These lists are eloquent. Then again, looking back five years, we are struck by the recollection that during the war of 1894-5 Tokyo was like the proverbial "home left desolate." It stood wholly outside the circle of interest and activity. The Sovereign went south; the Diet met at Hiroshima; the millions poured out by the Treasury flowed into the bosoms of the southern folks; the troops, travelling to their rendez-vous, did not even visit Tokyo *en passant*. In short, the great city found itself untouched by the main currents of the crisis. It would be so hereafter. Japan's belligerent frontier is now her south-western coast. The shores that face Formosa, Fukkien, the Yangtze Valley, the Gulf of Petchili and Korea—these are the strategic lines, and there the nation's strength will be concentrated in any future emergency. Osaka, Kyoto, and Kobe seem to have insensibly responded to these considerations. They are growing much more rapidly and solidly than Tokyo. We can not say that Tokyo is

without industrial enterprise. It has its factories, and their number grows year by year. But they are to the factories of Osaka much as their pipe-strius flues are to the columnar chimneys of the southern city. Tokyo, indeed, is a comically striking example of old-fashioned Japan. Its citizens cling to the narrow domestic grooves of primæval industry. Instead of organizing large establishments and erecting substantial factories of imposing dimensions, they run up flimsy timber-and-tin structures in lanes and alleys, and furnish them with chimneys like over-grown stalagmites. There is no sense of dignity in Tokyo's mind nor any impulse of progress. Its instinct seems to be against accepting the honours thrust upon it as the capital of the empire and the residence of the Court. Perhaps that instinct is truly prophetic.

KOBÉ'S DEMONSTRATION.

Unless the Kobe community's sense of humour be very blunt, they must have long ago recognised the ridicule which the excessive zeal of their self-constituted champion is bringing upon them. The reception they gave to the Emperor some months ago was a very pretty and a very commendable affair, no doubt, but its value does not appear to be much enhanced by the perpetual clamour raised about it. Evidently it was a great disappointment to some of the folks in the southern port that the *Japan Mail* did not fill its leading columns with descriptions of the reception, and we confess now that had we better appreciated their feelings, we should have taken care not to disappoint them. But we foolishly imagined that to procure, at considerable expense, a long telegram descriptive of the event, and to produce one of their own newspaper's accounts of it, was, on the whole, a very liberal measure of notice. Now, however, the newspaper which we thus honoured declares that "the *Japan Mail's* careful avoidance of any reference to the demonstration was of set purpose." Certainly such modesty is admirable, but it would look better were it linked with a little veracity. The Kobe Journal may count its own utterances of so little account that their reproduction by another journal is tantamount to a "careful avoidance of any reference" to the subject they discuss, but it should not rate a detailed telegram at such an insignificant value. At all events, to affirm that a journal which calls its readers' attention to an incident by means of a lengthy special telegram and the production of a minute notice, has carefully and of set purpose avoided any reference to the incident, must seem just a little risky in the eyes of common-place individuals, who do not recognise that telegrams and articles emanating from Kobe are regarded as ciphers by Kobe newspapers. For the rest, as a mere tribute to artistic principles, we would point out that all this talk about the "demonstration" is apt to make people tired, and to turn Kobe's fire-works into a fizzle.

On Thursday, at the Yokohama Chiho Sai-banisho, Yamamoto Kozo (21) was charged with stealing 8 copper pipes from the English steamer *Formosa*, now lying at Yokohama pier, on the 13th instant. He was sentenced to 2 months' major confinement and 6 months' police surveillance, the property being returned to the owner.

SLANDAR.

We apologise to our readers for occupying any part of our columns with references to the wretched slanders continually published in Kobe about the *Japan Mail*. It is not right, however, that the public should be grossly misled by devices which are ingenious owing to their limitless unscrupulousness. A Kobe newspaper recently stated that "a short time ago the *Japan Mail* was quite prepared to acquiesce in the restriction of newspaper ownership and editorship to Japanese subjects." Now that is a flagrant falsehood. We are advisedly using emphatic terms, because no milder expressions are justified by the facts. The accusation being that "the *Japan Mail*, a short time ago, was quite prepared to acquiesce, &c.," we replied that "the *Japan Mail* never for one instant expressed acquiescence in the idea that the ownership and editorship of newspapers in Japan should be restricted to Japanese subjects." To persons of elementary honesty it will be apparent that our denial was direct and unequivocal. Yet so extraordinarily tortuous and pettifogging are the *Kobe Chronicle's* methods that it pretends to discover want of veracity in the phrasing of our reply. It accuses us of "twisting the phrase used so that it becomes something entirely different from what was said." Psychologists have concluded that the habit of prevarication, perpetually indulged, warps the mind so that truth and falsehood cease to be distinguishable. That seems to be the *Kobe Chronicle's* case, and perhaps we ought to pity rather than to chide it. But until the nature of its malady is sufficiently recognised to secure for it complete segregation from decent society, we must treat it as a public nuisance. Fortunately it has its amusing aspects, for could anything be more ludicrous than to find a journal gravely writing:—"What the *Mail* denies is not that it was quite prepared to acquiesce in the restriction of newspaper ownership and editorship to Japanese subjects, but that it had never for one instant expressed acquiescence in the idea, which is a very different thing?" A very different thing indeed! The *Kobe Chronicle* accused us of having been quite prepared to acquiesce, and we replied that we had never for one instant expressed acquiescence in the idea and then the miserable quibbler pretends to think that its charge and our denial are "very different things." If more contemptible shuffling was ever resorted to by a public writer, he has to be discovered. Meanwhile the palm of prevarication rests on the brows of the *Kobe Chronicle*. However, if the case were limited to that laughable display of deceit we should not waste a line on it. But the dissembling exordium has a fraudulent sequel which concerns us much more closely. "We are always prepared," says the *Kobe Chronicle*, "to support any statement made in our columns," and it then proceeds to make the following quotation from the *Japan Weekly Mail* of April 3rd, 1897:—

It will be for the Japanese Government alone, or in consultation with the Governments of the Treaty Powers, to determine whether and under what conditions license to carry on such professions ["medicine, the law, journalism, and so forth"] shall be given to foreigners in Japan. We shall be surprised and disappointed if any illiberal spirit is displayed in dealing with this subject, but, at the same time, it would be manifestly unwise to ignore the fact that Japan's experience

of local foreign journals has not been at all calculated to inspire a desire for their continued existence. Undoubtedly a very marked improvement has taken place of late in the tone of the local foreign press, but the general record for the past thirty years has been emphatically repellent from a Japanese point of view; nor can any person pretend to imagine that, were the legislators of a European country invited to extend the special privilege of publication to a press which had shown itself so uniformly unfriendly to their national aspirations and reputation as has the press of Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki, they would entertain the proposal for a moment. The statement will probably elicit angry protests from several of our contemporaries—angry from those whose intemperance and injustice have been most conspicuous—but it is a statement wholly beyond the range of honest contradiction. If the British Representative in Tokyo, or the British Foreign Secretary, approaches the Japanese Government with the object of securing legal recognition for the journalistic enterprise of his nationals in Japan, he may be met by the simple but highly embarrassing query, "Can it be sincerely maintained that the existence of the local foreign press in Japan has hitherto contributed to promote good relations between Occidentals and Japanese, or that its attitude towards the country has been such as to establish any claim upon Japan's liberality?" These are hard facts, but it is well to face them boldly and to recognize their significance. Japan's hands are not tied by universal usage in such a matter. All Western countries do not grant to foreigners the privilege of publishing journals within their borders. Japan may withhold the privilege and find precedents to warrant her. On the other hand, we are persuaded that the wisest course, in her own interests, will be to grant the privilege. She will not suffer by granting it.

To this extract the *Kobe Chronicle* appends the remark:—"And so on and so on. What does it all mean but the famous advice, 'put him under the pump'." The extract says "we shall be surprised and disappointed if any illiberal spirit is displayed" and "we are persuaded that the wisest course in Japan's own interests will be to grant the privilege," yet the *Kobe Chronicle* pretends to infer from these words that we were prepared to acquiesce in a course which we described as illiberal and unwise! But that is not all. The *Kobe Chronicle* dismisses the remainder of our article with the words "and so on and so on?" Nearly two years have passed since the article was published. The *Kobe Chronicle* trusted, and rightly no doubt, that none of its readers would take the trouble, even if they had the means, of referring to the files of the *Japan Mail* for 1897, and it therefore dismissed the rest of the article with the words "and so on and so on;" mendacious words in themselves, since they plainly suggest, and were plainly intended to suggest, that the omitted portion contained a continuation of the indictment of the foreign local press, and doubly mendacious in view of the fact that the rest of the article consisted of a defence of that press, and that to publish it would have at once exposed the flagrancy of the *Kobe Chronicle's* falsehood. Here is the part so carefully put out of sight by the *Kobe Chronicle*:—

She (Japan) must have recognised the justice of a plea very often advanced in these columns, that the apparently hostile writings of the local foreign press have been inspired, for the most part, not by real unfriendliness, but by a perfectly natural and respectable desire to retain the privilege of her own jurisdiction. We call that a perfectly natural and respectable desire. It is not merely the counterpart, in one respect, of Japan's desire to extend her jurisdiction over every person in her dominions. It is much more than that. It is an irrepressible expression of the attachment that every civilized people feels for its own laws and its own administrations of justice. In direct proportion to the difficulties that a nation has surmounted in elaborating good laws and organizing a good judiciary, is the value it sets upon those laws and that judiciary; and in direct proportion to the value it sets upon them, is its reluctance to exchange them for other laws or another

judiciary. That is the consummation against which so many of the foreign residents have struggled resolutely and almost fiercely, and if their struggles have been reflected sometimes intemperately, sometimes unjustly, and sometimes clumsily, in the columns of the local foreign press, not Japan but their own cause has chiefly suffered by its advocates' want of skill and self-restraint. Japan has not much to complain of. The case against her aspirations might have been made far stronger had its exponents confined themselves to provable facts and warrantable inferences. Their excesses have so injured their pleadings and discredited their contentions as to promote, rather than retard, her aims. And the important point is that, with the removal of this question of jurisdiction from the field of practical politics, the main source of difference is also removed, and the bitterness of the conflict will gradually disappear. It must be anticipated that when the new Treaties go into operation, many real or imaginary causes of complaint will be found by foreigners. The passing of Occidentals under the jurisdiction of an Oriental country, is an event without precedent. There are innumerable difficulties to be overcome, above all the salient difficulty that the great majority of those passing under the new jurisdiction will do so reluctantly and with a disposition to discover grounds of grievance. But there will be no deep-seated instinct of resistance and discontent such as the prospect awakened while there was still hope of averting it. People will bow to the inevitable, and local journalists will no longer be prompted to set themselves the objectless and invidious task of constantly discrediting the nation and impugning its title to respect or confidence. On the other hand, the sense of having journals of their own to express their opinions and, if necessary, ventilate their grievances, will serve as a kind of safety-valve to foreign residents. It seems to us that, by a liberal course in this matter, Japan stands to gain much more than she can lose.

Now it is wholly impossible to suppose that, with the above statements before it, the *Kobe Chronicle* believed for one instant that the *Japan Mail* was "quite prepared to acquiesce in the restriction of newspaper ownership and editorship to Japanese subjects." That its original accusation was due to reckless ignorance, might have been conceived, and we were willing to take that view. But when it attempts to support its charge by quoting one part of an article, and omitting the remaining part which, if published, would have at once exposed the complete mendacity of its accusation, we have no choice but to conclude that it has been guilty of witting falsehood, and that it deserves to be treated with the contempt which is the portion of all tricksters.

THE MINISTER OF WAR AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

His Excellency Viscount Katsura, Minister of State for War, addressing a recent meeting of Generals of Division, dwelt upon the importance of encouraging the study of foreign languages by officers and non-commissioned officers. He alluded to the troubled condition of affairs in China and also to the near approach of Mixed Residence, and he further explained that, Japan having joined the International Copyright Union, it will no longer be possible to obtain cheap translations of foreign military works: they must be read in the original. This advice will doubtless give a marked impetus to the study of Western languages. The Japanese have hitherto been accustomed to have the best products of Western science and Western literature brought within their easy reach in the form of translations, but that convenient arrangement will cease to be possible after next July. It will be a very great misfortune.

THE CHINESE AND JAPANESE IRON FOUNDRIES.

Mr. Wada, who is under orders to proceed to the Iron Foundry at Hanyang for purposes of inspection, has explained to one of our Tokyo contemporaries the object and reasons of the journey. So far as the foundry itself is concerned, there is no special occasion to make any inspection, he says, for he is already pretty well acquainted with its condition, having been consulted by the Chinese at the time of its erection. It is on a much smaller scale than the Japanese foundry in Chikuzen, now approaching completion, for at Hanyang the quantity of metal manufactured annually can not exceed twenty thousand tons, which is only one half of the Chikuzen Works' capacity. The principal engineer at the Chinese foundry is a Japanese. The great difficulty is coke. The coal obtained from the Kaiping mine is not suited for the making of coke, and unless fuel can be furnished from Japan, the Kaiping works will be greatly embarrassed. Iron ore, on the other hand, is procurable in large quantities from a place about 75 miles up the Yangtze. What Mr. Wada wants to find out is whether the Chinese ore can be used advantageously in conjunction with the Japanese. If so, the abundance of the Chinese supply may render it advisable to have recourse to it, for the distance it would have to be transported is about the same as the distance from Chikuzen to Iwate, where the Japanese iron mines are situated, namely, eleven hundred miles in the former case and a thousand in the latter. Mr. Wada expects to devote a month to his trip to China, after which he will proceed to Europe to inspect the foundries there and to engage experts.

THE TOYO KISEN KAISHA AND ITS SUBSIDY.

One is not astonished to find the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* roundly condemning the idea of granting a large subsidy to the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's San Francisco service. The Company is not an independent Japanese association. It is working in coöperation with two foreign companies, and since all questions relating to rates of freight and passage, dates of sailing, and so on, are regulated by a majority of the Directors of the three companies, it follows that the Japanese concern is practically controlled by its foreign associates; and, further, the business of the union outside Japan is transacted at the offices of the foreign companies. In our Tokyo contemporary's eyes these considerations seem to disqualify the Toyo Kisen Kaisha for special State aid; not that the *Nichi Nichi* objects to coöperation between foreigners and Japanese, but because it thinks that public funds devoted to the encouragement of navigation should be used for developing and encouraging purely national competence, not for maintaining a business which is largely under foreign control. Such reflections as these are very natural and will carry weight in many quarters, but our own private opinion is that the very surest and speediest way of developing Japanese competence is to be found in coöperations which bring the people of this country into direct contact with the teachings of foreign experience and the study of foreign methods.

THE FOREIGN YOKE.

Of course we twit the Japanese with want of courage when we hear them speak apprehensively of the inauguration of Mixed Residence, and of course, when they talk of being dominated by foreigners, we tell them that their pretensions to be admitted to equal intercourse with the West are absurd if they consider themselves destined to go under in competition with Europeans or Americans. Yet sometimes they state their case in a manner that staggers us. An article in the *Nippon* suggests that thought. It affirms that there can be no uncertainty as to the ruling motive of foreigners in their Oriental doings. Commerce and the gains it brings are what they want. For territorial aggrandisement they care comparatively little. Money-making is their paramount purpose. How, then, will things work when these alien gold-getters find the whole of the Japanese empire thrown open to them? If they regarded the Japanese as their equals, the question would not suggest any unpleasant reflections. But though the war of 1894-5 considerably influenced their estimate of the Japanese as a fighting nation, there can be no question that they regard Japanese merchants and Japanese manufacturers as pure Orientals, that they class them with Chinese and Koreans, and that they will not trust them in the smallest degree, or lend them a *sen* without tangible security. Men entertaining such a view of the Japanese, and coming to Japan with abundant capital and long practical experience will soon set their feet upon the neck of Japanese traders and industrialists. In most things they will be entitled by Treaty to the privileges enjoyed by Japanese subjects, but the ownership of land is still withheld from them, and the *Nippon* evidently thinks that it should be withheld. But it is precisely there that the *Nippon's* demonstration fails. It makes no attempt to show how the ownership of land would help foreigners to establish a mastery over the Japanese. No one, indeed, has ever essayed to reduce that apprehension to an intelligible shape. Alien ownership of land is forbidden in some countries and restricted in others, but the motive of the veto and of the limit is the same, namely, to prevent foreign capitalists from making large speculative purchases. There could not be much of that kind of thing in Japan, for nearly all the arable and building lands are already occupied, and no opportunity offers to detach them from the area of industrial, commercial, or agricultural enterprise. But at the foundation of the *Nippon's* dread is the indisputable fact that the Japanese tradesman and the Japanese manufacturer are despised by Occidentals, and, so long as that is palpable, we imagine that the Japanese will be apprehensive as to the consequences of free intercourse.

CHINESE STUDENTS IN JAPAN.

The third batch of Chinese students arrived in Tokyo on the 18th instant. They numbered twenty. Some of them had been educated in the Peking University, and some in the Naval College at Tientsin. Eight were at once admitted to the Seijo-gakko (a military school in the Ichigaya district of Tokyo), but it has not yet been decided where the others are to be placed.

JOURNALISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

It is a very suggestive fact that an American General has been the first to completely segregate his campaigning from journalistic obtrusion. America is the home of newspaper tyranny. Nothing is sacred from the reporter. His first aim is to bring himself into prominence. That he does so at the expense of others costs him not a moment's remorse. Any one courageous enough to defy the reporter has to suffer bitterly for his temerity. Yet it is by an American General and an American Admiral that the reporter is totally tabooed for the first time in modern warfare. The operations in the Philippines are effectually screened from public observation, and the outside world does not even know certainly whether fierce fighting is going on there or whether profound peace prevails. It is an interesting incident, and folks must be curious to see what kind of vengeance the reporter will wreak. For our own part, we do not pity him in the smallest degree. The sensational newsmonger, the yellow journalist, is the curse of the time, and it is only fitting that the first radical revolt against his abuses should be made in the country which suffers most from his tyranny.

A NEW IRON MINE.

We read in vernacular newspapers that iron has been discovered in the Nakagawa district of Shimotsuke province. The ore is said to be of excellent quality, equal, if not superior, to that of Sweden, and it is believed to exist in great quantity. Re-calling the facts that within the past seven or eight years at least as many discoveries of new iron mines have been announced in different parts of Japan, and that in no single instance has rumour proved correct, we can not but regard this last announcement as apocryphal.

THE SPECIE BANK.

A bank should be able to do a fine business when it has supplies of capital at 2 per cent. That is the fortunate position in which the Yokohama Specie Bank finds itself. Some years ago the Bank of Japan, acting under instructions from the Treasury, lent to the Specie Bank ten million yen at 2 per cent. interest, and the sum is now to be increased by twenty millions on the same terms, making a total of 30 million yen. It is stated that the chief purpose of this increased accommodation is to enable the Specie Bank to finance trade transactions with China. The recently discussed project of establishing a Bank of China and Japan will, therefore, be abandoned. Some of our Tokyo contemporaries note that commerce with China has been considerably hampered since Japan adopted gold monometallism, and express the opinion that difficulties of exchange will be largely removed by the increased monetary facilities which the Specie Bank can henceforth grant. The connexion of ideas is not clear, however. If a Bank working on a silver basis entered the arena, the case would be different, but the Specie Bank's accounts are kept in gold and its risk are in gold. It has no opportunity or mission to stand between its customers and exchange fluctuations.

"SUPERFICIES"

Some demon of mischief stood at the elbow of the translators of the Civil Code when they rendered the word *chijō ken* by "superficies." From a legal point of view it was doubtless a good rendering, and as a matter of scholarship no equivalent more succinct or accurate could have been found. But the translated Code was to be read by men some of whom had no desire to comprehend its provisions—being much more concerned to show that they were stupid and unworkable provisions—and it was a dangerous experiment to lay before these men a new-fangled and essentially technical term like "superficies." They have made the most of the opportunity thus afforded, the result being that the very name "superficies" has come to stink in the nostrils of quiet, work-a-day folks, and the thing itself is probably regarded by many business men as a kind of mysterious, intangible, quibble-begetting affair which every sensible person is bound to shun. However, the mischief is done and can not be recalled. *Chijō-kan*, though it is nothing more complicated than a lease for building or planting purposes, will occupy in the pages of Foreign-settlement history a position analogous with that held by the Schleswig-Holstein question or the Treaty of Kutchuk-Kainardji in European annals. Nevertheless we have got so far that most people now understand "superficies" to be a land lease conferring on its holder a title to occupy the land and to own everything above the soil for a period the duration of which may be fixed at any number of years according to the mutual convenience of the contracting parties. That much at any rate is settled. But here comes another difficulty. It emanates of course from Kobe, and is propounded by the newspaper which lately provoked so much mirth, first, by alleging that the special privilege of extra-settlement house-renting, granted to foreigners at Hyogo in 1868, was in consequence of the Settlement's having been fully occupied, whereas, in truth, not a single square foot of land had yet been occupied in the Settlement; and secondly by affirming that it is the duty of judges in Japan to grant bail of their own initiative whether application has been made for it or not. We shall quote this new difficulty about superficies in full:—

"It may be pointed out that one very great objection to the superficies arrangement is that it would not rank among the assets of a bankrupt's estate. Article 276 in the chapter on Emphyteusis also applies to the chapter on Superficies, and runs as follows:—'If an emphyteuticary (superficiary) neglect to pay his rent for two years in succession, or should he be adjudged a bankrupt, the owner of the land may apply for the annulment of the right of emphyteusis (superficies).'" It need scarcely be pointed out that it would utterly destroy the value of a superficies for manufacturing purposes, for while such a law existed there would be no security for the capital invested. Let us put a case. A foreigner makes a superficies arrangement for, say, a term of fifty or a hundred years. He erects workshops and puts up an expensive plant, and in the course of a few years has an extensive business in operation. Bad times come, and it is necessary to get an advance from a bank. What does he find? That the superficies is not an asset, because if bankruptcy should ensue, the landowner would have the first claim upon it; that the buildings will not rank as an asset, because in case of bankruptcy the landowner having the first claim upon the land can order the buildings to be removed. Thus a foreigner having built up a business, may find himself in a position where, by reason of temporary embarrassment, his whole undertaking and the work of a lifetime may be in jeopardy.

He cannot get an advance simply because of the insecurity of tenure in case of bankruptcy; while if he is forced into bankruptcy, his business would fetch little or nothing because the superficies does not go with it. We say now, as we have said before, that no foreigner will be likely to invest capital while such conditions prevail, as the risk is too great. And it is for such reasons that foreigners have always looked doubtfully at the proposition that a right of superficies is or can be, any substitute for landholding rights, or even for a lease of long duration."

People whose memories are sufficiently good will see at once that the position now assumed by the critics of "superficies" is very different from the position assumed by them in 1897. In 1897 they denied *in toto* that "superficies" could be regarded as the equivalent of a long lease for building purposes, and insisted that it was altogether erroneous to interpret the Civil Code as providing for a longer tenure of land than 20 years, without actual ownership. They now abandon that contention, and calmly admit that a foreigner may obtain a superficies for 50 or 100 years, just as though they had never strenuously and persistently asserted the contrary! Let us pass, however, to the new contention, namely, that Art. 276 of the Civil Code applies to superficies, and that, consequently, if a superficies becomes bankrupt, he would be liable to lose all the capital invested by him in the land. It goes without saying that when a newspaper undertakes to interpret the law, it is bound to set forth the whole law, and not to suppress the portions unfavourable to its own argument. The journal quoted above originally maintained that the Japanese Civil Code did not provide any system of land-leasing for periods long enough to justify the erection of houses and factories. Driven completely from that position, it now, *more suo*, takes refuge in the subterfuge that although long leases are procurable, they would terminate on the bankruptcy of the lessee, and consequently the capital invested would be lost to its investor. But that is only one half of the story. The other half, the half fatal to the Kobe newspaper's assertion, is carefully repressed. It is true that Art. 276 applies to a superficies, but it applies only "if a superficies is bound to pay a fixed ground rent to the owner of the land." When no fixed ground rent has to be paid, the superficies's rights are absolutely unassailable. He may become bankrupt twenty times over without his landlord's acquiring any title to extinguish the superficies. Why is that essential part of the law suppressed? Why is a deliberate attempt made to discredit the system of superficies, and to demonstrate its uselessness from the point of view of the capitalist? There can be only one answer, we think; namely, that the Kobe newspaper cares nothing about misleading the public provided it makes out a case for itself. Naturally any foreigner negotiating a superficies for building purposes would take care that a fixed ground rent should not form part of the agreement. He would pay a lump sum for the use of the land during whatever period seemed desirable. A superficies is, in effect, ownership for a fixed term of years. It may take the form of ordinary renting, the tenant agreeing to pay so much a year. But it may also—and certainly would in every case where the investment of capital was contemplated—take the form of buying and selling, the superficies making one final payment then and there, or even spreading his payment over

several installments, provided it did not take the shape of a fixed ground rent. These facts are far too obvious to have escaped the attention of the Kobe journal.

Since writing the above, we see that the Kobe journal's attention has been drawn to the fact we have noted. It was a fact obvious to the shallowest intelligence, and the Kobe newspaper's failure to state it in the first instance was incredible blundering.

TOKYO.

We have always regarded Tokyo as the most unprogressive city in Japan, and our opinion is confirmed by some figures which the *Kokumin* publishes. The number of houses in the capital is 303,791, and the expenditure for local purposes is 3,622 *yen* per house, out of which 87.65 *sen* is on account of education. Kyoto has 68,339 houses, and its municipal outlays average 8.60 *yen* per house annually, education figuring for 2.806 *yen*, or more than three times what Tokyo spends upon the teaching of its young folks. Osaka, as might be expected, shows a still more striking contrast. Its houses number 153,772, and its expenditure is 11.527 per house, the cost of education being 4.31 *yen*, or nearly five times the figure for Tokyo. Indeed, the capital, with all its wealth, is behind the general average not merely of the whole urban districts but also of the whole country. Thus, the houses in the urban districts aggregate 10,002,436, and their local expenditure averages 7.806 *yen* per house, the outlay for education being 1.706 *yen*. The corresponding figures for the whole country are 7,056,038 houses, 4.238 *yen* and 1.598 *yen*. Finally, whereas 76.45 per cent. of the school-age children in Osaka and Kyoto are attending school; 71.08 per cent. of the total number of school-age children in the urban districts, and 65.65 per cent. of the children in the whole country, the figure for Tokyo is only 64.65. The capital of the empire stands, in fact, at the very bottom of the educational schedule. It is a disgraceful record.

CHRISTIANITY AND DIPLOMACY.

The reputation of Christianity is suffering not a little from the total lack of morality shown by Christian States in their dealings with the Orient. It is alleged by critics like the *Nippon* that the faith of the Nazarene has become a mere name without any reality; that the high-sounding talk of Western peoples about the federation of the world, the succour of the poor, the liberation of slaves, and so on is hypocritical cant, and that the 19th century closes upon the disgrace of Christianity. The United States is especially instanced as an example of a country which has fallen from its high moral estate, and Japanese Christians are denounced as mere servants of white people, because they remain silent in the face of such international outrages. We should be interested to hear the *Nippon* indicate any era in the world's history when such a thing as State morality existed; or—despite the singular incidents of the past two years in the Far East—any era when greater respect was paid by nations to moral principles than is paid in these *fin-de-siècle* days.

PROSPECT UNDER THE TREATIES.

Under the above heading a local contemporary has drawn attention to one or two points of some interest. The first is the operation of the laws of Japan in the case of "joint stock companies which have been established under Hongkong Ordinances to do business in Japan." Our contemporary regards it as a hardship that "the Japanese intend to assume over these companies jurisdiction of a kind never claimed by the British Court in Japan and conflicting with the jurisdiction of the Courts in Hongkong." We have no doubt that the Japanese authorities are anxious to adopt every possible means of facilitating the working of the new Treaties, but surely it would be a little extravagant to expect them to adapt their Codes to Hongkong Ordinances. Joint stock companies doing business in Japan after July next will be able to register themselves in this country, and if it is found that any Hongkong Ordinance conflicts with Japanese jurisdiction, well, the natural and reasonable course will be to alter the Ordinance of the foreign colony and leave the laws of the home empire undisturbed. Our contemporary refers also to superficialities, but that question need scarcely be re-opened, and adds:—"It might be convenient if all questions on wills were to be determined by the law of the testator's nationality, but we have never heard of such a thing being done, and we are anxious to know whether Dr. Lönholm's statement is correct. If the will is to be governed in the usual way, that is by the law of the testator's domicile, there will arise many difficult questions, and the Japanese Courts may even claim that all old residents are domiciled in Japan."

An examination of the laws which have been translated and published would have removed our contemporary's perplexity on this matter. Art. 26 of the Law concerning the Application of Law in General, says:—

The existence and the effect of a will are governed by the law of the nationality to which the maker of the will belongs at the time of its making.

The revocation of a will is governed by the law of the nationality of the maker at the time of revocation.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs, the law of the place where the act is done may be followed as to the forms of a will.

A STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE.

Historical parallels are badly strained when we find the story of Toussaint l'Ouverture cited in the same context with the struggle now made by the Filipinos. The sympathy excited in Toussaint's behalf was chiefly because of his treacherous seizure by Leclerc, and his death in a French prison. A war carried on now-a-days as Toussaint's black troops carried on the war of 1791 would receive the execrations, not the applause, of the civilized world. Yet the *Asahi* thinks that the morality of the Occident has degenerated because public opinion supported Toussaint a century ago and does not support the Filipinos to-day. If public opinion does not support the Filipinos, the Filipinos have themselves to blame. Had they remained quiet, they would certainly have obtained a large measure of local autonomy from the United States. It is

even doubtful whether full independence would not have been granted to them, for the very narrow majority by which the Paris Convention was endorsed in the Washington Senate seems to have been due to the news of the outbreak at Manila. America will do a great deal if she is conciliated, and a great deal more in deference to the principles of liberty, but she will not do the very smallest thing in deference to coercion. That is where the Filipinos made an egregious blunder.

Besides, the world is much more practical now than it was a hundred years ago. People have been taught by experience that independence is a curse rather than a blessing to a nation which has not the capacity for self-government. No one believes that the Filipinos have that capacity. Every Occidental who has hitherto studied them closely declares them incapable of managing their own affairs. It is extravagant to assert that the experience of the past eight months proves anything conclusively. America has no right to grant full autonomy to the Filipinos until she has satisfactory assurance of their fitness for the charge. Upon her devolves the ultimate responsibility for the administration of the islands. That is what impartial onlookers see. They also know well that the Filipinos will be sympathetically treated by the United States, and that they will obtain whatever measure of independence is consistent with their own welfare. Their fighting is premature, petulant and needless. It is impossible to sympathise with them.

THE RAILWAYS.

Experts predict that the result of raising the rates on the State Railways will be to diminish rather than to increase the net earnings. The private railway companies evidently do not take that view, however, for they have blithely followed the Government's example, and are putting up their prices all round. It is scarcely necessary to say that, from the point of view of outsiders, there is nothing whatever to justify the Government's action in this matter, except the fact that no other exit seemed available from the impasse created by the unpatriotic and unstatesmanlike conduct of the Liberals in cutting down the proposed Land Tax from 4 per cent. to 3.3. The *Fiji Shimpō* rightly observes that the lines under official control ought to be an example to the owners of private roads, but they certainly are not qualified to be anything of the kind, either in the matter of traffic management or technical excellence. Thus, in 1897, the record for the Tokaido Railway was 14 collisions, 147 carriages and engines derailed, 785 difficulties in connexion with rolling stock, 17 stoppages owing to injuries to the road, and 64 blunders of pointsmen. As for the service, the best that can be said of it is that it is no more than it was ten years ago. It has not deteriorated, but neither has it improved, and it is now far below the standard of modern railways in the West, thus affording an illustration of our recent remark that the tendency of Japan at present is comparatively retrogressive. The Japanese have always been ready to take their cue from officialdom. It might be rash to affirm that, had the Government applied itself with a liberal hand to works of progress on its railway, the private companies would have promptly followed

suit, but they certainly have shown remarkable alacrity in adopting the official programme of increased rates. Henceforth, not even the excuse of cheapness can be made for the very faulty services on Japanese lines. The only hope lies in the possibility that journals like the *Fiji Shimpō* may succeed in educating a mood of intolerance among the public.

MARQUIS ITO.

There is obviously a very strong movement to draw Marquis Ito once more into the field of politics. The Liberals, speaking through their organ, the *Fimmin*, insist that it is his duty to complete the edifice of parliamentary government, the foundations of which he laid in 1891, and the middle courses in 1895, 1897, and 1898. It was he that concluded the first alliance between a Cabinet of "Clan Statesmen" and a political party in 1895. It was he that cemented the alliance in 1897 by quitting office rather than sever his connexion with the party which had supported him. It was he that frankly stepped aside and made room for the first party ministry in 1898. What is wanted now is the proper organization of some political party; its instruction; its development; and the only man really fitted for the task is Marquis Ito. It is not a question of constructing a new party but only of improving an old one. The two great parties of the day, with their history of twenty years and their well-established traditions and connexions, can not be dissolved. They are permanencies, and unless one or the other of them can be fitted for the rôle of administration as well as opposition, there is no future for party Government in Japan. The Liberal organ asks Marquis Ito to take his choice; constitute himself leader of the Progressists or the Liberals, whichever he pleases, provided only that he enters the field. But of course it is quite evident that the Liberals would be intensely chagrined if the Marquis cast in his lot with their opponents, and of course they know quite well that nothing of the kind is within the range of ordinary possibilities. Mr. Hoshi Toru is now the real leader of the Liberals, and his great ambition is to form a Ministry with the Marquis at its head, and himself, Baron Suyematsu and Baron Ito among its members. To onlookers the difficulty seems to be that the Liberals are not in a position to claim such leadership, and to the Liberals themselves it probably seems that the one thing they need to make them strong is Marquis Ito for leader.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN LOAN.

It is confidently asserted by Tokyo journals that the Japanese Representative in London has not hitherto been successful in his attempts to negotiate a loan on account of Public Undertakings and Railways. British capitalists are asking for interest at the rate of 5 per cent., and want to have the bonds run thirty years before redemption commences. It is now thought that no further steps will be taken before the return of Mr. Kato to Tokyo, which event is expected at the end of next month. There is also a rumour that Messrs. Pannure and Gordon are sending to Japan a representative who will confer direct with the Finance Department.

THE COMING EVENT.

There has been so much said and written about Mixed Residence that we can not wonder at the excitement its approach provokes, though in reality the event is not likely to produce the very smallest effect upon the even tenor of our daily lives. The 18th of July, 1899, will be precisely as the 18th of July 1898, was. None of us will have any practical consciousness of our passage under Japanese jurisdiction. The only difference in our existence will be the payment of increased taxes. The average Japanese, however, does not take that view of the matter. In Tokyo, for example, the expectations formed in 1886, when Treaty Revision seemed to be on the verge of accomplishment, are renewed to-day, as confidently as ever, though on a smaller scale. Owners of houses to let or lands to sell persuade themselves that if they wait four months they will be able to command their own terms, and some of the leading journals write as though the opening of the country must speedily establish between foreigners and Japanese relations much more intimate and extensive than any previously existing. The *Jiji Shimpō*, indeed, has a long article in which, having explained that happily a "swashbuckler demeanour" on the part of anti-foreign Japanese is no longer to be apprehended, and that, on the other hand, foreigners have fortunately corrected their masterful mien, it goes on to express regret that greater social intimacy between Japanese and foreigners has not preceded the change now pending. How often we have heard that complaint! It has been so frequently published in newspaper columns that people have probably come to regard it as one of the stock subjects which editors take from their pigeon-holes in times of scarcity of "copy." Hackneyed as the lament is, however, we do not remember that any writer has shown how the defect may be remedied. The truth is that it can never be remedied until one side or the other changes its manner of life radically and its modes of thought considerably. There was a greater semblance of intimacy of intercourse between Japanese and foreigners 15 years ago in Tokyo than there is at present. It was only a semblance, however, and, such as it was, it had been officially fostered. We do not see, therefore, how the foreign and Japanese residents of Yokohama and Kobe can be justly blamed for failing where Tokyo has completely failed. Mixed residence will not mend matters. Propinquity of ideas and tastes is what is wanted, not mere propinquity of dwellings.

THE MOVEMENTS OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

Arrangements are in progress for a Liberal campaign in the provincial districts, and it is justly pointed out that several topics might be advantageously elucidated from the platform by these party politicians. Above all is it advisable that the nation should be taught the true inwardness of the Land Tax and convinced of the necessity of increasing it and employing it as a substitute for the many vexatious imposts now laid on the backs of the people. There is not much hope, however, that representatives of the Liberal Party will elucidate these points, for they have given no proof of under-

standing them. The ideas of all classes about the Land Tax in Japan seem to be greatly confused. It has come to be regarded as a question between the urban and the rural populations, and until that delusion is dispelled, there will be no satisfactory settlement.

The provincial campaign of the Liberals is likely to develop an exciting phase in Fukushima Prefecture. Fukushima used to be the very den of Liberalism. No enemy ventured to set foot there. But the captain in charge was Mr. Kono Hironaka, and he, as everybody knows, turned his back on the Liberals two years ago and joined the Progressists. At first the Fukushima electors seemed disposed to endorse his action quietly, but ultimately they began to show signs of dissatisfaction, and the movement has now become so strong that some people expect to see Mr. Kono forced either to return to his old allegiance or to resign his seat. At all events, the Liberal leaders think that the time has come to re-establish a branch office in Fukushima, and Count Itagaki, Baron Suyematsu, and Mr. Kusaka—for Mr. Kusaka has now joined the Liberals—are about to travel northward for the purpose of consolidating the Party's influence in the Prefecture. The Progressists, on their side, do not intend to be tamely driven from their recently acquired possession. They are organizing a stout resistance, and some interesting episode are anticipated.

Public attention is also directed at this juncture to the doings of the Conservatives. One can scarcely say that there is in Japan a Conservative party worthy of the name. But there are Conservatives, and their leaders are three General officers, Viscounts Tani, Torio, and Miura. The Sōul tragedy put an extinguisher upon Viscount Miura for a considerable time. He has emerged, however. A short time ago, when the Progressists engaged in their anti-Land-Tax agitation, the newspaper-reading public was surprised by intelligence that the Viscount had spoken in a very bitter strain at one of the Party's meetings. It was not easy to determine whether he had espoused the cause of the Progressists or constituted himself their censor, but there could be no doubt that he had once more appeared upon the political stage. We next heard of him as mediating to prevent a rupture of the Progressist Party, and we are now assured by the *Mainichi Shimbun* that he is resolved to incite the agricultural classes to revolt against the Land Tax. The Conservatives have certainly gained accessions of political strength during the past few months; first, in connexion with the affair of the Sugamo-prison chaplain, and secondly on account of the Land Tax. Viscount Torio is a profound believer in Buddhism, and the adroit uses to which he and his friends put the Sugamo affair did more credit to their political sagacity than to their liberality, though, it must be added, whatever course Viscount Torio adopted, he would always be credited with sincerity. In the anti-Land-Tax agitation he did not figure very prominently, but it was not questioned that his support was extended frankly to the other two Viscounts, Tani and Miura, who did make themselves very busy as champions of what are erroneously called "agricultural interests." The Progressists welcomed the co-operation of the Conservatives on that occasion, but, if the *Mainichi* is rightly informed, the Pro-

gressists would fain sever the connexion now. For Viscount Miura denies that appeals to reason or logic can be of any further avail in this case, and insists that no expedient offers except "the bamboo spear and the mat flag." He thinks that a leaf should be taken out of the book of Mr. Tanaka Shozo, and that if the capital were invaded by a few gigantic demonstrations, after the type of the Ashiwo Mine supplicants, the advocates of the Land Tax would have to "sit up." It is a pity that Sōul did not hold him permanently in shadow.

TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

Reuter's agent in London has surpassed himself. It is worth while to place, side by side, the telegram forwarded by him with reference to the speech of M. Lockroy in the Chamber of Deputies, and the telegram received at the French Legation in Tokyo with reference to the same speech:—

Reuter's Summary.

London, March 20.
In the French Chamber of Deputies, M. Lockroy, Minister of Marine, declared that at the time of the Fashoda crisis the French navy and dockyards were utterly unprepared, most projectiles having been without fuses.

The French Legation Telegram.

Saigon, March 20.
During the discussion on the French naval budget in the Chamber of Deputies, the Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy, declared that the state of the fleet was excellent, and said that most of the squadron in distant waters had been improved, and that the fortified naval bases had been commenced. He eulogized the submarine vessels, and announced that the *Gustave Zédé* is now provided with vision apparatus which enables her to approach an adversary at will.

If the writers of the two telegrams had been actuated by a desire to convey to the public diametrically different ideas of what M. Lockroy said, they could not have succeeded better. Doubtless he used the words attributed to him by Reuter, but to have those words put forward alone as a *résumé* of his remarks is about as misleading as anything could well be.

LIBERALS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

There have been anticipations that, so soon as the Diet rose, the Liberal leaders would prefer demands for seats in the Cabinet, and if refused, would sever their connexion with the Government. It does not now appear that things will take that course. On the 18th instant the Committee of the Party held a meeting and adopted various resolutions: first, that the Party identify itself with the interests of the Government; secondly, that no attempt be made to obtain official positions for any of the members; thirdly, that the Cabinet be urged to submit to the Diet, next session, Bills for amending the Law of Election and transferring the Prison Expenditures to the charges of the Treasury; fourthly, that steps be taken to increase the strength of the Party; and fifthly, that the Party direct its efforts to improving and completing the machinery of trade, industry, and agriculture. A general meeting of the Party is to be held on the 7th proximo, when the above resolution will doubtless be endorsed.

MORAL STANDARDS OF EAST AND WEST.

WE passed unnoticed at the moment Dr. GORDON'S comments on an article which appeared in these columns some time ago with reference to Extra-marital Relations in Japan and moral standards in West and East. But the subject has now again been brought upon the tapis in a manner which forbids us to remain silent. In the first place, we must protest against Dr. GORDON'S partial summary of our views. Synthesizing our article, he says:—"There is, it is implied, really no difference between Japan and the West; the apparent difference is due merely to the fact that the Japanese 'in his pursuit of vice is not secretive.'" Dr. GORDON must have read our article superficially or he would not have represented us as saying that there is "really no difference between Japan and the West." There is a very great difference, and we set it forth in the plainest language. It is to be found in the sphere of married life, where, in our opinion, the duty of morality is far more imperative than it is in single life, because the happiness of wife and children is concerned, not merely the happiness and wholesomeness of the individual. But we need not dwell upon this point, for Dr. GORDON'S intention, doubtless, is to confine himself to the non-marital side of the problem, and we are well assured that his purpose is always to be fair and just. Passing at once, then, to the gist of his contention, we find him protesting most "emphatically against the view" that "the condition of social morality is the same in the West as in the East." "The condition of social morality" is a very large question, and some agreement as to its scope would be necessary before attempting to discuss it intelligently. Dr. GORDON, taking America and Japan for the purposes of his comparison, alleges that there is "a very great difference" in favour of the former, and cites in support of his contention "the newspapers; the hotels; the songs of the people; conversation, and the lives of religious leaders." We do not wish to single out any special country for comparisons of that nature, but we may say that we have seen at least one pictorial American journal which would be suspended immediately by the Japanese police were any attempt made to publish it in Tokyo. Nor would it have occurred to us to cite the newspaper press of the United States as a witness in favour of the country's morality. With one exception, there is no sin against moral decency which is not constantly perpetrated by some of the American journals. With regard to the hotels, we do not quite follow Dr. GORDON'S meaning, but we would ask him whether his judgment in Japan's case may not be based upon evidences attri-

butable to the prominence of vice in this country rather than to its quantity. In other words, does he not mistake what the *Yiji Shimpō* calls "want of secretive-ness" for want of virtuous impulses? A few years ago, the newspapers chronicled the destruction of a huge hotel by fire in one of the great cities of the United States. There was terrible loss of life, and, when the bodies came to be identified, a number of them belonged to the class usually known as "social outcasts." Doubtless that hotel, in ordinary times, displayed a full coat of moral white-wash and an ample adornment of virtuous gilding. We do not suggest that any broad inference should be drawn from its story. Our suggestion is simply that immorality which is allowed to parade itself naked on the house-tops is likely to be much more startling than immorality which hides itself, draped and veiled, in nooks and corners, and that the shock caused by the sight of the former is very apt to disturb our estimate of its proportions as compared with those of the latter. This remark applies with special aptitude to "railway travel" which Dr. GORDON arraigns as another witness in support of his thesis. It would seem that there have come under his notice, when travelling by rail in Japan, flagrant signs of immorality. If that be so, does it not simply bear out the *Yiji Shimpō's* contention that the difference is one of concealment and openness? Dr. GORDON denies that "the scenes of great depravity witnessed night after night in the cities of the West" prove anything as to the general condition of social morality in the Occident, yet he is apparently willing to accept some isolated railway experiences as proofs of the general condition of morality in Japan. We say "isolated experiences" because, during 32 years' residence in Japan, we have never, for our own part, witnessed on railway journeys a single incident of an immoral character. Travelling between Kyoto and Osaka we have seen parties of *geisha* in the trains, and we have seen them attend at a railway station to give a "send off" to some patron who had probably treated them munificently. But such scenes can not be among those alluded to by Dr. GORDON, for they are in no sense immoral or indecent. If it be improper that a *geisha* should travel by train, or appear on a railway platform to say goodbye to a friend, then it is improper that she should dance in a theatre, or serve simply as waitress and musician at private parties. As a gross violation of decency and morality there is nothing to be seen in Japan that can bear comparison for an instant with the ballets which take place, night after night, and are attended by the élite of society, in the theatres of American and European cities. Dr. GORDON speaks also of the songs of the people and of their conversation. We can only express

surprise that he should cite such witnesses. It has always been to us a most noteworthy fact that the conversation carried on by Japanese men is not disfigured by even a fraction of the salacious elements characteristic of conversations under similar circumstances in the West. Had we been asked to state the result of our experience in this field, our answer would have been diametrically opposed to Dr. GORDON'S conclusion, and we are equally unable to agree with him in the matter of songs. Has it ever occurred to Dr. GORDON to consider how many of the songs sung in American and European drawing-rooms relate to subjects that are not erotic? Love, its longings, its pains, and its triumphs are the things sung about in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred by Western youths and maidens in Western salons, and, so long as that is the case, we have little title to condemn Japanese songs as immoral. Perhaps it may be retorted that the subject is of less importance than the manner of dealing with it. But even there, so far as our knowledge goes, we believe that for every distinctly improper song sung in Japan, a very much more pungent parallel can be found in Europe or America. Finally, Dr. GORDON queries our statement, "statistics show that the social evil has not larger dimensions here than in Europe." "It may be true," he says, "but I doubt it," and then he goes on to speak of the United States, telling us that his "knowledge of the two countries" shows how the comparison would stand could figures be adduced. We did not refer, of course, to the United States or England when we spoke of statistics, for the licensing system does not exist in either country, and accurate statistics are consequently unobtainable. But estimates have been made, which assign to both London and New York figures proportionately greater than the figure for Tokyo. Estimates, however, are unsatisfactory things at best, and so, for the matter of that, are statistics in a question of this kind, for statistics deal only with what is officially known and tell us nothing about immorality privately practised. But, whatever be the actual figures, it is at least certain that the Japanese system produces, in the great cities, a state of affairs outwardly far superior to that which perpetually disgraces some of the chief capitals of the West.

What we desire particularly to protest against is the notion that our purpose is to hide the vices existing in Japan or to deny that an immense margin of evil remains to be lopped off. If we traverse the very severe comparisons set up by Dr. GORDON and some other observers, it is simply because, in our opinion, the least successful method of preaching reform is to claim for the reformer a standard of excellence he does not possess. In former days the pro-

pagandist of Christianity used to commence his work in Japan by denouncing the superstitions of Buddhism, forgetting that from the Buddhist point of view Christianity has superstitions not less incredible. So, too, if, in the face of very clear evidences to the contrary, we assert on behalf of Europe and America superiority of practical morality which any intelligent Japanese must see to be in some respects pharisaical, especially when he observes the lives led by foreigners in Japan, we cease to be representatives of candid reason and become creatures of racial prejudice.

KOREA.

The Cabinet crisis in Söul, accentuated by the transportation of two Ministers for terms of 10 and 15 years respectively, was evidently a reaction against the abnormal tranquillity which had prevailed in that curious city since last autumn, when the Independence Club and the Pedlars had such a lively time. It is said that the Emperor's favourite female attendant, Mademoiselle Om, is the chief source of disturbance now-a-days. She has begun to think it time that she was settled in life, and many people endorse her view, for with Sovereign and Court alike her power is great enough to make her favour worth propitiating. Russia, as a matter of course, gets the credit of being mixed up in this new complication. She is said to have completed enlisted Mademoiselle Om's sympathy. Thus, when the Söul Cabinet opposed the demands of the St. Petersburg Government in connexion with whaling privileges for Russian subjects, Mademoiselle Om's intervention was solicited, and the Ministers speedily found themselves without portfolios. Nobody attaches much importance to the incident, but it certainly shows that the influence of Russia is again in the ascendant.

Meanwhile it is stated that Pyong-yang, Kunsan, and Sanchin are to be opened to foreign trade from the 1st of May.

BARON KATAOKA AND THE DOSHISHA.

There is, as our readers know, a movement on foot for appointing Baron Kataoka to the office of President of the newly constituted Doshisha. He has been approached by a representative of the *Jimmin* on the subject of his willingness to accept the post, and his answer, shortly stated, is that in the event of an unanimous nomination and of an evident need for his services, he will not decline. He pays a very high compliment to the Doshisha. As an institution for carrying out education on Christian principles, its success, he says, has been very marked. It has turned out numbers of men who have received employment in banks and mercantile establishments, have been placed in positions of trust, and have almost invariably justified the confidence reposed in them. That such a nursery of valuable citizens should pass out of existence would be a public calamity.

Mr. Geo. B. Coughtrie, after serving for 28 years as Secretary of the China Fire Insurance Company, Ltd., Hongkong, has been voted a retiring allowance of £400 a year.

YOUNG JAPAN.

It is extremely pleasant to find that an atmosphere of moral freshness still pervades some realms of international thought. Recent events almost compel the unwilling conclusion that not only have all the old-fashioned principles of inter-state relations been cast to the winds by Occidental Powers, but even the sense of shame had gone with them, and Governments no longer take the trouble to seem respectable. "Young Japan," however, continues to recognise the golden rule, and proclaims the fact in no uncertain tones through the columns of the *Nippon*. It summons the Japanese nation to lay aside selfish reflections as to interest and advantage, and to espouse China's cause boldly and unequivocally, for China is Japan's neighbour, the Chinese and the Japanese belong to the same race, the two peoples have the same script and the same classics, and for centuries China stood to Japan in the light of guide, philosopher, and paragon. "Whatever remnant of international morality survives actively in the Occident," says the *Nippon*, "receives acknowledgement solely in the dealings of European States with nations of their own race." In short, our contemporary's idea is that charity begins at home, and that if Japan does not constitute herself the champion of the Middle Kingdom in this, the latter's hour of stress and storm, she will be morally dishonoured for all time.

It is wholesome to see ourselves sometimes as others see us. Can anyone deny the truth of the *Nippon's* proposition that the dealings of Occidental States with one another are regulated by canons quite different from those observed by them in dealing with Oriental States? The one exception to the rule is Poland's case. Of course there is an excuse, and it is an excuse of special validity when applied to China: Oriental States seldom allow themselves to be treated deferentially. China had worn out the patience of a good many Powers before her vivisection commenced.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

The rumours recently circulated about the formation of a new political party, under the name of *Kokken-to*, seem to have been premature. It is now evident that, instead of the National Unionists dissolving their organization and enrolling themselves as members of the *Kokken-to*, the projectors of the latter will probably be absorbed into the former. The committee of the National Unionists have held a meeting, and resolved that steps be taken to increase the membership of the Party, and that all persons sharing its views be admitted to its ranks. There is no reason why the National Unionists should not play a very important part so long as the strength of the Liberals and Progressists remains nearly equal, and the balance of power can be held by a third association.

A London telegram dated February 5 reads:—It has been decided that Admiral Dewey was justified in cutting the cable in the enemy's waters during the attack on the Spanish fleet off Cavite, Manila Harbour, at the time of the late war; and further that the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, which owns the cable from Manila to Hongkong, is not entitled to claim damages.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has been continuing the articles noticed in a former Summary, entitled "Japan as seen by Foreign Eyes." Already the subject has been treated in more than 30 issues of the paper. The following is an epitome of Mr. Fenollosa's view as stated in the *Yomiuri*:—On my return to Japan a short time ago I found her changed for the worse. Sixteen or seventeen years ago Japan stood before the world as a representative of unalloyed Oriental thought of a very high class. She has now imitated Europe and America to the extent of becoming claptrap (*Europe, America, jin no yō ni hijō ni kōkoku 廣告 倭国 今 何 等 國 乎*). In former days one could truthfully say that there was more in Japanese life and ideas than appeared on the surface. The impression now produced is that appearances are even better than the reality. All the old refinement has gone. Everything has been vulgarised. Science has advanced, it is true. But instead of becoming a means to a higher end, it has become an end in itself. Idealism has gone and a depressing materialism has taken its place. Japan is adopting very second-class European ways. In things material, like house-building, and in things mental, like systems of philosophy, she does not aspire to obtain what is best.

She has rejected her own religions, but she does not adopt Christianity. What standard has she to fall back on? What idea is there that she highly values? The youth of the present day grow up without any conception of the merits of their ancestors as compared with themselves. The very taste for high class things is being eradicated. Everything is being sacrificed on the altar of Western learning. Although an anti-foreign spirit now that mixed residence is so near would be an evil, yet the exaggerated regard which is felt for everything foreign in many quarters is also an evil. Among the parties which aspire to lead the masses one sees little discernment, and little moderation. There is the *Japan Times'* party, and the highly educated Christian section, that are all for foreign ways, and the nationalist party that is quite anti-foreign. Many of the methods and institutions that are introduced into this country are considered antiquated in the West. The time for standing aloof from foreign affairs is past. Japan must play her part in the great arena of Western politics. Events are proceeding apace at Japan's very doors. Before the century closes China's fate is likely to be sealed. Will Japan simply look on while this drama is being acted? Her own future will be immensely influenced by the changes that are taking place in the neighbouring continent. The contempt with which China's literature, art, and civilisation is treated by some would seem to imply that Japan owes nothing to the Celestials, and that she can no longer learn anything from the people whose civilisation she studied and assimilated for so many centuries. Such is not my view. I am of opinion that the two countries have much to learn from each other. The Chinese have sent students over here, thus showing their desire to be friendly with the Japanese. The Japanese should reciprocate. Whatever England and

America may do in the Far East, the part which Japan plays can be no insignificant one. In fact, unless she moves nothing can be accomplished. (*Nihon ga ugokaneba Far East ni oite wa dōsuru koto mo dekinu.*)

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The *Yomiuri* also furnishes an epitome of the views of L'Abbé François Ligneul, who, we are told, has resided in Japan for 20 years and has obtained a remarkable knowledge of Japanese ways. In M. Ligneul's opinion, says the *Yomiuri*, Japan is attempting too much in education, and the result is that, although the modern student knows a little about a great many subjects, as a rule he knows none thoroughly. As a result of the exclusive attention that has been paid to worldly and materialistic subjects and the decline of the influence of Buddhism and Confucianism, the youth of Japan is at present without a moral standard, in fact without anything that can be called a conscience. And, moreover, little reliance is placed on the explorers in the fields of Western philosophy who have undertaken to set up new beacons in the place of the old ones. People do not trust Dr. Katō's materialism nor Dr. Inouye Enryō's Buddhist Metaphysics.

* * *
The views of the Rev. Arthur Lloyd are next quoted by the *Yomiuri*, in the following terms:—Japan is a difficult country to understand. The longer I reside in it, Mr. Lloyd is represented as saying, the less I seem to understand its ways and movements. Sometimes Christianity seems to be in a fair way of holding its own in the country, at other times its prospects seem dark. Since the war armaments have been increased at a rapid pace. What it will all end in it is hard to discern. If peace can be maintained for 20 years, the country will develop in every way, but should Japan engage in a great war the consequences would be very serious. . . . I am inclined to think that, with such large tracts of uncultivated land as exist in Hokkaidō and Oshū, Japan may rely on agriculture as her chief source of wealth to the end of time. . . . Since the war education in Japan has been pushed on at a rapid rate, but it is mostly of a materialistic or practical type. There is in the system of teaching followed too much cramming, too much note-taking, and too little attention paid to the general training of students' minds. The student is not taught how to study by himself. The hours of study are too much filled up with explanations of special subjects, and there is little time for teaching methods of acquiring knowledge. . . . Compared with foreign students Japanese youths are difficult to manage. They will not obey orders in the way that orders are obeyed in an English school. There is a spirit of independence among them, call it *Yamato-damashii* or what you will, which leads to school strikes when attempts are made to enforce the will of the teachers against that of the students. . . . On art I do not venture to express an opinion, not having paid any attention to the subject, but in the study of foreign music the Japanese have made remarkable progress. . . . In literature, too, the nation has been going ahead, as the magazines, newspapers, and books that appear every month abundantly testify. The tendency towards amalgamating the written and spoken languages is a hopeful sign. If this were followed

by the general adoption of *Romaji*, the number of foreigners who would study Japanese could not but increase. And this is highly desirable if Japan wishes to make herself better known to the world; for there can be no comparison between a study of the original sources of Japanese thought in the vernacular and the reading of English periodicals written by Japanese like the *Japan Times* or the *Hansei Zasshi*.

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In the pages of the *Teikoku Bungaku* Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō surveys the field of literature and states in his usual clear manner the conclusions he has reached. The following is the gist of his article:—The "New-Style" verses have gone out of fashion, and what are called *hokku* are all the rage. There are several reasons for this change, but the chief is the inefficiency and want of perseverance of the writers of New-Style verses and the general lack of appreciation for anything like high class literature among the reading public. There is a strong anti-literary feeling in certain quarters, some even going so far as to say that literature and national destruction go together. Leaving fiction and coming to books with a serious purpose in the philosophical line, last year witnessed the publication of several works of considerable merit. Such were Dr. Nakajima's *Tetsugaku-shi* (History of Philosophy); Dr. Inouye Enryō's *Ha-butsu-ron* (Refutation of Materialism); Mr. Takayama Rinjiro's *Ronrigaku* (Logic), and Mr. Takenouchi Nanzō's *Rinrigaku*.

Among the magazines whose discontinuance is a subject for regret, are the *Waseda Bungaku* and the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*. The former was noted for its impartial accounts of current literature and for the publication of articles of merit. The latter will be remembered for its polished style, which in a measure atoned for shallowness of thought and for the Christian flavour that was never missed in its dishes. All its criticism was from the Christian standpoint, and hence it often gave offence to its readers. It is said that the views of its chief promoters have changed, and that is one reason for its discontinuance. Be that as it may, the discontinuance of magazines is not to be regarded as a sign of the decline of literature. Periodicals are given up not infrequently on account of the advance of thought, and others take their place and give expression to the new ideas that have been born. If there were deaths last year, there were births also, for did not the *Bungaku Kenkyūkai Zasshi* and the *Bungei Kurabu* enter the world?

Among journals devoted to the discussion of education the *Kyōiku Jiron* and the *Kyōiku Hōchi* both continue to be popular, and the *Kyōiku Jikken-Kai-Zasshi* is gaining ground every month. Early this year two new magazines were started, the *Nihon Kyōiku* and the *Kyōiku Kōron*. The subject of national education has engaged the attention of a great many newspaper writers during the year. Conspicuous among daily journals that devote space to this subject, is the *Yoroso Chōho*; but we cannot regard the line it has taken with any satisfaction. Its professions are loud, but its methods are objectionable. It seeks to create a sensation by abuse and slander. The *Nihon* often opens its columns to writers on education, but recently that paper has been run in the interests of a certain political party, and

hence the educational policy advocated has not been free from bias. The peculiarity of the *Jiji Shimpō's* views on education never alters. It seem to have no conception of what is necessary in the way of national education, but persistently urges the conformity of our education to that of foreign nations. What foreign country exists that does not evolve a system of education suited to its requirements as a nation? The war against national customs and ways has been carried too far by the Keiōgijuku school of thinkers. Everybody recognises that Mr. Fukuzawa did good service at the beginning of the Meiji era by his crusade against traditional methods and stupid prejudices. But the work of destruction has been carried far enough, and it is high time that as a nation we began to erect a new structure to take the place of what has fallen into ruin. Many of Mr. Fukuzawa's disciples do not realise this and content themselves with repeating their master's watchwords and aspiring to figure as destructionists. This is to misread the spirit of the times, which calls for sculptors rather than iconoclasts.

Coming to religion, nothing very remarkable has to be noted. For a time Christians strongly objected to the views expressed in my "Conflict of Education and Christianity," but recently there has been a change, and there is a movement towards nationalism within the pale of the church. This is a subject for gratitude. "I am quite aware of the superiority of much of the teaching of Christ, and I have learnt much myself from Christ, but the Christian view of human nature and the world I can no longer regard with satisfaction." The idea entertained by Christians that their God is the only true God is the *ne plus ultra* of narrowness, and is only equalled by the idea of the Buddhists about Nyorai (如来) * or that of the Brahmans about Brahma (梵天). The Buddhists have been making a great stir and keep talking of reform, but it is not doctrine that they intend to alter, but their ecclesiastical organisation only. What they are doing lacks continuity and persistence. One so frequently sees a head without any tail. . . . About Shintō there is nothing that need be said. . . . Our Nippon Shugi (Nationalism) movement prospers more and more. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, of which Mr. Shimada Saburō is the editor, complained of our teaching a short time ago as being narrow. We attach, according to this organ, a very limited meaning to the terms loyalty and filial piety. But this is not so. Let Mr. Shimada look to himself. He joins one party and then leaves it for another. His instability can only be compared to the duckweed that follows the stream. To him and his condemnation of the Nippon Shugi party may be applied Christ's words about the mote in one eye and the beam in another.

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In the *Kenseitō-Tōhō* (憲報) Dr. Matsumoto Kumpei, who, it will be remembered, was the founder of the Tōkyō Seiji Gakkō, urges the necessity of providing more training institutions for would-be politicians. He says, with great truth, that nothing is more manifest than the fact that the present members of the Diet are often quite disqualified for their duties as legislators on account of defective educa-

* The highest title of Buddha (Tathagata). He who comes from nowhere and goes nowhere.

tion. They are mostly men who have paid special attention to one branch of knowledge only, and who possess an inadequate acquaintance with general subjects. In order to be an efficient politician, a man should certainly have studied political economy, law, the history of constitutional government in other countries, administration, and kindred subjects. There is a call for schools which shall lay themselves out for the training of young men who aspire to enter the arena of politics. Partly owing to the policy pursued by the Tokugawa Shōguns, the ignorance of even elementary principles of constitutional government among the masses of the people is very great, resulting every now and again in the expression of the wildest ideas as to the future course to be pursued by the nation, such, for instance, as a return to bureaucracy on the ground of its being a system that works easier than representative government. The only real cure for this is education. As yet the political conscience can hardly be said to exist in Japan. People do not realise that they have any specific duties as citizens. . . . what is sadly needed, says Dr. Matsumoto, is the imparting of more common sense to our would-be politicians. This commodity is very scarce among the members of political parties at the present time. . . . Then it is most desirable that the tendency to theorise in the absence of knowledge of real facts, which is so marked in our young politicians, should be cured. This can only be done by teaching the enormous importance of statistics on all subjects and by encouraging the study of trade, industry, labour, finance, taxation, &c., from a practical standpoint. This we endeavour to do at our school, observes Dr. Matsumoto. We aim at preparing our students to enter political life with some real attainable objects in view. . . . The distance that divides students from teachers in most schools we endeavour to bridge over by inviting students to social gatherings where they can converse with us on any subjects they please. In the English Middle Temple it is the custom for students and teachers to dine together. This may seem a small matter, but it produces many good effects.

Another subject of great importance in connection with politics is the training of journalists. In Europe and America the press wields enormous power. It commands forces that are as highly organized and as well managed as the Governments under which it carries on its work. We need in Japan a training institution for journalists. The many imperfections of our newspaper writers are too well known to need notice.

The *Tenchijin* has an article ridiculing the Quadruple Alliance recommended by Lord Charles Beresford as quite impracticable and expressing surprise that Japan should have in any way encouraged the scheme. The writer argues that Japan has no fixed policy in the matter of alliances; that she at one time favoured an alliance of the yellow races against the white, but, as this did not take, she turned around and lent a willing ear to a proposal of a very opposite kind. Is it nothing, asks the writer, that Japan regarded the attitude and action of each of the three countries with whom she is asked to ally herself with aversion not so very long ago? In going blindly into an

alliance of this kind she would be acting in a most risky manner. Who of us is there that knows what may be the future policy of any of the three Powers in reference to China? Already there are people in England who are talking of slicing up China as Egypt has been sliced up, and of bringing the whole country under British control. . . . Lord Charles Beresford said that the alliance was intended to promote peace and so on. But, if war is not contemplated, how are other Powers concerned to be induced to retire from the advanced posts they have occupied. The whole thing is a farce, and we shall hear no more about it, argues the *Tenchijin*.

The *Tenchijin* publishes an article by Viscount Torio on prevailing ideas in China on popular government. It seems that Count Okuma, when he was Minister-President, in the course of an address to the Oriental Association, declared that China was a country where the people rule. According to Viscount Torio, who, it must be remembered, is well versed in Chinese history and literature, there are few countries in the world where the people have so little to say about government as in China and where they are more listless as to how public affairs are managed. Chinese politicians have always worshipped sages like Confucius and Mencius, but at no time in Chinese history, says Viscount Torio, has the voice of the people ever been a factor in shaping the destinies of the nation. There are no ideas in reference to popular rights among the masses in China. The subject has no interest for them. They are quite accustomed to be governed despotically and do not feel the yoke to be burdensome. Occasional popular riots on account of local oppression or grievances are not to be mistaken for a settled conviction that the people have the right to be represented in the councils of the State. Even in Japan the desire for power among the masses is quite modern. There are some who say that it was for popular rights Sakura Sōgorō contended, but it was nothing of the kind. The disturbance caused by him was connected with one definite grievance, real or supposed, and is in no way to be interpreted as an attempt to establish a universal principle bearing on the relations of the governed to their rulers. It was a case of a man sacrificing himself out of sympathy with distressed villagers and nothing more. . . . In reference to the assertion of popular rights in this country during the past few years, there is little that is gratifying. The political parties that have been formed are engaged in squabbling over minor matters. Party government put on its trial under the Okuma-Itagaki Cabinet signally failed. Existing parties may be described as lacking in intelligence, lacking in knowledge, and lacking in virtue (*muchi, mushiki, musessō*), and as yet no party has appeared which has proved itself worthy to be entrusted with the reins of State. . . . Some time ago I proposed in the House of Peers

that the 400,000 *shiooku* should be regarded as a separate body and that an organisation should be created in which this class should be specially represented. But my proposition was not approved of. It seems to me that with the *shiooku* there are certain moral traits on which to work. They have a sense of shame and certain feelings of honour which are not found to the same degree in other classes, and if they could be formed into a nucleus for the creation of a new class of politicians, it might prove the beginning of a new era in politics. It is in order to carry out this idea that I purpose founding an Association to be called the 王選會, *Odōkai*, which will aim at supporting the throne by the practice of those cardinal virtues insisted on by Confucius, integrity and benevolence.

We read in the *Gwaio Jihō* that Professor Florenz and Dr. Ariga are preparing an abbreviated reproduction of Bismarck's Autobiography. It is expected that the book will be published in June. Dr. Ariga calls attention, in the pages of the *Gwaio Jihō*, to the importance of Bismarck's career to Japanese politicians who aim at understanding the political history of modern Europe. As an example of dogged resolution in the accomplishment of a fixed purpose extended over a lifetime the story which is being told in Japanese will certainly find many eager readers.

Professor Ladd's recent work called the "Philosophy of Knowledge," has been rendered into Japanese by Dr. Nakajima under the title of 知識の哲学 *Ninshiki-ron*. Dr. Nakajima has discussed the connection between knowledge that is dependent on psychological processes and knowledge derived from other sources. No book in the Japanese language gives such a minute and intelligible account of an abstruse subject, say the reviewers, as this translation. In it are discussed all those knotty questions of philosophy and science connected with things themselves and the knowledge we possess of them. The "Philosophy of Knowledge" shows that the decisions of science and philosophy are valuable only when they are based on reliable psychological data and logical principles. The work is for sale at the Fuzambō, Kanda, Tōkyō, at 70 sen per copy.

In the columns of the *Kokumin Shim-bun* Mr. Okazaki Senzei gives an account of the great difficulties encountered in designing and casting the Bronze Statue of Saigō Takamori erected in Ueno. The task of preparing a suitable monument of this remarkable man was entrusted to the Bijutsu Gakkō in 1892. For several years prior to that, earnest friends of the deceased hero had been collecting funds. But not until April, 1897, did the actual work of preparing the statue begin. The difficulty of getting anything like a good likeness of Saigō was very great. It is said that he was never photographed. In this we were greatly assisted by the late M. Chiossone, says Mr. Okazaki, who owned a lithographed picture of the warrior. In deciding on the design we tried a variety of experiments before we hit on the one that was eventually carried out. When it came to the preparation of the mould for casting we almost despaired at first of overcoming the difficulties encountered. No statue of such a height

* The writer refers in the American Hawaiian affair, the Kiao chun incident, and to the attitude of England during the China Japan war. Exactly to what acts of England exception is taken by the writer is not made clear. But we premise it is the limitations placed on the operations of the Japanese fleet at Shanghai. — [WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.]

had ever previously been cast in Japan. Our first and last attempt was made on December 23rd, 1897. On that occasion a number of friends had assembled to watch the experiment. Owing to the rapidity with which the metal was poured in, several of the iron hoops around the mould burst, and hence the formation of the lower part of the statue was imperfect. This we subsequently remedied by adding to the 1,200 *kwamme* of metal that we had already used about 300 more. The snapping of the hoops, I thought at the time, says Mr. Okazaki, meant the failure of the experiment, as it seemed certain that the shape of the figure would be spoiled, but, to the surprise of everybody, the accident resulted in an improvement on our designs, and all good judges said that the somewhat enlarged Saigō was more like the real warrior in the flesh than the reduced figure we had expected to produce. Thus did chance accomplish what art would have failed to produce.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* some little time ago published an article entitled "Progress in the Study of the Inhabitants of Japan during the Stone Age," in which the various theories connected with this subject are discussed in the following terms:—That the inhabitants of Japan in the stone age were not the ancestors of the present race is quite certain. There are two current learned theories as to the race to which the users of stone implements and weapons belonged. One makes them out to be Ainos, the other represents them to be that race of pit-dwellers called Koropokguru. Among Japanese archaeologists Dr. Koganei champions the former theory and Dr. Tsuboi the latter. Dr. Tsuboi has shown quite conclusively that the Ainos were not the first inhabitants of these islands. The term Koropokguru was only one of the many names applied to the beardless, peace-loving race that originally peopled the whole of Japan, and who seem to have been exterminated by the Ainos. The theory that these pit-dwellers are Esquimaux has a good many advocates, but as yet there is no proof that the Esquimaux made use of earthenware vessels, whereas numbers of such vessels have been found in the pits formerly occupied by the Koropokguru. It seems that recent explorations in the island of Shimushiri have resulted in the discovery of a number of new pits peopled by the Koropokguru, and in some of these pits a larger collection of utensils, weapons, &c., has been found than any hitherto brought to light. Dr. Tsuboi purposes visiting the island next summer, and will doubtless publish the results of his investigation.

On Lord Charles Beresford's proposed Quadruple Alliance the *Gwaikōjōhō* says that it was owing to the widespread ignorance of foreign affairs in Japan that the proposition was ever seriously entertained. The more the thing is thought out the more impossible it seems. Even an alliance between America and England as regards Far Eastern affairs is plainly not to be attained, America not feeling the same interest as England in keeping the door open for commerce throughout China. Even the understanding between the two countries that was reported to exist a few months ago, according to later news, is regarded as somewhat shadowy. The probability of Germany's uniting

with America in the Far East was always very distant. The proposal was based on ignorance of the real state of feeling in Europe and America. Japan naturally suffers from being so far removed from the great centre of the world's movements, and things are apt to appear to her in other than their true shape. The Quadruple Alliance was never considered possible by leading statesmen in Europe, says the *Gwaikōjōhō*.

The interest that the Japanese are taking in other countries is on the increase, if we may judge by the number of books dealing with foreign affairs that are issued every month. Professor Mito Hiroto, we read in the *Gwaikōjōhō*, has just published a little work entitled "The Future of Africa," which gives an account of the colonies founded, of the industries established, and of the manner in which the various European nations represented come into competition with each other in the great continent. That these African settlements will sooner or later seriously affect the Far East goes without saying, observes Dr. Ariga. That hitherto no Japanese book giving a history of the rapid advance of Europeans in this part of the world has existed cannot but be regretted.

Mr. Takahashi Sakuyō is the author of an essay in English on International Law as illustrated by the China-Japan War, which appears in the *Law Quarterly Review*. Dr. Ariga considers it a great honour for a Japanese to have been able to pen an essay that should find access to such a highly technical organ as the *Law Quarterly*. Mr. Takahashi is still a young man and is at present studying his profession in England.

THE LU HAN RAILWAY.

It is generally understood that, as most people expected, the Belgian attempt to construct the railway from Paoingto to Hankow has broken down. The money provided by H. E. Sheng has been spent, and the money which the Belgian contractors were to furnish is not forthcoming, and the large staff of Belgian engineers dumped down in the interior without the slightest previous knowledge of the country is now being paid by H. E. Sheng. The American Syndicate has the reversion of this contract in the event of the Belgian Syndicate being unable to carry it out; but it is doubtful if the Americans will care to assume it, and they certainly will not assume it on its present conditions. The apparent decision of Great Britain that the partition of China cannot be avoided must much increase the anxiety of every one who has made loans to or contracts with China, for the embarrassments that the new order of things must produce will be endless.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Our contemporary published the annexed letter the following day:—

Monsieur le Rédacteur en Chef.—Je lis dans le numéro d'hier du journal *North China Daily News*, sous le titre "Lu Han Railway," un article relatif à l'exécution du contrat intervenu entre la Compagnie des Chemins de fer Chinois et la Société d'Etudes de Chemins de fer en Chine, à Bruxelles.

En ma qualité de représentant de cette société en Chine, j'appose le vœu le plus formel à toutes et à chacune des assertions que contient cet article.

Le contrat est punctuellement exécuté et les travaux se poursuivent activement.

J'espère, Monsieur le Rédacteur en Chef, que vous voudrez bien rectifier cet article qui est de nature à jeter le discrédit sur la Société Belge, et je vous prie d'agréer mes salutations distinguées.

L'Ingénieur Contrôleur,
HUBERT.

17th March.

THE INDEMNITY ACCOUNTS.

According to the *Yiji*, the General Budget for the 32nd fiscal year, as well as the Supplementary Estimates for the 31st and 32nd years, have been passed by the Diet with slight modifications as below. The actual prospects of the Indemnity account and the appropriations to be made from it are now pretty clear. The gross total of the Indemnity at the end of December last year stood at 364,386,087 *yen*, and numerous appropriations have since been made for productive and unproductive enterprises, preservation of the equilibrium of exchange, and the purchase of gold bullion. As, however, accurate accounts in connection with these items are not yet to hand, the calculations have been made, says our contemporary, on the basis of figures actually recorded at the end of last year. The details are as follow:—

	Yen.
Gross total of Indemnity...	364,386,087
Appropriations determined on	
Outlays for Military expansion	
for the first period ...	17,250,152
for the second period ...	38,358,596
Outlays for Naval expansion for	
the first period ...	22,192,709
for the second period ...	118,324,718
Expenses for the Organisation of	
the Iron Foundry ...	579,762
Special armament expenses transferred to Special accounts ...	78,957,164
Special armament expenses for the 30th year and outlays for the Correspondence Section of the Military Transport Department, brought over to General Accounts ...	8,173,579
Formosa Supplementary Outlays for the 30th year, transferred to General Accounts ...	5,959,048
Sum transferred to the Imperial Estate ...	20,000,000
Sums set apart as capital funds for Naval purposes, Calamities, and Education ...	50,000,000

Total of appropriations determined ...

...	359,795,731
Balance ...	4,590,356

The balance of 4,590,356 *yen* as given above must be understood as the actual amount of which the destination still remains undecided.

According to explanations given by officials to the Budget Committee in the late session of the Diet, the expenditures already settled and the estimates for the same are as below:—

	Yen.
Gross total of Indemnity...	364,386,087
Disbursements made for estimates already determined ...	179,525,114
Sum transferred to the Imperial Estate ...	20,000,000
Sums appropriated to public loan bonds and to industrial debentures ...	38,960,601
(This figure represents the balance obtained by subtracting the amount transferred to the Throne from the gross total of 59,726,461 <i>yen</i> in original public loans and industrial debentures.)	
Amount subscribed to public loans for the 31st year ...	70,654,039
Sums disbursed in the form of loans to the General Accounts and to the Sōul Incheon Railway for the 31st fiscal year ...	7,075,351

Total of the above three items.	316,545,105
Balance ...	48,170,982

The balance as above indicated is to be carried over to the accounts for the 32nd fiscal year. The figures representing the disbursements for the 32nd year stand as follow:—

Sums to be disbursed during the 31st fiscal year by appropriations from Indemnity, but brought over to the 32nd fiscal year's account for payment ...	Yen. 26,097,915
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Amount to be disbursed according to the settled estimates for the 32nd fiscal year ...	31,818,363
Loans to be issued to supply the deficiency in the General Account for the 32nd fiscal year, and to provide funds for the Formosa Bank ...	9,712,838
Sums to be placed in Capital Funds, for the Navy, Natural Calamities, and Education ...	50,000,000

Total of the above four items 117,629,118

This amount, added to another to be carried forward to the 32nd fiscal year, gives the following figures:—

Amount to be brought over to the 32nd year ...	Yen. 48,170,982
Amount to be defrayed during the 32nd year ...	117,629,118

Balance (deficit) ... 69,458,135

If the outlays from Indemnity and those made in the form of public loans are added together, the results are as follows:—

Estimates of appropriations from Indemnity for the 32nd and 33rd fiscal year.

Settled amount of appropriations for the 32nd year ...	Yen. 117,629,118
Settled amount of disbursements in public loans for the 32nd fiscal year ...	29,704,861

Total ... 147,333,979

Deducting from the above total a sum of 48,170,982 yen to be carried forward to the 32nd fiscal year, there arises a deficiency of 99,162,996 yen. The corresponding accounts for the 33rd fiscal year stand as below:—

Settled amount of appropriations from Indemnity for the 33rd year ...	Yen. 23,752,738
Settled amount of disbursements in public loans for the same year ...	17,485,653

Total ... 41,238,391

The addition of this total to the deficit of 99,162,996 yen gives the following result:—

Deficit for the 32nd fiscal year ...	Yen. 99,162,996
Estimates of disbursements for the 33rd fiscal year ...	41,238,391

Total ... 140,401,387

Thus the deficit for the 32nd and 33rd fiscal years amounts to 140,401,387 yen, and has to be supplied by loans in the foreign market. As stated above, a sum of over 38 million yen is at present held in the form of public loans and industrial debentures, but it is hardly possible to sell these at home and appropriate them to supply a portion of the deficiency referred to. The figures after the 34th fiscal year representing the disbursements from Indemnity and the public loans are as follows:—

Fiscal Year.	Settled amount of appropriations from indemnity.	Settled amount of disbursements in public loans.	Total.
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
34th...	18,232,951...	17,118,289...	35,351,240
35th...	6,773,702...	15,631,373...	22,405,075
36th...	2,952,842...	7,937,000...	10,889,842
37th...	538,385...	3,856,468...	4,394,853
38th...	72,347...	7,751,050...	7,823,397

It is said that after the 34th fiscal year the Government purposes to float loans in the foreign market, and to appropriate the same for the restoration of sums drawn from the Indemnity in excess of the original programme.

The first public analyst, according to Dr. Bernard Dwyer, was the father of William Shakespeare. The old Shakespeare was an "ale conner," and he tested liquor in his own good fashion. He would buy a quart of beer, pour it out on a bench, and then sit down on it. After a certain time had elapsed, Mr. Shakespeare would rise, and if his leather breeches stuck to the bench the innkeeper was fined for adulteration.

JUNKER CONCERT.

The third "Grand" Concert of Herr Junker's Choral and Orchestral Society was given on Wednesday, before a large and fashionable audience, at the Public Hall.

On this occasion we were glad to observe some improvements in the arrangement of the forces. The platform was extended further into the auditorium, with good acoustical results. There was also more Bass (of a sort) in the Orchestra—although the discordant drum was decidedly out of place in symphonic work. Better had nothing in the way of percussion instruments, if the orthodox *lypanti* are not available.

The most successful numbers of the evening were those in which our favourite soloists, vocal and instrumental, appeared. In the first part Mrs. Payne delighted us with a charming rendering of an air by Bordèse from his "Jeanne d'Arc"; and the lady was recalled with enthusiasm.

In the second part Mr. Rodolphe Schmid once more displayed his mastery of the Violoncello in a concerted movement by the eminent Belgian virtuoso, Jules de Swert. It was played in a manner which would have delighted the composer himself had he been present.

The remainder of the programme was chiefly serious music—the classical Schubert, Cherubini, and Mozart—with the semi-classic Brahms, and the romantic Schumann—all being in evidence by excerpts from their works. The performance of these need not detain us now—we shall refer to them again in our final review of the musical season about two months hence.

Subjoined is the full programme as printed:—

PART I.

- 1.—Symphony, B minor ("Unfinished") First Movement Schubert. Orchestra.
- 2.—Requiem, C minor Cherubini. Introitus, Pie Jesu, and Dies iræ Chorus.
- 3.—Aïo Solo... Asia "Jeanne d'Arc" ... Bordèse.
- 4.—Selections
a. Danish Air Victor Bendix.
b. Loin du Bal Ernest Gillet. String Orchestra.

PART II.

- 1.—Double Quartette
Song from Orlan's Fingal ... Brahms. Mrs. Irvine, Mrs. Clark, Miss Powell, Mrs. Herb, Mrs. Payne, Miss Leach, Mrs. Walter, Mrs. Wilson.
- 2.—Concerto for Violoncello Jules de Swert.
- 3.—..... Gipsy Life Schumann. Chorus and Orchestra.
- 4.—Symphony Concertante for Violin and Viola, Second Movement Mozart.
- 5.—Waltz Artist Life Strauss. Orchestra.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SUGAMO PRISON CHAPLAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your paragraph the other day referring to the Christian chaplain now on duty at the Sugamo Prison, the impression was conveyed that the prisoners are obliged to attend religious services presided over by a Christian pastor, and to listen to prayers and sermons. This is, however, a mistake, for no religious services are held. The prisoners assemble, it is true, in three divisions every Sunday afternoon to listen to addresses by the Chaplain, but these addresses are not sermons, nor are they accompanied by prayers. As I understand the case, the rules of the prison forbid such exercises in these stated meetings, and, as it seems to me, this prohibition is both natural and proper, under the circumstances. The Chaplain appreciates the situation and seeks to live up to the spirit as well as the letter of the regulation, and aims to use such methods in his inculcation of morality as would create no reasonable dissent in the mind of the most zealous Buddhist listener. There is no such

antagonism between the practical morality which a Buddhist Chaplain would represent and that which Christianity teaches as to render the course the present chaplain endeavours to follow theoretically difficult. Some Buddhist priests, certainly, seem to appreciate his work. A letter from one such priest has been shown me, which expressed a deep interest in his success and a desire to study his methods.

Mr. Tomeoka, after four years' service as chaplain in the Hokkaido prisons, visited the United States, where he spent two years in the study of the various phases of prison reform under the guidance of some of the most eminent experts in America. Through the courtesy of the Prison Commissioners of Massachusetts, he was allowed to study prison methods in the Concord Reformatory for four, ten months—a considerable part of this time actually living in the reformatory and in daily contact with the prisoners. He subsequently visited the Elmira Reformatory in New York, the most successful institution of the kind in the United States. Here he remained a month. He inspected in all some seventy prisons and allied institutions. Under the advice of his numerous friends he has, moreover, read very widely in the literature of his specialty, and is probably the best informed man on the general subject of prison reform, as exhibited in English-speaking countries, to be found in all Japan. He is employed, not because he is a Christian, but because of the fulness of his expert knowledge, and he has won the confidence of his superiors. They may feel obliged to yield to the pressure to which they are subject and dismiss him, but it will not be because they do not appreciate his equipment or the service he has rendered.

As regards distinctly religious instruction, I think I am right in saying that it will be allowed to such prisoners as may desire it, and that gatherings for formal worship, so far as they did not interfere with the discipline of the prison, would probably be allowed.

Mr. Tomeoka hopes to provide such services at an early day. The desire for them has been expressed by many, but unfortunately the three stated meetings on Sunday already referred to, which he is obliged to attend, fill up all the time which the prison schedule leaves open for the purpose.

There is every reason to believe that the Prison Bureau intends to interpret the regulations in a liberal spirit, and that it will seek to meet the wishes of the convicts in the matter of religious counsel so far as is compatible with order and discipline.

I remain, yours, etc., D. C. GREENE.

TELEGRAPH RATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The explanation of the examples you give in a late issue to illustrate the manner of counting in Japanese telegrams is somewhat misleading, inasmuch as you overlook the *nigori*-ed syllables, the *nigori* being always counted and charged for as a syllable. Thus, your first sentence, *Asu gozen jinji kuru Tanaka*, contains 17 telegraphic syllables, not 13, and would cost 25 *sen* instead of 30 *sen*. Similarly, your second example *Dô kakeatte mo tempô de fushôchi*, contains 20 syllables, not 16. Although the insertion of the *nigori* is not obligatory, their omission, I need scarcely say, would often render the telegrams unintelligible.

Yours truly,

W. B. M.

Tokyo, 21 March, 1899.

JAPANESE AND FOREIGN MORALITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a letter published in last Saturday's issue of your paper Dr. Gordon undertakes to instruct the foreign public as to the superiority of the Americans as a nation to the Japanese in point of morality, and then proceeds in a most unwarranted manner to throw handfuls of mud

at Dr. Katō, which mud the reverend gentleman has had supplied to him by that despicable sheet the *Yoroku Chōhō*, which was only the other day declared by Dr. Inouye Tetsugorō to be too immoral itself to have any claim to be heard on the subject of the morals of others. I do not mean to trouble you with a long reply to Dr. Gordon's boastful language in reference to American morality. If Dr. Gordon is satisfied with the morality shown by American newspapers, his standard is about as low as it would be possible to imagine. Dr. Gordon professes to be profoundly ignorant of the existence of the worst vice even among Sunday school-teachers and church-goers in America, but these things repeatedly come to light by means of the newspapers. I am not concerned to enlighten Dr. Gordon on these subjects. There are none so blind as those who don't wish to see. But in the name of all lovers of fairplay in the foreign community, I protest against Dr. Gordon quoting an unproven charge of a low-class newspaper in disparagement of Dr. Katō's private character. There are some charges that are too scurrilous to merit notice. What claim has the *Yoroku Chōhō* to elicit answers from the hundreds of men it has slandered? I regard the quotation of Dr. Gordon from the *Yoroku Chōhō* as a piece of mean spite and as quite unworthy of a Christian Missionary. That any public man in this or any other country should think it necessary to reply to every charge brought against him by newspapers that live on scandal is too absurd to need refutation. That Dr. Gordon should stand sponsor for such a rag as the *Chōhō* is astonishing. If Dr. Gordon is interested in collecting newspaper charges against the morality of individuals who profess to teach morality, we would refer him to American journals. He would do well to study such cases as that of the pious young Sunday School teacher who violated and murdered two Christian young girls and hid the corpses in a Church, and the hundreds of cases of the most contemptible hypocrisy connected with the body to which he belongs. Dr. Gordon occupies, he tells us, the position of one who is quite ignorant of the extent of American vice, but yet he ventures to assure us that it cannot be as bad as what he finds in Japan. He has the honour of being the first foreigner who has endorsed the testimony of the *Yoroku Chōhō*. I say endorsed, because if Dr. Gordon believed the report to be false it is hardly to be supposed that he would quote it. I could cite for Dr. Gordon's benefit charges against the morality of missionaries far more serious in character than that with which Dr. Katō has been charged. It is needless to say that I do not attach the slightest importance to such slanders. Does Dr. Gordon think that these missionaries should rush into the papers, state the charges, and refute them? They can afford to pass them over in silence and contempt. Why has Dr. Gordon one code for Dr. Katō and another for his fellow-Christians?

I am yours, &c.

"A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY."

March 14th.

THE OUTCOME OF THE DOSHISHA CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your numerous readers will be glad to know the way in which the Doshisha Case has been settled.

The Hon. N. W. McIvor reached Yokohama on Sept. 21st of last year, having been sent by the American Board of Missions to settle, if possible, the Doshisha matter. Messrs. Davis and Learned of Kyoto, were associated with Mr. McIvor in representing the American Board in the case, and Messrs. Curtis and Gordon, of Kyoto, were also associated in consultation.

The first negotiations with the trustees of the Doshisha failed, as they refused to restore the vital principle which they had taken out of the Constitution last year, in any form.

After more than two months of effort for a

peaceful settlement, it seemed as if recourse must be had to legal measures to compel the restoration of the trust, and Mr. R. Masujima was retained in the case. Just as legal proceedings were about to be commenced, at the close of last December, the Board of Trustees decided to resign; three members remaining in to legally appoint the new members, and the foreign and Japanese donors were asked to nominate ten men for the new Board of Trustees.

In the course of the following month, the foreign and Japanese donors united in nominating ten men. About the middle of February, one having declined appointment, the following nine were elected Trustees of the Doshisha; Mr. K. Tomeoka, Chaplain of the Sugamo prison, Tokyo; Mr. K. Matsuyama, one of the first Trustees of the school, now professor in the Heian Jogakko, Kyoto; Mr. J. Kono, a graduate of the school, now at the head of one of the Lubricating Oil Works in Tokyo; Mr. A. Miyaki, Pastor of a church in Osaka; Mr. T. Hori, Pastor of a church in Yokohama; Mr. J. Mayegami, one of the leading druggists of Osaka; Mr. S. Saibara, representing a district in Kochi Ken, in Parliament; Mr. H. Yamanaka, pastor of a church in Osaka; and Mr. M. Hitomi, pastor of a church in Kobe. Messrs. H. Kosaki, K. Ukita, N. Kishimoto, and K. Shimomura were also elected by the Alumni of the Doshisha.

The new Board assembled in Tokyo, Feb. 18th, and their first work, after they had been sworn in, was to rescind the action of the year before, and restore the principles of the old Constitution.

The following resolution in regard to the trust was unanimously adopted:—"Be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Doshisha, in order to set all possible doubts at rest, that the Board recognise and admits that, while it is invested with the title to the properties of the institution and charged with its management, it holds all the properties of the Company in trust to carry out the wishes and purposes of its original founders in accordance with the unchangeable provisions of the Constitution of the Company, promulgated under Dr. Neesima's Presidency, in September, 1888; the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, in Boston, Mass., U.S.A., legally representing all the interests of the American donors, and the Japanese donors representing themselves. Be it further resolved by the said Board of Trustees, that it recognises and admits the existence of a trust as to the Harris fund, under the terms and conditions set forth in the first letter of donation of the late Hon. J. N. Harris, under date of 9th of Jan., 1890. The Board also desires to place on record the fact that, while it does not conceive that it has the right to accept any change made by Mr. Harris in his second letter, as to the legal control of the funds conveyed by his first letter, it intends to use the said second letter as an advisory document, expressive of the wishes of an honoured benefactor, and as a guide to it on all points, except the one named, in carrying out the trust." The Board also unanimously passed a resolution, giving the missionaries of the American Board the privilege of the use of the nine missionary houses in Kyoto for thirty years, free of rent. Since it had been reported that the Mission were trying to get control of the Doshisha, the representatives of the American Board gave the following declaration to the Trustees:—"We would say, on behalf of the American Board, that we recognise the full control of your body over the government and management of the Doshisha, subject only to the principles of the Neesima Constitution; and we record the fact that all that the American Board expects to ask of your body is that all connected with the institution shall show respect for the principle of that Constitution, that Christianity shall at all times be held as the basis of the moral teaching in all departments of the Doshisha."

"There is no purpose and wish on the part of the American Board to have the Doshisha changed from its original foundation, which is that of an educational institution, based upon

the principles of Christianity, and having men in control of its destiny who are not antagonistic to these principles.

"There is no wish that the Doshisha shall become a Mission school, and nothing will be done by us to accomplish such a purpose.

"It is understood by us that the Christianity which is to form the basis of the moral teaching in all departments of the Doshisha, under the unchangeable principles of its Constitution, is that body of living and fundamental Christian principles believed and accepted in common by the great Christian Churches of the world."

At the second meeting of the Trustees, just held in Kyoto, they unanimously expressed their satisfaction with the above declaration, and declared that their understanding of the Christianity represented by the Doshisha, etc., was the same as we had expressed in this declaration. The Board voted to ask the American Board to cooperate with the Doshisha in furnishing money and teachers to the school, and expressed their purpose to continue the Middle School, the Girls' School, and the Theological Department.

The Board of Trustees is made in part an elective Board, and the term of office is limited to five and six years, members being eligible to re-election.

A temporary arrangement was made for the oversight of the school, for the immediate future, to give more time to select a man for the important office of President.

The new Board of Trustees have many grave problems before them to solve, but they have shown that they have a determined spirit and a faith which augurs success. Most of the present faculty of the school resign at the end of this month. Efforts are being made to secure teachers and to retain the confidence of the students.

If the Department of Education will allow the privileges granted last year to the Doshisha to remain, it will be a help to the new management, but, even though they are withdrawn, the new Board will not be discouraged, feeling that right is on their side, and that this principle of religious freedom is bound to be granted soon in Japan.

Although it has no connection with the case, the writer is glad to state that the matter of the Kumamoto houses is also settled. Several years ago, the American Board built two houses in Kumamoto for the use of its missionaries at a cost, with the land, of about \$5,000, gold. The legal title was vested in the Board of Trustees of the English school in which the missionaries were teaching. These trustees promised, if at any time the houses were no longer needed for the residence of the missionaries, they should be sold with the land, and the proceeds returned to the American Board. Three or four years ago, the Government needed the land on which the house stood for military barracks. They paid about 4,000 yen for the land and for the removal of the houses. The material of the houses was sold for several hundred yen. Last April the present representatives of the old Board of Trustees returned 1,000 yen to the American Board. After much tedious negotiation, the same men, on March 4th, returned 1,000 yen more, on the giving of the following receipt by the representatives of the American Board: "While we hold that, both from a legal and a moral stand point, the whole of the money received for the two Mission houses in Kumamoto, and for the land on which they stood, should be returned to the American Board; yet, in view of all the circumstances, and in consideration of the return of 1,000 yen last April, and the return of 1,000 yen this day, the receipt of which 2,000 yen by the American Board is hereby acknowledged, we promise that the American Board will make no further legal claim in this matter, but will consider it settled." The fact that the balance of the money had probably been spent, and the desire to avoid litigation, led to the settlement of the matter in this way.

The writer wishes to bear testimony to the very great patience, tact, and ability with which Mr. McIvor has managed these long and

telious negotiations, and to thank his Excellency the United States Minister for his unofficial interest in the Doshisha matter, which has been of very great service. He wishes also to express his great satisfaction that so little, almost no, personal bitterness has entered into the discussions. The retiring President, Mr. Yokoi, and the old Board of Trustees have shown a most excellent spirit in the way they have retired, three remaining in to appoint the new Board, and courteously holding over in charge of the school, until the new Board can assume said control.

However great may have been the difference in judgment which made it possible for the old Board to take the course they did in the change of the Constitution a year ago, it certainly speaks much for the power of Christian principles in the hearts of these Japanese, that the whole matter has been settled in this peaceable way, and the transfer made from the old Board to the new with no bitterness, but in a spirit of helpfulness and forbearance.

Yours, etc., J. D. DAVIS.
Kyoto, March 15th, 1899.

THE FAITHFUL SERVANT FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."
Sir,—As the list for the Rev. R. P. Alexander's servant may now be considered closed, permit me to acknowledge the following additional amounts received.

All will be glad to know that the servant may, in time, wholly recover.

Very truly, B. CHAPPELL.
Aoyama, Tokyo, March 17, 1899.

	Yen.
Acknowledged	100 25
Smyer Hankin	2 00
D.	1 00
To Shingai Dai	2 00
F. S. Scudder	2 00
Nagaya	11 35
Mrs. Imhof	1 00
W. L. Curtis	2 00
D. C. and Mrs. Greene	2 00
H. U. S. Pecke	2 00
H. Waddell	2 00
Mrs. W. Silver Hall	3 00
Mrs. J. D. Schenck	1 00
Hakodate	1 50
Miss Talson	1 00
Miss Jex-Blake	1 00
A. W. Thomson	1 00
Alfred E. Buck	5 00
	141 10

FIRST AID CLASSES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—I am desirous of assisting in the introduction amongst foreigners and Japanese here, of the work of the St. John First Aid, &c., Department, which has been so very successfully established under the auspices of The Grand Priory of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, which has its Headquarters in the St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, London, the remains of the ancient Priory. I have written to the Chief Secretary, and to-day received in advance up to date particulars helpful to those forming Classes, and propagating the good work of the organization.

I beg leave to enclose a reprint from a local paper. I will be pleased to correspond with those interested; and to reply to any enquiries, accompanied by stamped and addressed envelope.

I am Sir, yours faithfully,

C. PFOUNDERS.
Kita no Machi, Kobe, March 14th, 1899.

[From the Kobe Shipping News, of February 18, 1899.]

As it is proposed to form classes for instruction in "First Aid" in Japan, beginning in Kobe, as will be seen by the advertisement in another column, a few words of explanation—in addition to the letter published in last Saturday's issue—may be of interest to some of the readers of this journal, the more especially to those who seek health and peace in athletic sports such as cycling, boating, &c., far away from the settlement, and out of reach of prompt skilled medical aid.

When an accident happens, everybody present being over-anxious to do something, mistakes are made that—most unfortunately—have dire results; and the first thing necessary to learn is what not to do. Calmness and quiet judgment are most essential. Then it is most important to know how to convey—or read—an intelligent, and intelligible, message to the physician or surgeon summoned, so as to avoid the loss of time, that may mean, not alone prolonged excruciating torture, but actual life or death to the sufferer. If the professional aid comes promptly, and provided with the requisite remedies and appliances, the time wasted in a journey for them is saved. In the case of poisoning, &c., this may be vital.

To know how to improvise a tourniquet out of materials which are available, and to be able to effectually—and promptly—apply it, means checking, if not entirely stopping hemorrhage that might result fatally otherwise.

Placing a patient in a proper position, especially if unconscious, requires some little knowledge, such as given in the classes.

In cases of poisoning, to be able to tell the medical practitioner sent for something about the case, enables antidotes to be provided; but proper measures may and should be adopted in many cases; and an emetic administered at once—for instance—of what is almost always to be found even in the poorest inhabited places.

To construct a litter, or other means of conveyance, is not at all difficult with a little training; and to place the sufferer upon it with the least amount of pain and injury is an art readily acquired. To avoid respiration, further laceration of the flesh, blood vessels, &c., and avoiding tearing of the nerves, as a aggravation of the injury, by splinters of bone, and causing a compound fracture, &c., being most desirable, the case should be carefully examined; and provision made for removal before lifting the injured person from the spot, if possible. In removing clothing the greatest caution is absolutely necessary in most cases, for obvious reasons.

In choking—say, fish bones—particularly in the case of young children swallowing something, perhaps a part of a toy—there is no time for waiting till a doctor "comes along." Asphyxiation, by charcoal fumes, or smoke, in a dwelling on fire, as well as by immersion in water—drowning, &c.—demands prompt efforts to restore breathing of pure air, and revive circulation.

Faints, and "Fits," collapse from shock, and numerous other cases, demand very prompt and intelligent treatment. The position of the patient is all important in such instances. The tongue may fall back and stop breathing in some postures. Loosening the clothing, &c. collar specially, is in self-evident must be at once effected; and in the case of females, other articles of costume call for immediate attention on many occasions.

A broken leg may be temporarily secured by very simple means; so can an arm; and aggravation of the injury prevented. Relief to the pain, and probability of the case being more speedily cured—of least, of less serious results aggravated—are results accruing from the instruction given in the classes.

The statistics of the subject are appalling in the number of cases which have been reported to the Society since its establishment, in which the injury was prolonged and intense, and the results aggravated and made permanently more serious, even lives sacrificed through blundering and ignorance. Contrasted with the reports of the work done—which has been indeed the silver lining to the cloud of human sorrow and suffering—the tale of misery is a long one in the past. Orphans and widows left without the bread winner; toilers rendered incapable, becoming a burthen on already poverty-stricken friends; and bright lives saddened by permanent injuries, all of which might have been obviated by a very little of the knowledge and skill imparted under the auspices of "The Order."

There is nothing which is above or beyond the comprehension of those of even limited education and moderate intelligence, in the instruction of the ordinary classes; while the industrious and more enthusiastic may find ample spheres of usefulness in the cause of their suffering fellow creatures.

It is proposed in the present initial stages, to confine the work to the primary instruction of both sexes, especially when desirable—and of persons of all ages. Lessons in school have been found very useful amongst the young folk.

Larger Classes are not recommended; better results are obtained by "sorting out" the students; and the multiplying of instructors is met by enlisting the aid of advanced pupils in the classes of tyros.

Full particulars will be made available to all those who become interested in the classes and the cause of the future.

On Saturday, the 9th instant, a meeting will be held at the Occidental Hotel, to which ladies are invited. It is hoped that a strong committee of active workers will be formed. No "Dead Heads" are needed in this work, and pecuniary obligation will not be incurred by any. The small funds needed will be forthcoming in voluntary and unsolicited contributions.

All works will be entirely gratuitous on the part of helpers and instructors, at least until the members decide otherwise hereafter, and undertake to pay professional surgical and other lecturers, &c.

The parent Society has been written to; and an answer is now due. Upon the receipt of the publication, &c. and authority, a further public meeting will be in order, to place the local Society on a permanent basis.

In the meanwhile it is hoped that some progress will be made in the preliminary instruction and drill against further delay and loss of valuable time. The season for sports and athletics is approaching; and with the increase of the number of "Coles" in use, accidents are becoming proportionately more frequent.

Come in your thousands, and nominate your Committee and Officers. All we wisher will be cordially welcome, especially the fairer sex, and better half of humanity—"The Ladies bless them."

SOUL NOTES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Soul, March 8th.

Spring is at hand, and the lull in the political storm bids fair to be broken. There are signs of activity in the political as well as in the natural world. *The Independent's* English edition died with the old year, and *The Korean Repository* announced that it would suspend publication for a year, but the management changed its mind and we have *The Weekly Repository* trying to fill the vacuum. Several of the native papers, well known for progressive tendencies, have promptly changed with the change of party, and are now supporting the Conservatives.

During the lull, the Peddlers who were left out in the cold in November, have managed, in that mysterious way in which things are accomplished here, to gather strength again. It is generally believed that among the two-score or more magistacies dealt out at New Year the majority fell into the lap of the zealous leaders, but the rank and file have volunteered the unwelcome information that they were not after offices but wished to pursue the work of the organization as carried on in the palmy days of the Peddlers' Guild. They intimated, in

fact, that the time had arrived for the reorganization of the Guild. As the one-time President is now safely anchored in the Agricultural Department, the re-establishment of the Guild seems assured. What the people will say remains to be seen.

The arrival of the astute young Russian *Chargé d'Affaires*, and the recollection of his masterful diplomacy in China, has put the community on the *qui vive* for incidents. He seems to have got hold of the reins, and, as the result of a private audience of two hours and a half on the 4th inst., gave us something to talk about. The well-known and well-tried pro-Russian Korean statesmen, of whom Cho Pyeungik and Min Chongmuk stand forth prominently, are again being heard from, and their names appeared to-day in the papers as being among the officials "reserved." It is the general opinion here that it is only a matter of time before the expected happens, unless, as is often the case here, the unexpected should happen.

The whaling question is up again. It is the old question of open ports along the eastern coast into which Russian whalers can enter after a successful cruise. The Whaling Company is represented by Count Keyserling, and he has asked for three ports, two in Kwangwon province and one in Hamkyung. The Koreans have shown considerable reluctance in granting this concession, but it is thought the trend of events is sufficiently pro Russian for the Company to succeed this time.

The Minister of Education and Acting Minister of Law, Sin Kison, known especially among foreigners for writing an abusive article or booklet during his term of office several years ago against Western notions, peoples, customs, and religions, has undergone no change of mind, notwithstanding his connection for a while with the Independence Club. He still believes in the virtue of female ignorance and in the merit of idleness. It is due to his opposition, so the *Weekly Repository* informs us, that the item for girls' schools and industrial schools was struck out of the Budget.

A strange story is related by the *Korean Repository*. It appears that outside the West Gate of Soul live a number of female exorcists. Last year five of these women, with their "consorts," children, and goods, went north into the provinces on a tramp. After two months' working through Whanghai they passed into Hamkyung, living on what the women made in the villages and hamlets. The trade proved flourishing, and the men taking charge of the money accumulated over \$200 each. This money the men took into the Magistracy of Ko-won and tried to purchase orders on Soul. The thing became known to the local police, and they seized the men and the servants with them, ten in all, charging them with being robbers. Probably this was the first time private people had ever ventured into Ko-won and exhibited such a sum of money. The men, however, refused the charge of being robbers, but the entire ten were subjected to such torture by the constables that one of them died the next day, and another one the following day. The local prefect being absent and a neighbouring official having jurisdiction, the women appealed to him for help, and he ordered the eight men living to be removed to his town. He saw they were in a hopeless case, and, fearing to become involved in the unpleasantness, he refused to do anything and sent the unfortunate back to Ko-won. Here they were set upon again by their captors and so beaten that they became badly crippled. Their money was by this time all gone and when the new magistrate came to Ko-won the matter was so represented to him that of the remaining men seven were executed on the 21st of the Seventh Moon, and a blind man left as the only survivor of the ten. About this time the women came back with their earnings, hoping to release the men. Of this they were also robbed and badly abused. They escaped, however, and came to Soul. Recently one of the runners from Ko-won was

identified in the streets of Seoul by one of the women and placed under arrest. He acknowledges the killing, but throws the blame on the constables.

The superintendence of gold mines, which was taken from the Imperial Household Department and placed under the Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works last year, has once more been placed with the Imperial Household. Mr. Yi Yong-ik has been gazetted as the Imperial Superintendent again, the position he held when he was impeached by the People's Party last autumn. One of his first acts was to nullify a concession made to a Korean of mines in the Whang Hai province. The angry concessionaire immediately sought him and started on a philippic which Mr. Yi interrupted with the request that he should go and deliver his speech to the Independence Club.

Stone fights still occupy the attention of the Koreans. The warriors of the river suburbs of Seoul had a collision recently and one man was killed. The government is making a serious effort to suppress this dangerous recreation.

The destruction of the Temple of the God of War continues to occupy the attention of the papers. One story in connection with it tells of a woman who was found in the streets with lighted incense sticks in her hands, saying that she was in search of the sword of the god. When asked what caused the fire she said that Kwan-wang the god had determined to join the reform side so he had set fire to his temple and come forth among the people. Over \$20,000 has been subscribed by Koreans and Chinese for the rebuilding of the Temple.

A great fire has devastated five hamlets in Mu-chu, North Chulla. Several lives were lost and sixty-two houses were destroyed.

Among the primary schools opened in Seoul recently was one for girls under the auspices of the Korean Ladies' Club. It starts with an enrollment of over 20 students and hopes for government recognition.

In response to a demand of the Chinese Minister the Korean houses in the new Chinese concession at Chemulpo are to be removed. No fewer than 121 houses are involved.

CHINA NOTES.

The *North-China Daily News* is authorised to state that the Russian Consul-General at Shanghai, Mr. Laptew, has never protested against the proposed extension of the Cosmopolitan Settlement, the desire of the Russian Government being to act in perfect accord with the British Government in the matter. Continuing, our contemporary says:—It does not seem to strike those who are so anxious to magnify and dwell upon any differences of opinion that may arise at any time in the Consular Body in reference to this subject, that they are thereby playing into the hands of the Chinese, who are only too anxious to make use of such differences as an argument for delaying the execution of their engagements.

The steamer *Thornhill*, from New York to Shanghai with a general cargo, has been in collision at Algiers, where she called to coal, and will be delayed for repairs.

The Peiho is gradually getting worse. Orders have been given that the lighters are not to load deeper than seven feet. Several that loaded outside the bar to 8 ft. 6 in. had to be lightened by native boats on entering the river. In the Tangku reach there is only ten feet at low water, and, consequently, captains are somewhat fearful, whilst navigating the reach, lest the anchors of vessels moored there be out of the centre of the line of moorings. The bar is also in an unsatisfactory condition.

The death of Mrs. H. P. Wilkinson, wife of the Crown Advocate at Shanghai, was due to pneumonia. It aroused widespread regret.

News has been received from Peking that an edict had been sent to Li Hung-chang to remain

at Shantung to superintend the work of the conservation of the Yellow River, and that owing to this edict H.E. Li will have to stay in Shantung for some time to come.

News was received by the last mail of the death on the 24th of January last of Captain Robert Cass, of Hongkong. He was at one time one of the best-known and most popular captains on the coast, having commanded the *Ningpo* for many years until she was put under the German flag, and then the *Carisbrook*, *Argay*, and *Cheindra* of the Indo-China line, between Calcutta and Hongkong. He was buried at Nunhead Cemetery on the 28th of January.

The death occurred on the 11th March of the Tartar General of Lower Manchuria (Feng-chen), E kô-t'ang-à, in his *yamen* in Moukden. The deceased was sixty-eight years old at the time of his death, and during the late war with Japan showed himself to be the only Chinese General who had any knowledge of handling large bodies of troops and moving them about the country in proper order and discipline. The *North China Daily News* is of opinion that, had it not been for the deceased General's able defence of Liaoyang, the city of Moukden would have been captured by the Japanese armies soon after they crossed the Yalu into Manchuria.

During the launching of a German tender from S. C. Farnham's dock at Hongkew on March 14, Prince Henry of Prussia was struck on the head by a piece of wood that fell from the vessel's bow, and rather badly cut. The Prince applied a handkerchief to the wound, and covered the same with his hat. He, however, entered into the subsequent proceedings as though nothing had occurred.

Orders have been received by Yu Hsien, acting Tartar General of Nanking (Kiang-ning), from Peking commanding him to arm and drill at once all the Tartar troops in the Liaukiang provinces, according to modern methods; the arms and ammunition for the purpose to be furnished by the Viceroy Liu. The same instructions have also been sent to the Tartar Generals at Hangchow and Foochow. According to the latest census (1896) of able-bodied Tartars in the three Viceroys' provinces noted above, there are 14,800 in Nanking and Chinkiang; 16,553 in Hangchow and Chapoo; and 9,674 in Foochow.

The native correspondent of a vernacular paper writes that recently a disastrous accident occurred on the Lu Han railroad, outside the Tungchi gate of Hankow, which has been constructed up to the Yu Hu, a lake with a strong current running. A bridge to span this lake was in course of construction, but suddenly the temporary bridge on which the men worked gave way and over 200 workmen, including a foreign engineer, were drowned.—*Mercury*.

The delimitation of the territory leased by the Russians in Manchuria and the Liaotung Peninsula is not yet completed, says a Shanghai contemporary, as the demands of the Russians have a constant tendency to grow. It is understood that Russia did make a claim to the Miaotao Islands at the mouth of the Gulf of Pechili; but the Tartar General at Moukden declined to entertain the claim on the ground that the islands were not in his jurisdiction, but in that of the Governor of Shantung.

Jung Lu, the Generalissimo of all the forces in Chihli province, has received express commands from the Empress Dowager to mass all troops under his command in June next in the Southern Hunting Park, where they are to unite with the Peking Field Force and the New and Old Imperial Guards in a grand review before the Empress Dowager. It is computed that nearly 200,000 well-armed men will be under arms on the occasion. It is more than likely, says the *Daily News*, that the opportunity will be taken to proclaim a new Emperor.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The new hospital ship *Hakuai Maru*, built in England to the order of the Japan Red Cross Society, is expected shortly in Yokohama.

The property No. 171 and 173 Bluff with the buildings thereon, was sold at public auction yesterday by Mr. Jno. W. Hall to Mr. F. Reiz for the sum of *yen* 11,200.

A despatch from the Japanese Consul at Townsville states that a typhoon has swept over the north coast of Queensland and over 150 Japanese engaged in collecting pearl-shell were killed.

The death is announced of Mr. F. A. Cope. Deceased was a well-known resident at Yokohama, and formerly occupied a good position, being especially prominent in the field of sport. His later years, however, were spent in poverty and obscurity.

A pair of curtains in a bedroom of the Grand Hotel were set on fire by the overheating of a stove on Monday afternoon. The flames were observed almost immediately, and a few buckets of water sufficed to extinguish them.

Mr. R. McCance, Marshal of the United States Consulate, fell from his bicycle while riding with his wife and daughter from Tokyo on Sunday, and broke two upper ribs. He pluckily rode back to Yokohama in his injured condition, and was at once medically attended. His injuries will enforce inactivity for some time.

At 4.55 on Monday morning a fire broke out at the house of Mr. M. Hirai, Manager of the Japan Industrial Bank, 3, Koyamacho, Mita, Shiba. Fanned by the strong west wind the flames spread rapidly, and, these being many official residences, including Count Matsukata's house, in the locality, great confusion prevailed. Owing, however, to the strenuous efforts of the firemen the flames were extinguished by 5.10 a.m., after ten houses had been burnt down. A coolie named Kobayashi Chokichi (57) died from excitement.

A boy named Kimura Kinnauke (20), in the employ of the Normal Dispensary, 77, Settlement, Yokohama, recently absconded with 39 *yen* and 84 *sen* and a cheque for 95 *yen* 16 *sen*. He failed, however, in his attempt to cash the cheque at the Meitai Bank. On Tuesday another boy belonging to the same establishment ran off with the cash-box containing about 45 *yen*.

At last experiments with wireless telegraphy have been made over a distance of twelve miles across a quick-running sea, and this in the wildest weather. A few weeks ago the wind pressure on the English coast was very great and on one occasion was said to have attained, if not passed, all previous records in London. Yet from the East Goodwins lightship to the South Foreland lighthouse messages were transmitted, not merely by the hands of experts working under the personal direction of Signor Marconi, the inventor of the system, but by the lightship hands who have been instructed in it.

On Saturday morning, at the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, two coolies named Yoshikawa Kotaro and Matsuo Seinosuke were charged before Judge Katsura with theft. While they were engaged at work on the French mail steamer *Oceanien* on the 14th inst., Seinosuke cut a *kori* open with his accomplice's knife and they stole 35 bundles of silk valued at 46 *yen* 66 *sen*. Kotaro, who has been before the same court many times on similar charges, was sentenced to 4 months' imprisonment with hard labour, and the other man to 4 months' major imprisonment, with police surveillance for six months.

The following are the rules for the examination of officers of the British Indian services in Chinese: The examination will be held in Burmah by the Adviser on Chinese Affairs,

between April 16 and May 15, and during September, each year. The names of officers who pass the preliminary examination will be sent to the Deputy Adjutant-General then in command, and they will be allowed to proceed to Peking for one year, where they will be examined by the First Chinese Secretary after nine months' residence. Those who pass will get free passage to and from China and Barmah, but failures will pay their own expenses.

This is the kind of news we get when we go abroad for it. The *San Francisco Call* publishes it as a despatch:—

Madrid, Feb. 28.

The *Reforma* asserts that it has received letters from reliable sources at Manila saying thirty cannon, 30,000 rifles, and several million cartridges from Japan have been landed at Sual, on the Gulf of Lingayen, on the west coast of the island of Luzon, and about 100 miles from Manila, and have been taken thence to Malolos, the seat of the rebel government. The *Reforma* adds:—"Japan evidently intends to act towards the Americans in the Philippines as the Americans acted toward the Spanish in Cuba."

A private letter from Manila states that rather heavy fighting was going on at San Pedro on the morning of the 4th instant, the result of which was not known. The loss on the American side, from the 4th of February to the 3rd March, was stated to be 90 killed (which includes 8 officers) and about 300 wounded. On the side of the Filipinos 4,200 dead had been buried, but the numbers of the wounded were not known, as these were carried off the field. Our information does not state the source from which these figures were obtained.

In spite of Prince George's efforts to deal impartially in Crete, it seems that a Mohammedan exodus is impending. What has happened in Thessaly may well happen in Crete. When Thessaly was first handed over to Greece, there was a general migration of the Moslem population into the Turkish territory. When it was seen that the Greeks were acting fairly, there was a reaction and many returned; but they are now emigrating again, for the Turk cannot breathe freely on Christian land. The difficulty of finding suitable marriages for their daughters is the greatest obstacle to their accepting any régime but that of Islam.

About 3 a.m. on Friday, a housebreaker entered the Shigitatan restaurant, Oiso, and with his face covered with an old handkerchief approached the master, named Usan (77), with a dagger. The latter, who had been awakened by his wife, quick as thought took up a *nyoi* (a kind of *bento* carried by Buddhist priests,) and engaged in a hand-to-hand fight with the burglar. His *nyoi* being broken, the old man was severely wounded on the forehead and his eyes were blinded by the flow of blood. The wife, after reproaching the thief with wounding such an old man, gave him a purse containing yen 150. He took it, as well as yen 10 and two suits of clothes. The matter was reported to the Oiso Police, and the offender was arrested the same day. He proved to be Horiguchi Takizo, already known to the police.

Lieutenant Innes, formerly of the British Navy, has invented a new submarine torpedo-boat, a trial of which has just taken place in Sydney Harbour, Australia, before the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Pearson. The boat is cigar-shaped, and pointed at both ends; and it was made in seven different engine shops to ensure secrecy. It is only 15 ft. long, but as its performance was in every way satisfactory a larger model, to hold six men, will be at once constructed. The driving power is electricity, and compressed air is supplied for the occupants. The man in the conning-tower can handle the vessel, or it can be managed from below. It is built of brass, thicker on the underside than on the top to give it trim. The engines are amidships and drive a shaft which turns the stern wheel. A second propeller works at the end of a vertical shaft directly under the centre of the vessel, and causes the disappearance and re-appearance of the torpedo-boat.

AMERICAN NOTES.

A strange story is printed in San Francisco papers just to hand. It comes originally from Sydney and tells how a dead man won a bicycle race there. A big electric light bicycle carnival had been organised, and for one race some 50 entries were received. Some 10,000 people watched this particular event, which was for a magnificent cup, offered by the trustees of the Sydney Cricket Club. James Somerville at the start quickly forged ahead, closely followed by another crack rider named Percy Cliff. They left forty eight riders away in the rear and shot around the brilliantly lighted track almost wheel to wheel. The applause was deafening as the men entered the last lap. When within twenty five yards of the tape Somerville, who still led by half a wheel, was seen to relax his hold on the handlebars. His pedals whirled round, however, and he pluckily held his position on the wheel. Five yards from the tape Cliff put on a tremendous spurt and struck Somerville's hind wheel, shooting the machine with its then almost inanimate burden like a rocket under the tape. The crowd yelled wildly, but a silence like death ensued when Somerville, after crossing the tape, plunged headforemost from the machine on the hard track. When he was picked up he was dead. The doctors who examined him immediately afterwards said that a dead man had by the strangest freak of fate and fortune actually won the hottest cycle race ever witnessed in Australia. They declared that the unfortunate rider must have been stricken with heart failure when he was first seen to relax his hold on the handlebars on the last lap. How he succeeded in finishing the race is a puzzle to them. In the race in which young Somerville won the cup and lost his life fifteen riders were injured. They claimed the electric lights were uncertain. In sporting circles an effort is being made to do away with night tracks, as it is claimed they are dangerous. The government will be petitioned to this effect.

The findings and sentence of the court-martial that tried Lieutenant-Colonel Fide, First Washington Regiment, U.S.A., have been announced. He was convicted of "neglect of duty and conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline" in violation of the sixty-second article of war. The sentence is one month's suspension from rank, in addition to the confinement inflicted during his five weeks of arrest, and loss of one month's pay, \$250. The accusation against him was debauchery on the Government transport *Valencia* in Manila harbour on Thanksgiving evening.

A Tacoma dispatch under date February 26th says:—"President Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, is reported to have hired A. B. Wolvin of Duluth at \$40,000 a year to organize a new line of steamships to ply between Puget Sound and the Orient in connection with the Great Northern. Hill is not satisfied with his road's present connection with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and is ambitious to establish a line of modern American steamships. Wolvin is expected to build or lease boats as rapidly as possible.

Bishop Christie of Vancouver has been appointed to the archdiocese of Oregon, made vacant by the death of the late Archbishop Gross. Bishop Christie was the favourite candidate for the high position of Archbishop of Oregon with both clergy and laity. Bishop Christie comes from an old American family, his ancestors having resided in Vermont, his native State, for several generations. He obtained his education in Montreal and was consecrated in St. Paul by his uncle, Archbishop Ireland, June 29, 1898, at the age of 41. He had successfully presided over parish churches in South Minnesota and in Minneapolis.

Sensational weddings are confined to no particular class in the United States, even the clergy being sometimes given to celebrating such an event on lines outside the ordinary.

Recently, when a certain train drew into Healdsburg, the Rev. J. Waldrop of Healdsburg and Mrs. Helen L. Jones of Dry Creek Valley boarded the train; soon after the Rev. M. S. Eby entered the car in which were the Rev. Mr. Waldrop and his fiancée. There, in the presence of the interested passengers, during the short halt of the train, Rev. Mr. Eby performed the marriage ceremony uniting Rev. Mr. Waldrop and Mrs. Jones. Then the newly married pair continued their journey to San Francisco.

Telegraphing to the *New York Sun* on Feb. 27, a Washington correspondent said—It was announced to-day that another proof of Germany's good will had been given in connection with the severe restrictions imposed on American life insurance companies in that country. Three of the great American life insurance companies—the Mutual, New York Life, and Equitable—closed their main offices in Berlin some time ago, as they were unwilling to submit to certain severe rules of inspection imposed upon the home companies and which would have forced the American companies to keep special sets of books for the use of Berlin officials at an expense wholly disproportionate to the profit on policies issued in Germany. The Prussian authorities having in the meanwhile, it is said, convinced themselves of the rigour of the system of inspection established by the decree, have now taken the first step toward removing the restrictions. Two counsellors of the state, Baron von Bieberstein and Herr Hopps, representing the Prussian Ministry of the Interior, have been directed to proceed to this country to confer with the heads of the three life insurance companies and agree, if possible, on a method of inspection which will not entail on the American associations an additional and useless expense. The three companies offered to pay the expenses of such a commission, but to indicate its good will the Prussian Government has decided to meet that cost itself.

The progress of Mr. Rudyard Kipling's illness, to judge by the long telegrams appearing in San Francisco papers, was followed with breathless interest. At first it was feared that a fatal termination was imminent and accordingly the following "scare heads" appeared:—

RUDYARD KIPLING NEAR TO DEATH.

NO IMPROVEMENT IN HIS CONDITION.

RALLIES OCCASIONALLY, BUT NOT FOR LONG.

KIPLING'S LOSING FIGHT FOR LIFE.

HOPELESS REPORTS FROM HIS BEDSIDE.

OXYGEN IS ADMINISTERED.

HEROIC TREATMENT AS A LAST RESORT.

SMALL HOPE FOR KIPLING.

THE GREAT AUTHOR LOSING IN HIS FIGHT FOR LIFE.

By March 1st, however, it was evident that the worst was over and that recovery was merely a matter of time and nursing.

Assistant Secretary Howell, of the U.S. Navy, has approved the findings of the Court Martial on Engineer William C. Meyer of the cutter *Hugh McLaughlin*. Meyer succeeded to the command of the engineer-room on the sudden death of the engineer during the battle of Manila and was on continuous duty for fifty five hours. When the vessel reached Yokohama, on her way to San Francisco, Meyer, it was charged, indulged in too much liquor and was absent from the ship. He was court-martialed, and in view of the extenuating circumstances, he was sentenced to reprimand and reduction in number.

What is thought to be wreckage from the steamship *Pelican*, which sailed from Seattle October 12th, 1897, for Taku, North China, laden with railroad lumber and ties, and of which nothing has since been heard, has been reported to the local Hydrographic Office by Captain A. V. Brown of the British bark *Colingrove*, which arrived at Shanghai on January 8th. Captain Brown, says in latitude 29 deg. 46 min. north, longitude 127 deg. 40 min. east,

he passed through a large number of railroad sleepers of Oregon pine which had the appearance of not having been in the water a great length of time. The Custom-house records show that all vessels laden with railroad lumber and ties for the Orient for the past eighteen months have arrived at their destination.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, March 18th:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up		30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders		14,279,162
Amount of convertible notes issued		169,823,726
Government deposits		35,119,303
General deposits		5,233,634
Exchange liability		50,906

Total 254,506,132

	Cr.	Yen.
Discount notes		21,191,511
Foreign discount notes		9,249,903
Loan to Government		22,000,000
General loans		58,691,368
Exchange liability		1,759,954
Government bonds		40,321,271
Property		1,777,671
Bullion and Specie		99,511,452

Total 254,507,132

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued... 169,450,912

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	97,559,962
Silver	—

Total 97,559,962

Securities:—

Government bonds	31,015,788
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	11,000,000
Commercial notes	7,875,162

Total 71,890,950

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	—	—
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	27,652	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	1,444,707	1,816,689
Government deposits	—	113,753
General deposits	—	1,290,874

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.

A meeting of members and persons interested in this Society was held on Monday evening at Keil's Building, Mr. W. W. Tilt presiding.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the papers had stated that Welshmen could be eligible for membership, but that was not so, though the matter of their eligibility was raised at the last meeting. At the termination of the last meeting 30 members had joined the society; to-day there were 40—(hear, hear). That was a considerable increase, but even so did not come up to the expectations of some of them, considering the size of the English community. There were many, it appeared, who would be willing to join the Society if the charity clause was omitted, their idea being that the Society should be merely for the celebration of St. George's Day. As far as he (the Chairman) was concerned he should be glad to see the idea of a charity section retained, but they did not want a split, and he thought it would be advisable to meet the wishes of the other party in this respect. He proposed that, if this part of the Society's objects was dropped, the subscription should be reduced to one yen, which was sufficient to pay expenses of printing, &c. There were some who thought there was no necessity for the Society, and considered that Englishmen could without its assistance club together to celebrate St. George's Day; but he thought it was desirable that the Society should be continued. If a hall was given they should want at least 50 subscribers; The cost would be about 1,500 yen.

The basis of constitution was then considered,

and on the proposition of Mr. HARTLAND, seconded by Mr. R. G. E. FORSTER, it was decided to omit the charity proposal.

Mr. FLINT KILBY suggested that the proposer should give his reasons, and Commander SQUIRE said there was a feeling among some of the persons interested in the society that this part of its constitution should be retained.

The CHAIRMAN said a section of the community felt that there were already sufficient charities in the Settlement. The charity calls on some men were very heavy already, and others had calls at home. As, too, they had decided to limit the subscription to two yen the charity scheme could not in any case be on a very grand scale.

The amendment was carried, and the subscription fixed at one yen.

It was also decided that St. George's Day should be celebrated by a ball, on April 21st or 25th, that intending subscribers should send in their names by March 27th, that the subscription should not exceed to yen, that the acceptance of invitation should be limited to 500, members having the privilege of inviting guests at two yen each, and that Englishmen not members of the society should be ineligible as guests unless they were sons of subscribers.

These propositions were carried on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. HEALING. Some amusement was caused by Mr. F. E. WHITE suggesting that the word "respectable" in the rule admitting "all respectable Englishmen" to membership—should be omitted. No one, he said, cared to be called respectable.

The CHAIRMAN, however, was for the retention of the word, and on a division it was decided, amid some laughter, to stick to the phrase.

Mr. T. L. was elected President and Mr. Flint Kilby Vice-President, and on a ballot the following were chosen as the Committee:—Messrs. L. J. Healing, H. J. Sharp, F. J. Hall, D. F. Hoskyn, M. Beart, R. G. E. Forster, and Easton.

Other details were left to the Committee.

THE LEOPOLD BANKRUPTCY.

RESUMED EXAMINATION.

REMARKABLE EVIDENCE.

The public examination of Charles Emil Leopold, a bankrupt, now undergoing imprisonment in H.M.'s Jail at Yokohama, was resumed on Friday morning before His Honour Judge Wilkinson. Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the petitioning creditors, the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, and also for Ahrens and Co., Nachfolger. Mr. A. B. Walford represented the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Limited, and Professor Terry, of Tokyo, appeared for the debtor. Mr. C. D. Moss (the Official Receiver) was also present.

The debtor was called and further examined by Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder—I asked you on the last occasion whether you could prepare a list of unsold stocks valued at 30,000 yen which you assigned to Ahrens, and Co. Have you been able to do that?

Debtor—I have not been able to prepare that list. I cannot do it myself, it must be done from London. I believe Ahrens and Co. got a list from London from my brother. It is impossible to make it up from my books. At that time the amount must have been much greater than 30,000 yen.

Here is a letter addressed by you to, I presume, your brother, dated 11th May, 1898. Is that not so?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder read the letter which stated that the writer had got into difficulties through doing too much on too small a capital and had been compelled to resign from Ahrens & Co. He was realising on all he possibly could and should devote attention to coal again. He instructed his brother in London not to remit on account of Ahrens and Co., the original telegram of £1,500 being cancelled, but to arrange sale of goods to meet drafts drawn on him. He—the writer—did not mean to "chuck things into the street," but he must leave it to his brother's discretion. He hoped the London Leopold had not been speculating, as the funds in his hands were badly needed in Yokohama. He (Charles Emil Leopold) had informed Ahrens and Co. that the stocks of paper, straw-bad, &c., in London were worth 30,000 yen.

Debtor—There is a footnote to that letter, Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, to the effect that F. Uyeda believed this to be an under-estimate.

Mr. Lowder—Where did you get the information as to the value of the stock?—I got it through talking over with Uyeda, and from my books at the time. I could only do it approximately.

But couldn't you do it approximately now?—

No, it's such a long time, it's nearly a year ago.

On the 21st you wrote to your brother two letters—one private and one official. Are they these? (produced).—Yes.

The first begins:—

"My Dear Eddy,—With reference to the assignment—"

That is, I presume, the assignment to Ahrens & Co.?

Debtor—Yes.

Mr. Lowder (continuing)—

"With reference to the assignment you will understand that any goods which you have hypothecated yourself must remain to their account."

What does that mean?

Debtor—To the people we borrowed money from. Some goods were hypothecated to brokers.

Mr. Lowder (continuing)—

"And furthermore you will have to provide out of the fund now in your hands sufficient to cover the drafts falling due."

Had he any knowledge of the drafts falling due at that date?

Debtor—Yes.

Mr. Lowder (continuing)—

"This must be the first consideration of all, and the surplus, less of course your charges, will belong to Ahrens. You will therefore make up all account sales to date and let me know how I stand with you. It is not necessary for you to deliver any accounts to Ahrens, but send me the documents as quickly as possible and I will hand all that is necessary to the firm here."

Did you get those account sales?

Debtor—Yes, some of them; not all.

Did you hand any to Ahrens?—No, there were no surplus proceeds.

This is the other letter—the official one:—

"I have to inform you that I have by deed assigned to Ahrens and Co. all and any sums of money now due or henceforth to become due from you to me on account of any goods or merchandise or any proceeds of sale of all or any goods or merchandise which I have sent or consigned to you, either on your orders or for the purposes of sale. The above does not apply to goods you have hypothecated to private bankers or goods which you hold on your own account."

What is meant by "goods which you hold on your own account?"—I meant anything which did not belong to me. I did not know whether he might have anything on his own account. I don't know his private affairs.

What did you mean by private bankers?—By private bankers I meant if he had taken up advances on any goods which I had sent.

Not "goods which were held on your own account?"—I don't know that he had any goods on his own account or not.

I should read this to mean goods which had been consigned to C. E. Leopold & Co., by you and which they themselves had taken over and paid for; is that so?—No, it doesn't mean that at all.

Do you recognise this letter (produced) dated 11th June, 1898, as having been addressed to you by C. E. Leopold and Co.?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—I call your attention to this paragraph in the letter:—

"Of course I will do all to transfer to H. A. and Co. with margin."

Was that a reply to the letter that I have just read dated 21st May?—It could not be a reply to that, could it? It was a reply to a telegram, I suppose. At Mr. Walford's request I telegraphed those instructions in that letter.

What is this margin referred to?—I expect he meant by margin all surpluses over and above the amount I asked him to transfer.

How much did you ask him to transfer?—I didn't mention the amount in the telegram. The telegram was simply to transfer all surpluses to H. Ahrens & Co.

Is that telegram here?—I don't think so. It was sent by Ahrens and Co.

Did that surplus imply any definite amount?—Yes, I assumed 30,000 yen. I estimated it from my books, and by conversations with Uyeda, but I could not tell the exact amounts. The goods were chiefly wall-paper.

And according to your brother's account almost worthless at that. Did he not write that it was ruinous to send such stuff home?—I don't remember his writing that.

Wasn't he continually making complaints as to the wall paper you were sending home?—Yes, but that was with an object.

Yes—and what?—To force the Japanese to improve the quality. They were translated for the Japanese department.

And they were not strictly true?—Yes; in some instances. But there is a tendency among Ja-

panese when the prices are lowered to bring down the quality.

Is it not true that this paper was of very inferior quality—worthless or almost worthless, as your brother reports?—No, I should not say it was worthless, or almost worthless.

On the 11th June you say you estimate the value of wall paper alone in the hands of your brother at 30,000 yen?—Not wall paper alone, but also shells, feathers, and strawbraid.

On 15th July was this letter written to C. E. Leopold and Co. by a Mr. Lloyd for you?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—This is the letter:—

"DEAR SIR,—Enclosed please find list of goods for which we have not yet received account sales. Please look over your papers and see if you have any lying about, as it seems impossible that goods should have been lying so long in London, some since the middle of August of 1895, without being sold. Should account sales for any goods have been received by you and forwarded on to us kindly let us have duplicates, as they must have been lost. Wall-paper is not included in this list, and of this you have a large stock on hand."

At that time were you under the impression that your brother had in his possession for which he had not accounted goods other than wall paper of £8,672 plus 48 820 yen?—Yes. I should think they should have arrived by that time. They had all been drawn against.

Then the 30,000 yen which you supposed were in the hands of your brother was distinct from this?—It would be the surpluses on that and the value of wall-paper.

I have been unable to find any accounts current from C. E. Leopold and Co. Have you received any?—No.

Never?—No. I have only had books of account sales.

Mr. Lowder—I have been unable to find those either.

Debtor produced a number of books.

Mr. Lowder—How is that there are no accounts current?—I have asked my brother several times, but he has never sent them.

I call your attention to a letter addressed to C. E. Leopold and Co. by yourself dated 21st July, 1898. There is this paragraph:

"With reference to my telegram instructing you to pay all surplus money to Messrs. Ahrens and Co. of course you will understand you must take up all drafts on you, and pay all your outstanding bills before paying them a penny. All drafts which I have drawn upon you must all be met, and I hope you have not misunderstood my instructions on this point."

Mr. Lowder—What was the amount of those drafts which you instructed him to meet before paying Ahrens and Co. a penny?—All my drafts drawn on him. My copybook will show you.

I am not asking you to refer me to your copybook, I am asking you to refer to them if necessary, and give me a reply to my question.—I can do so, but it will take some time.

Mr. Lowder—We have had an adjournment for a week for you to prepare your explanation of this point; refer to any books you like and answer the question.

Debtor then examined a number of books and at the conclusion Mr. Lowder read out the following list of drafts and bills of exchange:—

The Chartered Bank—December 16th, 1897, bill of exchange £99-1-3, at 2-0-0; December 16th, £758-6-8 ditto; January 14th, 1898, £1350, at 2-0-0; January 20th, £60-17-4 at 2-0-0; January 24th, £461-11-2, at 2-0-0; January 31st, £100-5-2, at 2-0-0; February 12th, £80-19-11, at 2-0-0; February 14th, £778-4-4, ditto; February 17th, £164-11-8, ditto; February 19th, £833-6-8 ditto; February 21st, £758-6-8 ditto; total, £6110-1-1.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—Jan. 4th, 1898, yen 1,384-61; March 8th, 1898, yen 2,745-51; March 14th, yen 1,739-69; March 16th, yen 2,676-01; March 22nd, yen 3,402-94; March 26th, yen 3,579-57; March 31st, yen 2,227-84; April 1st, yen 2,134-52; April 6th, yen 1,091-91; April 12th, yen 3,240-51; total yen 24,322-11.

Mr. Lowder—Are those all?

Debtor—Yes, those are all, so far as my recollection goes.

Roughly speaking between 80,000 and 85,000 yen, is it not?—Yes, I suppose so.

And had you advised your brother of all these drafts?—Yes.

So that when you wrote him on 21st July that the drafts on you must be paid before a penny was paid to Ahrens and Co. you referred to this?—Not all; some of them had been paid already. I referred to a part of these drafts.

And you then believed that after meeting drafts to the extent of 85,000 yen there would be a surplus of 30,000 yen for Ahrens and Co.?—I could

not say what the surplus would be then, all the goods being so fearfully depreciated.

The date of your deed of assignment to Ahrens and Co. is dated 21st July. When did the depreciation of your goods commence?—It commenced the moment my affairs became public property.

And you say the value of these goods has dwindled to nothing?—Yes, the surplus has dwindled to nothing. Straw braid has sold at a shilling that should have been sold at 1s. 10d.; and paper has sold for 1/- that was contracted for 12/-.

Did you inform Ahrens and Co. of this dwindling in the value of your assets?—No, because I thought from their action that Ahrens and Co. did not wish to take cognizance of any of my assets.

Did you make an offer through the late Mr. Keil or Mr. Langfeldt to pay 50,000 yen cash down and a further sum of 25,000 yen per annum until the whole of your indebtedness was discharged if they would withdraw the prosecution against you?—My offer was through Mr. Langfeldt, and was for 50,000 yen within 12 months, to be followed by 25,000 yen every six months after that date. That was provided further prosecution, either civil or criminal, was withdrawn, and on the further intimation that I should be unable to control my Japanese interests provided this case came into Court, as I had then already had considerable trouble in keeping my *bantō* in, and in providing for interest on mortgages, &c.

They did not respond to that advance or any part of it?—They had a meeting, I believe, and they replied that they were sorry I had not made this proposal previously, but they could not accept it then. They would leave it to my honour to pay later on.

Will you look at this letter dated 22nd Nov., 1898, addressed to C. E. Leopold and Co. by yourself?—That I think was a private letter at the time.

Mr. Lowder—It reads:—

"DEAR SIR,—Confirming my telegram as per copy enclosed, Ahrens have in the meantime approached me and are apparently willing to withdraw the action against me provided that 50,000 yen in cash is paid them."

I supposed when you refer to Ahrens & Co. approaching you that was a figure of speech?—Yes.

And you meant that you were approaching them?—Yes.

And this reference to cash?—I never made any offer of cash. I could not get the money.

I call your attention to this passage in the letter:—

"I don't want things to come to this pass. I wired you and am doing the best I can in Yokohama to raise money among my friends, so that in the course of the next few days, with the aid of a remittance from yourself, I hope to pay them the 50,000 yen necessary."

Does not that remind you that it was a cash offer?—I made no offer of cash at all. That was written to my brother and telegraphed to try to accelerate sales.

Debtor continued that he could not form any estimate of the remittance to be sent by his brother. He was in hopes of getting rid of the land and of Japanese securities. He expected he should raise almost the whole amount in Yokohama, if he had been able to dispose of the securities in his hands.

And the securities were in your hands on the 2nd November?—No, not in my hands, but under my control.

How soon after that was it that they passed out of your control?—As soon as I got into prison.

On December 2nd, 1897, you drew a cheque on the Chartered Bank for 22,460 yen? For whom?—I must look it up (after reference). In favour of Fuchijima. He is an owner of land. It was in part-payment of the Yoshida Shinden land. It was the last instalment of the payment.

And in order to refund that to the bank you sold sterling drafts to the extent of 22,680 yen the same day?—Yes.

Those being partly drawn on C. E. Leopold and Co. and partly on C. M. Lampton and Co.?—Yes. Could you give me the dates when these various properties passed into your hands, and what you paid for them?—Yes, I can make up a statement.

Debtor here produced two statements of money for which the *bantō* Uyeda Yoshizu must account to him, and added that out of these Uyeda had accounted for 14,000 yen only.

Mr. Lowder—You say: "He has to account for two sums—the first yen 31,230-48 and the other for yen 28,249-25?—Out of which yen 14,000 or yen 15,000 of -kins have been delivered."

Mr. Lowder—What is the meaning of "Hakodate, Kanazawa, Amori," &c., opposite these sums?

Debtor—That is the account for which he had to

account. Those amounts marked "Hakodate" should be transferred to the Mitsui Bank at Hakodate, and so with the rest. Those to Nakajimaya were paid direct to him.

Who is he?—A Japanese.

Where does he live?—I don't know where he lives now; his address was Sumiyoshi-cho, Ichome. He was a coal merchant. The other cheques would probably be made out to the Mitsui Bank, but Uyeda did not actually receive them. They were paid into the Bank probably by Yamaguchi or Yoshiwara, who would take my cheque down and instruct them to whom the money was to be remitted.

To whose credit would these sums be paid to the Mitsui Bank?—To the credit of the different people. Not to my credit. Those at Kanazawa to Tokunara (he is my agent there); in Hakodate to Tada Kanekichi, in Amori either to Kondo or Wakabayashi. Kamitaki is my feather man; he is at Yokohama. He has accounted to Uyeda for 2,500 yen.

Does the amount appear in the returns you had to make out to this Court?—No, I did not consider them owing to me. They are to Japanese. They have been invested in other properties. I was advised not to put anything Japanese down.

Uyeda is your debtor in that extent, is he not?—He is my *bantō*. I do not know whether he is my debtor.

Then why was he not returned as a debtor to the estate?—Because I was advised not to put down anything Japanese. Those moneys I believe have been all invested, and it is the investments you want to get.

His Honour—You mean to say that you were advised that money given to Japanese and owing to you is not to appear in your schedule?

Debtor—My *bantō* got the money to buy goods and bought them.

His Honour—But does he owe it to you?—I think when the accounts are made out he will show that it has been invested in other properties—wood, coal, and skins. I dare say when he is asked he will give a full explanation of what he has done with them.

His Honour—But until he gives you an explanation does he not owe you the money?

Debtor—Well, I—

His Honour—Have you got the skins?

Debtor—I have 15,000 yen of skins; the wood is lying up in Akechi and the coals somewhere else.

Have you returned those?—No.

You have not returned either the money you gave to buy them or the things themselves?—They are not in my possession. I have nothing in my possession.

His Honour—That is your answer? You have been very badly advised.

Debtor—I know he has used that money for certain purposes, and I have not got the securities at all.

Mr. Lowder—Are there any other debtors besides Uyeda?—No, I have no others.

Tada Gishiro?—The land certainly.

You told us the other day that some of the land was in his name, but I am talking about moneys advanced by you, or paid to his credit from you to be placed to his credit somewhere?—He has accounted for everything.

Have you his account?—No. He only had to do with the land and the godowns.

No moneys?—He took up this cheque to pay for the land. I never had an account with the Mitsui Bank.

Will you authorise the Official Receiver to apply to the Mitsui Bank for a statement of moneys received from you to be placed at the credit of these various persons?—Yes. They won't know me in the case at all. I never had an account or any communication with the Mitsui Bank.

Then in whose names are these various sums kept?—In the names of the parties I gave you.

Your servants?—No, the names of the different *bantō*s.

Have you got any account of these transactions?—I simply sent the Japanese, and asked them to remit the amounts to the parties I named. There was no entry in my books.

Then how do you know what you did with this money, and what amount?—I gave my instructions to the Japanese and trusted them to do it. I have my own cheque book.

Did you never have any account of moneys you advanced to these Japanese except the stub of your cheque book?—I didn't make any entry except when the Japanese brought me the invoices. I checked off the cheques against the invoices.

By His Honour—I had an ledger account.

At this point the court adjourned.

On resuming Mr. Lowder continued his examination.

I call your attention to a translation of a telegram you received from C. E. Leopold and Co. It reads:—

"Call for an adjournment. Shall we come? Do not transfer. Judgment against us you can transfer ladies. Have given power of attorney."

What does that mean—"Do not transfer?"—I never understood that telegram. I took no cognizance of it. I can only presume he meant "Do not transfer to H. Ahrens and Co."

"You can transfer ladies." Do you know what he means by that?—I don't understand the telegram. I took no cognizance of it.

"Have given power of attorney?"—I did not understand that either.

Did you not understand the first sentence "Call for an adjournment?"—Was not that an adjournment of the trial?—Yes.

Your brother had previously given you to understand that they had evidence that Ahrens and Co. knew what was going on, and you connected that with the telegram?—Yes.

"Shall we come?"—That is a code translation. There is no word for "Shall I," I suppose.

You absolutely attach no significance to the rest of the telegram?—Only what I just now have told you. He probably means stop transferring to H. Ahrens and Co. owing to their action, and that if I had any property I wanted to keep out of my creditors' hands or wished to save I ought to transfer it.

Mr. Lowder—Had you not previously referred to your sisters? You have two sisters, have you not?—I have three.

I put it to you he was referring to your sisters?—It may have been. I don't know.

Who made this blue mark over that page now? (handing in book)?—Not me. It was made since it has been out of my possession.

Mr. Lowder—I will call the attention of the Official Receiver to it.

I call your attention to a letter addressed by yourself to Messrs. C. E. Leopold, London, dated 7th, October, 1898.—

"We are in receipt of telegraph remittance for £50, for which please accept our thanks."

Have you any explanation of that £50?

Debtor—Only that I got it—that's all.

Is that the only sum you have received from your brother?—No.

How much altogether?—Can't tell you without reference.

Mr. Lowder—Please remember that you are here to answer questions, and your books are at your disposal.

Debtor—I can't say without reference.

Mr. Lowder—Then refer to your books and let us know.

Debtor—(after reference to books)—£350, as far as my recollection goes.

Mr. Lowder—What has become of that?

Debtor—Used in paying off interest, mortgages, fire insurance, rents, and expenses.

Mr. Lowder—You must try and give me something more definite than that. You have received £350. Can you or can you not—will you or will you not—answer my questions as to what has become of that money?

Debtor—I have told you.

But we want details—I have not got details.

Have you any books from which you can give me that information?—I don't think so.

Have you or have you not?—No, I have not. I have the vouchers, that is all.

Mr. Lowder—Well, refer to them.

Debtor looked through a number of documents, and then said he had disbursed most of the amount for interest on mortgages, rent, legal and personal expenses, cost of telegrams, &c. He had not any vouchers for payments to Japanese.

Mr. Lowder pressed for details, and debtor occupied some time in going over papers and books, and making calculations. He then announced that he had accounted for yen 3,451.61.

Mr. Lowder (continuing)—This letter of 7th October, 1898, after expressing thanks for the £50, continues:—

"I am only sorry it was not £100 at least, as the amount was immediately forwarded to the coal mine and all my former bills and salaries remain unpaid."

Where was this coal mine?—In Shizunaka, Kushiro Province.

Why did you send that £50 there?—To buy food for the people working there.

By whom was it sent?—I don't know. Probably by Uyeda; he looked after that part of the business. I presume the amounts were transferred to Hakodate first.

Mr. Lowder (continuing to read):—

"In future, if you have any very private communications to make to me address them under

cover to A. D. D. Lloyd, 59, Yokohama. I shall also get Mr. Lloyd's name registered in the Specie Bank, as it is possible I may want to have remittances sent to him. However, don't use this for transfers until I instruct you."

Did you get Mr. Lloyd's name registered at the Specie Bank?—Yes.

What were the transfers referred to there?—Transfers of money.

But from London?—Yes.

Have any transfers of money been made to you or to Mr. Lloyd for you?—I think one or two.

Can you tell us the amount?—It would be included in that £350. The Specie Bank will give you all information. It all came through the Specie Bank.

Have you an account with the Specie Bank?—No.

Has Mr. Lloyd for you?—Not that I am aware of.

Then when sums were remitted to you how were they drawn?—They were paid me by cheque, and the cheques were cashed.

Mr. Lowder (reading):—

"With regard to my case with Ahrens at present no indictment has come in. The matter is therefore still in abeyance. In the meantime I have delayed making any further transfers and am anxiously waiting your confirmation of this telegram which I presume is on the way."

What do you mean by that?

Debtor—That would mean transfers to Ahrens. Transfers were to be made to Ahrens and Co. on the condition that there should be no prosecution. That was the *sine qua non* of the assignment.

This refers to other property you were going to transfer to them if they didn't prosecute?—Yes, stocks in London.

I thought we had exhausted that?—It might mean property in Yokohama. I don't know what it means. I don't recollect.

What was this telegram?—Really I don't know without looking up.

Look at this letter. I can't distinguish the date. Is it the 13th Oct.?—Yes, I presume it is the 13th.

This was written by your instructions by Mr. Lloyd to the Specie Bank?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder read the letter, which was simply an application from Mr. Lloyd to be registered to receive telegraphic remittances from London correspondents.

Mr. Lowder—Did he receive any telegraphic transfers from London, do you know?—I think so, two or three. The Specie Bank can give you all that information. They were small, very small.

Was that outside the £350 or included in the £350?—He has probably received one in addition to the £350.

What amount?—£50 or £40—I don't remember the amount.

You authorise the Official Receiver to get all this information from the Specie Bank?—Yes, certainly.

I call your attention to this letter dated 11th June, 1898, from C. E. Leopold and Co., London:—

"I am still doubtful as to whether you are on good terms with Uyeda and if recent wires are from you."

What does that mean?

Debtor—He was doubtful whether Uyeda had telegraphed direct to him to London, or whether the wire came from me.

Mr. Lowder (continuing):—

"However, I have wired £100 to go forward for shipment to be made (you know, of course)."

What does that mean?

Debtor—I don't know what it means.

Mr. Lowder—Here is a letter addressed by yourself to C. E. Leopold & Co., dated 5th July, 1898.

"DEAR SIR,—I have arranged that the manufactory goes into a private limited company. My share will be the amount which I loaned to the man from time to time."

That is a manufactory of wall paper?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder (continuing to read):—

"I shall therefore arrange that the business is continued with you, so please be on the look out. Through the absurd action of Ahrens, of course, my financial business is stopped for the present, but that will only be for a time. Arrangements will be made for continuing the paying portion of the business. You wired me at the time that you have made large sales. I hope therefore you have cleared off all the old stock, no matter at what price. I think considerable improvement can be made in the process of paper manufacture, both in quality and cheapness."

And so forth. Did you make arrangements for making it into a private limited company in which you had a share?

Debtor—I tried, but it fell through. I don't know what became of the factory. I heard through Uyeda that it was lost. I have no documents or anything connected with it.

How much money did you put into this manufactory?—I think with interest about 5,000 yen. I think the amount was originally 45,000 yen.

You still have a claim against Uyeda on that?—I have a claim against Uyeda, or against Imai, the original manufacturer.

Where does he live?—In Honjo, Tokyo. I don't know the address.

Have you scheduled this debt as owing to your estate?—No.

Why not?—It was not owing in my name. It was owing in Uyeda's name. I told the Official Receiver about it.

Mr. Lowder—You are very fond of trying to throw the responsibility on some one else. You have certain duties as a bankrupt, and one is to schedule all debts due to you.

Debtor—I was legally advised that I could not schedule this. I mentioned it to the Official Receiver.

Mr. Lowder—This morning you told us of various moneys that have been invested in different ways by Uyeda, and now of this money. Can you tell us of any other Japanese debtors to your estate?—You have all of them as far as I am aware.

Mr. Lowder—In this letter, of 11th June, from C. E. Leopold and Co., there is a reference to a certain C—business, which I suppose to be a coal business.

Debtor—Yes.

Mr. Lowder (reading)—It says—

"Regarding C—business and concession why not float it here as a limited liability corporation by public subscription? The name Leopold need not appear. England is coal mad at present, and we should fancy the public would jump at it. There are heaps of firms who would rig up a company and find all. However, we think it would be best for you (1) to transfer it to the Yokohama Specie Bank to be delivered over on payment, say with 70 or 50,000 pounds profit; (2) get a full reliable engineer's report, verified by British Consul if possible; (3) maps and all data; (4) all and every full information; (5) estimated output; (6) working cost; (7) valuation of samples; (8) valuation of concession; (9) good public men who might act on board in Japan. You must provide a good margin of profit, as these company promoters want something. It could be done, only the name of Leopold must not be mentioned unless of course the Chartered Bank and Hongkong Bank will lend their support, but they had better know nothing about it. Try it and if you agree with suggestion mail all particulars."

(Signed) ED. LEOPOLD.

What coal business does this refer to?—The one at Chiptonai.

Here is a letter addressed by you to a person in Yokohama whose name I won't mention at present, in which you stated that you have arranged with the Japanese that the capital of the company is to be 150,000 yen, of which 129,000 yen are required now. That this has been subscribed as follows:—By Japanese, 44,000 yen; my amount of 30,000 yen; plus the loan from Watanabe 55,000 yen. "I shall pay the interest on the latter, and the amount will stand in my name 90,000 yen, leaving the sum for you 30,000 dollars." You say "there is not the slightest doubt that this property will be worth 500,000 yen at least within six or seven years, and I am very desirous of saving it." This was written on June 25th. Does it refer to the same property as the letter of your brother of 11th June, 1895?

Debtor—No.

What does it refer to?—The Yoshida Shinden land. The company was actually formed, but I was arrested, and then everybody backed out, naturally.

Mr. Lowder then read an agreement between Uyeda and another Japanese named Takahara Sazaburo, the latter of whom, the defendant explained, was the engineer in charge of the land, with regard to the working of this land.

Mr. Lowder—This mine was purchased with moneys furnished to Uyeda by yourself?—No, it was a concession.

In Hokkaido?—Yes.

And you paid 20,000 yen for it didn't you?—No, there was no payment on it. The Japanese get a concession from the Government provided that they work it and pay certain dues. That 20,000 yen is the total expenditure I have had on the land. That is, the preliminary expenditure.

And you furnished that 20,000 yen?—Yes.

And to whom?—Uyeda.

Can you tell us when?—I cannot until he

gives me the account for those amounts I gave you this morning.

And this concession was made to Uyeda for you?—Yes.

The concession is a tract of land 400,000 *tsubo* in extent, is it not?—No, over a million. It was 400,000 *tsubo* in the first place, but it was trebled. It is now 1,200,000.

Mr. Lowder then read a letter debtor had written on August 8th, 1899, to the late Mr. Keil in which he stated that "the coal was a big success; it was equal to the best quality, and the engineers reported that there was so much that they did not know where to begin first. He (the debtor) was awfully glad to hear this and was going to turning the mine into a limited liability company at an early date. It exceeded his expectations and he should be able to pay H. Ahrens and Co. with a year's time at least 75,000 to 100,000 *yen* cash. Please, however, keep this from the world."

Mr. Lowder—Now is there any reference to this property in your schedule?

Debtor—No. I mentioned it verbally to Hoffmann. I said I had something else.

Mr. Lowder then read at length an agreement, dated 1st July, 1898, as to the working of the mine, in which the names of Nakazawa, Takahara, and Tada Tanakichi appeared.

Debtor said Tada was his servant; Takahara was the prospector. There were three in it in order to secure the whole area of land, as one Japanese could only hold 400,000 *tsubo*. The others were not dummies, however. Tada belonged to him (debtor); the others were to have a third of the profits. Takahara was the discoverer of the place, but he was willing to be bought out for a very low sum.

Mr. Lowder—I am informed that according to Japanese law real property must be registered? Do you know where this was registered?—Yes, in the Sapporo land office, as far as I am aware.

And in your name?—In the names of the three Japanese.

They are carrying out this agreement?—I have absolutely no information from outside.

Is that agreement in existence?—It was in writing and duly signed.

No reference to that agreement is made in your statement of affairs?—It is in the blue statement. I have put it in the statement of moneys invested and gone. I have not been able to get anything from the Japanese.

And if your expectations should be realised this is an extremely valuable property?—Yes, if you can get hold of it it will pay all my debts. If you can get hold of it.

And it was because it was in Japanese hands that you omitted it from the schedule?—Yes, I had been legally advised.

Don't you think it would have only been fair to the creditors that you should give information of this?—I told Mr. Moss that I could not put it in my assets, but I should be willing to make full statements about it.

On the 4th July you wrote to C. E. Leopold and Co.: "It is going to turn out trumps. In fact the best thing I have touched." You say also that you had "turned the land into a limited company, retaining 55,000 *yen* in the affair?" That was inaccurate?—No, it was formed, but the things were not drawn up. When I was arrested on a criminal charge nothing could be done.

Who tested the coal?—It was tested in the Japanese laboratory in Tokyo and by engineers. I call your attention to a letter dated 21st July to C. E. Leopold:—

"A telegram has been received from the engineer at the mines stating that prospects are excellent, and that the place has been in no wise over-estimated. The property must be kept for some time, and the working account show a good profit; with the Specie Bank at the back of us there should be no difficulty in placing it in the London market."

Were the Specie Bank at your back? Debtor—No, they would have been approached later.

This paragraph I have just read was with reference to the same mine?—Yes.

Here is a translation of a telegram addressed by yourself to C. E. Leopold and Co., July 29th, 1898:—

"Mine better than expected. Please remit £100. Will leave by steamer about beginning of December."

Was that in reference to this mine?—Yes.

On the 8th August you wrote the letter to Mr. Keil that I have put in?—Yes.

Were you responsible for this letter to C. E. Leopold and Co. (produced)?—Yes.

You say here:—

"I note what you say re not transferring any

of the stock in the coal mine to you when this is made into a company."

Had he asked you not to do so?—I suppose that must have been in that telegram I don't recollect. I probably took it to mean that.

And then you add:—

"But will put some in the name of the girls."

Did that also refer to that telegram?—Yes, I suppose so. But that was only in case everything was in order as regards my affairs.

If everything was in order why should you put it in the name of the girls?—For future business, to prevent my losing it again.

Mr. Lowder—Oh.

Mr. Lowder (continuing)—Now in the book "For Account Sales, &c." there is an account current from C. M. Lampson and Co., showing a balance to your debit of £21,243, dated 10th July, 1897; and another dated 8th January, 1898, for the half year showing a balance of £12,503 to your debit.

Debtor—Yes, that is so, I suppose, if it is there. Have you received any account current from C. M. Lampson and Co. since that last one?—I think that is the last (After reference to papers). Yes, that is the last, apparently.

Mr. Lowder—You still owe that money?

Debtor returned several confused answers, and spent some time in making calculations. Finally Mr. Lowder put it to him that there was £27,350 in the shape of drafts by him on Lampson's, and that against that he only had shipments of furs to the value of £1547.

You have not included them in your list of creditors?—Yes, as unknown.

Mr. Lowder—I give you now a last opportunity of making any explanation as to what has become of that £27,350.

Debtor—I have already done so, Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder—I am not going to ask any more questions. I give you that opportunity.

Debtor—I have already done so; I have told how it was lost in my statement made on the first day.

Now with the exception of these skins you have mentioned had you any skins at any time when you drew these bills?—Yes, I have some in the country at different places, and some in the godowns.

And what did you do with them?—The Chartered Bank sold some.

What value the whole of them?—I don't recollect.

Debtor was then examined as to the Nakamura and Sotomura leases, and Mr. Lowder, in reply to his Honour, mentioned that the statement of Messrs. Lampson's claim was tendered partly as a proof of their debt, and partly as showing the position of the bankrupt.

Mr. Lowder (continuing)—You had leases of 98 Bluff, 100 Bluff, and 125 Settlement?—Yes.

The leases for 98 and 100 Bluff are held by Ishii Riye as security for moneys owing to her?—Yes.

Is she returned as a secured creditor?—Yes, partly secured, I think.

The lease of Lot 125, Settlement, I think, you sold to Laundry Company for 3,500 *yen*, did you not?—Yes.

Shortly before the trial took place?—Yes.

What became of the 3,500 *yen*?—Lawyer's fees, expenses for trips to the north, and some was used for paying interest, I think.

Have you any accounts of that expenditure?—No. Debtor added that the property was worth 13,000 *yen*, and that was the best he could obtain for it. That illustrated how all his securities were depreciated.

Mr. Lowder—Oh, come, come, come! A lease in the Foreign Settlement does not depreciate like that.

Debtor—I could not get any one to take it over. No one would buy it.

Mr. Lowder—That closes my examination, your Honour.

His Honour (to Mr. Welford)—Do you propose to examine?

Mr. Welford—Not at present advised.

His Honour—There must be an adjournment. The examination is adjourned to this day week, at 10.30.

Lord Salisbury last month entered upon his seventieth year. Although the Prime Minister is by no means old compared with other English statesmen, he is one of the oldest members of Parliament, having first sat in the House of Commons 46 years ago. He is three years younger than Sir W. Harcourt, and some of his colleagues in the Cabinet are his seniors. It is 33 years since Lord Salisbury first took up a post in the Government, for it was in 1866 that he became Secretary for India.

TELEGRAMS.

(TELEGRAM RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

A FRENCH COLONIAL OFFICE.

Saigon, 17th March.

The President of the French Republic has decreed the organization at Paris of a Colonial Office intended to give information to the public about the economical affairs of the Colonies.

ANOTHER EXPLOSION IN FRANCE.

Saigon, March 20.

An accidental explosion has taken place in the pyrotechnical laboratory of the Arsenal at Bourges. Three persons were killed and five injured.

FRANCE'S SEA POWER.

Saigon, March 20.

During the discussion on the French naval budget in the Chamber of Deputies, the Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy, declared that the state of the fleet was excellent, and said that most of the squadrons in distant waters had been improved, and that the fortified naval bases had been commenced. He eulogized the submarine vessels, and announced that the *Gustave Zédé* is now provided with vision apparatus which enables her to approach an adversary at will.

ANGLO-FRENCH RELATIONS.

Saigon, March 21.

It is affirmed that the Franco-English negotiations have been concluded in a sense satisfactory to French interests.

THE DREYFUS DOSSIER.

Saigon, 22nd March.

The Court of Cassation, all Chambers united, has commenced the examination of the secret dossier in the Dreyfus affair.

ANGLO-FRENCH ARRANGEMENT.

THE NILE QUESTION ADJUSTED.

Saigon, March 23.

An arrangement concerning Africa has been concluded between England and France. England will keep Bahr-el-Ghazal and Darfour, and France will have Wadai, Baghirmi, and Kanem. France will be able to make commercial establishments on the Nile and its affluents between the 5th and the 15th parallels of north latitude.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

ROMAN PONTIFF WEAKER.

London, March 18.

His Holiness the Pope is growing weaker, and the attending doctors are watchful.

RHODES'S MOVEMENTS.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes has gone over to The Hague.

VENEZUELA ARBITRATION.

RUSSELL SUCCEEDS HERSCHELL.

Lord Chief Justice Russell replaces the late Lord Herschell on the Venezuela Tribunal.

GERMAN ARMY BILL.

The Reichstag has passed the Army Bill as amended.

RHODES SUCCEEDS IN HIS MISSION.

London, March 19.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes has succeeded in the negotiations to construct the Cape-Cairo telegraphs through German territory, instead of via the Congo. A similar arrangement for the railways is almost complete.

GERMAN ARMY BILL.

In consequence of the adverse vote in the Reichstag the German Government consents to fixing the effective peace footing at 495,000, instead of 502,000, as demanded in the Army Bill.

MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSIONS IN FRANCE.

London, March 20.
An explosion at the Government shell factory at Bourges resulted in three killed and thirty-four injured. The cause is not explained.

The same thing has happened at the cartridge factory at Marseilles, in which three men were injured.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN NEW YORK

Windsor Hotel, in the heart of New York City, has been destroyed by fire. As ascertained so far, fourteen are dead and thirty-four injured. The victims are mostly women. It is estimated that sixty are still missing.

AMERICAN REINFORCEMENTS.

Mountain Batteries are being sent to Manila.

THE PEACE TREATY SIGNED.

H. M. the Queen-Regent of Spain has signed the Treaty of Peace with America, without submitting the same to the Cortes, owing to the unwillingness on the part of successive Cabinets to accept the responsibility of ratifying it.

PROTEST AGAINST WEI-HAI-WEI REGIMENT.

In the House of Commons, during the debate over the Army Bill, Mr. Caldwell moved for a reduction as a protest against the formation of the regiment at Wei-hai-wei.

THE FASHODA AFFAIR.**FRANCE WAS NOT PREPARED.**

In the French Chamber of Deputies, M. Lockroy, Minister of Marine, declared that at the time of the Fashoda crisis the French navy and dockyards were utterly unprepared, most projectiles having been without fuses.

INDIA AND "BOUNTIED" SUGAR.

London, March 21.

The Indian Government has passed a bill imposing countervailing duties on the bounty-fed sugar. The measure is meeting with opposition in the House of Commons.

THE BOAT RACE.

The betting on the coming boat race stands at 6/4 on Cambridge.

SUCCESSOR TO SIG. MARTINO.

London, March 22.

Marquis Roggi succeeds Minister Martino at Peking.

THE NEW YORK FIRE.**THIEVES' WORK.**

Testimony is accumulating that the fire which destroyed the Windsor Hotel was the work of thieves.

THE ITALIAN DEMAND.**PROSPECT OF ANGLO-RUSSIAN ENTENTE.**

Mr. W. St. John Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, in reply to questions in the House of Commons, stated that he understood that the Italian demands on China do not include the islands of Chusan, which are subject to treaty engagements between Great Britain and China. He also stated that no general agreement among the Powers interested in China was at present contemplated, but that

the British Government was not without hope that an understanding would be possible with Russia, owing to friendly disposition on both sides.

ANGLO-FRENCH AGREEMENT.

London, March 23.

An Anglo-French agreement has been signed at London, forming a supplement to the Niger Convention. Great Britain retains Bahr-el-Ghazal and Darfour, and France, Wadai, Baghirmi, and territory east and north of Lake Chad. The signatories mutually concede equality in commercial treatment in the region between the Nile and Lake Chad, that is between the fifth and the fifteenth parallels. France thus secures an access to the Nile.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

AMERICA IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Hongkong, March 14.

Wheaton's Brigade has advanced to the bluffs commanding Pasig, Pateros, and Tagig. The natives retreated, after suffering small loss. A gunboat shelled Pasig.

[The three places named are up the Pasig river, about ten miles from the town of Manila in a south-easterly direction.—Ed. N.C.D.N.]

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER ON THE ITALIAN DEMAND.

Peking, March 15.

At a meeting of the Grand Council early this morning before the Empress Dowager the subject of the demand of Italy for the cession of Shantung (Sanmoon Bay) was discussed with great animation. The Empress Dowager showed such determined opposition to the demand that not a single Grand Councilor dared to propose even some sort of a compromise to the question. An edict was subsequently sent to Governor Lin of Chekiang commanding him to report upon the number of disciplined and modern armed troops available with him, and authorising him to call upon both the Viceroy of Nanking and Foochow for extra troops. The high Ministers at Peking know that if China gives in now there will be no end of demands for territory made by other countries.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO")

ITALY WITHDRAWS HER DEMAND.

Peking, March 17.

The Italian Government has withdrawn the demand for the lease of Sanmoon, alleging that the present affair originated entirely from the incorrect reports about China sent home by her Minister at Peking. It is supposed, however, that, backed by England, Italy will probably submit a fresh demand.

ITALIAN MINISTER'S DEPARTURE.

Peking, March 18.

The Italian Minister to China, in accordance with instructions from his Government, left here for home to-day.

Peking, March 20, afternoon.

It is rumoured in diplomatic circles here that Italy will do nothing until the arrival of the new Minister. The demand to be made by the latter will be of no less serious nature than the last.

FOREIGN MARINES AT PEKING WITHDRAWN.

Peking, March 22, 1 35 a.m.

Great Britain withdrew her marines to-day, and Russia and France will withdraw theirs at the end of this month or early in April.

THE OPENING OF SAN-MOON AND SECK-POO.

Peking, March 22.

China, it is stated, is considering the question of opening San-moon and Seck Poo, Chekiang Province, to foreign trade before the second Italian demand is preferred. It is likely that the scheme will be carried through.

(FROM THE "NICHU NICHU SHIMBUN.")

JAPANESE TROOPS IN PEKING.

Peking, March 22.

Two ministers of the *Tsungli Yamen* visited Mr. Yano, Japanese Minister, to-day. The visit is supposed to be in connection with the withdrawal of Japanese troops.

THE ENGLISH MINISTER.

Peking, March 23.

Sir Claude Macdonald, leaves for home on the 23rd.

GERMANY AND ITALY.

It is rumoured in diplomatic circles that Germany had intimated to Italy that she would not help her in case of an appeal to force, but she would not hamper Italy movements in view of the latter's position as a member of the Triple Alliance.

THE CHINKIANG RAILWAY.

Negotiations are said to be proceeding between the German Minister and the Chinese Government regarding the Chinkiang Railway.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

NEW KOREAN MINISTERS.

Soul, March 22.

Mr. Ri To-chai has been appointed Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Chu Sok-myon Acting Minister for War.

SIR C. McDONALD'S HEALTH.

The English Minister, Sir Claude McDonald, is leaving to-morrow for the sake of his health.

KOREA'S "CABINET."

Soul, March 22.

Min Pyung Hon, who took a very prominent part with regard to the change of district headmen, has been dismissed from his post of acting Home Minister, and is sentenced to 10 years' exile. Mr. Sim Sung-hun, Vice-president of the Cabinet, was condemned to 15 years' exile. All the other Cabinet Ministers have been deprived of their portfolios, and the newly appointed district headmen have been dismissed. Mr. Min Chong-muk has been appointed Acting Home Minister and Mr. Sin Kin-sun, Premier.

GERMAN CRUISER.

Nagasaki, March 22.

The German cruiser *Deutschland* arrived here from Kiao-chow to-day. Prince Henry is not on board.

A PAPER IN TROUBLE.

Hiroaki, March 23.

Judgement has been given against the *Hiroaki Shimbun*, charged with libelling soldiers.

MAIL STEAMERS.**THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE**

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla 1	14. Mar. 27
America	P. & O. Co.	Gaelic 2	14. Mar. 28
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Optic 3	14. Mar. 29
Hongkong	M. M. Co.		14. Mar. 30
America	T. E. K.	Hongkong Maru 4	14. Mar. 31
Hongkong	T. E. K.	America Maru	14. Mar. 31
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	14. Mar. 31
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	14. Mar. 31
America	P. M. Co.	China	14. Mar. 31
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	14. Mar. 31
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	14. Mar. 31

1 Left Nagasaki on the 23rd inst.

2 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

3 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst.

4 Left San Francisco on the 12th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	14. Mar. 24
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	14. Mar. 25
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Yarra	14. Mar. 26
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	14. Mar. 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	14. Mar. 28
America	O. & O. Co.	Optic	14. Mar. 29
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	14. Mar. 30
Hongkong	T. E. K.	Hongkong Maru	14. Mar. 31
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	14. Mar. 31
America	T. E. K.	America Maru	14. Mar. 31
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	14. Mar. 31
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	14. Mar. 31

CHES.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 412.

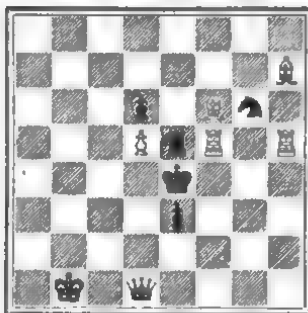
- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—K to K5 | 1—K to K13 |
| 2—K to Q5 | 2—K to K12 (must) |
| 3—K takes P mate | |
| | 1—K to Q sq |
| 2—K to K6 | 2—K to B sq |
| 3—K to K7 mate | if 2—Any other |
| 3—Q to R8 mate | |
| | 1—B to K13 |
| 2—K to K6 dis ch | 2—K to B sq |
| 3—K to K7 mate | if 2—K to Q sq |
| 3—Q to R8 mate | |
| | 1—K to K1 sq |
| 2—K to K6 dis ch | 2—K to B sq |
| 3—K to K7 mate | |

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., and Marco.

PROBLEM No. 415.

By W. GUYVER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 491.

A gem of a game, played in the old Philadelphia Chess-club, in 1860. George H. Derrickson, who managed the Black pieces, was a brilliant player of great promise.

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| White—Amateur. | Black—Derrickson. |
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—P to K4 | 1—P to K4 |
| 2—B to B4 | 2—K to K B3 |
| 3—Kt to KB3 | 3—Kt to QB3 |
| 4—Castles | 4—B to B4 |
| 5—P to Q3 | 5—P to Q3 |
| 6—B to R Kt5 | 6—B to R Kt5 |
| 7—P to KR3 | 7—P to KR4 |
| 8—P takes B | 8—P takes P |
| 9—Kt to R2 | 9—P to K6 |
| 10—K Kt to B3 | 10—K Kt to Kt5 |
| The beginning of the beautiful final moves. | |
| 11—B takes Q | 11—B takes P ch |
| 12—R takes B | 12—P takes R ch |
| 13—K to B sq | 13—R to R8 ch |
| 14—K to K2 | 14—R takes Q |
| 15—K Kt to Q2 | 15—K to K5 ch |
| 16—K takes R | 16—Kt to R6 ch |
| 17—K to B sq | 17—Kt to K7 mate |

GAME No. 492.

THE JANOWSKI-SHOWALTER MAY 11.

THIRTEENTH GAME.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| White—Showalter. | Black—Janowski. |
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1 P Q4 | 40 K B2 |
| 2 P Q4 | 41 R Q B2 |
| 3 Kt QB3 | 42 R B5 |
| 4 Kt B3 | 43 K K2 |
| 5 B Kt5 | 44 P R6 |
| 6 B Kt | 45 P R7 |
| 7 P K4 | 46 R KR sq |
| 8 P KKt3 | 47 K K3 |
| 9 B P | 48 P K B4 (m) |
| 10 B K13 | 49 K B3 |
| 11 Castles (b) | 50 P Kt5 |
| 12 Kt P | 51 K Kt4 |
| 13 Kt (Q4) | 52 R P (n) |
| K2 | 53 P Kt6 |
| 14 Q B sq (c) | 54 P Kt7 (o) |
| 15 Q RP | 55 K B5 |
| 16 Q R5 (d) | 56 K Kt6 |
| 17 Q R3 | 57 R QR sq |
| 18 K B4 | 58 P B5 |
| 19 QR K sq | 59 K R6 |

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 20 K Kt2 (e) | 60 P KR (Q) |
| 21 Kt Q3 | 61 K Kt7 |
| 22 Q R7 | 62 R P |
| 23 P B | 63 K Kt |
| 24 Kt B4 | 64 K K7 |
| 25 Kt P | 65 K K6 |
| 26 Kt Q | 66 K K |
| 27 P KR3 (h) | 67 P B6 |
| 28 R K3 | 68 P B7 |
| 29 P B3 | 69 K K7 |
| 30 R Q3 ch | 70 K B6 |
| 31 B Q5 | 71 K Kt7 |
| 32 P B | 72 K B6 |
| 33 R (B sq) | 73 K Kt7 |
| 34 K Kt sq | 74 K R8 |
| 35 R Q4 | 75 K K8 |
| 36 P R4 | 76 K R sq |
| 37 R KB4 | 77 K K8 |
| 38 P Kt4 | 78 K R7 |
| 39 R P (l) | 79 K R8 |
| | 80 Resigns. |

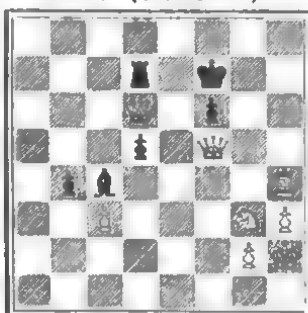
Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny.

- (a) The text play doubles the K P and weakens the King's side, but gives Black the open K Kt file.
- (b) Castles was somewhat risky, and, at least, should have been delayed. Much better was P to Q5. If Black answers P to B5, then P takes P may be played.
- (c) Q takes Q ch followed eventually by K to Kt2 and P to B3 was likely to equalize the game. The text move in connection with Q takes R P was hardly good. White evidently underrated the value of his opponent's attack.
- (d) Loss of valuable time. K to Kt2 followed eventually by P to B3 was still in order.
- (e) With the intention to continue K takes P and P to KB4.
- (f) White has no better continuation than Kt to B4, which, however, loses a piece, as the progress of the game shows.
- (g) He could not well play K takes P ch, on account of White's K to Kt sq reply. If then K takes Kt, White answers P to B3, regaining this piece.
- (h) He could not not play P to B3, on account of Kt takes R P; if then R to K R sq, Black answers R (Kt4) to K4, threatening Kt takes B P with a winning game.
- (i) White should have endeavoured to weaken the adverse Queen's wing.
- (k) Kt takes P could not be played on account of R takes P on R (B4) to Q4 winning the Kt.
- (l) R takes R followed by R to R sq, was not likely to lead to a draw. Black, by continuing P takes P, P takes P ch and K takes P, will ultimately win the adverse Pawns and remain a Kt and a Pawn to the good.
- (m) Had White played R takes P then R to K sq ch would have followed. White can not answer K to Q4 on account of R to Q7 mate, and if he plays K to Q3, then Kt to K4 ch and Kt takes R wins.
- (n) A neat play, which, however, does not save the game, as Black's Kt takes R and R to K R sq reply demonstrates.
- (o) P takes Kt would have been answered by K to K2. The text move threatens P to Kt8 (Q), and Black is obliged to play R (B5) to B sq.
- (s) Black missed a speedy and neat win. He should have moved R to K Kt7. The game then proceeds: 64—P to B6, P to Kt6; 65—P to B7, K to K3; 66—P to Q6 ch, K takes B P; 67—P to Q7, R to Q7 and mates next move. Or, if 66—P to B8 (Q) ch, K takes Q; 67—P to Q6, K to B2; 68—P to Q7, R to Q7 and mate next move. The play selected wins also, but it requires more moves.

END GAME.

Played at Llandudno. White announced mate in eight moves or loss of the Queen.

BLACK.—(G. A. Schnitt)



WHITE.—(G. Bellingham.)

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------|---------|
| 46 R R7ch | K K sq | 50 Q B5ch | K B2 |
| 47 R R8ch | K K2 | 51 Q R5ch | K K12 |
| 48 Q R7ch | K K3 | 52 R Rch | Resigns |
| 49 R R8ch | R K2 | | |

NOTES.

Pillsbury says he has been misunderstood in the stand he took concerning the admission of the public in his proposed match against Janowski for \$1,500. He says he would be glad for anybody interested in chess to see the match, but he wishes to exclude a certain class of chess sharps in New York, who followed the game, made notes and rushed off and sold it to the newspapers. He says if the games were to be sold he wanted the players to get the money, not the sharps who sneaked them.

A proposal is said to be on foot for Pillsbury to engage in a lengthened tour, including a visit to the leading clubs of Great Britain.

Janowski's initial attempt at blindfold chess in America did not prove a distinct success. He played a team of six players of only average strength at the Manhattan Chess Club without sight of boards or men. The exhibition lasted three hours and the Frenchman won but two of the games, drew one and lost the rest.

Locher, the world's champion, has left England for Moscow, where he will fulfil a lengthy engagement. He had recently been playing in Scotland.

The Perth Chess Club (W. A.) has been the recipient of rather a unique present in the shape of several manuscript volumes containing 25,000 chess problems arranged systematically, the problems of each composer being kept together. The diagrams of the boards have been impressed in the books with a rubber stamp, while the chess figures are neatly etched thereon. Mr. Grainger, the donor of this valuable collection, many years ago started problem solving, and the idea occurred to him to record each one as above. The work soon became a labour of love, and continued until recently, when he generously decided to present them to the Perth Chess Club.

The American Chess Magazine says:—"Philidor was unquestionably one of the greatest chess geniuses that ever lived, and also an accomplished musician. It is lamentable to think that, like his countryman, Laboriousness, no funeral tablet marks the place of his rest, and it is not even known where he was buried. Thus France loses her great men. Had Philidor lived in the Middle Ages, he would have been annobled."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

- Canton, British steamer, 2,164, D. C. Gregor, 17th March, London via port, Kobe, 16th March, General.—P. O. S.N. Co.
- Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 17th March, Shanghai via port, 11th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, H. C. Harris, 17th March, Liverpool via port, Kobe, 16th March, General.—W. M. Swan & Co.
- Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curran, 19th March, Hongkong via port, Kobe, 18th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- Bowhead, Argentine steam-whaler, 240, J. Cook, 19th March, Nagasaki, 11th March, Stores and Whaling Gear.—American Trading Co.
- Prometheus, British steamer, 3,583, Robt. Day, 19th March, Liverpool via port, Kobe, 18th March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
- City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 21st March, San Francisco via Honolulu, 1st March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
- Lanona, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 22nd March, Hongkong via port, Kobe, 21st March, General.—Doddwell & Co. Ltd.
- Ellisland, British steamer ship, 2,355, Brokenshaw, 22nd March, New York, 2nd Sept., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
- Yoshigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Soyeda, 23rd March, Yokkachi, 22nd March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Ler, 23rd March, Hongkong via port, Kobe, 22nd March, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
- Taiyu, German steamer, 900, Schuler, 23rd March, Hongkong, Ballast.—M. Woit.
- Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Francis Norman, 23rd March, New York via Suez Canal and way ports, Kobe, 22nd March, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 23rd March.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 22nd March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nurnberg, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binzer, 24th March.—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 16th March, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, G. Duchateau, 24th March.—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 23rd Mar., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Woltersdorff, 17th March.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachf.

Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,512, H. G. Harris, 19th March.—London and Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, S. Yoshizawa, 19th March.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenushin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,804, De La Lande, 19th March.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 20th March.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

W. J. Pirrie, British steamer, 2,516, Jenkins, 20th March.—Taitai, Chili, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. H. Watkins, 22nd March.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 22nd March.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Haddon Hall, British steamer, 1,332, Pritchard, 22nd March.—New Castle, N.S.W., Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, A. G. Abbott, 22nd March.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 22nd March.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,899, M. J. Currow, 22nd March.—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,583, Robt. Day, 23rd March.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 23rd March.—Portland, Oregon, via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Futami Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, C. H. Hillcoat, 23rd March.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Albyn, British ship, 2,095, G. H. Williams, 23rd March.—New Castle, N.S.W., Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Kobe Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. G. Oda, Mr. J. R. Davis, Capt. J. J. Allen, Mr. C. A. Hagemeyer, Mr. K. Gadelius, and Mr. E. L. Raphace, in cabin; Mr. S. Enomoto, Mr. N. Hnaga, Mr. Shung Kong Chung, Mr. Si Ke, Mr. Chang Chuan, Mr. Wang Ching Tai, Mr. Chang Kuai, Mr. Mr. Ching Pang Ping, Mr. Chong Tai Pei, Mr. Au Ching Gan, Mr. Hai Ching Chi, Mr. Koo Sha Chi, Mr. Cheng Pao Cheng, Mr. Chang Ying Mei, Mr. Shen Kun, Mr. Chang Nung Kuai, Mr. Li Hih Jin, Mr. Chang Yen Shing, Mr. Chang Siao Tseng, Mr. Wang Tung Cheng, Mr. Chai Pu Ching, Mr. Lu Chin, Mr. Li Tze Chien, and Mr. Shih Hin Yu, in second class; 24 in steerage.

Per British steamer **Canton**, London via ports:—Mrs. B. Bultann, in cabin.

Per American steamer **City of Peking**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Westheimer, Mr. Jos. S. Isidor, Mr. Geo. A. Newhall, Mr. C. H. Bain, Mr. J. M. Gunney, Mr. D. W. Kirkland, Mr. J. R. Reed, Mrs. G. Gieny, Dr. A. Wood, Mr. A. Huenish, Mr. H. Carter, and Mr. A. Wolkenstein, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. D. Clarke, Mr. C. Behr, and Mr. B. B. Barney, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. R. E. Preston, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. F. Benson, and Capt. W. S. Nickels, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. K. E. Von Radesky, Dr. and Mrs. A. A. Woodhill and servant, Hon. W. H. Canwell, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Frankel, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Empress of Japan**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. and Miss Aiken and child, Mrs. F. Smyth, Master Ronald Smyth and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. Bathgate, Mr. and Misses (2) Hartnoll, Capt.

R. S. Webber, Miss M. H. B. Kewell, Mr. and Mrs. H. Boater and infant, Mr. T. W. Chang, Misses Lindholm (2), Mr. and Mrs. Townley, Mr. W. K. Wilson, Mr. E. Hyde Pearson, Mr. F. S. Morse, Mr. E. Jameson, Mr. A. J. McClun, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Moss, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wood, Mr. W. O. Cantley, Miss H. A. Dick, Miss E. L. Scidmore, Miss Denny, Mr. O. W. Lindholm, Mr. J. Green, Mr. H. Loding, Mr. B. Stephenson, and Bishop McKim, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Tim in second class. In Transit:—Mr. S. Murray, Mrs. Lancaster and child, Mr. and Mrs. Jerauld and 3 children, Mr. P. Briffard, Mr. R. Niven, and Mr. G. F. Philips, in cabin; 10 second class; 282 Chinese, and 148 Japanese, in steerage.

Per French steamer **Yarra**, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Ichikawa and servant, an Indian, Mr. Sechelle, Miss T. Tsuru, 9 Chinese, Mrs. S. de Bohun Lockyer and servant, Mr., Mrs. and Miss S. C. V. Ribeiro, servant and boy, Mr. and Mrs. C. de Sabry, Mr. Callera, and Mr. E. Saphiere, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business is still far from brisk generally, though small transactions have taken place in some lines. Quotations are practically unchanged from last week.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER PICUL.
Grey Shirts—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 30 inches	\$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shirts—9½ lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	3.00 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7½ lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirts—24 yards, 14 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Armed, 24 yards, 30 in. hns.	2.30 to 4.00
Cotton—1½ lb and 2½ lb black	75 YARD.
52 inches	0.28 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	10.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.32 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards, 36 inches	0.16 to 0.25
Cloths—Filo's, 34 & 36 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—President's, 44 & 50 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 34 & 36 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb per lb	0.62½ to 0.75

	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 10.00
Victorin Lanes, 12 yards, 43 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Rade—2 & 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 2.20
Turkey Heals—3 & 4 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.45 to 3.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/21, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 34, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
Nos. 47, Doubles	41.50 to 41.50
Nos. 56, 1½ lb	61.00 to 61.00
Nos. 2, 80, 1½ lb	80.00 to 81.00
Nos. 2, 100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2, 60, Gassed	77.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2, 80, Gassed	90.00 to 93.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed	117.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	\$10.00
Indian Branch	18.50
Chinese	30.00 to 31.00

The market is quiet, at the quotations of last week.

METALS.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inches and upward	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 5.00
Sheet Iron	5.15 to 5.40
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.75 to 11.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.35 to 6.50
Zin Plates, per box	6.30 to 6.60
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.08 to 2.10
Huon Iron (½ to 1 inch)	5.25 to 5.30

KRAOSEVN.

The market is steady at last week's quotations.

	PER PICUL.
American	\$2.00 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkai	1.95 to 2.00

SUGAR.

Trade steady at about last week's quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Taka	\$1.90 to 5.00
Brown Manila	5.25 to 6.20
Brown Paiting	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Canto	4.00 to 5.30
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.50
White refined	7.75 to 9.35

EXPOKTS.

RAW SILK.

Very little has been doing, the stock being much depleted. Prices are firm.

	QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Fata, Fine	Nominal	
Filatures—Fata, Coarse	Nominal	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal	
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	\$1000 to 1070	

Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1070 to 1070
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1070 to 1070
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1040 to 1050
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	Nominal
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Fata	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 2	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakadas—Extra	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 2	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 3	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 4	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 5	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 6	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

The market is still inactive.

	QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filatures, Best	\$110 to 125	
Noshi—Filatures, Good	100 to 110	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 110	
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	Nominal	
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	Nominal	
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	no stock	
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115 to 125	
Noshi—Bushi, Good	95 to 105	
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	80 to 90	
Noshi—Joshi, Good	65 to 70	
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	60 to 65	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	85 to 95	
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	80 to 85	
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	30 to 35	
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 30	

TBA.

The market is quite lifeless, there being no stock of anything but very low grades.

QUOTATIONS

	QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest	Nominal	
Choicest	no stock	
Choicest	Nominal	
Choicest	Nominal	
Choicest	Nominal	
Choicest	Nominal	
Choicest	Nominal	
Choicest	Nominal	
Choicest	Nominal	
Choicest	Nominal	

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 22nd.

Silver from London ½ lower, and rates opened at an advance of ½, making quotations for the mail per steamer **Empress of Japan** as under, with firm tendency.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 7/8
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	257 1/2
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	208 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	212 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 1/2 to 4 1/2 dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	5 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	77 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Mar. Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARK LIST.

[Messrs. Bissier & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, March 23rd.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations today:—Sales of H. & S. Banks at 27½ per cent. premium, Buyers of National Banks at \$20, Sellers of China Fires at \$82, Sellers of Hongkong Fires at \$297.50, Sales of H. & W. Docks at 318 per cent. premium, Sales of H. & K. Wharfs at \$80.50, Sellers of Douglas Steamships at \$58, Sellers of Indo-China at \$66.50, Buyers of Pun-jon Mines at \$5, Sellers of Rand Mines at \$60, Buyers of Hongkong Lands at \$78, Sales of Union Insurance at \$230, Sellers of China Traders at \$63, Sellers of Struts Insurance at \$5, and Sales of H. C. & M. Steamboats at \$39.

LOCAL STOCKS.

A few Iron Works can be had at yen 205. Japan Brewery old shares are obtainable at yen 310; new shares are wanted at yen 145, holders offering shares at yen 147.50. Grand Hotels have sellers at yen 222.50 and Club Hotels at yen 90. Oriental Hotels rule strong at yen 100; offers for Founders' shares are wanted. Nagasaki Hotels can be had at yen 40. Betts are offering at yen 9.50, while North & Rees are in demand at yen 200. Langfeldts can be had at yen 145 and Hyogo Gas at yen 170. Japan Brewery Debentures have buyers at yen 108 and Y. U. Clubs at the same rate. Nagasaki Hotels are procurable at yen 100. Nagasaki Hotel Debentures are on offer at yen 100. Offers of Kobe Clubs are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50	805 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$500, Old	330 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., yen 30	147 30 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100	120 50 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	90 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100	100 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Yokohama), \$100	150 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 100	40 S.
North and Itao, Ltd., \$100	200 N.
Watt & Co., Ltd., \$100	90 50 S.
Taniguchi & Co., Ltd., \$100	145 S.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	170 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 5% Deb., \$100	101 Sa.
Kobe Club 5% Deb., \$100	30 Sa.
Yokohama United Club 5% Deb., \$100	118 Sa.
Watt & Co., Ltd. 5% Deb., \$100	100 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 5% Deb., \$100	118 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 5% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Reserve Fund.—1 yen 10,000; 2 yen 5,000 equaliza-	
tion of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property	
1 yen 17,770-80; 4 yen 16,395-44.	
N.—S. Sellers, H.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady,	
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Enquiries.	

Tokyo, March 23rd.

Redemption Loan Bonds	96.00
War Loan Bonds	96.00
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	97.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 100	35.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 30	49.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	113.50
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	113.50
First National Bank—paid up yen 30	39.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 30	39.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	97.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	96.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 30	74.00
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	95.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 20 30	85.00
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45	118.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 30	77.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 30	36.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 30	98.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 30	68.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 30	98.00
Hokkaido Colliery R'y, 2nd issue—paid up yen 33	99.00
Hokkaido Railway—paid up yen 30	99.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 30	16.00
Roso Railway—paid up yen 30	16.00
Tsuyokawa Railway—paid up yen 30	40.00
Nanase Railway—paid up yen 37.50	90.00
Honjutsu Railway—paid up yen 30	17.50
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 25	80.00
Chosen Railway—paid up yen 25	15.00
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 17	18.00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 30	100.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 31	100.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 30	65.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	17.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 20	5.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 21	10.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	15.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	30.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	12.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	30.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	8.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 30	18.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 30	23.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 30	19.00
Tokyo Mercile Aise Exchange—paid up yen 25	70.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 30	30.00
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 30	15.50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 30	15.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 30	63.00
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 22.50	33.00
Japan Beer—paid up yen 40	80.00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 20.50	89.00
Kanagawachi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 30	18.00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 40	37.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 30	55.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 30	34.00
Tokyo Tatemono Kaisha—paid up yen 30	17.00

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No. 11.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, MARCH 18TH, 1899.

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[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	561
China and Italy.....	562
The Cabinet.....	563
Foreigners as Journalists in Japan.....	563
The Two Houses.....	564
The Mercantile Bank.....	564
The Pilots Law.....	564
A New Storm.....	565
Work of the Diet.....	565
Tonnage Dues Bill.....	565
The Rice Crop.....	565
The Specie Bank.....	566
The French Army.....	566
Superficies.....	566
Religious Teachers in Prisons.....	567
French Affairs.....	567
Judicial Affairs.....	567
The Police and the Jails.....	568
Mr. Marlene Ponce.....	568
The Education of the Judiciary.....	568
Leading Article—The Law of Election.....	569
Concert at Ueno.....	569
Prorogation of the Diet.....	569
Tokyo Roads.....	570
Monthly Summary of the Religious Press.....	570
Members of the Inns of Court Resident in Japan.....	571
Imperial Diet.....	573
Correspondence—	
Moral Standards of East and West.....	576
Foreigners' Rights under the New Treaties to Lease Land in Japan.....	577
Religious Liberty and Schools.....	577
A Mock Parliament.....	578
Missionary Items.....	579
Theft on the Bluff.....	579
Cut to Piece on the Line.....	579
News of the Week.....	579
Chinese Notes.....	580
American Notes.....	580
The Doshisha.....	581
The Leopold Bankruptcy.....	581
Telegrams.....	584
Chen.....	585
Latest Shipping.....	586
Latest Commercial.....	586

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIXE QUE BOIN: ADVIENNE QUE FOURNA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 18TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.M. QUEEN Victoria is now staying in the south of France.

LIEUT.-COLONEL PICQUART has been handed over to civil justice.

ACCORDING to investigations made at the end of last year, Japanese residents in Germany number 131.

MR. AKABANE, Minister to Holland, is to be relieved of his office, Mr. Chinda Sutei succeeding him.

PLAGUE has appeared at Mecca. Riots have broken out at Jeddah, arising out of the enforcement of the plague measures.

SIGNOR MARTINO, the Italian Minister at Peking, has been recalled owing to his exceeding instructions in the San-moon matter.

To fill up the interval between the close of the football season and the opening of cricket, the

Y.C. & A.C. have organised a series of weekly paperchases.

A FORMOSA despatch received by the military authorities states that twenty natives were killed by savages on the 7th inst.

MR. OKOSHI, who was Japanese Consul-General in London some years ago, has been promoted to be Minister to Brazil.

M. DE FREYCINET, Minister of War, will soon communicate to the Court of Cassation the secret portfolio in the Dreyfus affair.

A FIRE, originating at the house of one Osawara, 23 Edogawa-machi, Koishikara, Tokyo, destroyed four houses on Sunday last.

TRAINING for the Spring Meeting of the N.R.C. began on Wednesday morning. The wet weather, so far, has proved a hindrance.

News from Manila during the past week has been of a pacific character, the Filipinos not persisting in maintaining a state of open hostilities.

THE German Reichstag have thrown out the bill, by a large majority, which proposed increasing the German Army. A political crisis is feared.

A FATAL accident occurred on the railway near Yokohama on Thursday by which a workman was cut to pieces, while another was thrown into a ditch and drowned.

THE number of police in Formosa, at present 3,600, is to be increased to 4,000, the additional men being chiefly stationed in the southern part of the island.

THE promoters of the Hakone Railway, the line for which has already been surveyed, propose to make it a water-power electric railway, ample power being available.

WAKU KANJIRO, aged 39, employed by the Vacuum Oil Company, of 16, Kobe, who had absconded with a sum of yen 480 belonging to the firm, was arrested at Yokohama on the 8th.

THE Yokohama Plasterers and Bricklayers' Guild, which recently raised the wages of workers, has decided to lower the rate from this month, as business has been far from brisk lately.

THE present Kobe Harbour Office, which was only built for temporary use, is being found not a little inconvenient, and the authorities contemplate rebuilding it at an estimated cost of 30,000 yen.

THE Yamaguchi Coal Mine, the average output of which has been 5,000,000 *kins* per day, has been flooded, and work has had to be entirely suspended. The mine was considered the best in Iwaki Province.

A LONDON despatch dated the 13th, received by the Navy Department from Rear Admiral Matsunaga, states that the Japanese first-rate battleship *Asahi* was successfully launched on the 10th instant.

A WORKMAN named Shoji Chirokichi of 33, Shichi-chome, Uchida-cho, Yokohama, attempted to make away with himself by drinking a quantity of sulphuric acid. He did not, however, take a sufficient dose.

DETAILS of the great fire at Tagamutsu, Minami Akita-gori, Akita Prefecture, on the 6th inst. show that it originated at 1 a.m. in a house occupied by Hatakeyama Torakichi, and immediately spread in all directions, destroying the whole village with the exception of nine

houses. Eleven persons were burnt to death, and four horses also perished.

COUNT OKUMA gave a garden party on the 11th to the Progressist and neutral members of the House of Representatives and some members of the House of Peers, including Viscounts Tani and Soga. A foreign menu was adopted.

MR. H. A. C. BONAR, British Consul at Yokohama, entertained Mr. Asada, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, Admiral Mori, Director of the Yokohama Harbour Office, and other high officials at his residence on Monday.

AN engagement has been entered into between H.I.H. Prince Kuni and Miss Shimadzu Chikako, elder sister of Prince Shimadzu Tadashige. The ceremony will in all probability take place at the end of September, or the commencement of October, at the Kyoto Palace.

ON Thursday, at the Imperial Hotel, the members of the House of Peers gave a farewell banquet in honour of Prince Konoye, who is leaving for the West. Among those present were Marquis Ito, Premier Yamagata, and Count Kuroda, who read a congratulatory address, to which the Prince responded.

THE French Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy, stated in the Chamber of Deputies that the technical inquiry and the judicial inquiry with reference to the explosion at Toulon have not, up to the present, afforded any positive result. It is still unknown whether the explosion was contrived or accidental.

ACCORDING to the Financial Department's Statistics, made up to the end of February, the total number of Banks of every description in Japan in that month was 1836, and their aggregate capital yen 391,270,844. This is an increase of 15 banks and of yen 4,695,510 capital as compared with the figures for January.

IT has been decided to send the following Judicial Officials abroad to investigate questions of the administration of law:—Judge Y. Kawamura, Judge I. Shimidzu, and Public Prosecutor T. Nagamori, to Italy and France; Judge G. Baba, Public Prosecutors Kosaka and K. Ohi to England and America; Public Prosecutor M. Omiya and A. Tanahashi, and Judge I. Saito, to Germany and Austria-Hungary.

RIGHT HON. G. J. GOSCHEN, First Lord of the Admiralty, has introduced into the House of Commons the naval estimates. The total is put down at twenty six and a half millions, and 4,250 more men are to be added. The new programme comprises two armoured cruisers, and three smaller cruisers of very high speed. It is intended to make Wei-hai-wei a secondary naval base, with adequate fortifications, coal stores, and small repairing shops.

OFFICIAL appointments were gazetted on Monday as follows:—Major-General Shionoysa, promoted to the rank of a Lieut. General and appointed Commander of the Fortifications of Tokyo Bay; Major-General Inouye, raised to the rank of Lieut. General and appointed to fill the lately vacated position of Commander of the 13th Army Division; Colonel Tomoyasu, created Major-General, and made Commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade; Major-General Harada, Director of the Military Board of Works (*Kenchitaku*); Major-General Katsuta, Inspector of Fortifications, Shimonoeki; Major-General Okamura, Commander of the 3rd Infantry Brigade; and Major-General Arai, Commander of Guards (*Kreibitz*) at Tsushima.

CHINA AND ITALY.

Monday, March 13.

All telegrams reaching Japan concur in representing China as resolved to resist Italy's proposals, by arms if necessary. Italy, on the other hand, is preparing to convert her proposals into demands, and to enforce them at the mouth of the cannon. What are we to infer from such a situation? The first query that suggests itself is, are both sides in earnest? As to Italy, if her proceedings are correctly interpreted by rumour, she has gone too far to draw back. It is true that she has not the most shadowy outlines of a right to coerce China, and that if she carries this case to the arbitrament of the sword, she will establish a precedent absolutely new among civilized nations. But if that consideration has not hitherto restrained her, we doubt whether it will have any deterrent efficacy at the eleventh hour. She would certainly win much greater honour in history by abandoning her piratical enterprise, than by pushing it to a sanguinary issue; but we can scarcely hope that the prospect of an approving verdict in the future will weigh with her so heavily as the pain of a fiasco in the present; and a very painful fiasco it would be to step out of the lists at this stage. Hence it is probably a correct forecast that Italy will fight rather than forego her demands. It takes two to make a fight, however. Will China be the second? Nothing in her recent annals suggests that she will. The lesson they teach is that she has fallen into a state of almost inconceivably invertebrate limpness, and that no suffering an outsider can inflict on her would be felt by her so acutely as the wrench of rousing herself from her lethargy. She submitted tamely at Kiao-chou; she submitted tamely at Port Arthur; she submitted tamely at Wei-hai-wei. Why should she break the record at San-moon? Well, it appears to us that there is a weak link in the analogical chain: The cases are not precisely parallel. Germany had a moral *point d'appui* at Kiao-chou, and she had also the physical advantage of possession. She was entitled to some sort of compensation; she took the compensation that pleased her, and she asked for it afterwards. That was a kind of deadly practicality well calculated to paralyse China's feeble impulse of resistance. Then came Russia. Kiao-chou had been recently Russian. Some substitute must be found, since Kiao-chou had been alienated. Besides, Russia was Russia; a proposition pregnant with potentialities. Finally, the lease of Wei-hai-wei was nothing more than a codicil to the Liaotung testament. All these incidents hung together like the three thieves on Holborn Hill. But the Italian enterprise is different; and the difference consists not merely in Italy's comparative incapacity to enforce her demands, but also in the effect their tame concession would produce upon the situation. If China submits passively to be plundered by this new depredator, she abandons the last shred of her title to enjoy security of life and property. For there is absolutely nothing to "save her face." It will be a proclamation to the whole world that she holds her territory at the mercy of any raider having sufficient assurance to demand a portion of it. We do not want to say hard things of Italy. On the contrary, we hope to see

her in possession of San-moon, for we recognise her as an ally of our country. But our object being to cast up the chances of the immediate future, we necessarily try to realize China's view of the facts, and, when we do so, it seems certain that this Italian incident must present itself to her as the crisis of her national career. However obtuse her perception of inter-State relations, she must see that to yield now is to collapse utterly. Probably that appreciation will nerve her to make some sort of struggle. Then, after all, her *vis-à-vis* is Italy. What can Italy do in the Far East? A great many people are asking themselves that question we imagine. The answer comes easily. If Peking declares war Italy could not accomplish anything single-handed, for a declaration of war would deprive her of all coaling and docking facilities in the East. She can take San-moon Island and she can hold whatever portion of the adjacent coast lies within range of her squadron's guns, for the Chinese being without a fleet, their littoral is at the mercy of any naval Power. But an effort of that character would soon exhaust Italy's resources unless she could obtain a convenient basis of supplies, which is precisely what seems most unobtainable. China, in short, has immense potentialities of passive resistance. If she can only persuade herself to declare war so soon as Italy strikes a blow, and if she can thereafter summon patience to play a waiting game, it will be hard, very hard, to hurt her seriously. These various reasons appear to differentiate the situation from any recent precedent. But, of course, the whole complexion of affairs will be changed if England constitutes herself Italy's backer. That is a hypothesis which we need not now discuss further than to say that England undoubtedly wants to see Italy at San-moon.

It certainly does look as if a general breach of the peace were imminent in the Far East. A special telegram from Shanghai, which we publish this morning, says that the Russian and French Ministers have entered a protest in Peking—a protest sounding very like a defiance. They say that if the desired extension of the Anglo-American Settlement at Shanghai be granted by China, France also must have the extension demanded by her some months ago, and objected to by Great Britain and the United States. On theoretical grounds there is no reason why England and America should obtain from China any concession which is denied to France. But from a practical point of view the cases are radically different. The Anglo-German-American Settlement at Shanghai is a handsome, prosperous, and wealthy city, standing in urgent need of an extension of its limits. The French Settlement is a small impoverished-looking hamlet, whose inhabitants are in no want of new territory. France's demand, preferred last year in the sequel of a riotous demonstration by Chinese coolies, is mainly political, whereas the demand made by England and America is fully justified by actually existing conditions of population and business. These details lose their importance, however, in the face of the fact that France and Russia have openly ranged themselves against Great Britain and the United States. Russia has not the smallest material interest in the question of extending the French Settlement at Shanghai. Her connexion with the business depends solely upon her general

alliance with France. It has been commonly supposed, however, that her view of the obligations imposed by the alliance would prove very narrow in practice, whereas here we have her joining hands with France in a business essentially affecting the latter's interests only. That is significant. It undoubtedly deepens the already ominous hue of the political horizon. On the other hand, this Settlement problem should not prove impossible of solution. The main difficulty lies in the fact that France insists upon regarding her Settlement as a territorial concession. Could she be persuaded to agree to its inclusion in the area occupied by the nationals of all the other Treaty Powers, any extension granted to her or to them would be a common gain, welcomed by all alike. No moderate person can endorse any ignoring of France's claims, or advocate any arrangement which would have a humiliating appearance for her. The whole trouble might be removed if she abandoned her isolated position at Shanghai, and threw in her lot with the other Treaty Powers. It is to be hoped that her sense of logic and good fellowship will induce her to view the matter in that light.

Tuesday, March 14.

By whatever counsellors the Ministers of the *Tsung-li Yamén* were prompted, they appear to have put themselves flagrantly in the wrong *vis-à-vis* Italy, for they returned the last despatch received from the Italian Representative in Peking without replying to it. So rumour says, at any rate, and we do not learn that there is any reason to doubt the fact. Immediate severance of relations between the two countries could not fail to follow such an act, and would have followed it, had not the German and British Representatives intervened. They succeeded in inducing the *Tsung-li Yamén* to go through the form of negotiating, and the news now received that Italy demanded a definite answer by the 14th instant, may be regarded as the result of the negotiation. Germany and England, having thus taken a part in the complication, will probably lend their good offices to bring it to a peaceful termination.

Thursday, March 16.

The Chinese Government has definitely refused to entertain Italy's application for a lease of San-moon. There was no vacillation on the part of the *Tsung-li Yamén*; no asking for an extension of the ultimatum period. The Italian Minister in Peking fixed the 14th as the limit of time for the delivery of China's final reply, and before the 14th came an emphatic "no." Japanese journals publish telegrams from Peking in the sense that Italy's real backer in this matter is Germany, not England. Germany, they say, wants to substitute Samsha Bay for Kiao-chou, and thinks that if the Italian demand for San-moon were conceded, her own proposal for Samsha could not be rejected. The same telegrams represent the British Minister in Peking as much chagrined that rumour should have so greatly misinterpreted his country's attitude.

Concerning the former point, namely, Germany's alleged use of Italy as a cat-paw, few will be found to believe it. The German Government has demonstrated very plainly that the want of a pretext is the last thing likely to trouble it in dealing with China. Besides, Germany has China's promise to exchange some suit-

able place for Kiao-chou should the latter prove inconvenient, and she has, consequently, no need of a new precedent. A much more probable explanation is suggested by telegrams which have been received from Europe. They say that Italy is dissatisfied with Great Britain's action. Lord Salisbury promised to support Italy's proposal diplomatically, and on the strength of that promise Italy put forward her demand. Now diplomatic support is all very well and very effective so long as the other side does not discover that it is diplomatic and only diplomatic. That discovery once made, however, the support loses its value, and somehow or other China seems to have made the discovery at an inconveniently early period. Italy thinks that the unfortunate fact is attributable to a want of genuine co-operation on England's part. Hence disappointment and dissatisfaction. We have little doubt that, when the full details are published, Her Majesty's Government will be found to have expressed its willingness to support a peaceable application, but to have refrained from any promise of co-operation in coercing China. That was precisely the perplexing point of the situation; the point difficult to reconcile with England's declared policy. Had she lent her aid to compel a pretextless alienation of Chinese territory at Italy's bidding, she would be thenceforth debarred from opposing similar encroachments by other Powers. It is a easy to conceive, however, that her warm friendship for Italy led her to promise help which Italy's conception of that friendship misinterpreted.

The question of absorbing interest now is Italy's next step. She has gone much too far to draw back without serious loss of prestige, and neither England nor Germany will be willing that she should suffer any humiliation, even were she herself willing, which she certainly is not. She can strike a strong blow. She can take San-moon, place a force of marines in occupation, and then re-open negotiations with Peking. Perhaps that would be the best solution, if there were any assurance that the belligerent operations could be strictly localized. But in the present tottering condition of the Chinese empire no one can estimate the effects of a shock, and it will be in the interests of Europe and America to avert risks which might assume limitless dimensions. The Empress in Peking is naturally anxious to prove that under her strong sway China can not be exposed to disgraces which were tamely endured when the young Emperor directed the Administration. But the Empress is a profoundly sagacious woman, and she knows very well that no efforts within her power can save the outlying parts of the country from attacks likely in the end to weaken her authority much more than timely concessions at the outset. She would doubtless be willing to furnish some *solatium* for Italy's *amour propre* in the form, say, of special mining concessions, and, on the whole, we are inclined to think that a compromise of that kind will terminate the crisis.

Mr. Robert Law was the recipient, the other evening, of a handsome silver salver bearing the following inscription in Chinese and English: "Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company. Presented to Robert Law, Esq., as a token of esteem, on his leaving for home on a well-deserved holiday, after 18 years' continuous service. Shanghai, 6th of March, 1899."

THE CABINET.

Tuesday, March 14.

It was to be expected that so soon as the Diet brought its session to a close, rumours of Cabinet changes would begin to be circulated, for many people, from time to time, expressed the conviction that there existed between Marquis Yamagata and the Liberals some understanding in the sense of Ministerial reconstruction if the session passed off satisfactorily. No one is surprised, therefore, to hear now that changes are imminent. Count Matsukata is supposed to be the discontented element. He joined the Cabinet, we are told, on the explicit stipulation that his colleagues would support him in placing the finances on a really sound footing, and that, as the only really effectual means to that end, the rate of the Land Tax should be permanently raised to 4 per cent. Nevertheless, in order to placate the Liberals, the Cabinet agreed to make the rate 3.3 per cent., for a limited period only. The immediate consequence of that concession was that recourse had to be had to devices highly objectionable in themselves, namely, an increase of postal, telegraphic, telephonic, and railway charges; and the remote consequence was that Count Matsukata's ten-year programme of finance suffered complete dislocation. Two other matters are said to have profoundly dissatisfied him. One was the Bill for increasing the allowances of members of the Diet; the other, the Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charges of the Treasury. There is no evidence that Count Matsukata objected to the former measure on principle. He doubtless recognised the logic of the argument that, if the members are paid at all, they should be paid sufficiently. But there is one feature of the Bill which must have revolted all his instincts as a financier; a feature which, strange to say, seems to have momentarily escaped public attention. The increase of the members' allowances involved an additional outlay of nearly seven hundred thousand *yen* annually, and no special provision was made to meet that outlay. The Government had to say that the taxes already approved by the House would suffice. In other words, while professing to be obliged to resort to very questionable devices for obtaining paltry sums of revenue, the Treasury officials admitted that it would give them no trouble to provide for an additional expenditure of three quarters of a million *yen*. Such an admission introduces an element of unreality into the whole financial programme. It indicates one of two things: either that the Treasury officials acknowledge the looseness of their own estimates, and are quite prepared for considerable errors; or—and this is the natural inference—that they wittingly undervalue their sources of income. Count Matsukata must object strongly to have his financial methods exposed to such discredit. As to the Prison Expenditures, His Excellency has always been in favour of their re-transfer to the Treasury. In fact, that reform was explicitly included in his ten-year programme, though he did not propose to consummate it before the fiscal year 1900-1. The Diet, however, though, by reducing the proposed rate of Land Tax, it deprived the Treasury of the resources upon which the ten-year programme was based, nevertheless voted that the Prison

Expenditures must be transferred to the charges of the Treasury, but did not vote any revenue to support the charges. That procedure closely resembled a declaration of want of confidence in the Finance Department. It might be interpreted—indeed we are inclined to say that it must be interpreted—as an announcement that the Diet believed the Treasury's estimate of the State's income to be too low by several millions of *yen*. We may justly say that the Diet's attitude towards financial questions has been singularly irresponsible, and that the Minister of Finance has strong grounds for dissatisfaction. It is inevitable that these doings have impaired Japan's credit abroad. Foreign capitalists can not feel much confidence in a State where the Legislature is content to make temporary provision for permanent outlays, and to make large additions to the Treasury's expenditure without voting any means of defraying them. Count Matsukata probably finds that, in view of these doings, the London money market looks askance at the bonds which he has for sale. Instead of seeing the finances placed on a sound footing, and instead of being able to obtain funds abroad on easy terms to complete the *post-bellum* undertakings, he sees the finances as unstable as ever, and he finds the foreign money market closed to him except on conditions which he can not consent to with any satisfaction or credit. If he resigns his portfolio, there will be no difficulty in explaining the step. For the country's sake we should welcome his resignation, for the sooner the political parties learn that no able financier can work with them in their present unreasonable, unpatriotic, and irresponsible mood, the better it will be for Japan.

Wednesday, March 15.

All sorts of rumours are circulated about Count Matsukata. Some people are kind enough to suggest that his resolve to resign his portfolio is prompted solely by a desire to break up the Ministry; others allege that he has no idea whatever of going out of office. The former suggestion is obviously absurd, and the latter seems too radical. The truth must be known in a few days, and in the meanwhile conjectures are idle.

FOREIGNERS AS JOURNALISTS IN JAPAN.

It is stated by the Kobe Quibbler, we observe, that the *Japan Mail*, "a short while ago, was quite prepared to acquiesce in the restriction of newspaper ownership and editorship to Japanese subjects." That is one of the clumsy falsehoods habitually employed by the Kobe writer. His faith in the imperfection of the public's memory is infinitely stronger than his regard for veracity. The *Japan Mail* never for one instant expressed acquiescence in the idea that the ownership and editorship of newspapers in Japan should be restricted to Japanese subjects. What the *Japan Mail* did was to deny that the restrictive clause in the Press Law had been 'inserted' with reference to the era of mixed residence, and to predict that, before the inauguration of that era, the restriction would be withdrawn. Experience has taught us that no perversion of facts, however flagrant, is beyond the audacity of the Kobe Quibbler, so we note his latest departure without any surprise.

THE TWO HOUSES.

The session of the Diet ended with an incident extremely injurious to the relations between the two Houses, and we can not but think that the fault lay chiefly with the Representatives. A conference had to be held with reference to the new Election Law, the Peers having radically changed the Bill as sent up by the Representatives, and the latter having refused to endorse the changes. For the purposes of a Conference each House appoints ten Managers—as they are called in the Law of the Houses—and it is usual for these Managers to nominate a sub-Committee composed of three Managers from each section. The sub-Committee elaborates a compromise, if possible; the Conference considers the terms of the compromise, and, if it approves them, reports them to each House, which is pretty sure to endorse them. On this occasion a basis of compromise could not be found. The Managers of the Representatives, headed by Mr. Hoshi Toru, seemed to be impressed with a conviction that as the Law under consideration related to the election of members of the Lower House only, the Peers should not have insisted on any large share in drafting it. The Managers of the Peers, on their side, held that the question was of fundamental importance from a constitutional point of view, and, while willing to meet the Representatives half way, were not prepared to subserve their own opinions altogether. The sub-committee, therefore, had to announce to the Conference its failure to discover any lines of agreement. The Conference thereupon proceeded to vote on the respective drafts of the two Houses, and as Marquis Kuroda was acting in the capacity of Chairman, the Managers of the Representatives found themselves with 10 votes against 9 on the side of the Peers. They claimed, therefore, that the result of the Conference had been favourable to the Lower House. Such, at least, was the account of the proceedings given to the Peers. But Mr. Hoshi Toru, in reporting the issue to the Representatives, did not advance any claim so frivolous. He did, however, charge the Peers with having refused to make any concession whatever, and with having failed in courtesy towards the Lower House, and he insisted that, in such a matter, the Peers should have been ready to defer largely to the wishes of the Representatives. Nothing remained, he added, except that the Lower House should thenceforth refuse to pass any measure calculated to promote the interests of the Upper. Considering that the Peers had in this matter adopted the most enlightened principles of constitutional institutions, whereas the Representatives had consulted the convenience of party politics only, Mr. Hoshi's declaration of war to the knife—a declaration to which many members of the Upper House were listening from the Peers' gallery—must have hurt the Peers not a little, especially as their managers claimed to have acted in a most conciliatory and courteous manner. That, however, might have been a matter of opinion. But it is difficult to discover any excuse for another step taken by the Lower House. Having voted that a Conference of the Houses must be held with reference to the amendments of the *Credit Mobilier* Law, the House immediately brought its session to

a close without waiting for the Conference to be held. The singular impropriety of such a proceeding must have been aggravated in the eyes of the Peers by the fact that they themselves were even then patiently awaiting the result of the Conference on the Law of Election. They concluded their session by passing a vote of censure on the Lower House, an incident which has no parallel, we think, in the history of parliamentary institutions.

THE MOVABLES BANK.

Readers of our reports of the Diet's proceedings probably noticed the amendment which the House of Representatives made in the Government's project for the establishment of a Movable Bank. The Government's idea is a bank without any State aid except a guarantee of 5 per cent. interest on the paid-up capital. Official supervision is, of course, contemplated, and the Bank is to be competent to issue debentures to the extent of five times its paid-up capital, but the debentures are not secured by the Treasury, and the guarantee of interest on the paid-up capital is for five years only. The Representatives, when invited to consider this project, had already in their hands a private Bill for the establishment of an Industries Bank. The object of the latter was virtually the same as the object of the former, namely, to make advances against national and local securities, or debentures and shares of companies, so as to promote industrial enterprise of all kinds. The private programme, however, included one important provision which differentiated it radically from the Government's scheme; namely, a provision that if the Bank desired to place its debentures abroad, the Government should guarantee them, both as to principal and interest. In short, the projectors of the Industries Bank intended to make it a medium for introducing foreign capital, whereas the State's financiers planned the Movable Bank as a means for collecting and distributing domestic capital. Both Bills were handed to a special committee, which recommended that the provision relating to the sale of the Industries Bank's debentures in foreign markets should be grafted on the project of the Movable Bank, and the House endorsed the suggestion. The Peers will probably reject it, and they will be well advised if they do so, we venture to think, for this method of obtaining foreign capital is not more likely to succeed than any of the devices hitherto proposed or tried. Foreign capitalists would probably be ready enough to engage in banking enterprise in Japan, but they would surely insist on having a controlling voice in the management of the business. When the bonds of the Government itself find ready buyers in London and Paris, it will be time enough to talk of selling bank debentures. In formulating these proposals, the Japanese appear to lose sight of the fact that great quantities of foreign capital have already come to this country. Many millions are invested in Yokohama, Kobe and Nagasaki, and in the trade carried on there, and many times as many millions more would be at once forthcoming if there were avenues for employing them profitably under foreign management. But this last condition—foreign management—is quite essential.

THE PILOTS LAW.

Our Kobe critics show their usual carefulness and acumen in commenting on our remarks about the Pilots Law as amended by the House of Peers. The Committee of the House of Peers amended the Government's draft of the Law in the sense of restricting to Japanese subjects the privilege of serving as licensed pilots in Japanese waters. The amendment was endorsed by the House, and no provision was inserted with regard to the foreigners who have already obtained licenses and are already practising as pilots. Referring to that omission, we wrote:—

What is to be done about the foreigners who have already received licenses, and are practising as pilots? There can not be any idea of interfering with them, we presume. Indeed, we see no cause for uneasiness on that score, for the provisions of the new Law are applicable only to the granting of licenses after it goes into operation; it can not have retro-spective force. Nevertheless as it declares distinctly that only Japanese subjects can engage in the profession of piloting, the House of Peers might have been better advised had they supplemented their amendment by a provision in the sense that persons already duly licensed would remain beyond the purview of the restriction.

These observations are traversed in Kobe. They are described as showing "curious ignorance of what happened in the House of Peers." Well, what happened in the House of Peers? Did the House insert any saving clause with regard to the foreigners already licensed to practise. Not a bit of it. The House, at the suggestion of the Government, inserted the following clause in Art. 33:—

During a period of five years only from the date of the operation of this Law, it shall be competent for the Minister of State concerned to grant pilot's licenses, irrespective of the provision contained in the first clause of Art. 3 (i.e. that the applicant must be a Japanese subject). Licenses thus granted shall not lose their validity after the above period (of five years) has terminated.

This, as any reader of the most ordinary intelligence will perceive, has no reference whatever to licenses granted before the Law goes into force. It provides for the continued validity of licenses granted during the five years subsequent to the Law's operation, but it entirely ignores all licenses previously granted. Yet to say that it does not provide for the latter class of licenses is described as "curious ignorance of what occurred in the House of Peers!" We do not imagine that the restriction contained in the Law can have any bearing upon licenses already issued to foreigners, but more careful drafters would surely have removed all ambiguity on that score.

Very much quainter, however, are the remarks of our critics on the object of the above restriction, as interpreted by us. We wrote:—"The Inland Sea is practically safe against the inroads of foreign war-vessels so long as they can not procure pilots." The answer made by our profoundly thoughtful commentators is:—"Such a statement is absurd, and shows a sublime ignorance of the facts. Not only do British war-vessels never take a pilot in passing through the Inland Sea, but there are in existence the most elaborate charts which, in default of pilots, would be amply sufficient for the purposes of any war vessel;" and then they go on to note that want of pilots did not prevent the attack on Shimonoseki in 1863! There is no spectacle more diverting than unintentional comicality: it is always so artless. The whole question at issue

is the action of foreign pilots' in case of war, or threatened war, and these naïve Kobe folks prattle pleasantly over the things that happen in times of peace and tranquillity. Apparently they have never heard of such affairs as submarine obstructions. Apparently it does not occur to them that if Japan were engaged in war, or if, for any reason, she found it expedient to place her coasts in a state of defence, the channels of navigation in the Inland Sea would be strewn with various obstacles which even "the most elaborate charts" in the possession of foreign warships would not show. Apparently it does not occur to them that unless the passage of trading yessels up and down the Inland Sea were suspended throughout the period of hostilities or defence, the exact locality of these obstacles must be known by the pilots. Apparently it does not occur to them that a pilot, furnished with such knowledge, could steer an enemy's ships safely through the Inland Sea although, without his aid, that body of water would be entirely "safe against the inroads of foreign war vessels." Apparently it does not occur to them that when Shimonoseki was attacked in 1863, torpedoes had not been invented. They are really quite charming, are these victims of bland innocence. If the duty of legislating for the security of an empire devolved upon them, how tranquilly its people might lie down to sleep!

A NEW STORM.

Another "discovery" has been made by political agitators, and they are working hard to raise it into public prominence. A document has been lost in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. During the Okuma Cabinet's tenure of office, an application was received for the sale of two valuable forests owned by the State, namely, Ruri-san and Miyoken-san. The former is said to be worth over a million *yen*, and the latter is remarkable for its magnificent cryptomerias. But these statements are probably great exaggerations. The application went through the usual routine, and was finally approved. All such documents have a memorandum attached to them, and on the memorandum each of the officials concerned records his opinion. Before the transaction could be consummated, the Okuma Cabinet went out of office, and the memorandum was lost or misplaced by the new head of the Investigation Bureau under the Yamagata Cabinet. If it could be shown that the loss brought any substantial gain to any one, there might be reason for suspecting foul play. But the only suggestion of that kind made by the agitators is that the present officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce wanted to have the credit of making the desired concession, and that they therefore destroyed the memorandum with the intention of compiling another in the same sense. That sounds exceedingly far-fetched. Probably the explanation of the matter is that Mr. Hoshi Toru is rumoured to be connected with the application for the sale, and that the profits on the transaction are supposed to be destined for the money box of the Liberal Party. At all events, in the absence of an important topic of political dissension, this affair has been taken up by some members of the Tokyo press, and promises to become a nine-days' wonder.

WORK OF THE DIET.

In the three-months session formally closed on the 10th instant, the Diet achieved a legislative record. The Lower House dealt with no less than 284 measures, an average of more than 4 per working day. We are not speaking of Petitions, but of Projects of Law, Budgets, Settled Accounts, Representations, Resolutions, and Addresses to the Throne. Out of the total of 284 measures, 230 were passed, 18 rejected, 18 withdrawn, 14 not decided, and 4 not considered necessary to debate. Classifying these various Bills, it appears that 174 were presented by the Government; out of which total, 159 were passed, 4 were thrown out, 9 were withdrawn, and 2 were not decided. The Peers sent down 2 private Bills, one of which was passed and one was rejected. Members of the House of Representatives introduced 54 Projects of Law, and succeeded in having 32 of them passed, against 8 rejected, 6 withdrawn, 3 not considered necessary to discuss, and 5 left undecided. Two Addresses to the Throne were introduced in the Lower House, and one was adopted, the other, rejected. There were also 47 Representations to the Government, of which 33 were endorsed, 4 negatived, 2 withdrawn, and 8 either set aside or left undiscussed. The number of petitions presented was 667, of which, for various causes, 499, were set aside, the remainder being transmitted to the Government.

This is quite a colossal record. Indeed, such a mass of legislation would seem to be more than the nation can hope to digest successfully. It shows, at all events, that whatever may be said by some foreign critics, the Committees of the Lower House must have worked with the greatest assiduity and diligence. At present there does not seem to be any prospect of the Japanese Diet's degenerating into a talking machine. The most important measure does not bring more than three or four speakers into the rostrum, and as soon as any symptoms of duplicated arguments make themselves apparent, the closure is ruthlessly applied. There is, in truth, a marked tendency to abuse the closure. When a majority of the members have decided which way to vote, they are apt to be intolerant of their opponents' attempts to orate. It is also to be remarked that not one really eloquent speech was delivered within the walls of the House from the beginning to the end of the session. Mr. Ozaki Yukio's speech in opposition to the Bill for nationalizing Private Railways, and Mr. Seki Naohiko's speech in support of the admission of counsel to preliminary investigations in criminal cases, were, perhaps, the best specimens of parliamentary oratory. The Diet evinces a marked tendency to discount eloquence. During its first two or three sessions several of the members showed that they possessed great command of language and were gifted with many of the qualities that go to make an orator. The same men still occupy seats in the House, but their voices are virtually silent. The rule now commanding more and more faithful observance is to refrain from rhetoric or ornamental phrases, and to state facts as briefly and succinctly as possible. The Committee system is probably responsible in part. But we are inclined to think that the nature of the Japanese has also a great deal to do with it.

Another feature of the session was the

absolute impotence of the Opposition. One marvelled, from day to day, what had become of the great Party which once figured so conspicuously in the political arena. It seemed to be paralysed.

Yet another feature was the large crop of exceedingly evil reports that grew up as the session proceeded. Scarcely a Bill of any importance passed its various readings without an accompaniment of accusations against the morality of the members. One man was actually named by the press as having accepted a bribe, and himself actually proclaimed the truth of the accusation. Yet the House took not the smallest notice of the incident. Of course foreign observers can draw only one conclusion. There has probably been a great deal of exaggeration. There always is exaggeration in such matters. But there must also be a substratum of truth, and we are compelled to say that the House of Representatives rises from its thirteenth session with the adjective "corrupt" prefixed to its name.

TONNAGE DUES BILL.

The Conference of the two Houses with regard to the Tonnage Dues Law ended in a compromise, as might have been anticipated. The Government's proposal was that a vessel should pay ten *sen* per ton (net register) on entering a port, and that a lump payment of 30 *sen* per ton should confer the right of entering that port throughout a twelve-month. The Lower House amended these figures, first, by cutting down the payment of 10 *sen* to 5 *sen*; secondly, by providing that a payment of 10 *sen* per ton at the first port of entry should clear a vessel for all other ports on the same voyage; and thirdly, by adding that a single payment of 30 *sen* per ton should give the right of entry to any Japanese port for a year. But the agreement came to at the Conference of the two Houses was that the rates proposed by the Government should be reduced by one half. Thus a ship will have to pay 5 *sen* per ton at each port, and a single payment of 15 *sen* will clear her for twelve months with respect to the port where it is paid. This method will be easier to enforce than that proposed by the House of Representatives. Japanese journals are inclined to fear that foreign steamers will reduce their ports of call in this country so as to avoid the tax, but we doubt whether the amount is sufficient to produce that result.

THE RICE CROP.

Official statistics have now been collected with reference to the rice crop of last year. The *Shogyo Shimpō* publishes the figures. The total yield was 47,387,666 *koku*, or about $1\frac{1}{2}$ million *koku* larger than the most hopeful estimate. Such a crop has no parallel. The average yield is 38,564,408 *koku*, and the yield in 1897 was 33,039,293 *koku*, so that last year's figure is 23 per cent. above the average, and 43.4 per cent. above the crop of 1897. First class unhulled rice now sells for 10.53 *yen* per *koku*; second class for 9.90 *yen*, and 3rd class for 9.52 *yen*, the average being 9.98 *yen*. It will be seen, therefore, that the country derives from its rice crop of 1898 a return greater by 143 million *yen* than the return obtained in 1897.

THE SPECIE BANK.

The Specie Bank's regular semi-annual meeting was held on the 10th instant, when the following account was presented for the second half of 1898:—

Dr.	Yen.
Gross Earnings for the half-year.....	5,272,031
Brought over from Previous Account...	339,817
	5,611,848
Total Expenses, Losses &c....	3,942,258
Net Profit	1,669,590
Cr.	Yen.
To General Reserve	300,000
To Reserve for Equalization of Dividends	40,000
Rewards to Officers	79,786
Dividend (15 per cent. annually on old shares and No 1 New Shares; 12.25 on No 2 New Shares)	787,500
Building Fund	100,000
Carried to next Account	362,304
	1,669,590

The President, Mr. Soma, in presenting the Report, made a speech of some length. The appreciation of commodities, he said, and the excess of imports had reached their maxima in the half-year covered by the Report, and signs had subsequently become apparent that things were tending to resume their normal condition. Simultaneously with a gradual checking of the once rapid outflow of specie, prices had begun to fall, and although the customs returns showed an excess of imports over exports amounting to 111 million yen for the year, a fine rice harvest had put an end to the large arrivals of grain from abroad, and exports had simultaneously begun to grow. Manufacturers, also, had shown a disposition to heed the warnings of experience, so that the demand for capital diminished, and the Government, having received in May the whole remainder of the Indemnity from China, had, by bringing part of the money into the country, diminished the large excess of specie exports which must otherwise have been recorded. The sum of the excess stood at 44 million yen, much of which had consisted of silver coin and silver bullion. Money had gradually become easier, and the Banks, following the example of the Bank of Japan, had reduced their rate of interest. The Treasury's purchases of Bonds had helped to improve the situation, and on the whole there was reason to think that, unless something unforeseen should occur, the money market and the general course of business would now assume a satisfactory aspect. Mr. Soma then referred to financial conditions abroad: the outflow of gold to America which had led the Bank of England to raise its rate of interest from 2½ to 3 per cent., and subsequently to the very unusual figure of 4, in consequence of the demand for gold in Germany; the abnormally fine crop of wheat in the United States, and the consequent large exports of grain to Europe, with the result that much of the money obtained by the exporters had been invested in Europe, so that America, instead of attracting foreign capital, as had hitherto been the case, began to send capital abroad seeking employment. After the termination of the war with Spain business had been somewhat slow to recover its healthy tone, but ultimately the effects of restored peace had been felt, and, further, the cotton-spinning industry of Japan had benefited by cheap cotton in the United States in consequence of an

abundant crop and a small demand from Europe. On the other hand, the domestic market for yarns had been somewhat unhealthy, and, although the trade with Shanghai had been better than that during the previous half year, the Hongkong record had been unfavourable, owing to losses incurred by Chinese merchants there in connexion with rice speculations. During the first part of the half-year the price of bills upon America and Europe had been steady, but from September, owing to the bringing home of the Indemnity and to the large movement in imports, the Bank had found it expedient to sell bills rather than to buy them. Happily the great sums invested in imports, which had caused the Bank much concern, had begun to be gradually realized, and further, no severe fluctuations having taken place in the gold price of silver, satisfactory results had, on the whole, been obtained. Mr. Soma then spoke of the reputation and consequent increase of business accruing to the Bank's London Branch on account of handling the Indemnity; of the establishment of branches in Tokyo and Nagasaki; of the despatch of Mr. Yamakawa on a tour of inspection to China; of the appointment of Mr. Takahashi, one of their Directors, to be Vice-President of the Bank of Japan, and of the honorarium of 10,000 yen given to him by the Bank in consideration of his long and able service.

THE FRENCH ARMY.

A correspondent suggests that some of our readers may be misled by our translation of the telegram published on the 11th instant, with reference to M. de Freycinet's statement in the Chamber of Deputies. We made the French Minister of War say that "the country should not seek to reach the effective strength of the German Army," and our correspondent thinks that the words "effective strength" may convey to some people the significance of fighting power. In military language "effective strength" means simply the number of men borne on the roll for service in the field. The expression has a purely numerical sense. We do not ourselves imagine that any English reader can have found the term ambiguous, but in deference to our correspondent's suggestion we offer this explanation. M. de Freycinet's point, as we understand it, is nothing more than a repetition of a familiar military axiom:—Soldiers are useful only so far as they can be utilized. The Army of France has certain tolerably well defined functions to perform. The Minister of War estimates that its present establishment is amply sufficient to discharge those functions, actual or prospective, and that to increase its numbers to a degree disproportionate with the ends to be achieved, merely for the sake of rivalling or surpassing the numerical strength of a neighbouring Power, would be wasteful. The statement possesses great interest, for it amounts to a recognition of a principle automatically operating to produce the result which the Czar aims at achieving by diplomacy. If France is satisfied that her Army has now reached its limit of useful strength, she need not attend the pending Disarmament Conference, nor need the Conference seek to fix artificial restrictions of the nature contemplated, since they are fixed by factors much more trustworthy than any arbitrary provisions of international covenants.

SUPERFICIES.

Her Britannic Majesty's Minister, in a letter to the Honourable T. H. Whitehead, of which we published in this issue a copy, adds his testimony to that of the many competent authorities who have already informed the public that, according to the new Civil Code of Japan, subjects and citizens of the Treaty Powers will be entitled after next July, to obtain land for building purposes on leases the period of which may be fixed at any number of years convenient to the contracting parties. Our readers can not have forgotten the remarkably persistent denials of this fact which were published by local newspapers in Yokohama and Kobe in 1897, and the violence with which they traversed our interpretation of the Code. They even went so far as to accuse us of wilfully throwing dust in the eyes of the foreign public, the *Kobe Chronicle* being particularly conspicuous in its asseverations that the Code did not confer, and was not intended to confer, any such right. The point did not really admit of any doubt, and Her Majesty's Minister merely repeats the interpretation necessarily given to the Code by all competent readers. We learn with some surprise, however, from Sir Ernest Satow's letter, that no British subject has ever asked him for an opinion. We imagined that members of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce had done so, but the explanation doubtless is that, being quite satisfied about the plain meaning of the Code, they saw no reason to seek information from the Legation in Tokyo. It is to be regretted, however, that the Kobe memorialists did not adopt that simple precaution before putting their names to the document which they addressed to the British Foreign Office last year. They laid much stress in their Memorial on the fact that 20 years was the maximum period for land leases in Japan, and they dismissed, as practically valueless, the form of lease called "superficies," thus showing not only ignorance of facts, but also carelessness about seeking information, which, added to the intemperate and unjustified charges preferred in another part of the Memorial against the good faith of the Japanese Government, stamped the document as one of the most unfortunate that ever received the signatures of a number of responsible men. Sir Ernest Satow, in his letter to Mr. Whitehead, might have supplemented his information about superficies by pointing out that, although individual foreigners will not be entitled to own land in this country under the new system, companies registered in Japan will enjoy that privilege.

This leads us to the old question, now again brought on the tapis by the Kobe Chamber of Commerce, namely, the question of foreign capital and foreign ownership of land. The Chamber has placed on record its opinion that capital will not come to this country until the restriction upon foreign ownership of land is withdrawn. It is a pity that some demonstration of that proposition is not given by its formulators. We ourselves are strongly in favour of removing the restriction, for it merely injures Japan and hampers enterprise without conferring on the Japanese any beneficial security whatever. Moreover the land question has been pushed into such prominence that it now possesses factitious importance, and con-

stitutes a kind of bogie in the eyes of foreign capitalists. But has it really any claim to so much consideration? If an individual foreigner can obtain a lease of land for one hundred or two hundred years, and if two or more foreigners organized into a company can become actual owners of land, what is there to deter the foreign capitalist from erecting factories, building warehouses, constructing docks, or engaging in any other money-making enterprise? We know of one foreign company engaged at this moment in acquiring, for a purpose that will involve a large outlay of capital, lands which will be held from next July under a superficies, or owned by the company in its capacity of a legal person. Unfortunately all questions of this nature, instead of being discussed with the calm intelligence which they deserve, are quickly carried into an atmosphere of controversial caloric which stifles dispassionate reflection. But the Kobe Chamber of Commerce might have offered some demonstration of its very radical dictum about land and capital.

RELIGIOUS TEACHERS IN PRISONS.

It has been shown very clearly from the Government's explanations that the accusation preferred by some over-zealous persons in the matter of the Sugamo Prison was without foundation. Whether the Buddhist teachers at the jail mistook the nature of the official action, or whether rumour, as usual, perverted facts, the allegation that some of the Buddhist priests were authoritatively removed in order to make room for a Christian pastor appears to have been quite incorrect. What the Governor of the Prison did was simply to grant permission to a Christian pastor to take part in the functions hitherto discharged by Buddhists alone; a just and natural step, seeing that a fraction of the prisoners were Christians. The Buddhists seem to have taken umbrage at this infringement of their monopoly. They declined to work side by side with a Christian, and the result of their self-effacement was a situation which could easily be made to wear an arbitrary and unjust aspect. For whereas, out of some 1,900 prisoners only 30 were Christians, the withdrawal of the Buddhist teachers left the whole flock in charge of one Christian pastor, and the friends of Buddhism had no difficulty in demonstrating the impropriety of such a state of affairs. But it will be seen at once that the fault did not lie with the officials; it lay with the Buddhists themselves, since they preferred to abandon the field altogether rather than to share it with a Christian. We should be doing them an injustice, however, if we rested our statement of the case there. Another point has to be noted, namely, that prisoners in Government jails are not altogether free agents in the matter of receiving religious instruction. They have to attend services performed and listen to sermons preached in a hall set apart for those purposes. The Buddhists, therefore, argue, with much reason, that to compel 1900 persons to attend the ministrations of a Christian pastor because there happen to be 30 Christians among them, is arbitrary and unfair. It suggests itself at once to ordinary minds that the simplest way out of the difficulty is to give practical effect to the provisions of the Constitution by granting entire freedom of conscience to

the prisoners. That they should be required to receive religious instruction may be very well, but that Christians should be compelled to attend Buddhist ministrations, or Buddhists to listen to Christian services and Christian prayers, is contrary to the principle of freedom of conscience. It is conceivable that some difficulty might be experienced in regulating the hours of prison labour so as to make separate services possible for the followers of different faiths, but, since the thing is done in Europe and America, it can be done in Japan also.

Another point which seems to have been overlooked in connexion with this question is that to exclude Christian teachers from the jails would be to deprive the female prisoners of religious ministrations by persons of their own sex. In Western countries the fact that reformatory work among women should be done by women is constantly receiving wider recognition. The English Prison Gate Mission, which is under the patronage of the Duchess of York, the Prisoners' Aid Mission, and others have combined in testifying how much women may do for women criminals. The Japanese Government fully recognises that the prison system stands in need of improvement. Undoubtedly an important step in the right direction would be to allow educated female teachers of morality to have access to the thousands of women undergoing sentence in the jails throughout the country. There is no question of paid instructors. Plenty of women are ready to undertake the work for the love of charity and morality, as they do in England and other Occidental countries. Buddhism does not furnish female instructors at present, but doubtless that defect would soon be remedied if the fact of its existence were recognised. We understand that Buddhist priests now visit the women's jails regularly, and it can not be questioned that they do a great deal of good. But their usefulness must always be inferior to that of sympathetic educated women, who not only minister to the convict while she is undergoing sentence, but are ready also to advise her after she has emerged from prison. Apart from the problem as between Buddhism and Christianity, we have here a very obvious deficiency on the side of the former.

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

The Dreyfus affair must soon be carried to its finale. This morning the telegraph says that the celebrated *dossier secret* will be handed almost immediately to the Court of Cassation by the Minister of War, and thereafter there should be little delay in the Court's proceedings. It may reasonably be hoped that the verdict of the highest tribunal in the land will silence all further cavil or objection: Dreyfus' guilt or innocence will be placed beyond question so soon as the Court has spoken. Meanwhile, the public will learn with pleasure that Colonel Picquart is to be tried by a civil tribunal. Rightly or wrongly a strong impression prevails that, in view of the passions which have been excited, a court martial would not be likely to render full justice. At all events M. de Freycinet is adopting the most sagacious course when he resolves to employ every possible means of disarming criticism.

JUDICIAL AFFAIRS.

The Minister of State for Justice has addressed to Public Procurators an instruction having for its object the promotion and facilitating of judicial business. The document runs as follows:—

1. Since among the functions devolving upon a Public Procurator that of instituting a prosecution demands the utmost circumspection, it is essential to the proper discharge of his duty that when, in consequence of a charge preferred or of any other circumstance, he undertakes to institute proceedings, he should, whether a preliminary examination or a public trial be in contemplation, make the fullest possible scrutiny into the facts and the evidence, and should not take steps to institute a prosecution unless he is firmly convinced that a verdict of guilty can be obtained against the accused party.

2. The Judicial Police, also, should be instructed to act in accord with the above spirit and to exercise the utmost care to avoid any infringement of the rights of the person. With respect to trifling offences, when they consider that the proofs of guilt are not conclusive, or that, although such proofs are at hand, the injury caused by the offence is so petty that punitive measures are not essential in the interests of the public, the Judicial Police should conclude the examination at once, set the accused free forthwith, and merely send forward the documents relating to the case, so that anything like needless interference with the liberty of the subject may be avoided.

3. Alike in preliminary examinations and in public trials, the necessity of keeping an accused person under arrest is limited to cases where there is reason to apprehend that, if released, he may abscond or destroy the proofs of his guilt; and it is therefore a matter of course that accused persons should not be indiscriminately held under restraint. Hence, even in the case of accused persons who have been placed under arrest, their speedy release on bail or by intrusting (*shifu*), when their further detention is not deemed essential to the conduct of the case, should be borne in mind, and even though no application in that sense has been made by the accused, the Public Procurator, of his own accord, should inform him that consent can be obtained, and should make every effort, on the one hand, to respect rights of personal liberty, and, on the other, to shorten the period of detention.

4. Complaints have often been made that judicial proceedings are protracted and that the period of detention is lengthy. Such complaints are due primarily to want of accurate knowledge of the prescribed processes of Law Courts, especially in appeal cases where the facts are complicated and great difficulty is experienced in their investigation. Nevertheless the officials concerned ought to pay due attention to this point. Hence, in Local Courts and tribunals of inferior grade, when the facts of a case are simple and the proofs are considered sufficient, the hearing should be commenced with all possible expedition, whether there is question of a flagrant offence or otherwise, so that, provided no objection be raised by the accused, the judgment of the Court may be pronounced on the same day as, or on the day after, that when the prosecution was instituted. In cases of appeal, also, these points should be kept in view, and suitable measures should be devised with the object of expediting the proceedings and reducing the period of detention in jail.

Apart from the points covered by the above injunction, any measures which seem calculated to promote reform and improvement should be taken at once, to the end that all causes of dissatisfaction may be removed.

These are very excellent instructions, and if the delays that occur in judicial proceedings are attributable to want of diligence on the part of the police, the Public Procurators, or the Judges, the Minister's circular ought to produce a good effect. There are reasons to doubt, however, whether the judicial establishment in Japan is adequate to discharge the duties devolving on it. The Minister of Justice, speaking recently in the House of Peers, said that whereas France has 359 local courts and 2,866 district courts, and Ger-

* *Kiroi ni hore no shabaku shi* (not "release on bail," as one of our contemporaries has translated it).

† *Kenji wa susunde hore no koto suru no i oon kyoshi* (not "the public prosecutor should in his own initiative allow bail," as translated by a contemporary. A Public Prosecutor has no power to grant bail.)

many 172 local courts and 1,914 district courts, the corresponding numbers in Japan's case are 49 and 298. That is a very glaring discrepancy, and when we consider it, our wonder is, not that delays occur, but that so much expedition should be achieved. In the same speech the Minister read a table which it will be well to reproduce in this context:—

Number of persons who underwent preliminary examination in 1897				20,482
No. of decisions rendered within	5 days			930
do	do	10 do		1,903
do	do	15 do		2,365
do	do	20 do		2,229
do	do	30 do		3,376
do	do	60 do		5,475
do	do	90 do		2,076
do	do	180 do		1,424
do	do	do one year		231

No. of decisions not rendered within a year. 23
It should be explained that with the Public Procurator rests the primary duty of deciding whether a case shall be brought before the examining Judges or not. If he concludes that there is no evidence justifying such a course, the matter ends then and there. The cases tabulated above are those which were brought forward by the Public Procurator, and certainly the fact that out of every twenty cases examined by *Juges d'Instruction* only one was disposed of within 5 days, only three within 10 days, and only five within 15 days, does not constitute a very eloquent testimony to the rapidity of judicial proceedings in Japan. No doubt an increase of the number of *Juges d'Instruction* would expedite matters.

With regard to bail, it will be observed that the Minister of Justice instructs Public Procurators, of their own accord, to inform the accused person that an application by him will be successful, when he has failed to make such application though the circumstances of the case warrant it. In Japanese criminal procedure there are two methods of releasing a prisoner pending final judgment. Bail may be granted, or the Judge may hand him over to his relatives, enjoining the latter to produce him if necessary. The former is called *hoshaku*; the latter *sekifu*. It is scarcely necessary to say that a Judge has no power to grant bail unless an application be duly made for it. That is in the nature of things, for bail requires securities, and a Judge can neither furnish securities nor require the accused to furnish them. The Judge is, therefore, quite powerless in the matter of bail until the accused or his counsel makes application for it. When, however, the case is so trivial, or when the accused is implicated to such a small extent, that, in the opinion of the Court, no guarantee for his re-appearance is necessary, the Judge has competence to release him, even without application, merely desiring his family or relatives to re-produce him, if required. No penalty attaches to failure on the part of the family or relatives, so that the matter is altogether distinct from bail. It has been found in practice that the privilege of bail is not so largely claimed as it might be, the accused being often ignorant of his rights or of the procedure to be followed in asserting them. With the object of correcting that defect Public Procurators are now instructed to advise an accused person when an application for bail or "intrusting" is likely to be successful, and Judges are reminded that, consistently with the interests of justice, release by bail or by the process of *sekifu* is desirable. There has been a great deal of very singular writing in Kobe

on this subject of bail. The newspaper which distinguished itself in 1897 by confusing and obscuring the facts about land-leases and superficies, insisted recently on the manifestly absurd proposition that Japanese Judges are required by law to grant bail even though no application has been made for it, and then endeavoured to hide its blunder under the subterfuge that the law does actually confer such competence on Judges with regard to *sekifu*, though *sekifu* and bail are two entirely distinct affairs. We observe that the same journal, referring to the instruction translated above, interprets it thus:—"When the case is of a trivial nature the accused must be liberated on bail or placed in the care of his relatives, even though the accused does not ask for bail." This is very misleading, and if any unfortunate foreigner happens to rely on such a rendering of the law, he will commit a costly mistake. It can not be too clearly understood that Japanese Judges have no power to grant bail of their own initiative, and that the Instruction just issued by the Minister of Justice does not, and could not, alter the law in any way, but merely recommends Public Procurators, in certain cases, to advise accused persons that an application for bail or *sekifu* is in order and will doubtless be favourably entertained by the Judge.

THE POLICE AND THE JAILS.

We stated, some time ago, that the Government had decided to open a place of instruction for police and jail officials. The information may now be supplemented by saying that three German experts are to be employed as instructors. It will not be thought invidious, we trust, if we express some surprise that Germans only should be chosen for such a purpose. They do most things well in Germany, and Japan might congratulate herself if she possessed a prison system such as that which has been gradually organized in Saxony, for example, since the establishment of the celebrated penitentiary of Zwickau. But it can scarcely be claimed that German prisons stand first on the list in Europe, and, with regard to police, the force in Germany is generally said to be permeated by a military spirit which detracts greatly from the popularity of its methods. The political police constitute an important element in Germany, and the duties they perform with regard to the press, societies, clubs, and public and social amusements are not regulated by careful regard for the liberty of the subject. It may reasonably be claimed that in view of the very large preponderance of Anglo-Saxons among the foreign residents in Japan, police instructors should have been taken from England and America, for, other things being equal, Japan would certainly find it most convenient to train her police after the methods of the countries with which her chief intercourse will always be. We are aware that, at some points, her institutions have more in common with those of Germany than with those of England and America. For instance, the department which exists in Berlin for the supervision of prostitution has no counterpart in London or New York, whereas Japan has such a department. That is a partial explanation. One thing seems quite plain, however. It is that if Japan wants to see the Revised Treaties work smoothly, she ought to engage three or

four British or American inspectors of police for executive duty in Yokohama and Kobe. The foreign offender will be incomparably more tractable if he knows that he has to do in the last resort with a constable or inspector of Occidental origin.

MR. MARIANO PONCE.

Mr. Ponce, who is spoken of by the vernacular press as a Secretary of Aguinaldo, was entertained by the journalists of Tokyo at the Tokyo Club—not the Club of mixed nationalities, but the purely Japanese Club which has its habitat in the former Tokyo Hotel—on the 13th instant. It is carefully explained that the affair was not intended to be a demonstration in any sense, but that the hosts desired to learn what views are really entertained by the Filipinos as to the situation and its probable outcome. Mr. Ponce spoke very frankly. He said that the Filipinos were sincerely grateful to the Americans for driving the Spaniards out of the island, but that they did not intend to be swallowed up by their benefactors, nor could they believe that a people like the Americans, richly endowed with the spirit of righteousness and wedded to the principles of popular Government, would attempt to impose the yoke of a foreign Power on a nation struggling for freedom. He claimed that the administration of the islands during the past eight months had demonstrated the competence of the Filipinos to discharge autonomic functions; that the constant attempts made to discredit their capacity for self-government were simply pretexts to justify annexation; and that the cession of the Philippines to America by Spain was illegal, inasmuch as Spain, having ceased to be mistress of the islands, had forfeited her right to hand them over to a foreign State. Altogether it was a defiant and mettlesome speech, winding up with an appeal to Japanese journalists to help in obtaining recognition of Filipino independence. Some phrases seemed to suggest willingness to accept local autonomy under American suzerainty, but other utterances implied a resolve not to accept anything short of full independence. Dr. Ponce failed to suggest a fact which has now become apparent, namely, that had the Filipinos refrained from rebellion, they would have received much more consideration than they are likely to get now.

THE EDUCATION OF THE JUDICIARY.

Five Public Procurators and Four Judges have been ordered to proceed on a ten months' tour to foreign countries for the purpose of studying judicial procedure. Two Procurators and one Judge are destined for Germany and Austria; one Procurator and two Judges for Italy and France, and one Procurator and two Judges for England and America. This step is taken in connexion with the preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties, and we may therefore infer that these Procurators and Judges will, on their return, be employed in tribunals before which foreigners are likely to appear.

Owing to the severity of the weather three bears made their way into the city of Vancouver on Feb. 17. They were promptly killed, however.

THE LAW OF ELECTION.

THERE seems to be a great deal of misunderstanding about the points of difference between the two Houses of the Diet with regard to the new Law of Election. The Government had four objects in view when it framed the project submitted to the Lower House. It desired, first, to extend the franchise; secondly, to widen the area of election districts; thirdly, to introduce the system of unsigned ballots and *scrutin individuel*, thus securing to every elector complete independence and providing for the representation of minorities; and fourthly, to procure larger representation for the commercial and manufacturing classes, which are now most unfairly outweighed by the agricultural members. As to the two first of these objects, the Lower House raised no objection. It went even farther than the Government in lowering the franchise qualifications, and it was quite content that Cities and Prefectures should be the future electoral districts. But it would not have unsigned ballots; it would not have *scrutin individuel*, and it declined to make any new arrangement with regard to the representation of the urban and rural populations. The Upper House, on the contrary, endorsed the Government's proposals *en bloc*. Hence, when a conference of the two Houses was held, the major points of dispute were:—(1) Signed or unsigned ballots; (2) *scrutin individuel* or *scrutin de liste*; and (3) the relative representation of the urban and rural populations. It was supposed that the delegates of the Lower House would show some obstinacy in adhering to *scrutin de liste* and signed ballots. They did not. They conceded these two points without difficulty. Hence there remained only the problem of adjusting the ratio of urban to rural representatives. That, however, was a crucial problem. The Government's project was that every urban district should return at least one member, and that if its population exceeded 50,000, it should return a second member for each excess of 80,000, or fraction of 80,000. A rural district, on the other hand, was to return only one member until its population exceeded 120,000, after which limit it would be entitled to elect a second member for every additional 12,000, or fraction of that number. This system the Lower House amended radically. It swept away the distinction of urban and rural, and decided that every district should return one member until its population exceeded 100,000, after which it should have an additional representative for every additional 10,000 of population, or fraction of that number not less than 50,000. The results of the two projects would have been:—

GOVERNMENT PROJECT.	
Rural Representatives	347
Urban Representatives	98
Total	445

LOWER HOUSE'S PROJECT.

Rural Representatives	394
Urban Representatives	76
Total	470

The urban population of Japan aggregates 10 millions, in round numbers, against a rural population of 32 millions. Hence, assuming the two classes equal, unit for unit, in respect of wealth, intelligence, and education—an assumption very unfair to the urban folks—there ought to be one urban representative for every three rural; in other words, if the total membership of the House be 445, the urban constituencies should have 111 seats and the rural, 334; and if the total membership be 470, the ratio of urban to rural representatives should be 118 to 352. These calculations show how widely the Lower House's project diverged from the indications of justice; and the divergence becomes still more flagrant when we observe that in every moral and material qualification for parliamentary representation the urban population has a marked advantage over the rural. Thus when the conference of the two Houses came to consider this question, it was necessary either that the Delegates of the Lower House should agree to a fundamental change, in the sense of discriminating between the urban and the rural populations; or that the delegates of the Peers should abandon one of the chief purposes, if not the cardinal purpose, contemplated by the Government in framing the Law. It was here that the Conference failed. The delegates of the Representatives declared their willingness to raise the inferior limit from 100,000 to 120,000 for urban and rural districts alike, thus reducing the total membership to 406. The delegates of the Peers declared that they were not concerned about the dimensions of the total membership, their paramount aim being to secure a proper proportion of seats for the urban population. They offered to concede certain minor points—namely, to reduce the security lodged by persons appealing to the Law Courts against the result of an election, and to enfranchise the inhabitants of the Goto Islands, of Sado, and of Iki—but they insisted on re-asserting, in part at any rate, the basic principle of the Government's project. To this the delegates of the Lower House would not agree, and thus the Bill failed to pass. Impartial onlookers must condemn the action of the Lower House's delegates. The urban population's electoral rights demanded just recognition, whereas they were sacrificed on the altar of party interests. Of course these reforms are only deferred.

The blizzard that raged through the eastern States on February 12th was very severe. In Washington snow fell to the depth of three feet, and the Senate had to open without prayer, the Chaplain being snow-bound. In New York, Pittsburg, Philadelphia, and other big cities many deaths resulted. In Florida great damage was done to the orange groves.

CONCERT AT UYENO.

A most interesting concert was given in Tokyo on Saturday afternoon, the 11th instant, by the Meiji Ongaku Kwai—in the Uyeno Music Hall. This society consists of Japanese gentlemen who are devoting their leisure time to the study and practice of European instrumental music. After working by themselves for a year or two they have recently induced that enthusiastic amateur, Mr. E. H. House, to become their Conductor, with excellent results.

The band consisted of thirteen pieces, Violins (4), Viola, Cello and Contrabasso, Flute, Clarinets (2), Cornet, Horn, and Trombone, and was most admirably balanced. Mr. House is a true artist, and, though he had not a large palette of colours with which to work, he succeeded in producing some exquisite paintings in miniature.

As to the performers they showed an earnestness of purpose worthy of all praise. Intonation and timbre generally good, the selections performed were done with a mechanical and technical precision, remarkable in beginners. Courage, gentlemen! press on! you have overcome the initial difficulties, and possess the key which will unlock for you the mighty thoughts of the great tone poets of the West.

With regard to the programme, numbers 2, 5, and 10 were the most satisfactory in performance. Indeed so well was the dainty Elfen-marsch played that it had to be repeated. The efforts of the society are at present most successful in quiet slow movements; the necessary *élan* for the proper representation of quick brilliant numbers has yet to come.

Mrs. Mollison kindly gave some vocal pieces in her own inimitable style, the accompaniments thereto being essayed by Mrs. F. H. Clark in the absence of Mr. Mason.

The hall was well filled by an attentive and delighted audience, and we congratulate the Meiji Ongaku Kwai upon its present success; but above all upon securing the help of their talented conductor, who is devoting his erudition and cultured leisure to their cause.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

- 1—Overture... "Le Roi d'Yvetot" A. Adam
- 2—Elt March..... Bergmann
- 3—Soprano Solo... "Ave Maria" Gounod
(Violino Obligato by Mr. Fehling.)

Mrs. Mollison.

- 4—Andante, from Symphony in G..... J. Haydn
- 5—Waltz "Dispositionen" J. Rixner

PART II.

- 6—Mazurka "Zagloba" Seimans
- 7—Slumber Song..... J. Mason
(Violin Solo by Mr. T. Ono.)

"Sweet and low, sweet and low,
Wind of the western sea."

- 8—Cavatina... "Una Voce Poco Fa" Rossini
(Cadenza by Mme. Jenny Lind Goldschmidt.)

Mrs. Mollison.

- 9—"Kimigayo" (Arranged in conformity to the
Ancient Dorian Mode.)
- 10—Galea "Storm" —

PROROGATION OF THE DIET.

The ceremony of proroguing the Diet took place on the 10th instant at 11 a.m. The Speech from the Throne was, as usual, very brief:—"We hereby inform the two Houses that the Imperial Diet stands prorogued from this day, and We take the opportunity of expressing Our satisfaction that you have fully discharged your functions of consent in accordance with Our intentions."

TOKYO ROADS.

There is a story current in Tokyo at present which illustrates the citizens' idea of the state of the roads. A rustic, having paid his first visit to the capital, is said to have been questioned, on his return home, about his impressions of the city. "Well," he replied, "it was certainly fine. But everything wasn't on as big a scale as I expected. The shops are grand, and the houses are rich, and the electric light wakes one up; but the paddy-fields are poor things. Why, we have much bigger ones in our own village." The gentleman had mistaken the streets for paddy-fields.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The *Rikugō Zasshi* has an article on the fear of foreigners which has for centuries rested like a nightmare on the minds of a certain class of Japanese. It existed, says this organ, to a limited extent in the Ashikaga era, but under the Tokugawa rule it was immensely increased by the anti-Christian policy of the Government. The arrival of Perry and the forcing of a treaty on the hitherto powerful Japanese Government multiplied a hundred-fold the vague apprehensions of the nation. It cannot be said that the events of the last thirty years have altered the feelings of the mass of the people. The general notion throughout the provinces, as may be seen by the public utterances of the representatives of the people, is still a craven and unworthy dread of the Occidental, who is regarded as a grasping, unscrupulous intruder, who comes to Japan in order to take what he can, but gives nothing in return. The *Rikugō* divides the people that still regard the foreigner as a hobgoblin into two classes, namely, those who bark and those who wag their tails, and adds, *sono nasu koto wa ryōhō betsu naredomo, sono kokoro no soko wa onaji, tada osore no kokoro, kore nari*, "Though their action is different, at the bottom of their hearts both parties have the same feeling, which is nothing but fear." The barkers and the fawners alike, says the *Rikugō*, are under a misapprehension. As a matter of fact, if Japan will but set about fitting herself for the altered situation she can have nothing to fear. The respects in which it is necessary for us to show a bold front to foreigners are five in number. (1) In armaments; (2) in learning, arts, and industries; (3) in law and politics; (4) in wealth; and (5) in religion and morality. About the three first there is no room for apprehension, but as regards the two last we are not ready to compete with the Occidental, say some. All the hysterical writing about mixed residence is connected with a consciousness of comparative poverty or a consciousness of a certain class of moral and religious inferiority. Not a few allege that foreigners are so rich that they will buy us up everywhere; while others affirm that Christians are pushing and their methods of propaganda so superior to ours that our creeds will stand no chance against them. There is a good deal of truth in what is said about the superiority of foreigners in the two particulars above specified. But the proper remedy is not to decry competition, but to encourage it to the utmost, to rest assured that the fittest will survive, and to make up our minds that

we can improve ourselves to such an extent as not eventually to fall behind Occidentals in the race. We welcome the near approach of mixed residence, because we believe that it is destined to remove the last of all the causes of fear that have been cherished by a large section of the nation. The policy of trying to defend what is indefensible had better at once be abandoned. What is destructible nobody can save. The test about to be applied will soon show what is trustworthy and what not.

A magazine has been started in connection with the Central Tabernacle, Hongō, which bears the title of the *Chūō-kaidō Kyōhō*. In the first number, the Rev. H. H. Coates states the principles which the new periodical is designed to enunciate and explain, which are of the ordinary orthodox type. At a meeting held at the Tabernacle reported in the new magazine Mr. Tomeoka Kōsuke spoke on "Prison Reform." As Mr. Tomeoka has made a special study of this subject, we furnish an abstract of his address:—There are three kinds of prison reform that should be considered separately, namely, reforms effected by governments, reforms which result from educating agencies, and reforms brought about by religious teaching. It is in this last that I take a special interest, and which for the past 15 years I have been endeavouring to further. I have met with a good deal of indifference and opposition to my work even among professing Christians. After visiting various prisons I came to the conclusion that the reformatories and other facilities for improving the minds of criminals were altogether inadequate. I laid my views before the Authorities, and as a result I was employed in the Sugamo prison, where I had an opportunity of carrying out the principles that I had advocated. . . . The urgency of prison reform in Japan may be shown by comparing Japanese statistics of crime with those of other countries. According to the latest report issued by the Home Department, the number of prisoners in Japan to-day is 70,000 and the number of prisons a little over 100. No fewer than 13,000 men are required to guard these prisoners, and the cost is about 4½ million *yen*, to which must be added another 16 million *yen* as the cost of the maintenance of the Police and Courts of Law. Criminals are on the increase year by year, and the number of persons who are committed for second offences is stated to be 70 per cent. In England there is one criminal among every 1,600 persons. The rate in America is 1.2 for every 1,000 persons, America having 90,000 prisoners in a population of 70 millions. Our rate is almost 2 for every 1,000 inhabitants. . . . There are many who maintain that it is quite impossible to reclaim persons who have repeatedly been transgressors, but our experience goes to prove that this theory is quite false. According to statistics furnished by Mr. Hara Taneaki, who is engaged in Reformatory work, about 84 per cent. of the ex-prisoners in Reformatories have been reformed. My experience goes to show that the majority of the prisoners that return to a life of crime do so on account of the difficulty of making a living by honest work rather than as a result of the promptings of criminal instincts. The study of crime which I made while serving in the Suga-

mo gaol convinced me that in a very large number of cases it is his surroundings that makes the criminal, and that if we wish to bring about a decrease of crime, we must purify the moral atmosphere which is inhaled from morning to night by certain sections of the lower orders.

In the magazine from which we have quoted above Mr. Takagi Jintarō contends that there are three ideas that are absent from the Japanese mind in its normal condition. (1) A definite idea of God. (2) A clear notion of what constitutes sin. (3) A belief in a future life. Entirely new conceptions on these subjects need to be imported from abroad and instilled into the minds of the rising generation, says Mr. Takagi.

Mr. Uchimura Kanzō has some hard things to say about the Dōshisha trustees in the magazine of which he is the editor, the *Tōkyō Dokuritu Zasshi*. The title of the article is 神と金, *Zoku to Kami* ("God and Mammon," or "Things Sacred and Things Common"). "The Dōshisha," says Mr. Uchimura, is "an institution that was established by an extremely heterogeneous set of people. Among its originators there were men of strong Unitarian tendencies, there were clerks of foreign merchants, there were stockbrokers, there were banking people, there were evangelists of an emasculated type, there were religious schemers, and there were newspaper editors. On the one hand the promoters of the movement accepted money of American Christian believers; on the other they helped to fill their coffers with the polluted coin of men like the late Count Goto. Who can be surprised at the turn that things have taken? The fruits that the tree has borne are just what might be expected from it. To our minds Buddhism, Confucianism, or Mohammedanism is infinitely preferable to such a veritable hodge-podge of things sacred and things secular as has been dished up by these Dōshisha caterers. The whole affair is something of which Japanese have reason to be ashamed. . . . It is not of the failure of the institution that we complain, but of the ignominious way in which it failed. The Dōshisha, it is quite evident, does not believe in the Christianity on which it is said to be founded. The action of the trustees has damaged Japanese reputation and injured the Christian cause in Japan. As citizens these men have been disloyal, and as professors of religion they have been insincere."

The Dōshisha question is discussed in other organs, but it seems to us that there is not much that is new to be said about it. A long article that lies before us contends that the Japanese trustees were willing to carry out the spirit of the original rules of the Association, but that the American Missionaries insist on the observance of the letter of the rules as well, and wish to have Christian services regularly held in the school, as was at one time done. It is quite evident that the parties concerned have lost confidence in each other. By the parties concerned we mean the former trustees and the representatives of the American Board. From information which has reached us from another source, we gather that the New Trustees are likely to come to an understanding with the Board as to future action.

We read in the *Kirisutōkyō Shimbun*

that arrangements are being made to call a meeting of leading Japanese and foreign Christians for the middle of March. It is to be a grand affair, and the *Kirisutōkyō Shimbun* is confident that it will cause a stir. Invitations to attend are to be sent to Ministers of State and other high officials. Addresses will be given, and the meeting at the Imperial Hotel will be followed by a series of gatherings to be held in every district of Tōkyō, at which evangelists connected with the Fukuin Dōmei Kai and others will speak. The estimated cost of the whole movement is put down at 600 yen. It is over 15 years, says the organ we are quoting, since anything so big was attempted. A meeting of representatives of various churches to discuss the movement and make arrangements was held in the Young Men's Hall, Kanda, Tōkyō, on January 30th.

* * *
In No. 808 of the *Kirisutōkyō Shimbun* is published the report of an interview held with Bishop Nicolai by a person who signs himself "Kikusenshi." There is nothing at all original in the remarks that the Bishop is represented as having made except one that has reference to Protestant teaching, which was to the effect that Protestants aim too little at awakening the conscience, and that hence the development of intellect which they bring about is of little avail. The Bishop is represented as stating the well-known doctrines of orthodox Christians, the personality of God, the immortality of the soul, the efficacy of prayer, and the doctrine of original sin, in fact of preaching a little sermon to his interviewer, such as may be heard every Sunday in orthodox churches.

In the *Fukuin Shimpō* Mr. Oshikawa Masayoshi traces the connection between misconceptions as to doctrine or facts and steadfast faith. He says that it is customary with the majority of Christians to associate certain things in their minds, and that their belief is very much affected thereby. The following are the instances of this which he cites: (1) Men are in the habit of thinking of the doctrine preached and the life of the preacher together. They expect a certain amount of consistency between them; and should they find actual contradiction, their faith in the doctrine preached is very much shaken. Yet in point of fact a man's teaching may be everything that is good and worthy of being followed, while his life is bad. The ill-health of a doctor does not demonstrate the inefficacy of his remedies when applied. (2) There is much misconception as to the connection between Theology and Christianity. They are considered by some to be two names for one thing. But this is quite a mistaken view. Theology may change, but Christianity never changes. Theology is a system of Christian philosophy, and as such differs considerably from age to age and is not exactly alike in any two countries. Yet it is quite common to find the faith of Christians immensely influenced by some new development in theological teaching. Misconception here also produces unbelief. (3) How many there are that regard the Bible and Christianity as inseparable. But Christ is greater than the Bible. It cannot be said that the Bible as an expositor of Christ's character approaches any way near exhausting the subject. The true worshipper of Christ elevates him above the Bible and makes the latter

only an imperfect mouthpiece of the one in whom all fullness dwells. (4) Another common misconception of Christianity that affects belief is the notion that by some supernatural process a person who has been living a bad life can at once be transformed into a perfectly virtuous man or woman. The return of the wanderer to the paths of virtue and goodness does not consist of a number of stupendous leaps, but of steady arduous plodding at an ordinary rate of progress. Mental changes and developments even with Christians are governed by laws that never alter. Nature is not to be hurried to please anybody. The Christianity of some people is far too transcendental. (5) There are misconceptions about the main object of Christ's coming into the world. He came to save men's souls and to fit them for the bliss of heaven. The things of this world are rendered insignificant by their comparison with those of the next. To say that Christianity is all for this world or all for the next is alike erroneous. It is for both. (6) How mistaken are the notions of a large number of Christians on the subject of doubts. They regard it as a sin to doubt, and talk as though faith could be forced on the soul in some arbitrary manner. They struggle against their doubts and suffer much. I have gone through this, says Mr. Oshikawa, and at such times have longed to retreat to the mountains and live as a hermit. I have suffered from all these misconceptions, but have at length arrived at convictions on several points which nothing can move: I believe that we can worship God. I believe that we can know Christ. Whether Christ be declared to be only a man, or whether he be called God is nothing to me (*Kirisuto wa hito to iu mo, Kami to iu mo, ware ni oite kwankei nashi.*) To me Christ is the 中和, *Chūka*,* the one standard by which all things are to be measured and the high way which we must all tread, and the 天地正夫の美, the *Tenchi Seidai no bi*, the one great, all-pervading Holy Spirit of the Universe.

* * *
In our last Summary we mentioned that Mr. Fukuchi Genichirō had published for private circulation an essay on Confucius. We have since been favoured by the author with a copy of his monologue and are now in a position to lay before our readers a somewhat fuller account of Mr. Fukuchi's views. Following Burmese history, Mr. Fukuchi makes out that Confucius and Shaka Muni were contemporaries, and that Confucius was born 13 years after Shaka, and died six years after him.† Speaking of the state of religious belief

* The reference is to a passage in the *Chūyō*, "The Doctrine of the Mean" where *Chū* is defined as *tenka no fathon* and *ka* as *tenka* 天. [Writer of the Summary.]

† We are surprised at Mr. Fukuchi's adopting such a theory. The date of Confucius' birth was B. C. 551 or 550. The dates given for Shaka's birth vary considerably. Chinese and Japanese Buddhists say B. C. 1027. Certain European scholars prefer B. C. 653, while T. W. Rhys Davids, a very great authority, speaking of Shaka's death, says, "The date, derived from Ceylon, which is usually assigned to that event is 543 B. C., but those scholars who have devoted most attention to the point hold this calculation to contain a certain error of about 60 years, and a probable error of 80 to 100 more; so that the date for the death of Buddha would have to be brought forward to 400 B. C., or a few years later." Thus we see that there is no foundation for Mr. Fukuchi's notion that Confucius and Shaka were contemporaries during the greater part of their lives. [Writer of the Summary.]

in China in the time of Confucius, Mr. Fukuchi says that the existence of a chief god called 上帝, *Jōtei*, was undoubtedly recognised, but that in addition to this Being a number of divinities known as 鬼神, *Kishin*, were worshipped. So that the form of religion in vogue at that time may be said to be polytheistic. Confucius most certainly acknowledged the existence of *Jōtei* and the divinities and demons included in the term *Kishin*. But though he refers to these beings and also constantly uses the term 天命 *Temmei*, "will of Heaven," yet he never undertakes to define any of these terms nor to explain the relation to the universe of the beings to whom they refer. Upon the use he made of these terms certain Chinese scholars have based the theory that Confucius was not an atheist and not a materialist, and that his system of ethics may be said to have a religious basis. Whether they are warranted in drawing this inference is very questionable. . . .

What concerns us, continues Mr. Fukuchi, is the fact that religion is to a certain extent mixed up with Confucian ethics, just as philosophy was mingled with all Shaka's religious teaching. In both cases the associations were the result of environment. . . . Confucius, like Shaka, suffered from the want of talented disciples. It is quite evident that the men to whom Confucius habitually discoursed on philosophic themes and on whom rested the responsibility of transmitting his views to posterity were very inferior to him. What they have given us only reveals glimpses of the sage's mind. Here and there in the "Analects" we seem to see indications of depths that his disciples failed to fathom. What we are told only makes us curious to know more. . . . His mind developed slowly. According to his own testimony he was 68 before he reached that stage of superior insight into things called 大悟, *Daigo*. This left little time for initiating his followers in the more abstruse parts of his philosophic creed. He spent 33 years in labouring to establish a higher moral standard in politics than existed at that time. He preached against aggression. He condemned the increase of armaments, set up a standard of morals for officials, and attacked existing abuses with such vigour that he alienated all those whom he sought to influence, and did not live to see any of his ideals carried into practice. It was only at the end of his career, when he was satisfied that nothing that he could do to arrest the march of events would be of any use, that he began to figure as a high class philosopher. It was during the latter years of his life that he uttered those sayings which have been cherished by successive generations. There is no higher political morality than was taught by him, and human life would be the better were the justice, the benevolence, and the sincerity on which he laid such stress more practised by the leading nations of the world, concludes Mr. Fukuchi, whose admiration, at the age of 60, for the sage whose light burnt brightest in his declining years is evidently very intense.

* * *
No. 3 of the *Taiyō* contains an article discussing the relation of Buddhism to the State, of which the following is the gist. In early times Japanese Buddhism laid itself out to obtain the patronage of the noble and the wealthy. Those who objected to its worldliness became

hermits and retired to the mountains. Shinran and Nichiren had the honour of preaching a gospel for the poor, and their followers have made this a special feature of their teaching, but the majority of Buddhists rely on government help almost exclusively. It is high time that we should bury the past and either support Buddhism for what it is or not support it at all. What are its merits to-day? Is it not a mere cumberer of the ground? Will it bear comparison with Christianity in any one characteristic by which the influence of religion is to be judged? Where are its missions? Do the priests who go to foreign countries do anything but perform a few ceremonies for the Japanese who are residing in those countries? What has Buddhism done in the way of education? Is it not a fact that the non-government female schools are all Christian? In all the various works of benevolence how poor a figure does Buddhism cut! In great moral reforms its influence is in modern times practically nil. The crusade against concubinage it has opposed, because Christians have been its promoters. In total abstinence, a Christian movement, it has ranked itself with the defendants of drink. In the world of thought who can discover any power wielded by Buddhists? They are fond of talking of their connection with the Government; but what Government measure can be traced to their influence? Upon the great questions of the day do Buddhists ever make their voices heard? . . . What hope there may be for the future is centred in the young men who have just entered or are about to enter the ministry. But the question is, will they be strong enough to regenerate the whole sect? Is it not more likely that they will, like so many of their predecessors, become the victims of environment?

In the pages of the *Shinri* (No. 108) the Rev. H. Minami gives us an article entitled, *Tōhon Nihon Kirisuto Kyōkai no Mondai* (Questions [to be considered] by Japanese Christians at present), which is characterised by his usual earnestness, honesty, and wisdom. The idea that things must be superior because they come from the West having exploded, says Mr. Minami, Christianity has, among other things, been treated with disfavour. There was talk of a Christian revival in our midst, but of late one has heard nothing about it. I for one do not regret that things are progressing slowly, and deprecate anything like an attempt to force the pace by unnatural excitement. Among the advocates of revivals how many are there whose faith is steadfast? Sudden changes of any kind are accompanied by many evils. Foreign food and foreign cooking may be better adapted for nourishment than Japanese, but in the case of one unaccustomed to foreign diet violent fits of indigestion often attend its too sudden adoption. So is it with things mental. Slow progress is best for us, but we must not be content to stand still; and it is quite plain that evangelistic work must not be neglected. In connection with this there are two questions which it is important to consider at the present time, one concerns schools known as *Dendō Gakkō* (Mission Schools); the other regular Theological Seminaries.

(1). In reference to schools designed to give young men the education they require and at the same time intended to act as

propagators of Christian doctrines among the unbelievers who are allowed to attend such institutions, thoughtful persons cannot have watched the Dōshisha experiment with considerable interest. The question which the course of events connected with that institution has forced on the attention of the Christian public is this: Which is the better policy to adopt, to teach Christianity in an open manner in Mission schools and forego the privilege of being recognised by the Mombushō and of coming under its regulations, or to be content to allow schools to be Christian in spirit, while secular in name and in form, and thus secure a large number of students and exemption from military service for the pupils? The notion of making a school Christian in reality, through not so in name, sounds very well in theory, but can it be carried into practice? We Japanese Christians have certainly no data to go on in this matter. We have not tried any such experiment, and therefore should proceed with extreme caution. It cannot be said that the Kyōto attempt to teach Christianity in an indirect manner by means of an education that was for the most part secular has yielded such results as would warrant the adoption of this policy by mission schools generally. It is quite plain that the Christianity which it would be possible to teach in a school controlled by the Mombushō would be very hazy and unpronounced. If Christianity is to be properly understood its whole history must be studied in a methodical manner and the Bible must become a text-book. It has been proposed to establish a Christian department in connection with secular schools and make attendance at the classes held by Christian teachers voluntary. But the present Department of Education could not be induced to sanction such an arrangement. Is there no hope of Christian schools receiving the recognition from the Mombushō to which they are entitled and of their being endowed with the same status as other government schools? This is the only satisfactory solution of the difficulty in which we find ourselves.

(2) The connection of Theology with Christianity is a subject that is attracting considerable attention. In the pages of the *Shinseiki* Mr. Kosaki Hiromichi undertakes to instruct his readers as to the views held by the party which he calls the Jiyūshingaku-ha (the Liberal Theology party). He says that we are content with a moral creed founded on the Sermon on the Mount; that we reject the doctrine of the personality of God and of the Divinity of Christ, that we do not believe in the atonement or the orthodox teaching about sin, nor in miracles, and that we are teaching a Christian morality that has no Christian Theology—a Christianity deprived of all supernatural elements, and so on. This is all very foolish. What authority has Mr. Kosaki for alleging that the Liberal section of the Christian church teaches a Christianity that has no Theology in it? The only thing that we do allege is that Christianity and Theology are different, that Christian dogma and Christianity are not to be confounded. But we have never maintained that Theology and Christianity should be entirely severed from each other. That Christianity and Theology are different is recognised by Christians who do not belong to our body. Take for instance the utterance of Mr. Oshikawa Masayoshi in the *Fukui Shimpō*,* *Kirisutokyo to Shingaku wa onaji mono ni*

arasu; Shingaku wa hensuru mo Kirisutokyo wa hensazu. "Christianity and Theology are not the same; though Theology may change, Christianity does not change." I, for one, concludes Mr. Minami, rejoice that the connection between Christianity and Theology is attracting attention, and the discussions that are taking place will affect the Theological teaching carried on in Divinity schools.

The Greek Church organ, the *Seikyō Shimpō*, has in its 436th number an article on the connection of Spain's defeat with the religion she professes. Whether religion be connected with the State or not, in every country State losses and gains are keenly felt by the professors of any form of faith, says the *Seikyō Shimpō's* editorial. Times were when victory was said to be the result of the help of God and defeat a sign of His anger, when superiority in war was thought by many to indicate religious superiority. Many Christians have a way of talking that leads one to infer that Christianity and civilisation are the same thing and that in war the most Christian nation always wins. But history contradicts this, and furnishes numerous instances of most pious people being overthrown and downtrodden by comparatively godless armies. Nevertheless there is no doubt a close connection between the decline of Spain's power and the creed of her people. It is well known, continues the *Seikyō Shimpō*, that her priests purposely keep the masses of the people in ignorance and that there are few darker places in Europe than the interior of Spain, unless we include some parts of Italy. Where power is placed in the hands of the priests, where they control the press and have charge of most of the schools, and where it is to their interest to keep the people ignorant, one may say they are in a sense responsible for the failure of a State to prepare itself to meet such a crisis as that through which Spain has recently passed. It is the universal testimony of Japanese who have lately visited Roman Catholic countries that they are behind the rest of the Western world. A short time ago the Roman Catholic organ, the *Tenchijin*, tried to prove that Roman Catholic Christianity and advanced civilisation work together hand and glove, but the facts which are published from time to time about the state of Roman Catholic countries are directly opposed to any such theory, concludes the *Seikyō Shimpō*.

We have several times noticed books on Christian subjects from the pen of L'Abbé Francois Ligneul. We find now that at the office of the *Tenchijin* no fewer than 15 small works on evidence, philosophy, Christian doctrine, and ecclesiastical history are advertised for sale. These books are highly spoken of in several organs. They are said to be written in a style that is suited to the comprehension of all classes and to be characterised by the lucidity for which so many French writers are specially noted.

This year's *Kirisutokyo Meikan* (Christian Directory) has been enlarged. It is divided into 8 parts, with the following headings. (1) Male Individuals. (2) Pastors. (3) Churches. (4) Schools. (5) Associations or Corporations (Dantai). (6)

* Vide the account of Mr. Oshikawa's views given in an earlier part of this summary.

Benevolent Societies. (7) Magazine Publishing Companies and Bookshops. (8) Christian Statistics. The names are arranged alphabetically, that is, according to the Japanese alphabet, and addresses are given in all cases, also the name of the sect to which each individual Christian belongs. The work is for sale at the Ginza Jūjiya, at 20 *sen* per copy. In the preface it is stated that some 8 or 9 persons have assisted in its compilation. Statistics bearing on mission work in Formosa are given for the first time in this year's issue. The book ought to prove of great value to Christians who are travelling from place to place, as they can obtain all the information they need from its pages.

MEMBERS OF THE INNS OF COURT RESIDENT IN JAPAN.

The Members of the Inns of Court now in Japan, foreign and Japanese, have organized a kind of social association. They met for the first time at dinner in the Hotel Metropole, Tokyo, on February 4th. The meeting was not open to reporters, but in view of the interest of the proceedings an account has been prepared, which we now lay before our readers. Those who attended were:—Viscount Nagaoka Morigoshi, in the chair; Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, Mr. J. F. Lowder, Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Mr. A. B. Walford, Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., Mr. Montague Kirkwood, Mr. Hoshi Toru, Mr. Okamura Teruhiko, Mr. Hodzumi Nobushige, Mr. Makujima Rokuichiro, Mr. Nemura Shimpei, Mr. Shimidzu Ichitaro, Mr. Hijikata Nei, and Mr. Tomizu Hirato.

The following also were invited to join, and the first three on the list signified their acquiescence in the scheme of organization, though they were unable to attend:—Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, Mr. J. C. Hall, Mr. J. H. Longford, Mr. H. C. Brushfield, Mr. J. B. Rentiers, Mr. J. H. Gubbins, Mr. Mochizuki Kotaro, Viscount M. Inaba.

In the course of the dinner Viscount Nagaoka, the Chairman, proposed:—"The Emperor" and "The Queen."

Next the Chairman proposed "the Inns of Court," to which Mr. Shimidzu responded as follows:—

SPEECH BY MR. ICHITARO SHIMIDZU.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:—You have called upon me, as the youngest member of the Bar present, to return thanks for this toast, and this affords me the opportunity of addressing you for a few minutes. I feel the greatest pleasure and interest in doing so, and for these reasons: Firstly, to-day, the fourth of February, is the anniversary of my return to Japan from England, of my arriving at Yokohama the happy bearer of a certificate, showing that I was a member of our Middle Temple. Consequently, to-day for me is a memorable day, and I cannot help feeling infinitely pleased to think that on this very day should be held the first meeting of the Inns of Court in Japan, an auspiciously inaugurated. I sincerely believe and hope that this association will be organized on a permanent basis, and that it will meet with the support of all members of the Inns who may be in this country. Secondly, seeing that all the members present here to-night are my elder brothers, if I may have the honour to call them, I am greatly stimulated to become more diligent, more energetic, and more confident in the future in the hope that I may some day enjoy a like distinguished position. But not only that, their presence reminds me of those many happy days I spent in England, of lectures at the Middle Temple, of its library, of that

grand Dining Hall, toasting Her Majesty the Queen on Grand Day, of the hope that filled my heart on Call Day—yes, your presence to-night renews and refreshes those happy recollections, and awakes again the memory of a thousand associations, forcing me to, in truth, exclaim that England is indeed my second native land. Thirdly, on my way back to Japan from Paris, I contributed an essay under the title of "The necessity of Treaty Revision with Japan" to "The *British Economic Journal*," through Count Hino, a friend of mine who was then staying in London. The editor, my friend wrote, asked him several times about the accuracy of my essay and then eventually cut off the vital part of it, in which I laid special stress upon the necessity of an alliance being formed between Great Britain and this country for the sake of the peace, of the world, and for the progress and development of the commerce and trade of all nations interested in the East. Have I not good grounds to-night to refer to this incident with delight? The editor doubted the accuracy of my essay, so much that he cut off the vital part of it. But now what a change of circumstances! Why, Lord Charles Bessborough has condescended quite recently to visit this country, far away from England in order to let us hear from his Lordship's mouth the necessity of an alliance in which Great Britain and Japan shall take the most important parts. Looking then at my expression of opinion in the past with the views that now prevail, I cannot help feeling infinitely pleased and gratified. Our countrymen, royalty as well as commoners, welcomed that distinguished guest heartily, and I confidently believe and sincerely hope that the good wishes we as a nation have given him will, through his Lordship's influence, find their echo in the British Empire, for Britain has, indeed, ever been a true and friendly Power to us—friendly at our most difficult times, namely, on the eve of the Meiji Revolution, as well as during our prosperous and victorious era. Contrasting the past and present, even I, Shimidzu Ichitaro, your young brother, feel intensely proud and happy that events have so shaped themselves, and I can fully imagine how deep an impression this must make on his Excellency Sir Ernest Satow, who is present to-night, when he looks back on his early days spent in this country more than thirty years ago, when he first enjoyed the friendship of the late Count Katsu Awa, and when he thinks of the present as he must have done when attending the funeral only the other day of that distinguished old friend, so deeply esteemed, venerated, and respected throughout the country. May I venture to say that His Excellency Sir Ernest Satow is one of the best European friends whom Japan has ever had, for he understands and sympathizes with Japan, is thoroughly competent to appreciate her progress, and to correctly estimate the strength of the ties that should cement an international friendship. Japan, as a country, is singularly connected with Anglo-Americans. Her exports largely go to America, whilst her imports chiefly come from Great Britain. The latter country has ever been our friend and teacher in commerce and trade, in politics and in state policy, and in naval affairs; but we have still much to learn from her in the future. The British Empire is the elder brother of my country, just as you, gentlemen, present here to-night, are my elder brothers—you have taught me much, but I have still much to learn from you. As these happy relations exist between us as individuals, so must they exist between our respective countries, and not merely exist, but be strengthened and developed for the reasons I laid stress upon some six years ago in my essay, for the sake of the world as well as for the progress and development of the commerce and trade of all nations interested in the East.

The "Japanese Bench and Bar" was proposed by Sir Ernest Satow, and responded to by Mr. Okamura:—

SIR ERNEST SATOW TOASTS THE BAR.

Sir Ernest Satow said that he was much tempted to follow Mr. Shimidzu upon the

topics dwelt upon in his speech, but was prevented from doing so by a feeling of the heavy responsibility which devolved upon him in connexion with the toast he had undertaken. The famous judges of ancient times had acquired a wide celebrity under specially favourable circumstances, as they based their decisions not upon statute, but on what appeared to themselves to be just and right in the particular case. Modern judges could acquire a reputation for wisdom only by adhering to what was laid down in the Codes, but on the other hand they had the advantage of being assisted by a learned and acute Bar, which existed for the purpose of guiding the Bench in the right path. He regretted that of the gentlemen present only one had as yet attained to the dignity of the Bench, but he hoped that all those whom he saw round the table might in time reach that elevated position. He concluded by giving the "Japanese Bench and Bar."

REPLY BY MR. OKAMURA.

Mr. Teruhiko Okamura, said:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, the toast of the Japanese Bench and Bar having been proposed by Sir Ernest Satow, I rise to reply on their behalf. Such a task should of right be discharged by an occupant of the Japanese Bench, but as we have unfortunately none of our judges present here this evening, and as I for many years held judicial offices, it is perhaps fitting that, although not the senior member of the Bar present, I should reply to this toast. Having studied law in England and been called to the English Bar, I have had ample opportunities of observing the administration of justice in England. Good laws and their good administration are very different things; the one being the theory, so to say, of justice, the other being the practice. Many countries can boast of having good laws, but very few indeed can lay claim to their being well administered. In this England occupies a position without equal. And to what is this due? To the appointment of good judges assisted by a distinguished Bar. English judges are, as you are aware, selected from the members of the Bar; the Bar is therefore responsible for good judges, and without the co-operation of the Bar it would be difficult to obtain good men for the position. Guided by this conviction, I tried my utmost when President of the Yokohama District Court, to raise the position of the Japanese Bar. At that time the Bench and Bar were almost independent of each other, and the Bar was looked down upon by the Bench and held a very inferior position. I am glad to say that this is no longer the case, prejudices of the past are rapidly disappearing and the Bench and Bar will, I believe, before long meet each other on terms of equality and co-operate earnestly for the improvement of the laws and the better administration of justice. That such a relation should exist between the judges and barristers of Japan is, in the face of the revised Treaties coming into force, much to be desired. Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I thank you on behalf of the Bench and Bar of Japan for the kind wishes you have expressed.

The "English Bench and Bar" was proposed by Mr. Hoshi Toru in appropriate terms, and Mr. Justice Wilkinson responded:—

MR. JUSTICE WILKINSON REPLIES.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen—I thank you most heartily for associating me with the toast which you have just now drunk. So much has been said, and justly said, by previous speakers in honour of the English Bench that it cannot but be a matter of pride to be connected, however remotely, with such an institution. Those of us out here who have administered justice in Her Majesty's name cannot claim the high dignity and repute of Her Majesty's Judges in England, but I do claim for myself and my predecessors one characteristic in common with them, an earnest endeavour at all times to do justice and right. With the English Bench the English Bar is indissolubly connected, and it is a great pleasure to look round me here and see so many members of that Bar. I am in-

deed impressed with the advantages of a doctrine so much inculcated of late—the doctrine of the “open door.” The Inns of Court, like all good inns, keep an “open door.” Men of all nationalities can enter in and partake of all the privileges. And when I see around me so many men of this country who have become members, I am further led to entertain the hope that they will become what has been contrasted with, but in this case at any rate is consistent with, the open door, that is, a sphere of influence. I regret to hear that not so many Japanese gentlemen as formerly are sending their sons to be educated for the English Bar. I cannot but think that, if that is so, it is a mistake. It is probably due in some measure to the fact that when Japan was framing her laws she looked for assistance to those countries who had the advantage, or disadvantage, of being supplied with codes. Those countries were probably compelled from the circumstances in which they found themselves to put their laws into the form of codes. Some of them at least had arrived at a stage in their history when they had to reconcile conflicting systems or conflicting developments of law in order that there might be one system for the whole country. Others have adopted with or without modification what they have found ready made. England's laws are the product of centuries of growth, expanding and being modified according to the growing and changing needs of the times. The peace of our Lord the King and our Lady the Queen has prevailed for centuries, and in those centuries the laws have slowly and steadily acquired their present form. The peace of His Majesty the Emperor has been in our own times restored and firmly established, and that it may prevail through the centuries to come is, I know, the desire and confident expectation of us all. But Japan has found it necessary in the circumstances in which she has been placed, to frame her laws in the form of codes, and in so framing them she has naturally had recourse to jurists from those countries whose laws are also in the form of codes. They have done their duty and have no doubt done it well. But the result is that the most distinctive features of English jurisprudence and English procedure, of which you gentlemen have expressed your admiration, have been overlooked or have not found adequate expression in the Japanese Codes as at present framed. I hope that you, gentlemen, will use your influence to secure fair play for the ideas which animate English jurisprudence with regard not only to the end aimed at but the mode of reaching it. No nation can claim a monopoly of the desire to do right. But what we claim for the English system of legal procedure is that it pursues the fairest and best of all existing ways in arriving at that goal. The animating principle is fair play and no favour. That principle has been nurtured by the system of the publicity, of its proceedings and by that publicity eventually led to the assistance of counsel at all stages of the proceedings. It is to be hoped that the codes which Japan has made for herself will not lead to her laws and her legal procedure being crystallized in the form they have now taken, but that improvements will be freely adopted from every quarter, and I know of no system from which Japan can borrow with greater advantage than that system which, having its home in England, has been carried by her people to America, to Australia, and to all quarters of the globe—to the countries that were once her Colonies and to those that still are, and has had no small share in making England what she is and those countries what they are. To you, gentlemen, who have become learned in the laws of England and appreciate the ideas which animate them, be the task of securing for your country the benefits which have been shown to result from them elsewhere.

The health of Sir Ernest Satow was proposed by Viscount Nagaoka. He referred to his long standing friendship and association with Sir Ernest, dating back in the sixties and Sir Ernest Satow responded:—

SIR ERNEST SATOW PROPOSES A HEALTH.

Sir Ernest Satow thanked the chairman for the kind manner in which he had proposed, and the company present for the heartiness with which they had received the toast. The noble chairman had spoken of the length of his connexion with Japan, but there was one gentleman present, his friend Mr. Lowder, who dated back even longer, in fact some forty years, and could also boast that his connexion with the country was unbroken. When little more than a boy he had been filled with the desire to visit Japan, and, having attained his object, had never ceased to feel a strong affection for the country and people. During the first few years of his residence, a barrier, erected by the Government of the day, kept foreigners and Japanese apart. His own wish had been that this barrier should be thrown down, and the relations of Japan with other countries be placed on a normal footing. It was only when the happy event of the Restoration of the Emperor took place that the first steps were taken towards the realization of this ideal, which he was happy to think was now within measurable distance. As it seemed to be the practice that a reply to our toast should conclude with the proposal of another, he begged to be allowed to give them the name of a gentleman widely known in Japanese and foreign circles, that eloquent ornament of the Japanese bar, Mr. Masujima.

Mr. Masujima then spoke as follows:—

I have to thank you, Sir Ernest Satow and gentlemen, for the kind manner in which you have proposed and drunk my health. I did not anticipate having to speak so early to-night, as the programme of the evening was complete without me. But nobody has been named to propose a vote of thanks to our honoured chairman, Viscount Nagaoka. With your permission, I will now express some thoughts I have been collecting for the purpose. I congratulate you, gentlemen, on the good offices which our friend Viscount Nagaoka has performed toward the organization of our Inns of Court Association. I am sure the association will be a success, and it will effect some good results by such a happy departure. I need hardly remind you what a good fellow our chairman is. Such a kind-hearted and entertaining companion you will seldom find. He is popular with everybody, and his popularity alone assures the success of the organization. It is true that Viscount Nagaoka fills no office which is part of the judicial machinery of Japan, but he is in the exalted position of a legislator in the Imperial House of Peers. He has already had a fair share in helping forward the enactment of the Japanese Codes of Laws. I feel certain that he will hereafter render valuable services in further promoting what Japanese legislation still aspires to. Many may consider these codes an excellent piece of legislation, and everybody should wish for their successful administration, but no one ought to be blind to the fact that there will always be inherent defects in any code; I mean the danger of narrow construction and arrest of development. Again, a good code of laws is one thing, but its enlightened application is an entirely different thing. Against such dangers, however, I have no doubt that, whatever our duties may be, legislative, judicial, or otherwise, we shall not fail to contribute some share of effective influence towards the correction of these failures. I am not afraid of the smallness of our number in Japan. For the knowledge, experience, and aspirations inspired by that nursery of English jurisprudence, the Inns of Court, have always been found efficient to accomplish any work such as the reform and improvement of law and the judicial system. I do not hesitate to add that Japanese legislation and judicial administration will always be imbued with the spirit of liberality, impartiality, and humanity such as are imbued in the principles of English jurisprudence; and what has already fallen in this respect from the lips of some previous speakers to-night will not be overlooked by the Japanese Government and people.

Viscount Nagaoka called for a speech from Mr. Lowder who spoke as follows:—

MR. LOWDER'S SPEECH.

My Lord, and Gentlemen—The thoughts and duties of the earlier part of the day have not been of a nature to encourage me to take more than a silent part in the conviviality of this gathering; but I feel that I may not decline to respond to the call of our noble Chairman, because I wish to express to him my entire sympathy with the inspiration which moved him to invite us to come here this evening, and take part in the inauguration of a Society in Japan of members of the Inns of Court. Looking around me, I do not recognize the faces of any with whom I was personally associated in that part of the process of preparation for the Bar which is peculiar to the Inns of Court, and which consists in eating dinners; but we have all fed at the same tables, and imbibed at the same springs, and derived our nourishment from the same source; and, therefore, I rejoice to think that, on the initiation of the noble Viscount, we are to be afforded an opportunity every year of meeting together, and of exchanging the pleasant reminiscences of that part which we have in common, and to which we owe our early professional education. My Lord, it is well that we should remind ourselves, as often as possible, of some of those grand principles to which we were introduced in our student days, and which form the foundation of that conception of justice to which we were then introduced, and which we have since learned to revere. Mr. Justice Wilkinson, in the eloquent address to which we have just listened with so much pleasure, has recalled to our recollection at least one of the elementary safeguards of liberty, namely the publicity in which trials are conducted; let me add to it these; the independence of the judiciary; the presumption of innocence; the allowance of counsel to a prisoner from the very moment at which he is put upon his defence; and the recognition of the principle that punishment should be awarded rather as a deterrent measure of warning, for the good of the commonweal, than as an angry vindication of the right of the ruler to our obedience. All these things go toward the formation of that monumental fabric which has been called the Humanity of the Criminal Law, as administered under the system which we have been taught. Let me in conclusion recall the noble language in which Coke closes the solemn epilogue to his third Institute of Criminal Law:—“The consideration of this preventing justice were worthy of the wisdom of Parliament, and, in the meantime, expert and wise men to make preparation for the same, as the text saith, *ut benedicat eis Dominus*. Blessed shall be he that layeth the first stone of this building: more blessed that proceeds in it: most of all that finisheth it, to the glory of God, and the honour of our King and nation.” Surely, my lord, these are sentiments and principles which it is worth the while of each of us in his several sphere of influence to maintain, and to endeavour to inculcate. I couple the sentiment with the name of the noble Chairman, Viscount Nagaoka Moriyoshi.

Next the health of Mr. Litchfield was proposed in cordial terms, and finally Mr. Kirkwood submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:—

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Montague Kirkwood said:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen. Various toasts having been drunk and responded to, and the hour being somewhat advanced, I rise to bring before you the serious business of the evening by proposing certain resolutions with regard to this Association and its subsequent meetings. In the first place, we have to organize ourselves and appoint a Committee for the coming year with a President. I think there can be little doubt but that our chairman to night should occupy that position and that he should appoint his own committee and secretary. In the next place, we should, I think, pay some small annual subscription to cover various small expenses. This might be 5 yen or less. And in the third place, I propose that this meeting

should only be considered as a preliminary meeting, and that we should meet annually on, say the last Wednesday of April in each year—a congenial season for any of our brother barristers at Kobe or elsewhere to visit Tokyo—and that our first meeting should take place on the last Wednesday of April next. To these dinners certain officials, as for instance the Minister of Justice, the Presidents of the Supreme Court, Appeal Court of Tokyo, and District Courts of Tokyo and Yokohama, the Public Prosecutor General, and the President of the Bar Association, should be invited, and each member be allowed to ask two guests.

After some discussion, Mr. Kirkwood proposed the following resolutions:—(1) That for the forthcoming year (that is until the last Wednesday of April, 1900) Viscount Nagaoka be President and that he do appoint a Committee of 4 and a secretary; (2) That the annual subscription be 5 yen; (3) That an annual dinner be held on the last Wednesday of April in each year, or as near thereto as may be; (4) That to such dinner the Committee be at liberty to invite as guests such personages as the Minister of Justice, the Presidents of the Supreme Court, of the Tokyo Appeal and District Courts, and of the Yokohama District Court, the Public Prosecutor General; and the President of the Japanese Bar Association; (5) That each member of the Society be at liberty to invite to such dinner upon payment and upon giving a week's notice to the Secretary not more than 2 guests.

These Resolutions were carried unanimously, a general opinion being expressed that the guests invited by members should as far as possible be gentlemen interested in law or the administration of justice.

The Chairman then rose and appointed as his Committee Messrs. Hijikata, Kirkwood, Lowder and Masujima and the last gentleman as Honorary Secretary.

IMPERIAL DIET.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.
FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

The House met at 10.20 a.m., and having passed, without discussion, the Bill relating to a capital Fund for Forestry purposes, proceeded to consider the Bill for raising a Formosan Public Undertakings Loan.

Mr. Isawa opposed the Bill. The loan was spoken of as a Formosan obligation, but it would ultimately have to be borne by Japan proper. They were told that funds to discharge the debt would be obtained by buying up the royalties held by Chinese residents and by recourse to the customs duties. But to carry out the former project a land survey would be essential, and a land survey was impossible. It had been essayed by the former Governor General Lin, and he had failed completely. Did any reasonable prospect of accomplishing such a work exist now in the face of the fact that no real success had been obtained in tranquillizing the insurgents? The Government was deluding them with idle tales. Undoubtedly many public works were needed in Formosa, but this was not the proper method of procuring funds.

Baron Ozaki spoke in the same strain. He dwelt upon the heavy addition that the measure would make to the burden of the State, asserted that land surveying was impossible, and that any attempt to carry it out would renew the old trouble of "hamboon spears and mat flags;" pointed out that only now was it considered feasible to undertake land surveys in Okinawa, and declared that money might as well be thrown into the sea as spent on defective surveys.

Mr. Mizuno urged that the works contemplated by the Government could not be deferred any longer. Land surveying in Formosa was absolutely indispensable. It ought to have been taken in hand at once by the Military Authorities in 1895, and to put it off on the grounds alleged by Mr. Isawa would disgrace Japan. Numerous telegrams had been received

from persons in the Island, recommending that the project be carried out.

The Bill was passed as amended by the Lower House, namely, with a reduction of 5 million yen in the sum (40 millions) proposed by the Government.

NEW LAWS.

The following measures were then passed without discussion:—

Bill for amending the Special Accounts Law of Public Undertakings and Railway Bonds.

Bill relating to Hereditary Pensions and Pensions for Merit.

Bill for amending the Navigation Encouragement Law.

Bill for amending the Registration Law.

Result of the Conference of the Houses on the Tonnage Dues Bill.

Project of Forestry Law.

Bill for remitting the Monopoly Tax on Tobacco manufactured for export.

Various Supplementary Budgets, including that for granting special subsidies to the European and American services of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

THE FRANCHISE BILL.

Bill for amending the Law of Election of Members of the Lower House. This Bill was largely amended by the Special Committee of the Peers. The *scrutin individual* system and unsigned ballots were restored; the property qualification was raised from 5 yen to 10 yen in the case of Land Tax; from 5 yen to 7 yen in the case of direct National Taxes; and from 5 yen to 10 yen in the case of Land Tax and other National Taxes combined. The Government's proposals with respect to the right of officials to become candidates for election, and with regard to the disqualification of illiterate voters, were also restored, but the Peers' Committee recommended that the minimum population of an enfranchised urban district should be 50,000, and also that the security given in election suits must be 300 yen, instead of 100, as fixed by the Representatives.

After the report of the Special Committee had been made, Marquis Ito, in his capacity of member of the House, spoke as follows:—

My lords and gentlemen,—I beg you to grant me a few minutes of the time remaining at your disposal before the close of the session. The Law of Election has a most important bearing on the working of the Constitution. Since it went into operation practical experience has indicated several essential amendments, and, being earnestly desirous of effecting these, the Cabinet of which I was Minister President submitted a Bill for the approval of the Diet last year. Unfortunately it failed to become law, and I desire now to lay before you briefly the view I hold on the subject. Representative institutions have existed for only ten years in our country, but during that time we have had no fewer than six general elections, which have afforded ample opportunity to test the working of the Law, the result being that many changes of a beneficial character present themselves. I was one of those that took part in the drafting of the Law. We were without practical experience, and, deeming it advisable to exercise the utmost caution with a view to future contingencies, we framed the law on a narrow basis, regarding it in an experimental light. The results of its operation did not, however, fulfil our hopes. On the contrary, it has been shown, of late, that candidates for election subject the electors to improper influences of persuasion or intimidation, and that the cost of elections is very great. It is essential that these abuses should be corrected, and that electors should be made entirely independent of undue influence. In some foreign countries the system of *scrutin individual* and unsigned ballots is in force, and in others different method is adopted. The various abuses are the outcome of special customs and circumstances, and can not be included in the scope of a general argument. We are now competent to decide, however, that in our own country the method of unsigned ballots is most conducive to the legitimate purpose of an election. The two prime objects to be attained are

that electors should be perfectly free to follow the dictates of their own choice, and that elections should be purged of all corruption. These are the ends we must seek, above all things, to compass. With regard to qualifications for the franchise, our original ideas having been tentative and cautious, we proceeded upon narrow lines, and elaborated a system by which only some four hundred thousand persons were enfranchised out of a population of forty millions. Without discussing the fundamental necessity of giving the people a share in the government, it will be admitted that, after such a step has been taken, to extend their share to suitable dimensions is only proper. In short, the limits of the franchise are co-extensive with the limits of the people's power. The Bill now before you differs a little from that submitted to you last session, but in essentials it is the same. It lowers the qualifications for the franchise very considerably, yet I believe that the limits fixed by it are possibly still too narrow. Gradual steps of advance are wisest in these matters, however. At the time when the present Law was drafted, means of communication were very defective, and it was therefore necessary to have small election districts. But there has been a great improvement in that respect during the past few years, and a corresponding extension of the districts is desirable. Another point of importance is that the members of the Lower House at present are chiefly representatives of the agricultural classes, very few being returned by the mercantile and industrial classes, that is to say, by the urban population. Members of the Diet do not, of course, represent merely their constituencies. It is essential that they should represent the interests of the community at large. One of the reforms contemplated by the framers of the Bill is to increase the number of urban representatives. The development of commerce and industry is of vital moment to the material progress of the State, from the point of view of its domestic and of its foreign interests alike, and the importance of giving fuller representation to the urban population can not be questioned. Your session ends this evening, and I must limit myself to a mere fraction of the remarks I should like to make. I venture to hope that this Bill will obtain the approval of the House, especially in the form given to it by the Government, for I believe that the effect of the proposed changes will be to soften competition at elections, and to provide for the due representation of all classes. We have seen the violence of the strife between political parties at elections; we have seen appeals to muscular force, and we have seen a large waste of money, as well as many other abuses, which no effort should be spared to correct. The officials have from the outset done everything that was in their power and employed every means to secure the best results of the constitutional system, always keeping before them the great purpose of furthering the country's best interests. But many deficiencies are now visible. It can not be said, for example, that the progress of legislative business presents an entirely satisfactory aspect, and with regard to this I desire to invite the attention of the House to one or two points. In all countries the House of Representatives is a place of much discussion, and that it shows some lack of circumspection is well known to students of constitutional history. On the other hand, the Upper Chamber is a place of cool heads, where disputes about personal interests seldom occur, and where there is a special faculty for judging questions justly on their merits. Nothing is more to be desired than the preservation of that faculty. Yet the recent condition of our Legislature suggests that external influences have great weight in its councils; a regrettable state of affairs. I sincerely hope that the House of Peers will avoid such abuses, and that the two Chambers of the Legislature, in their attitude towards the Executive, will recognise their common responsibility of preserving good relations."

Viscount Tanaka—"Is your speech an exhortation to the House of Peers?"

Marquis Ito—"No. I am merely giving expression to my own desires."

Viscount Tanaka—"You are travelling beyond the question now before the House. We prefer to hear your exhortation on some future day." (Cries of "Order, Order. Be brief.")

Marquis Ito—"I am addressing the House in accordance with my right as a member, and the remarks I have made are intended to emphasize the importance of the Bill now under consideration. They do not appear irrelevant to that purpose. I trust that as the result of a Conference between the Houses this Bill will become law. Some folks may say that the arguments of political parties led to the presentation of the Bill, but I can assure you that no such shallow reason existed. Our great aim is that the legislative business of the State may be thoroughly transacted, so that the national reputation may be enhanced in the eyes of the world. I shall not detain you longer lest I again provoke your displeasure."

Barons Kikkawa and Ozaki spoke in favour of deferring the consideration of the Bill until next session, but the House voted the Second Reading, and taking it at once, passed the Bill, restoring the Government's draft in some parts and endorsing the Committee's amendments in others.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Bill for establishing a *Credit Mobilier* was next taken. The Special Committee recommended the excision of all the changes made by the Lower House, in the sense of authorizing the Government to guarantee the Bank's shares if they had to be offered for sale abroad. Mr. Kaneko Kentaro spoke in favour of the Representatives' amendments, but the House rejected them, and passed the Bill as recommended by the Committee.

The following measures were then passed:—
Bill relating to a Capital Fund for Forests.
Bill relating to the Treatment of Persons falling ill or dying when travelling.

Bill for the Regulation of Fertilizers.
Bill relating to Local Boundaries in Okayama Prefecture.

Bill for abolishing Branches of State Agricultural Experiment Stations and increasing the Aid granted to Principal Stations in Cities and Prefectures.

Representation for increasing the number of Students sent abroad to study.

The following were handed to Special Committees:—

Bill for restoring the Privileges of the old Imami Clansmen.

Bill for rescinding Law 11 of 1897, which empowers the Government to entrust to private companies the construction of Railways included in the State Programme.

The President announced that the Representatives had refused to accept the amendments made in the Law of Election, and that a Conference would be necessary. The House, having entrusted to the President the duty of nominating Managers, took a recess at 8.55 p.m.

On re-assembling at 10.25 p.m., the House was informed by the President that the Representatives had voted for a Conference on the subject of the Bill for establishing a *Credit Mobilier*, but had risen without waiting for a Conference to take place. He thought it unnecessary to appoint Managers under such circumstances.

THE FRANCHISE BILL.

Marquis Kuroda reported the result of the Conference with regard to the Law of Election. It had been found impossible to come to any agreement. He had acted as chairman, and the Managers of the Peers being thus reduced to nine against 10 Managers of the Representatives, the latter had voted their own amendments by a majority, and had insisted on regarding that as the result of the Conference.

Mr. Matsunaka moved that the House of Representatives, in calling for a Conference of the Houses with regard to the *Credit Mobilier* Bill, and rising before a Conference could be held, had treated the Peers with discourtesy, and been guilty of improper conduct.

Viscount Soga said that Mr. Hoshi Toru, in reporting the result of the Conference to the Lower House, had declared that the Peers refused to make any concession whatever. That was quite incorrect. The Managers of the Peers had made every possible concession and had adopted a most conciliatory attitude. But Mr. Hoshi had accused them of failing totally in conciliatoriness, an accusation quite inconsistent with the spirit animating them.

The House unanimously voted Mr. Matsunaka's motion, and rose at 11 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. CLOSING SCENES.

The House met at 1 p.m. and having listened to a long speech from Mr. Tanaka Shozo on his favourite subject of the Ashio Copper Mine, proceeded to the Order of the Day, and discharged the following business:—

Report of the Conference of the Houses on the Bill for restoring State Forests and Moors to their original owners. Adopted.

Report of the Conference of the Houses on the Bill for amending the Registration Law. Adopted.

Report of the Conference of the Houses on Tonnage Dues Bill. Adopted.

Report of the Conference of the Houses on the Bill for adjusting Hereditary and Good-service Pensions. Adopted.

Bill for amending the Regulations relating to security in Criminal Appeal Cases. Rejected.

Representation for opening, Ofunado in Iwate Prefecture to Foreign Trade. Adopted.

Bill for amending the Railway Construction Law in the sense of including in the First Period certain Lines now standing in the Second Period category. Passed; in spite of the opposition of the Government Delegate who explained that such a change would disturb the financial arrangements of the Government.

Bill for making entries in the Great Register the basis for assessing the Property Qualification of Electors and Candidates for Election. Rejected.

Bill for limiting the Dividends paid by Private Railways, by enacting that a reduction of fares may be ordered by the Minister of Home Affairs in the case of a line which has paid a dividend of 10 per cent. or upwards for three years consecutively. The Special Committee reported against the Bill on the ground that its provisions would conflict with existing laws, but its chief introducer, Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, denied that such would be the case, and the House passed the Bill.

Bill for amending the Law of Organization of Law Courts, in the sense of admitting barristers and others to the conferences held by Judges of the Court of Cassation in Appeal Cases. Passed.

Representation for renewing State Aid to National and Provincial Shrines. Adopted.

Representation relating to the Salaries of Inspectors of Primary Schools.

Representation urging the extended use of certain silk-reeling machinery. Adopted.

Representation for amending the Sections of the Civil Code relating to Family and Succession. Recommended by the Special Committee, but not discussed by the House.

The House adjourned its sitting three times, in order to adapt its proceedings to those of the Peers, who were then debating important Bills sent up from the Representatives. The first of these Bills—that relating to the amendment of the Law of Election—was sent down by the Peers at 7.15 p.m., with several radical changes. These the Representatives unanimously refused to endorse. Dr. Hatoyama, the leader of the Opposition, supported Mr. Hoshi Toru in urging their rejection. Ten Managers were accordingly appointed to confer with the Upper House.

The other Bills, three in number, came down from the Peers at 8.45 p.m. All had been more or less altered. In the case of the first—the *Credit Mobilier* Bill—the Representatives rejected the changes introduced by the Peers, and decided that a Conference of the Houses must be held. The same course was

pursued with regard to the second—the Bill for making new delimitations of Rural Districts in Okayama Prefecture—; but the third, the Bill for the Regulation of Fertilizers, was passed as amended by the Peers.

THE FRANCHISE BILL.

At 9.30 p.m. the House re-assembled, after a recess. Mr. Hoshi Toru, on behalf of the Managers who had taken part in the Conference on the Law of Election, reported that it had been found impossible to come to an agreement. According to the view of the Peers, the Law, as it left the hands of the Representatives, would provide for the election of too many members. Such a proposition had seemed untenable in the eyes of the Lower House's Managers, inasmuch as the difference between the total number contemplated by the Government's Bill, and that contemplated by the Representatives Bill was only 25—the former being 445 and the latter 470. Nevertheless, since an agreement between the Houses was essential to the life of the Bill, the Managers of the Representatives had proposed to reduce the number to 407; namely 72 for the Urban Districts and 335 for the Rural; being at the rate of one member for every 120,000 units of population, instead of one for every 100,000 as provided in the Lower House's Bill. To that the Managers of the Upper House had objected that 407 would be too few. Mr. Hoshi and his colleagues had then come to the conclusion that the Peers did not want the Bill to pass at all, and were deliberately opposing themselves to popular opinion. They had naturally been much annoyed, and they considered that the Peers had been wanting in courtesy towards the Representatives. The Bill had no special concern for the Peers, and they should have been ready to make large concessions to the views of the Representatives. It appeared that the only course now open to the latter was to reject all measures voted by the Upper House. It was an unhappy conjuncture. A compromise having been found impossible, the Conference had to take for its basis of discussion the Bill as amended by the Peers, and had rejected it by 10 votes to 9. With reference to these numbers, he explained that lots having been drawn for the Chairman of the Conference, the post had fallen to Marquis Kuroda, and the Managers of the Peers had thus been reduced to 9 voting members. Hence the Bill now before the Lower House, that is to say, the Bill technically endorsed by the Conference, was the Bill in the form it possessed before receiving the Peers' amendments, and he moved that the House do now adopt the decision of the Conference.

The motion was passed without dissent.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

The President said that, according to the House's decision, a conference should be held between the two Houses, with reference to the amendments of the *Credit Mobilier* Bill, but as it was scarcely to be hoped that an agreement could be reached under existing circumstances, he suggested that the House might rise without further delay.

This suggestion being unanimously approved, the President congratulated the members on their successful labours during the session, and announced that the House would now rise. This announcement was received with shouts of "banzai."

CORRESPONDENCE.

MORAL STANDARDS OF EAST AND WEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of Feb. 4th, in an editorial note on "Japanese Public Opinion on Extramarital Relations," you quote Dr. H. Kato as saying, "when we come to actual practice the Orientals and Occidentals are on a level, with one difference:—what is done in the East openly is carried on in secret in the West."

In the same number on another page there

in an editorial on "Japan and her Foreign Friends," the tone of which largely coincides with Dr. Kato's remark, and strikes the general reader as hardly up to the *Mail's* usually high standard. There is, it is implied, really no difference between Japan and "the West;" the apparent difference is due merely to the fact that the Japanese "in his pursuit of vice is not secretive." I wish to protest most emphatically against this view of the case. It is true that "in the great cities of the West scenes of great depravity can be witnessed night after night," but that is far from proving that, taking the countries through, the condition of social morality is the same in the West as in the East. So far as the United States is concerned I know that there is a very great difference. The newspapers show it; the hotels show it; railway travel shows it; the songs of the people show it; conversation shows it; the lives of religious leaders show it.

It may be true, as you say, that "statistics show that the social evil has not larger dimensions here than in Europe," though I doubt it. I know that statement cannot be made with reference to the United States; first, because I have the highest authority for saying that there are no such statistics, and secondly, my knowledge of the two countries is such that I know what story such statistics when made are sure to tell.

Perhaps no better illustration of the different grades as morals in the two countries could be offered than that of Dr. Kato posing as an instructor in morals. If Dr. Kato were in America and charged with the offences against morals which the *Foran Choko* has declared him to be guilty of, he would be simply forced to do one of two things:—1. Prove the falsity of the charges; or 2. Abandon all his pretensions as a teacher of morality. The fact that he does neither shows clearly the extremely low standard of morality which prevails in Japan.

Very truly yours,
M. L. GORDON.
Kyoto, March 7th, 1899.

FOREIGNERS' RIGHTS UNDER THE NEW TREATIES TO LEASE LAND IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a leaflet headed the "Economic Condition of Japan" written by me in January last, the following statement appears:—

In England and America a Japanese is free to purchase as much real estate as may come on the market, but no foreigner can individually purchase or own a rood of Japanese soil. In the new Treaty which comes into operation on the 16th July, 1899, it is provided that subjects "may . . . lease land for residential and commercial purposes," and by the new Codes which are shortly to come into use land may be leased for twenty years only (section 7 para. 604), so though the new Treaty is avowedly based on the principle of equity and mutual benefit the equity in certain important respects is wanting and the benefit is extremely one-sided. With a view to have their country's resources developed other Governments have been known to give free grants of lands on the condition that buildings for industrial purposes are erected thereon, and it would repay Japan to do likewise. Without further delay the Government should remove every obstacle which hinders foreign capital from coming into the country through legitimate and natural channels, as the Japanese would assuredly derive great benefit therefrom certainly as much if not more than the foreign Capitalist.

In connection with the foregoing His Excellency Sir Ernest M. Satow, K.C.M.G., Her Britannic Majesty's Minister, has favoured me with a letter dated Tokyo, February 1st, 1899, which reads:—

Many thanks for the copy of your pamphlet about the Economic Condition of Japan. On page 5 I notice a passage which implies that foreigners (or perhaps it was intended to mean only British subjects) will not under the Treaties be able to lease land for terms of more than 20 years. It is true that owing to the existing Japanese Civil Code not then having been promulgated, the English word "lease" was used in an English sense in Article III. of our Treaty and not in that of the corresponding Japanese word rendered "lease" in the translations of that Code which

have been published, and therefore there may be thought to be some want of clearness in the Article in question. Yet that the Japanese negotiator had no idea of restricting such leases to 20 years seems plain from the fact that in the Japanese translation of our Treaty printed by the Foreign Department the general word "kari-ukeru," to take on hire, is employed and not "chintai-shuku," the term used in paragraph 604 of the Code. "Lease" in our Treaty consequently includes not only those 20 year leases (which are comparable to the English lease of a house for 7, 14, or 21 years) but also "superficies" (see paragraph 265 et infra), which is the right to use another person's land for the purpose of owning thereon buildings, in consideration of an annual rent, without any limit of term, unless the parties should have omitted (paragraph 268) to fix it. Furthermore, there is an exchange of notes between the negotiators of the German Treaty, dated the same day, by which it is specifically declared that German subjects can acquire the rights of "superficies" where the technical word of paragraph 265 of the Code is used in both the German and Japanese texts. Our most favoured nation clause (Article XV. of our Treaty), combined with paragraph 2 of Article III., gives to British subjects exactly the same rights as Germans derive from their Treaty and the annexed exchange of notes. The apprehension entertained by some persons in this country who have not examined into the matter, that British subjects will not be able to lease land for building purposes for more than 20 years, is therefore without foundation. The newspapers have discussed it *ad nauseam*, but as no British subject has ever asked me for an opinion, I have not descended into the arena. Your kindly sending me your pamphlet, however, furnishes an opportunity of trying to make the point clear. If it seems so to you, pray make any use you like of this letter.

You will very greatly oblige me if you will be so good as to publish this letter for general information on an early date and, offering you my best thanks in anticipation,

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hongkong, March 1st, 1899.

[We publish this letter, but the facts it sets forth with regard to superficies have been several times asserted in these columns. They have been denied again and again by some of our Settlement contemporaries, especially in Kobe. —Ed. J.M.]

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND THE SCHOOLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the House of Representatives there were offered on March 2nd two important representations. The one urges that there should be prepared, with a view to general adoption in all the primary schools of the country, a new text-book of morals to take the place of the widely varying books now in use. The other urges that all schools complying with the usual regulations, without regard to whether they make religion the basis of morals or not, should equally be granted the privilege of exemption from military conscription. These representations, whatever their immediate motives or results may be, suggest problems that must be courageously faced in the near future, and to the import of which you have repeatedly called attention. Kindly allow me to point out a few facts in the same connection.

It is no new thing in history that the spirit of religious intolerance may find its last refuge in the school. In the Roman Empire Julian, as keen an enemy as Christianity ever had, yet bound by his uncle Constantine's edict of toleration, could find no better way of repressing the abnoxious religion than by forbidding Christians to teach the classics, a measure which Ammianus, the historian of the age, himself no Christian, characterized as unmerciful (*incomentia*). The last measure of intolerance in the history of England, if I mistake not, was the "Schism Act," of Queen Anne's time, which forbade Dissenters to teach in any school; and it was not until twenty-eight years ago that Nonconformists were admitted to all the privileges of the English Universities.

His Majesty the Emperor, by the Constitution guaranteeing liberty of religious belief, has given

Japan a place among the most advanced nations in this as in other respects. It is of course not to be expected of any government that it should remove every obstacle to the exercise of religious belief. In the case of Christianity, for instance, a tremendous hereditary prejudice and the authority given the head of the family in Japanese society operate to oppress believers in a thousand ways. But the Government is bound by the express decree of His Majesty, so far as it is concerned, to treat all religions, as religions, with impartiality. Even to antagonize all religions without distinction is to violate the Constitution. In the main the attitude of the Government has been, despite the enormous pressure brought to bear upon it, admirably fair and judicious. But here some educational authorities have failed in their loyalty.

We who are interested in the progress of Japanese Christianity have observed again and again that in most places Christians are not considered fit to teach school, and that as a rule the only kind of Christian that can get along in the educational world is the one who strictly hides his light under a bushel. This is so generally the case that it is hard to believe that local prejudices are the only cause.

In Miyagi Ken there is used in all the schools a text-book of morals (*Shōgaku shūshin shō*), prepared under the direction of Count Higashi and expressly approved by the Educational Department. It consists of eight readers for the children, accompanied with elaborate instructions to the teachers, all marked *Mombu-shō kentei sumi*. These are pervaded from beginning to end by a spirit of contempt or hostility toward foreigners' ideas of morality. The dictum of one Yasushi Aizawa is quoted more than once with evident approval: "All countries on the same principle exalt themselves and consider others base: so it is a fixed habit that they mutually honour their own and consider other countries barbarian (夷蠻戎狄)." The author admits that occasionally one may learn a useful lesson or two from foreigners, but thinks it best, since children are so easily captivated by alien influences, to set before them native ideals exclusively.

In one of the first lessons is a picture of the shrine at Ise, before which men are prostrating themselves. Two words are written in *kana*, "God" and "Man." The following questions are recommended to the teacher: Of what is this a picture? What are the men doing? What things do you think dwell in shrines? What are gods? (Require the answer, Our Ancestors.) Do you go to shrines and worship there? The temple in this picture is the precious shrine of Ise called Jingū. Do you think to worship there after you are grown? Do you know what gods abide in this Jingū? The teacher is further admonished: "Vulgar people, when we say gods, have a bad habit of understanding the term in the same sense as the chief idols of religion, so called, in Buddhism or Christianity. (*Yozoku, kami to ieba kore wo miru koto Butsu aruwa Yaso ni oite shōsuru shūkyō no honzon no gotoku shii suru hei ari.*) It is necessary that pupils be made to understand the difference well. Moreover in various places there are not a few witches and no forib, who, misusing and defiling the divine name, behave themselves shamefully. Great in the mischief wrought by such as these, who, using the name of the gods, thus sink themselves in error. Pupils should be carefully taught so as to perceive that gods are not such things as what are so called by those witches and their kind, but are holy."

Again, the eighth reader, in the course of the exposition of the Educational Rescript, sets before the pupils such sentences as these: "If [Japanese morality] was not originally derived from Confucianism, nor did it emanate from any religion. In truth our country's history clearly constitutes our sacred book and moral code." (*Moto yori Yūgaku yori idetaru ni arawareba mata shūkyō yori ryūden seishi mono ni mo aranu. Makoto ni waga kiken min-i to narite akiraka ni kuni no rekishi ni tonsuru wo motte* * * *). Moreover principles which rest on a different basis and destroy this moral-

ity can never be applied to our country, but this morality is applicable to every country in the world." *Nomozomo sono yoru tokoro wo koto ni shite kono michi wa hakwai suru ga gotoki mono wa kesshite waga kuni ni hodo-koru koto atawasaru mo, kono michi ni ita-rite wa sekai kakkoku issho to shite hodo-kosarenu tokoro nashi.*) These sentiments are to be explained by the teacher thus: "Our sacred book is our history, holy and perfect, the standard of morals throughout all time, having not the slightest flaw." (*Somozomo waga kessen wa shinsei kwambi ni shite, honko ikkwan jinrin no hyōjun, gō mo kessen aru koto naki rekishi kore nari.*) "Those other histories that are without principle or virtue seduce posterity and lead to evil. How shall we take such a thing and call it a sacred book of morality? Our most beautiful history, unparalleled among all nations, is the peculiar characteristic of the divine country. We have this divine sacred book of history. How do we need to seek another sacred book?" "Some, taking as a basis the instructions of one or another of various sages, have expounded and embellished the original. So, of course, their doctrines, depending on the men, are expressed differently. There is as yet no system by which throughout all nations together the greatest human happiness may be obtained. Nevertheless, the way of our Emperors, based on the instructions left by the Imperial Ancestors, is coexistent with heaven and earth. So, being the law for all under heaven and the great rule for all ages, it is not to be discussed on the same day with dogmas made by men."

Expressions such as these, vague and quite untranslatable, are in constant evidence. Even the dullest must be able to read between the lines. If they are not intended to teach religion, or to oppose religion, which amounts to the same thing, they mean nothing at all. And it is hard to believe that this remarkable polemical effusion is directed against Confucianism or even Buddhism. The Buddhists apparently have not felt much concern about it.

Any Japanese who honestly believes the religious sentiments inculcated in these books, is in duty bound as a patriot to proclaim them with all his might, but he has no right under heaven to bind them on the consciences of teachers or pupils in the public schools, so long as the Constitution stands. Nor has even one of His Majesty's Ministers the right officially to encourage anything of the kind. It is a plain violation of the Constitution to use the public schools, or officially to permit them to be used, for the purpose of advancing or antagonizing any religion *qua* religion.

I do not know how the Buddhists feel about it, but surely no Christian, unless he were a hypocritical Christian, could teach in accord with the spirit of the books described above. If a pupil says that in a Christian Sunday school he was told that the same God is the God of all the nations of the earth and loves all alike, the teacher is at once in a dilemma, if he has been faithful to his instructions. Quite recently it has been made plain to teachers in Sendai that they must not teach in Christian Sunday schools. For they would stultify themselves by so doing.

The practical effect of the Government's policy toward religious schools is that students who are at all liable to conscription leave before they are twenty years of age, and there are left the physically defective and youths so poor that their families have to depend on them for their daily rice. From this material must the educated Christian clergy be evolved! No better scheme could be devised to crush the spirit of the Christian Church in Japan. Without devoted and intelligent young men, sound of body and free from financial entanglements, the Japanese Churches can hardly ever become anything more than appendages of Churches in foreign lands.

Marquis Ito's commentaries on the Constitution refer the matter of religious liberty to "the inner part of man," "abstract questions of religious faith," "operations of the mind."

With unfeigned respect to the great statesman to whose wonderful insight Japan owes so much, it may be said that, while the facts stated are indisputable, this exposition of religious liberty strikes an Occidental mind as somewhat inadequate. The western peoples have shed too much blood for dear liberty's sake to cherish any vague ideas as to its meaning. To them the liberty to hold an opinion is no liberty at all. If the Japanese understand the constitution to mean that liberty of religious belief is guaranteed "so long as manifestations of it are confined to the mind" and that the Government may lawfully use its authority to limit other manifestations of it to the harmless vagaries of the ignorant and superstitious, then, to avoid serious misunderstandings, the fact ought at once to be made plain that the Japanese idea of liberty and the Occidental idea of liberty are different things.

A thing apart is the utter folly of gratuitously insulting friendly nations and inspiring Japanese youth with hatred or contempt toward them as "barbarians." In English-speaking countries it is left to the ignorant and vulgar classes, with the newspapers and politicians that pander to them, to decry the Japanese as barbarians. Thank God, the tone of the better elements of society is more manly. But if they who have been so ready to acknowledge the worth of Japanese civilization hear that men of culture who occupy positions of the highest influence here can assiduously teach the people to return this trust and confidence with scorn and derision, it will not be strange if from this fact they draw their own inferences as to the real state of Japanese civilization. The great majority of the foreigners residing in Japan are representatives of the English-speaking nations, which have proved themselves to be the best friends that Japan has in the world. They are generally disposed to rejoice in the prosperity of Japan and join heartily in the *bansais* of His Majesty's subjects. But how can they, if they know what ideas of patriotism are being instilled into the minds of the people, do anything but look on in painful silence? Enjoying the efficient protection of His Majesty's Government, they are willing to pay just taxes, but not very cheerfully when they know the taxes are used to foster a bitter prejudice that adds so much to the misery of their exile.

When will His Majesty's most trusted advisers awake to the fact that those who, while they boast loudly of their loyalty, strive to associate the glory and prestige of the Throne with their own pitiful conceptions of patriotism, are doing the Throne more injury than can ever be done by all the enemies Japan has in the world?

C. N.

Sendai, March 11th, 1899.

A MOCK PARLIAMENT.

In order to acquaint the students with the rules of debate and methods of procedure followed in the Imperial Diet, it has been customary for some years past for the Second Higher School, in Sendai, to hold one Parliamentary session a year. The affair usually occupies some 5 to 6 hours. This year's meeting took place on the 25th ult., beginning at 5 p.m. and lasting till 10 o'clock. The Minister-President was represented by Mr. Kikuchi, the Director of the School. The Education, War and Admiralty Departments being all concerned in the Bill before the House, both the Ministers and Vice-Ministers of these Departments were represented. 3 Professors acting in the former capacity, and 3 senior students in the latter, the Vice-Ministers bearing the title of Government Delegates. The Dean of the School, Mr. Tachibana, acted as President of the House, and the Professor of History, Mr. Saito, as Vice-president; the offices of recorders and secretaries were filled by the head of the business bureau of the school and students. The Bill, the discussion of which occupied the whole evening, was entitled, "A Bill for the Total Abolition of Examinations in the Higher Schools and the Universities." It was introduced by a senior

Law student, Mr. Kato, with great clearness and ability. Mr. Kato occupied the rostrum from 3 o'clock till 7, which gives some idea of the amount of questioning to which he was subjected. Very ingenious attempts were made to show that the introducer of the Bill had contradicted himself. Every conceivable obstacle to the professed measure was suggested, but Mr. Kato held his grounds with no small tact, and in a great many cases the defeat of his opponents elicited roars of laughter from the audience. In order to facilitate voting, the number of members was confined to representatives of the various classes, being about 70 in all.

We may say, *en passant*, that this Mock Parliament is the event of the year at the Sendai Higher School. The large lecture hall, used on such occasions, was filled to overflowing, the galleries being packed in a way that to any but eager, excited young politicians would have proved very objectionable. Free comment from the audience was allowed throughout, and the spiciness of many of the remarks made by listeners during the speechifying was not the least pleasant feature of the proceedings. With one exception, the ridicule to which they were subjected was taken in good part by all the speakers, many of whom turned the laugh against the interrupters by sharp retorts, while others looked defiance at their opponents and shouted, *yakamashii*. But in the case of one student who had prepared a long speech in opposition to the Bill, the shafts which reached him from all sides found in his refined and retiring disposition a vulnerable part. He was evidently quite unprepared for any such treatment, took the thing too seriously, became more and more embarrassed, drank endless glasses of water, lost his places in the notes that he held in his hand, and after many painful pauses, finally left the rostrum with his speech only just begun. Japanese speakers are seldom the victims of such nervousness. Shakespeare's description of this class of would-be orators—

"They shiver and look pale;
"Make periods in the midst of sentences;
"Throttle their practiced accents in their fear,
"And, in conclusion dumbly have broke off."

does not apply to the majority of Japanese, who display remarkable coolness and absence of self-consciousness when speaking in public. We think that the authorities of the school were wise in not attempting to suppress the comments of the audience. It was all very harmless and was so plainly the result of youthful spirits and enthusiasm that nobody with any geniality of disposition could object to it. The ejaculations that greeted their ears seemed to afford endless amusement to impersonators of grave ministers of State, who were on several occasions convulsed with laughter at some happy hit at the language, manner, or views of the speakers. If this free criticism had not been allowed, half of the enjoyment of the evening would have been taken away. And, moreover, many of the remarks made by the audience showed up in a very effective way the mannerisms or other imperfections of the speakers. For instance, one speaker who kept mixing English with his Japanese, was asked whether he did this because he was ignorant of the Japanese equivalents and reminded that the audience wanted no foreign language to make things intelligible to it. Students who commenced with learned introductions on psychology or philosophy were reminded that they were not in a class room lecturing on the subjects.

The cry of *Kantan! kantan!*—"Be brief; be brief!"—was most frequent. Some speakers who after, as they thought, heaping up arguments in favour of or against the bill, began with the words "For the foregoing reasons," were told that there had been no foregoing reasons, but only plausible substitutes, and so on. Many of the best witticisms would not bear translation, being mere puns on words or phrase repartee which would lose force in English.

The ceaseless attempts to introduce urgency motions so familiar to readers of the Diet's Proceedings, were made, but were in every case rejected. The minute acquaintance with par-

liamentary language and the rules of debate shown by the students was quite remarkable. The choice of officers and speakers showed no small amount of knowledge of the requirements of the occasion. The Ministers of State imitated to an amusing degree the stand about (*Chosenfeki*) manner of many of the Ministers who have been called on to make speeches in the Diet, and the mock Government Delegates were students characterized by gravity and dignity of manner. The speeches they made ridiculed the Bill as a measure which only persons of very limited experience of human nature and the world in general would ever have dreamed of bringing forward. They challenged the supporters of the Bill to name any methods of testing ability that would work better than the examination system now in vogue, and ended up by describing the Bill as a friend of the idle and the incompetent, which, if it became law, would lead the substitution of fools for the wise men now in power. The supporters of the Bill, however, made out a very strong case logically. Not one of the well known objections to the examination system now in use was left unstated. Examinations were injurious to the mind. They encouraged cramming and instantaneous mental indigestion. They were equally injurious to the body. During the examination and for some weeks before, earnest students passed their days in anxiety and hard application, hastily swallowing their meals, taking little exercise and burning the midnight oil. And for what purpose was all this? Simply to allow the teachers who conduct these examinations to judge of the ability of each student. If teachers cannot devise a quicker and less painful method of testing ability, they must be a set of dullards. Surely it is not necessary to three parts kill a student in order to find out what ability he possesses. At the end of a long examination some of us are like walking ghosts, said one of the supporters of the Bill. Then, too, many are too nervous to do themselves justice when the critical hour comes. It not infrequently happens that such students awake on the morning of the examination with a splitting head-ache. The system now in vogue uses up strength that is needed for study of a kind very different from that known as cramming. Moreover, it crushes all the spirit out of students and makes them appear as full grown men when they ought to have all the vivacity and frolicsomeness of youth. The case of Germany was quoted as favouring the views of the promoters of the Bill. One student argued that examinations destroy the sequence of thought and the interdependence of branches of knowledge. The subjects are different in different terms and different years, and so necessary is it to prepare for future examinations that all branches of knowledge studied in previous terms are dismissed from the thoughts. In arguing against the bill one student, with rare nerve, said that were examinations abolished, such stupid, backward students as himself would stand a chance of being mistaken by an undiscerning public for learned men.

After considerable discussion spent over a verbal amendment of the Bill, it was passed by a large majority and hurried through its Second and Third Readings, and the proceedings terminated.

One incident we have omitted to mention was the skilful manner in which the Mock Minister for War, when called upon to express his opinion on the proposed change, cut the ground away from the supporters of the bill. His speech was somewhat as follows: "The supporters of the Bill oppose the present examination system on the ground that as a disciplinary measure it is too severe, that its effects physically and mentally are bad, that it weakens the body and renders the student spiritless. Now I have, through a long series of years, been in command of troops, and in the Army our discipline is a hundred times more strict than that to which you are accustomed; and as for examinations, we are always examining, yet I venture to say that for the endurance of fatigue and for real spirit the

body of men who form our army are not to be surpassed in this country. It is your want of experience that leads you astray." The Minister President adroitly excused himself from speaking on the ground that the subject under debate was one in which Ministers whose departments superintended education were better qualified to pronounce an opinion than he. The measure was not one on which the President of the Cabinet was called on to speak prior to the Bill reaching the Cabinet in the ordinary way.

For some weeks before the meeting of Parliament copies of the rules of debate are circulated among the teachers and students. These rules are the same as those in use in the Imperial Diet.

MISSIONARY ITEMS.

Letters from Dr. and Mrs. J.C. Hepburn, now at East Orange, N.J., to friends in Japan, announce the death of the Rev. John Gillespie, D.D., one of the Senior Secretaries of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions U.S.A. Dr. Gillespie's death was from paralysis, and took place on Feb. 16th at his home, Elizabeth, N.J. The East and West Japan Presbyterian Missions were under his especial oversight, and as an experienced and able administrator and counsellor his loss will be greatly felt. It was but a few years since he made a personal tour of investigation in Japan and other oriental fields.

From the same source we have confirmation of the appointment of the Rev. Gen. W. Knox, D.D., formerly of the East Japan Presbyterian Mission, and recently pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Rye, N.Y., to the Union Theological Seminary, N.Y. City, as Professor of the Philosophy and History of Religion. Dr. Knox's acquaintance with the leading Oriental faiths, and the fact of his having held a professorship in the Theological Department of the Meiji Gakuin, Tokyo, may have had influence in this appointment to a chair in one of the leading Theological Seminaries in the United States. His well known dialectical ability, and rare logical and oratorical gifts, assure a success that will be gratifying to his many friends in Japan.

THEFT ON THE BLUFF.

A thief, the other day, broke into the residence Mr. Geo. Philip, 64 Bluff, Yokohama, and stole a fowling piece valued at \$300, an overcoat and several other articles, also taking an overcoat and other clothing belonging to the cook. The matter was reported to the Kanagawa Prefectural Office, and the police investigated it, with the result that Constable Kimura arrested one Nakayama Gonkichi, a cook in the service of a foreigner. When apprehended he was very expensively attired, and was riding a first rate bicycle. He made a confession of his guilt. The fowling piece, which was found in his possession, was returned to Mr. Philip; and the bicycle proved to be the property of a Mr. Hagiwara Shintaro, which the accused had borrowed in the name of the owner's friend.

CUT TO PIECES ON THE LINE.

A serious railway accident is reported as occurring near Yokohama. About five p.m. on Wednesday three workmen belonging to the Glass Factory at Takashima-cho were walking on the railway track, when at the iron bridge at Fujimibashi they saw an up-train approaching. They kept to the right side, failing to notice the 4.30 Shimabashi train coming up from the rear. The latter dashed into the party, and one of them was killed outright, being mangled at most beyond recognition, while the others were thrown into the water. One was picked up by a boat which happened to be near. The body of the third man, however, has not been recovered.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Rev. Hugh Foss was recently consecrated as Bishop of Osaka at Westminster Abbey. The Archbishop of Canterbury officiated, and several other Bishops took part in the ceremony.

In his electoral manifesto, the Premier of Queensland pays a tribute of praise to the courteous and equitable spirit in which Japan conducted the correspondence on the subject of Japanese immigration to Australia.

Mr. Justice Romer succeeds the late Mr. Justice Chitty as a Judge of the Court of Appeal, and Mr. Cozens Hardy, Member for North Norfolk, is appointed to a Judgeship in succession to Mr. Justice Romer.

The M.M. steamer *Farra*, since she was here last year, has been thoroughly overhauled in her boilers and machinery at the yard of La Ciotat, and is now brought up to date as a modern mail steamer.

The following advertisement really appears in a home paper:—"Anz française, Un Anglais desirer reconstruire un jeune français pour conversation." There should be a rush of Frenchmen to enjoy conversation with that young man.

The recent "slump" in Japanese style house decoration is found to have exercised a depressing effect upon the popularity of the chrysanthemum in England. The enthusiasm for the delicately tinted it somewhat "raggy" Oriental flower has declined visibly of late, and a once flourishing society devoted to its cultivation has had to dissolve itself from lack of support.

The Hongkong A.D.C. are to be congratulated on the long run of their excellent Pantomime "The Yellow Dwarf"—twelve performances being given. An "Browie," in the *China Mail*, remarks:—"When it is remembered the rehearsals began in October, and that five months passed before the twelfth performance was given, some idea may be gathered of the trouble taken."

The Japanese intend, says a home paper, as soon as the vessels now being built abroad are completed, to make a series of experiments and comparisons between vessels built in Britain, Germany, France, and America, and it is hoped that the results of these will be published for the information of naval architects and ship-builders generally. The newly established Japanese Institute of Naval Architects has in this an opportunity of showing that it can render good service to science.

The financial sensation of the moment in London is the absconding of the Chairman and Managing Director of the Millwall Docks Company. The annual report admits that recent balance-sheets were falsified, the assets being overvalued to the tune of a quarter of a million sterling. The Board invariably confided in the Chairman's guarantee that the valuation was correct. The delinquent had a salary of £2,000 a year. A warrant for his arrest has been issued. Eight officials of the Company are also said to be implicated. The Bank balance was overdrawn to the extent of £40,000.

Consul General Wildman, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, in receipt of a cablegram from Washington informing him that his request that the property of the wealthy Cortes family of Manila, that was confiscated by the Spanish Government, be returned to them has been acceded to. The President of the United States has restored all their family property by proclamation. This act of the President is in the nature of a reward and recognition of the unwavering allegiance of this powerful family to the interests of the United States in the Philippines, and will no doubt bind to the cause of the United States all the wealthy families of the Islands as against those who have nothing to lose by a disturbed condition of affairs. Don Maximo Cortes, who has been in Washington, is returning to take over his properties in Manila, which are valued at a million and a half of dollars.

CHINA NOTES.

The *N.-C. Daily News* has the following note on the San-moon affair:—

San-moon Bay, Chekiang province, which, it is reported, will be taken over by the Italians as a naval station, lies mid way between Ningpo and Wenchow. From a commercial standpoint it is a doubtful acquisition, and as a naval base, valueless to any but a first class Power. The mainland to the northward is practically unapproachable by vessels of any draft owing to the extensive mud flats. On the western side two rivers drain into it; the Ninghar, and a lesser one called the Hae-yu; the latter has only 4 feet of water on the Bar at low-water Springs, but as there is a rise and fall of 5 feet, trade may be carried on. On the left bank of the Hae-yu stands the walled town Kien-yan, which enjoys a considerable junc traffic. The Bay is well sheltered from the N.E. monsoon, but lies fully exposed to winds between East and Southeast. The district is but partially surveyed.

The date for the opening of Yochou, Huanan province, as a commercial port for international trade, seems near at hand, for, under instructions from Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, a Taoist of the name of Chang Hung-shun has been recently in Shanghai, engaged in taking notes as to the management of the new open port of Woosung, the administration of the new Chinese Bund district, and the workings of the Shanghai Waterworks and Electric Light department, cost of machinery, maintenance, etc., etc.

Mr. Pierre Piry, a Frenchman by birth and a very old resident of Shanghai, is dead. Mr. Piry was the Father of the Imperial Maritime Customs, which he entered about 1854, only retiring within the last two years. When a boy he was wrecked on the coast of Korea and taken to the Palace as a curiosity, and as such was sent by the King in a cage to Peking as tribute. The Court at Peking, not knowing what to do with him, sent him down to the Foreign Customs then just started by the Consuls at Shanghai, and he was regarded all his life as in some measure a special protégé of the Chinese Government.

A very handsome wreath in oxidized silver intended for the *Illis* memorial has arrived in Shanghai. This was dedicated, states the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, as a token of respect for the gallant men of the *Illis* from the Russian Navy. Laurel and oaken leaves are wound as a garland and a long silver bow is attached to it with the following inscription:—"The Pacific Squadron in the brave comrades who perished with the *Illis*." This splendid gift, measuring about one yard in diameter, is now in the hands of the German Consul-General, and it is proposed to hang it up in the German Church which is to be erected in Shanghai, as it cannot be fixed on the monument itself.

The Shanghai bandmen have agreed, it seems, to return to duty, but this involves the retirement of Commander Vela. It seems that the real trouble is racial, and that the bandmen (Mauilamen) will not serve under a Spaniard, but they will sign on again under the assistant bandmaster, Mr. Martinazzi, who is an Italian.

The assessed taxes in Hongkong are at the rate of 13 per cent. as against 10 per cent. in Shanghai.

At Kashingfu a servant in an opium den was found dead near the door. The neighbors said he had committed suicide. This seemed a plausible explanation, but the dead man's friends refused or failed to remove the body and sent in an appeal to the Prefect. He sent the other magistrate to hold another inquest. Happening to notice some bruises on the body, the latter suspected foul play and reversed the former verdict. At this stage the keeper of the opium den and one of his guests sought out the dead man's relatives, and money enough passed to hush the matter up. It seems that a quarrel had arisen over the question of changing a ten cent piece, the servant paying only eighty-nine cash, and the opium customer insisting on having ninety for it. In the fight

that followed the servant was thrown down a flight of stairs and died immediately. The current comment is that one cash is cheap for a life, even in such a cheap country as China.

On the 27th ult., a Chinese bank in Nanking, which had large business connections with the officials, failed with liabilities of over Tls. 300,000.

The Peiho is now free from ice, and river traffic once more in swing. There is not less than 10 ft. of water in the reaches, but the channel is too narrow for steamers to negotiate. However, great hopes are entertained for the near future, as the first steamers over the Bar had 11 ft. of water.

Governor Téng, of Nanking, received news of the capture of Niu Shih-him a fortnight ago. He immediately ordered the rebel chief to be executed on the spot, as secret information had been received that a desperate attempt would be made by the chief's followers to effect a *renouveau en route*, should the usual custom be followed in having such an important prisoner tried and executed in the provincial capital Niu's capture and death, it is said, will end the Anhui Rebellion.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* records the receipt of some excellent arawberries grown from American seed in a plantation at Happy Valley.

The Peking railway terminus, and the road from the station to the Yungting Gate, are to be lighted by electricity.

Liu Ju-i, who died just after being appointed Customs Taoist at Tientsin, had paid Tls. 80,000, it is stated, for the post.

According to a Peking letter, the native official version of the recent massacre of unarmed peasants by Cossacks last January near Port Arthur, agrees substantially with what has already appeared in *N.-C. Daily News*, but it is added that the surviving peasants carried the news to the country side, and in an incredibly short time some 6,000 armed village militia were gathered together who marched the next day to the scene of the massacre. There was, however, no fighting, for the Cossacks had already retired to Port Arthur; but when the Russians heard of this gathering of desperate peasants anxious to avenge their relatives' and kinsmen's deaths, the former sent an interpreter to explain matters. The exasperated peasantry, however, would take no explanations, and so carried him off as a prisoner into the hills. The man's fate is not yet known; but the peasants claim that during the massacre the Cossacks killed 94 and wounded 123 men.

Capt. M. F. Patterson, of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, at the age of 71, and after serving 32 years in China, during which time he made 600 voyages between Tientsin and Shanghai, has determined to take a trip home to America. He was recently presented with a cheque for \$2,000 by the Company in recognition of his services; while the marine officers presented him with a handsome silver salver, and the Masonic fraternity gave the veteran a purse of gold "to be opened on passing the Golden Gate."

We notice in Shanghai papers that Dr. Stoughton, U.S.N., formerly of Yokohama, has been appointed to the *Monocacy*, at Shanghai.

According to a Nanking dispatch in the *N. C. Daily News*, the opening of that city to international trade will be only a matter of a few days. On the 1st instant work was begun on the new I.M. Custom-house, and it is intended to begin the collection of duties on the 1st of April on board a hulk lying off the bund. It is stated that some missionaries have purchased a very large number of lots in the proposed Foreign Settlement, while those natives who have not sold their land have now begun setting up landmarks to protect their property from encroachments. H.E. Viceroy Liu, it is further stated, telegraphed to Sir Robert Hart for the loan of a foreign employee or two to assist in the labour of opening the port.

AMERICAN NOTES.

It is reported that a settlement of the Central Pacific Railroad's Government debt has been agreed upon. The company, under its agreement, will pay to the Government the full amount of the outstanding indebtedness, with principal and interest on both the Central Pacific and the Western Pacific roads. The Central Pacific debt on February 1st was \$25,885,120 principal and \$36,604,385 interest, less \$9,100,452 of judgments, bonds and sinking fund, leaving a debit balance of \$53,389,053. The debit balance of the Western Pacific on the same date was \$6,423,662, making a total debit balance of the two roads of \$59,812,715.

General Woodford, the former American Minister at Madrid, made a remarkable speech at the New York Army and Navy Club. The *Maine*, he declared, carried with her to the bottom almost all the available stock of ammunition possessed by the United States Navy. After she sank, there were not two rounds per gun in existence. "I was told accordingly to exhaust the arts of peace until April 15th," the earliest date at which the United States could be ready for war. "I did the best I could, but let me tell you that had it not been for the untalented, unchanging, and loyal friendship of England, and the attitude of her Minister at Madrid, I might have failed to do the little I did do, because the representatives at Madrid of Continental Europe were ready at any time to interfere with the plans of the United States, if the British Minister would only join them."

At the 27th anniversary dinner of the Sikk Association of America, one of the principal toasts was "the Empire of Japan."

Land of the East: beneath the Heaven
There's not a fairer, lovelier clime;
Nor one to which was ever given
Ambition higher, more sublime.

The Japanese Minister, Mr. Komura, in replying, said—"Knowing well as I do that my power of expression is utterly inadequate to do justice to the occasion, it is with a great deal of diffidence that I venture to say a few words in appreciation of the extreme courtesy which has been extended to me as the representative of the Empire of Japan. In responding to the toast and in thanking you for the very cordial manner in which it has been given and received, the pleasure I naturally feel is enhanced by the conviction that something more than a mere formal compliment has been intended.—(Applause.) Any of my countrymen, speaking to any American assembly, can safely feel confident of the warmth and friendliness of his welcome. On this occasion I have the additional satisfaction of knowing that I am speaking to those who take not only a friendly but an active and intelligent interest in the affairs of my country and whose efforts tend to promote its prosperity. As you all know, intercourse between Japan and the United States has been unique, both in its origin and in its development; so much so that it would be difficult to find a parallel in the history of nations. There is, as far as I am aware, no other instance in international dealings in which a sense of strict justice and a sentiment of liberal friendship have been so constantly present as in the intercourse between those nations.—(Applause.) In the progress of Japan toward a higher and a wider plane of national life and in the efforts of her ruler and people to achieve by constant and earnest work a proper position among the civilized nations, no friend has been more sympathetic or more helpful than the United States; for that reason a Japanese among Americans always feels that he is in the house of his friends, just as I feel on this occasion, that the toast for the the prosperity and the well-being of the Empire of Japan is a reflection of that generous friendship of which we have had strong and undoubted proofs in the past.—(Applause.) This feeling of friendship is further gaining additional strength in the fact that the people of Japan and the United States have already begun to realize the entire identity of their interests.—(Applause.) Japan and the United States are

not rivals or competitors in the sense that their interests clash. On the contrary their products supplement each other to their mutual advantage, as shown by the extraordinarily rapid growth of their trade in the past decade, and in contributing to this growth of trade, it might interest you to be reminded that the exports of this country in Japan have had by far the larger share.—(Applause.) This prospect of vast and extensive trade between Japan and the United States, joined by their neighbourhood in the Pacific, whose importance as a great natural highway is rapidly increasing, affords the best guarantee of a still closer and stronger friendship in the future.—(Applause.) From the standpoint of material interests therefore, no less than on sentimental grounds, I may say confidently that the Republic of the United States, looking out upon the widening horizon of a new era in its marvellous history, can find no truer and more sincere well-wisher than the Empire of Japan.—(Applause.) I will, gentlemen, no longer trespass upon your time, and in closing my remarks, I thank you again, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, for your extreme courtesy to-night and for your kind and appreciative attention.—(Applause.)

It was expected that the new United States Ambassador to the court of St. James, Mr. John H. Choate, would be presented to Queen Victoria by the Prime Minister, Lord Salisbury, on March 7th at Windsor Castle.

The *Manila Times* says:—The cargo of the transport *Morgan City* is the strangest of all the odd assortments that ships' bottoms have carried to Manila since last July. In addition to army stores, she has three hundred hermetically sealed coffins and their box coverings. A superintendent undertaker, Mr. S. E. Reinhard, and five assistants are among the passengers, who will effect the disinterment and sending to the States of the bodies of nearly three hundred officers and men now buried in the vicinity of Manila. On arrival at San Francisco the remains of dead soldiers will be sent at the expense of the Government to their former homes. Several of the families of army and navy men and some additional Government nurses are on the passenger list.

The commission appointed by President McKinley to investigate the conduct of the war has made its report. It exonerates Secretary Alger and the War Department from all the charges made, and inferentially charges General Miles with dereliction of duty. Failures are pointed out, but the placing of the blame is left to the President. The American press is practically a unit in looking upon the report as "a coat of whitewash" for the War Department.

THE DOSHISHA.

"M.L.G."—presumably the Rev. Dr. Gordon—writes as follow in the *Hugo Evening News*:—

The public have been apprised from time to time of recent events in the history of this institution. Hon. N. W. Mylor having come to Japan in September last as the legal representative of the American Board, he and the former missionary teachers in the school began a series of conferences. These conferences failed in accomplishing a pacific settlement of the questions at issue, and just as all preparations had been made to take the case into the Japanese Courts, the trustees resigned in a body.

This made the organization of a new Board necessary. This has been done through nominations by the Japanese donors, the American donors, and the *alumni*. Fortunately, the representatives of the Japanese and the American donors were able to recommend the same men, and the Board now consists of the following gentlemen:

Mr. J. Kono, a graduate of the school, and now a Tokyo business man.
Rev. K. Tamekuni, a graduate, now Chaplain to the Sugamo Prison, Tokyo.
Mr. Sathara, M.P., Tokyo.
Rev. T. Hori, a graduate, now a pastor in Yokohama.
Rev. T. Matsuyama, a former trustee, a former

professor, now professor in the Heian Girls' School, Kyoto.

Rev. A. Miyake, a graduate, now a pastor in Osaka.

Rev. H. Yamanaoka, a graduate, now a pastor in Osaka.

Mr. J. Maeyami, an Osaka business man.

Rev. M. Hiromi, a graduate, now a pastor in Hioyo.

Rev. H. Kozaki, formerly President of the school.

Mr. N. Kishimoto, a graduate, now teacher in the Unitarian school in Tokyo.

Prof. K. Ukita, a graduate, a former professor, now a professor in Count Okuma's school, Tokyo.

Mr. K. Shimomura, a graduate, formerly principal of the Harris Science School, now superintendent of a coke manufactory, Osaka.

The last four were elected by the *alumni*.

One of the first things which the new board did after organization was to restore the old constitution, whose "unchangeable fundamental principles" suffered at the hands of the old Board just a year ago. Thus Christianity has been restored to its original position as "the basis of the moral education in all departments of the Doshisha." The representatives of the American Board, in view of this action, in regard to Christianity, have given them a statement recognizing their full control over the institution. This statement closes with these words:—"It is understood by us that the Christianity which is to form the basis of moral teaching in all departments of the Doshisha under the unchangeable principles of its constitution is that body of living and fundamental Christian principles believed and accepted in common by the great Christian Churches of the world."

The trustees, on their part, recognize that they "hold all the property in trust to carry out the wishes and purposes of the original founders in accordance with the unchangeable principles of the constitution" as above referred to.

In this way this once flourishing institution takes a new lease of life. The way before it is not all smooth. Financial and other difficulties lie directly across its pathway. One of these is that of securing a President. The *alumni* are largely in favour of Mr. Kozaki, a former President. Other friends of the institution feel that his re-election would mean sure disaster. It is a grave difficulty. Let us all hope that a way out of the difficulty may be speedily found.

M. L. G.

THE LEOPOLD BANKRUPTCY.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

The public examination of Charles Emil Leopold, a bankrupt, was opened on Friday morning at H.B.M.'s Court for Japan before His Honour Judge Wilkinson. Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the petitioning creditors, the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, and for H. Ahrens and Co., Nachl.; Mr. A. B. Walford for the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; and Professor Terry, of Tokyo, for the debtor.

His Honour—Are there any other creditors here, or representatives of creditors?

The Official Receiver (Mr. C. D. Moss)—No, your Honour, not to my knowledge.

The debtor was then called and was first examined by Mr. Lowder. He said he was a British subject and had been for many years employed by H. Ahrens and Co., Nachl. They were agents for the Norddeutscher Lloyd and also the London Assurance Corporation. Witness was in charge of those two departments. His remuneration consisted of a fixed salary and a percentage on the two departments.

Mr. Lowder—Roughly speaking, in 1897, your remuneration amounted from one source or another in regard to H. Ahrens and Co. to 7,000 yen, did it not?

Debtor (after making a calculation)—No, about 5,000 yen, I should say. For some reason or other the commission was very low in that year.

Mr. Lowder—You had estimated it at 8,000 yen to the accountant of the Chartered Bank, had you not?

Debtor—Yes, but it fell short of that.

In March, 1898, you estimated your yearly income at 6,000 to 7,000 yen, did you not, in a letter to the Chartered Bank?

Debtor—Yes.

In 1895 you commenced to do business on your own account with the permission of your employers?—It was at the latter end of 1894 or in 1895; I don't recollect exactly.

Your business at that time you proposed to confine to the exportation of furs?—Furs and other exports.

For the purposes of that business you placed

yourself in communication with C. M. Lampson & Co., of London, who do a large business in furs?—Yes.

Did you then assume the firm name of C. E. Leopold and Co.?—No.

When did you assume that name?—My brother possibly assumed it in 1896; I don't recollect.

Can you tell us shortly why that firm name was assumed?—For business purposes in London.

The business I take it was your own business entirely?—I was responsible.

It was your own business entirely? You had no partners?—No partners.

Your brother adopted the firm name and you acquiesced?—Yes.

For what reason was it adopted?—For business purposes.

What were the business purposes?—It is always better in London to have a firm name instead of a business name. There was no other reason.

Will you refresh your memory by referring to the letter written by your brother?—I don't recollect when that letter was written. (After reference.) He writes here on 10th Oct., 1896, "If not objectionable to you please draw on E. C. Leopold and Co. It will avoid other endorsements." After that I drew on the firm, and not on myself. True, I was the only member of the firm, and was responsible for all losses.

Mr. Lowder—None of the fur business passed through the hands of C. M. Leopold and Co. in London?—No some fur drafts were drawn on them, but no fur business.

The manner in which the fur business was conducted, I believe, was this, that you procured the firm of C. M. Lampson and Company to address to the Bank of India, Australia and China, a letter of guarantee authorising the bank to accept your drafts accompanied by documents in the terms of the guarantee, and promising to pay them on maturity?—Yes.

I suppose what you got from the Bank was a letter advising you that you would be authorised to draw up to the amount to be stated in a telegram from Lampson?—Yes, and at certain prices.

And the moneys so obtained by you from the bank was to be expended in furs to be sent to C. M. Lampson and Company, was it not?—Yes.

And in order to do that it was occasionally necessary for you to overdraw your account at the Chartered Bank?—Yes.

And so on the 18th June, 1895, you addressed to the Chartered Bank this document, which is called a trust receipt?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—I propose to put this in. Mr. Lowder read the document, which was a printed form acknowledging a lien on all produce held by accused in consideration of his being allowed an overdraft, and engaging not to contract a loan from any other bank or person on the same produce or property.

Having signed that trust receipt it was your custom to hand into the Chartered Bank every month a list of securities held against overdraft?—Yes.

And in that statement you always referred to the letter I have just read?—Yes.

Is this a statement handed in by you on the 31st December, 1897?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder read the statement, which set out quantities of leathers, wall paper, straw braid, furs, &c., to the total value of 65,000 yen.

Mr. Lowder—Is this a statement handed in by you on 31st January, 1898?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder put in the document without reading it.

On the 21st Feb., 1898, you received a letter from the agent of the Chartered Bank as follows, referring to a telegraphic transfer of £5,600 remitted to London. In reply to that you sent this statement, showing goods in your godown to the value of 63,000 yen, did you not?—Yes.

What was the telegraphic transfer referred to in that letter?—I don't recollect.

Could you tell me by reference to your books? Perhaps I can save time. Was it this?—Witness (after reference to the paper produced)—Yes.

Mr. Lowder (reading) "10th February, 1898. Pay C. E. Leopold and Co. £5,600 sterling."

What was done with that money?—Remitted to London.

What for?—To take up accommodation bills. Drawn by whom and on whom?—By me on C. E. Leopold and Co.

In favour of whom?—Probably in favour of the Chartered Bank themselves.

On the 28th February did you hand in this statement of particulars against advances on furs and other produce?—Yes.

On 3rd March, 1898, you received a letter from the manager of the Chartered Bank as to your financial position and you wrote him this reply, did you not? (Letter produced).—Yes.

The letter informed the agent that he (Leopold)

closed his books for the year on 31st March, and would hand in as quickly as possible his balance-sheet and profit and loss account. "I may mention that my estimated surplus is yen 55,000. Besides I hold property in Japanese town which will show a surplus of yen 100,000. I am also in receipt of rents for other leases showing a surplus of yen 500 per month, and my income from the firm will be between yen 6,000 and yen 7,000 per annum."

I hand you two statements dated 31st March, 1898. Just look at them, please: are they signed by yourself?—Yes.

It appears to me that one was sent in first and was afterwards corrected? Is that so? One is for 55,500 and the other for 52,000?—The smaller, I think, is the correct one.

The difference is made up by one item, 2,500 catties of feathers, value 3,500 yen?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Then I will put in the proper one. Now on the 6th May you wrote this letter, did you not?—Yes.

And enclosed was this statement of particulars dated 30th April?—Yes.

In this you have not filled in the trust receipt?—There was a new letter of lien written out about then, but I don't remember.

Mr. Lowder—If so I haven't got it. In this statement other items are substituted for those contained in the statement of the 31st March.

Mr. Lowder read the statement, which gave a list of Japanese securities in land, coal, lighters, &c., totalling 55,000 yen.

Have you got the letter of the agent of the Bank to which this is an answer?—I don't think so; some of those letters I received at the Hospital, and I expect I have lost it. I will look. (After reference)—I don't think there was any letter written. Mr. McVicar came up to me from the Bank and I think that letter was written in reply to a conversation I had with him.

Mr. Lowder—This is your letter of 6th May (reading).

Yokohama, 6th May.

DEAR STEVEN,—Herewith I beg to hand you list of securities which I hold for your account and any money coming in under them will naturally be paid into you. With reference to the different items I beg to mention the following:—

Lumber awaiting transportation at Akechi. With reference to this lumber it will be held at your order on arrival in Yokohama, and will be manufactured into tea boxes.

Lighters in course of construction at Nakamura. As soon as these are finished payment will be made into you.

Wood and other work at Nakamura. Proceeds from this will be immediately handed you. Nakamura godowns, buildings, and leases. These godowns are rented to Messrs. H. Ahrens and Co., Nachf. at yen 200 per month. Surogacho Godowns and Lease. These are also rented to Messrs. H. Ahrens and Co., Nachf. at yen 235 per month and both these and the Nakamura Godowns are for a long term.

I am trying to expedite sale of the above buildings so as to hand you cash instead of securities. The above are all fully covered by policies against fire, and which I hold for your account.

I trust that you will be satisfied with these securities, the more so as you know well that when overdraft is suddenly called in the person has some difficulty in paying up immediately, and I have had this overdraft for some years.

Through my unfortunate illness I was unable to sign the documents with reference to the sale of these properties; I was therefore unable to pay you the amounts promised. In the meantime the Japanese have taken advantage of it and it will be some time before they get properly working again.

I hope to be out of Hospital next week, and will then show your people over the list of securities and of course any deliveries taking place under the above mentioned securities will be paid into you.

With regard to the godowns, you can if you wish refer to Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf. for further information.

I will see that the bills on Messrs. C. E. Leopold and Co. are put in order; all the goods with the exception of about £800 have been either sold or contracted for.

This illness has been very unfortunate for my business, but you can rest assured that I have a considerable surplus over my liabilities.

Thanking you in advance for the accommodation, and you can rest assured that I will make it my duty to call upon you directly I am in town.

Yours truly, E. LEOPOLD.

Mr. Lowder—In reply to that letter the agent wrote to you demanding what had become of the

securities set forth in your statement of the 31st March?—Some one wrote, but I don't remember whether it was from him or from you.

Now when you drew against a letter of credit from C. M. Lamson and Co. you always handed in shipping documents to the Chartered Bank, did you not?—Yes.

The documents consisted of bills of lading, invoices, policies of insurances, and bills of exchange?—Yes.

Now I ask you to look at an invoice dated 29th December, 1897, purporting to be signed by yourself. Was it signed by you and handed to the bank?—Yes.

That relates to 20 bales of furs?—Yes.

Now I hand to you another document, a policy of insurance referring to the same 20 bales of furs, and ask you if you handed that to the bank and also the bill of lading?—Yes.

Did you against these 20 bales of furs draw on C. M. Lamson and Company for £1,500?—Yes.

Now the furs mentioned in these shipping documents were not shipped?—I can't say.

They were not shipped at the date of these documents?—No, some may have been shipped later on.

How did you obtain the signature of H. Ahrens and Company to the bills of lading and policies of insurance?—They were sent in for signature in the usual course and were signed.

You don't wish me to infer that your employees knew that these goods were not shipped at the time?—No.

Mr. Lowder also put questions with regard to an alleged shipment of eight bales of furs, and debtor admitted that they were not shipped at the date mentioned on the bills of lading or invoices. The freight was not paid, nor was the insurance, but the latter was debited to him.

Against those documents you drew on Lamson for £600, and you were credited with 5,847 yen 72 sen?—Yes.

With regard to six similar cases of furs witness returned similar replies. He drew on Lamson and Co. for £750, and obtained credit with the Bank for 7,309 yen. With reference to 14 packages of furs he drew for £2,500 and obtained credit for 24,305 yen. As to 16 packages he drew for £2,875 and obtained credit for 28,191 yen, and as to 15 packages he drew for £2,625 and obtained credit for 25,780 yen. All these bills were drawn within a period of a little less than seven weeks.

Mr. Lowder—The sterling amounts aggregate £10,850?—Yes, I suppose so, I haven't added them up.

Now I wish to know what has become of that money?—It has been used for general purposes. I am afraid I must trouble you for more detailed information than that. The cheques and the pass-book will show what the money was used for.

Mr. Lowder—Earlier in the morning there was a telegraphic transfer of £5,600 in favour of C. E. Leopold and Co., date 22nd February, 1898?—Yes.

Was that a portion of the £10,000?—Yes.

Now what have C. E. Leopold and Co. done with that £5,600?—Took up drafts drawn by me.

Do you know which drafts?—I can't tell exactly which. Some for goods shipped and some not shipped.

Mr. Lowder—You see I want to know whether that money is in your brother's possession or not, and I must have particulars from you. If I do not get them I shall not be satisfied.

Debtor—I shall be able to tell when I get the final accounts from London.

On 9th Feb., 1898, you drew a cheque on the Chartered Bank for 26,432 yen in favour of the Russo-Chinese Bank and on the same date a cheque on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for 28,000 yen in favour of the Russo-Chinese Bank?—Yes.

And the sterling equivalent of these sums was also remitted to E. C. Leopold and Co.?—Yes.

What has become of that money?—Used for taking up drafts.

Can you give us particulars of the drafts?—Not at present. When I have the dates and particulars I can tell you exactly what I did with it.

Mr. Lowder—Perhaps it would be convenient to adjourn now. Perhaps in the interval the debtor will take advantage of the opportunity of reminding himself with regard to that.

The Court adjourned accordingly.

On resuming debtor in answer to Mr. Lowder said he did not remember any remittances to C. E. Leopold & Co. other than those which had been mentioned. Debtor said he could now explain as to the remittances of February 9th of 26,000 yen through the Chartered Bank and yen 28,000 through the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to C. E. Leopold & Co. They were to cover up drafts drawn on C. E. Leopold & Co. in favour of the Chartered Bank against which he (debtor) had received cash

at Yokohama from the Chartered Bank. He offered the same explanation as to the remittance of 5,500 yen—Hongkong Bank and Chartered Bank. On the 7th April debtor drew on the Hongkong Bank a cheque for 29,767 yen. That was to meet a bill drawn on debtor by Lamson's. There was a claim sent to the London Assurance Co. through Lamson's by witness, and they refused it, and it was sent back to Yokohama, and witness admitted it. Witness had previously drawn upon Lamson's for £3,000 on this account and they had paid the draft, presumably to the Chartered Bank. This was in respect of an insurance claim some goods. That claim had since been assigned to Ahrens & Co., and debtor did not know what had been done in the matter. Lamson's drew on him for the £3,000 which they had failed to collect from the Insurance Company.

Then you remitted this £3,000 to Lamson and Co. out of money which Lamson and Co. had placed to your credit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for the purchase of furs?—Yes, I used that money.

And knowing that the Assurance Company refused to pay this money you put it among your assets?—I did not know at the time that they definitely refused—not until after I came out of the Hospital. When I put it in the list of my assets, I considered it a perfectly justifiable one, and expected to ultimately collect the amount.

On the 31st December, 1897, your position vis-à-vis the Chartered Bank was that you owed them 86,000 yen odd, was it not?—My pass-book stands at 60,000 yen odd.

Look at the 30th, what was the balance then?—That might have been so on the morning of the 31st.

What was to your debit on the 30th?—About 84,000 yen.

You reduced that by a cash payment of 6,000 yen and a sterling draft on Lamson and Company for £2,000?—Yes.

And the goods against which that draft was drawn were not shipped?—Not at that date.

And your position vis-à-vis the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at the same date was a debit balance of 40,000 yen, was it not?—I don't remember; if the pass book says so it was.

And against that debit balance you drew a draft on Lamson and Co. for which you obtained credit for 42,000 odd yen, did you not?—Yes.

Against furs that were not at that time shipped?—Yes.

So that your position vis-à-vis the two banks was a debit balance of something over 120,000 yen against which you drew on Lamson and Company?—Yes.

That was the result of your trading for how long?—That I don't exactly know.

For about two years?—There were outstanding against it; I had other securities then.

Considering that position, did it not occur to you that you were bankrupt or very nearly?—No, I considered there were securities and profits I should make that would enable me to cover everything.

By securities you mean investments of those various sums of money that you had obtained from the bank?—Yes, and untraded stocks.

Now this morning I gave you a list of bills on Lamson and Co. amounting to £10,850 against furs that had not been shipped—these bills were met by C. D. Lamson and Co. as they fell due?—Yes, I suppose so.

And they were subsequently repaid by Ahrens and Co.?—Yes, and debited to me at my request.

They were repaid by Ahrens and Co. on the supposition that they were legally liable because they had signed the documents?—I never knew the reason; I never asked them to repay more than £5,000. But I presume that was the reason.

You never asked them to pay more than £5,000?—No, after that I had no communication with Ahrens and Co.; they would not communicate with me in any way or form.

Do you remember sending to Mr. Wisner a statement of your assets which showed a total of 340,000 yen?—I do not know. There were so many things written in the Hospital that I do not remember.

Look at that letter.—Yes, it was written when I was in Hospital.

Here is another in which you state that you will make out an assignment to Ahrens and Co. in proper form, and also a list of securities for the Chartered Bank. Why were you saying all that?—To protect the firm.

I am suggesting that at your request Ahrens and Co. paid off the whole of these drafts, that they thought they were liable because their signatures were attached to the documents, and that you assigned them assets represented as 340,000 yen to protect them from their liability?—I have

no recollection of asking them to remit more than the £5000. I expected that they would have to meet the whole if I did not pay. Somebody would have to meet them, either Ahrens or myself.

Can you tell me how you invested the proceeds of the bills you drew on Lampton and Company for £10,850?—The principal seems to be in straw brash, lime, coals, Phoenix Saw Mills.

What is the amount of Phoenix Saw Mills?—Several amounts (Continuing). There was that cheque of 26,000 yen through the Russo-Chinese Bank, feathers, payment in regard to land, telegraphic transfers to London—these are the principal items.

You just mentioned the Phoenix Saw Mills—they belonged to you, did they not?—Yes.

When did you purchase them?—I can't recollect exactly. At the beginning of 1896 I was half shares in it with Kildayle. (After referring to books). From February, '98, I was the sole owner.

What did you pay for his share?—I paid some amounts in cash, and he was to have something monthly. In May, 1898, there was 15,000 yen owing to him still.

What amounts did you pay to him?—In February he did not have much: in March 10,000 yen (After reference to books). In March 2,400 yen, April 1,000 yen, in May 1,000 yen, then there was a bit of lumber in the country, value 7,000 yen, that I had paid for and which he took over.

On the 6th May you assigned the Phoenix Saw Mills to Ahrens and Co., did you not, as security among other goods?—Yes.

And you valued them at 80,000 yen?—Yes.

And they belonged at that time entirely to you?—Yes.

How did you arrive at that valuation?—Well, considering the money I had put in it I considered it a fair price, and if my troubles had not come I think I should have realised it.

Did you have a balance sheet of the saw mills made out on May 31st?—Yes. It is audited by Mr. Stone and has also Mr. Curtis's signature. Mr. Curtis was a secretary and cashier in my employ and Mr. Stone was simply the auditor.

Now this account begins with an entry on the debit side of 48,240 yen, which is called capital account. What is the meaning of that?—It is money paid in by me from time to time into the Phoenix Saw Mills account.

Is that what you paid?—I paid in cash.

To whom?—Into the concern.

It is not purchase money?—Yes, it is the same thing as part of the purchase money.

There is an entry here of 62,164 yen, for timber belonging to Ahrens and Co. taken over by the Saw Mills and never paid for?—No, it arrived in bad condition.

And was used by the Saw Mills?—Yes, we made it up for kerosene boxes and partly for tea boxes. The proceeds of the tea boxes were drawn for by Ahrens.

And the kerosene boxes?—They were paid for by Raape into the Phoenix Saw Mills.

And not paid over to Ahrens?—No.

And the loss on the Saw Mills during the time of your working was 47,813 yen?—Yes. The principal loss was on the *Selkirkshire*. The total loss is larger than that. It is 65,000 yen, besides 15,000 yen unpaid lumber.

In view of that do you not think that 80,000 yen was a high valuation?—No, the inventory alone was 65,000.

Have you the deeds of transfer of the Saw Mills?—No, I have not. They were taken over again by Kildayle at the request of the late Mr. Keil. Mr. Keil acted for H. Ahrens and Co. It was done at my house in the presence of Akiyama, Mr. Keil, and Mr. Terry. This was at the end of June. The amount for which they were resold was 66,800 yen. I do not know in whose hands they are now. The documents are not in my possession.

The next item is "Yoshihama-cho shed and lease at 40 yen per month." Where is the lease?—I have not got it. The Japanese have the documents. I never could get the documents of that; there is something peculiar in the title. If anybody has it would be Uyeda, my *bando*. I don't think there is any lease to that ground. Uyeda lives in Sumiyoshi-cho; I don't know whether he is there now. He was in my employ in 1896 and 1897. He was previously in my department at Ahrens and Co.

Do you know to whom the shed is let at 40 yen a month?—I don't know now. It was let to Halm for 40 dollars a month, but I don't know now.

Who collected the money?—I did.

What were the terms?—It was for six months. Does the shed belong to you?—Yes.

You value it at 1,000 dollars?—Yes.

Is it still your property?—That I can't tell you. I haven't got it now.

Have you sold it?—No.

Now will you explain your answer?—All my Japanese property is in the hands of Uyeda Yoshizawa and Tada Ginzaburo.

Can you give me the address of Tada Ginzaburo?—I don't know it.

Have you not been in communication with them through your attorney, Mr. Uchiyama?—Mr. Uchiyama could do nothing with them.

Do you know if this shed has been sold?—I don't. I should say it has not been sold.

If you wished to realise it now what should you do?—I should get hold of Mr. Uyeda, and instruct him to do so.

Are you willing to instruct Mr. Uyeda?—Certainly.

Now there are a house and godown in Japanese town which you value at 2,500 yen, and which you included in your list of assets. Where are they?—Sold. I sold them after I came out of the hospital, and paid the proceeds to Ahrens and Co.

What were the proceeds?—2,000 yen, I believe.

When did you last see Uyeda?—I saw him last in prison—I should say about the first week in the New Year.

Now the next item in this list is land at Kanagawa which you value at 1100 yen? That is in Uyeda's name?—It should be. I have no documents, as they were taken out of my safe at No. 59 when I was in the hospital.

Who had the keys?—I had one set of keys, but the safe was always opened. Whether the Japanese or Mr. Lloyd, my clerk, had the keys I don't know. The safe contained no cash, only books. There was an office key for the outside. There were inner drawers that they did not have access to except Mr. Uyeda. There were two keys, I think. One I had and one Mr. Uyeda, I think. I could not find the documents after I came out of the hospital.

And you think that Uyeda had another key?—Yes, he had another key.

And you think he was the only person who could have access to the inner drawers?—Yes, unless he handed the keys to other people.

Did you ask him what had become of the documents when you came out of the hospital?—No. I did not wish to raise many questions with him, I was afraid that we should lose the big affairs. This being a small affair I thought I would let it slide.

Do you know what has become of this land?—I believe it has been sold. I asked him some time ago about it. I presume it has been sold or transferred. I did not take much trouble about it, as it was a small amount. In fact, I would have given him that land if he had transferred the other things.

You think, then, that land or the proceeds are in his possession, and you are willing that your name should be used for getting them from him?—Certainly.

The next item is Yoshihama Shinden land, which is said to be in the names of Uyeda and Ginzaburo—that is valued at 37,000, after paying off the mortgages upon it?—Yes.

What has become of it?—I have received information that it has been sold contrary to my instructions for 66,000 yen.

From whom?—Uchiyama Rosetsu, who holds my power of attorney, with another, Ishii Shichigoro. It is a joint power of attorney, and cannot be exercised without the concurrence of both. They both opposed the sale at such a ridiculously low figure. I heard that it was sold just before the New Year. I immediately did everything I could to get the sale cancelled.

Did you take any steps to apprise Messrs. Ahrens and Co. of the fact that the property was about to be sold?—I did not know that it was to be sold until it was sold.

Who sold it?—I should say only Uyeda and Ginzaburo could have sold it.

And you think it was sold for the exact amount of the mortgages upon it?—Yes, I suppose so, with interest.

You suppose it was taken over by the mortgages?—No, I don't think so.

Was it sold by public auction?—No, if it had been it would have fetched a far larger sum.

Whence did you derive this information?—Uchiyama and Uyeda, when I saw him once in prison.

Do you know what the documents of this land were?—They were certified copies of the title deeds and certified copies of the register.

Who bought the land?—I believe Mr. Kakei Otani, the banker.

Then you accuse your servants Uyeda and Ginzaburo of having sold this property against your instructions?—Yes, and for an absurd price.

Now there is an item of 34,000 yen claim against the Insurance Company. That they refused to entertain?—They did not refuse to entertain; they refused to pay.

Now there is an entry of "various unsold stocks amounting to 30,000 yen" in your possession. Were those unsold stocks in the hands of C. E. Leopold and Company?—Yes.

Can you give us details of them? Can you give us a list of the stocks you valued at 30,000 yen at that time?—I will try to get details, but I can't tell you now.

Mr. Lowder—At our next meeting will do. Now there is 3,000 yen sums owing?—They have been paid.

And what have you done with the proceeds?—The bulk has been paid to Ahrens and Co., and the remainder I used in business, 800 yen.

Now there is an item of a paper factory at Tokyo, valued at 4,000 yen. Where are the documents relating to that?—It was a mortgage. I don't know what has become of the documents. It was in Mr. Uyeda's name also. I have received no part of the proceeds, and am perfectly willing to assist in their recovery.

Now there is an item of 120,000 yen for shares. What are those?—There were 75,000 yen in the Lighter Company, which were made over to H. Ahrens. There were about 2,000 yen of Jinrikisha Company's shares, but those the firm would not accept. The Company is in Tokyo, and the shares are in Uyeda's name. They are good, and I am willing to assist in recovering from Uyeda. Then there are some small shares, Klondykes and Yukons; I don't know what they have done with them.

Mr. Lowder—Here is an item of 36,000 yen as value of skins, coal, wood, and other goods, unsold? What does that mean?—I have not got possession of any of those things. There is some wood belonging to me, I believe, lying in the north. It is all in Uyeda's possession. Some of the skins and other things were sold to pay current expenses by Uyeda. They never came into my possession. They were all stopped at Kanagawa. Awomori, and Hakodate and resold. I have never been able to get an account from Uyeda since my troubles. Uyeda received money from me to buy skins, and they used to be sent to me and I received them.

Mr. Lowder—Then I would ask you to make me up a paper showing the moneys paid to Uyeda for this purpose, amounting to 36,000 yen. Would you give assistance for the purpose of recovering these goods or their proceeds from Uyeda?

Debtor expressed his willingness to do so.

Mr. Lowder—Now as to the Chartered Bank assets—we have "lumber at Akeshi"—where is that lumber?

Debtor—That is still there. It is not any of the wood I had assigned to Ahrens & Co. It was purchased at Hakodate by my instructions. By whom purchased I do not know for certain. Uyeda would be able to tell you. He told me it was lost in floods last July. I had no money to pay freight to bring it down. The Japanese have the documents. The actual sum I paid for it would be about the same amount as it is assigned for—about 7,000 yen. The remittances were made through what I called the Hakodate account.

Mr. Lowder (reading from the list of assets)—"Wood and other work in hand valued at 6,000 yen." What is that?

Debtor—It was outstanding from Conder on the contract for the Nagasaki Hotel. I only got half the amount that it cost me. It was twice as expensive as the contract price, and I thought the architect would allow me something, but it appears that I have no legal claim, as a receipt has been given.

Mr. Lowder—Then this was a speculative asset.

Debtor—No, I thought it would be paid at the time. I considered it legally due from the documents. I had in hand.

Mr. Lowder—The next item is "Nakamura Godown and lease valued at 10,000 yen." What about the lease and godown?

Debtor—They were leased to me by Kakei Otani and by me to Ahrens and Co. I am not able to assign the leases and godown. The Japanese bantos have taken possession. That is how it is. So long as I was out of prison I could keep my Japanese in order, but since I have been in prison everything has gone to rack and ruin, and they have done what they liked.

Where are the lease and documents?—They should be in the possession of Tada Ginzaburo.

And the lease also?—Yes.

And are you willing to lend your assistance in regaining possession of them?—Yes. They would have been assigned to the Chartered Bank before, but for the action that was taken. We asked you to delay the action to get this lease transferred, but you would not.

Were these documents removed from your safe?—I don't think so. They ought to be in the possession of Tada. Uchiyama had told me they had raised some money on the lease.

Mr. Lowder—"Suraga-cho Godowns and lease, valued at 15,000 yen." What is that?
Dehtoi—"That is in the name of Uyeda. The documents are in his possession also. They were in the safe. I am willing to lend my assistance to obtain an assignment.
The examination was then adjourned till Friday next.

TELEGRAMS.

THE SHANGHAI SETTLEMENT.

FRANCO-RUSSIAN PROTEST TO THE TSUNG-LI YAMEN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, March 11, 5:22 p.m.

The French and Russian Ministers called at the Tsung-li Yamen yesterday, and protested against any extension of the Anglo-American Settlement unless the protest was withdrawn against the extension of the French Settlement and unless the extension already asked for by France was granted, which includes English and American-owned property.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

THE FRENCH WAR BUDGET.

Saigon, 10th March.

The Chamber of Deputies has voted the Budget of the Department of War.

THE ARMY.

M. de Freycinet, Minister of War, considers that the country should not seek to reach the effective strength of the German Army, and demonstrates that beyond a certain figure the number of soldiers does not augment the efficient force of an army. He declares that the French Artillery does not fear comparison with any other.

CHINA AND ITALY.

Saigon, March 11.

China has refused to negotiate about the lease of Sanmoon which Italy demands.

H. M. QUEEN VICTORIA.

Saigon, March 12.

The Queen of England has started for Nice.

MAJOR ESTERHAZY AND THE ARMY.

Saigon, March 13.

Major Esterhazy, writing in Parisian journals, has made a violent attack on several officers of the General Staff, especially Generals Goussier and Pellieux. Both of the Generals sought permission to reply, but M. de Freycinet refused to entertain their request, being of opinion that the duty of taking decisive action in the matter devolves upon the Minister of War.

THE TOULON EXPLOSION.

Saigon March 14th.

The Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy, stated in the Chamber of Deputies that the technical inquiry and the judicial inquiry with reference to the explosion at Toulon have not, up to the present, afforded any positive result. It is still unknown whether the explosion was contrived or accidental.

LOUBET'S CLEMENCY.

Saigon, March 15th.

President Loubet has announced the pardon of 250 persons condemned to fines in connexion with the demonstrations of February.

THE SECRET DOSSIER.

M. de Freycinet, Minister of War, will soon communicate to the Court of Cassa-

tion the secret portfolio in the Dreyfus affair.

PICQUART'S TRIAL.

Lieut.-Colonel Picquart has been handed over to civil justice.

THE GERMAN ARMY BILL—POLITICAL CRISIS.

Saigon, March 16.

The Reichstag, by 209 votes to 141, has thrown out the second reading of the Bill for augmenting the Army by 7,000 men. The dissolution of the Reichstag is possible.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

London, March 11.

The Disarmament Conference (proposed by the Czar) meets on the 18th of May.

BRITISH NAVAL ESTIMATES.

Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, has introduced into the House of Commons the naval estimates. The total is put down at twenty-six and a half millions, and 4,250 more men are to be added. The new programme comprises two armoured cruisers, and three smaller cruisers of very high speed. It is intended to make Wei-hai-wei a secondary naval base, with adequate fortifications, coal stores, and small repairing shops.

NEWCHWANG RAILWAY.

Hon. St. John Brodrick, Under-Secretary to the Foreign Office, replying to a series of questions in the House of Commons regarding the Newchwang Railway Loan, said that he understood that M. de Giers' protest is directed against the supposed tendency on the part of China to ignore prior engagements with Russia and not against the British loan.

QUEEN ON THE CONTINENT.

London, March 13.

The Queen has started for Cimiez.

MR. GOSCHEN ILL.

Rt. Hon. G. J. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, is laid up with influenza.

MAJOR MARCHAND.

Major Marchand and his party have arrived at Bourah, twenty days' journey from Adisababab.

MR. RHODES MEETS THE KAISER.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes has gone over to Berlin in connection with railway-telegraph schemes. He had an audience with the Emperor and attended the sitting of the Reichstag, while his mission was being discussed. Several speakers recalled the Jameson raid, and Rhodes' unfriendliness toward Germany. The Colonial Secretary said the permission to carry the Trans-African Railway through the German territory would be only possible provided that German interests were in every way guaranteed.

SUEZ CANAL BLOCKED.

The *Rydal Hall* is ashore at the Canal (Suez), blocking navigation.

London, March 14.

The *Rydal Hall* (which recently grounded in the Suez Canal) has been floated.

THE SAN-MOON QUESTION.

In the course of discussion in the House of Commons over the San-moon question, Mr. W. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary to the Foreign Office, said that, if Italy could secure concessions by diplomacy, Great Britain would welcome Italy's appearance in China; that British policy was to safeguard her own interests and not to obstruct friendly

Powers' safeguarding theirs; and that England was willing to support Italy by diplomatic means.

London, March 15.

An official declaration from Rome says that Minister Martino's second note was contrary to the instructions of the Government, and consequently it is not considered as an ultimatum.

This is equivalent to announcing the recall of Martino.

OBITUARY.

London, March 15.

The death has occurred of the veteran actress Mrs. Keeley.

PLAGUE IN INDIA.

EUROPEAN DOCTOR DIES.

A European doctor has died of plague at Calcutta.

The advent of warm weather is reducing mortality in Bombay, and a continual decline of the epidemic is expected.

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD'S HEALTH.

London, March 16.

The *Times* learns that Sir Claude MacDonald's health makes a short leave of absence imperative for him.

THE SAN-MOON AFFAIR.

In the Italian Chamber of Deputies Gen. Canevaro, Premier, announced that the Government has disavowed and recalled Sig. Martino, because he had presented the ultimatum on his own initiative, whereas Italy had promised England and other Powers that she would avoid force; that Sir Claude MacDonald, English Minister, will represent Italy, until Martino's successor is appointed; and that Italy still adheres to her resolve concerning San-moon; but that she will do her utmost to avoid the use of force which will greatly prejudice her friend England, besides other Powers.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

ITALY IN A DILEMMA.

Peking, March 16, 10.10 a.m.

Great Britain from the first did not countenance Italy's effecting the acquisition of Sanmoon Bay by any other means than diplomacy. Now her demand is declined, Italy finds herself in a dilemma. The Italian diplomats imagined they could secure success by a mere menace.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. & O. Co.	City of Peking	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Yarra	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	18. Mar. 99
America	P. & O. Co.	Gaelic	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	18. Mar. 99
America	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	18. Mar. 99
Canada, etc.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	18. Mar. 99
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	18. Mar. 99

1 Left San Francisco on the 18th inst.

2 Left Hongkong on the 19th inst.

3 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

To	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	18. Mar. 99
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	18. Mar. 99
Canada, etc.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	18. Mar. 99
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	18. Mar. 99
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Yarra	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	18. Mar. 99
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	18. Mar. 99
Hongkong	P. R. Co.	Km. of India	18. Mar. 99
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	18. Mar. 99

CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 411.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Kt 3	1—P takes R
2—Kt to Kt 6 mate	1—K takes Kt
2—B to Q 6 mate	1—Kt (Kt 7) takes Kt
2—R to K 3 mate	1—Kt (R 6) takes Kt
2—R to Kt 5 mate	1—B to Q 6
2—Kt takes B mate	

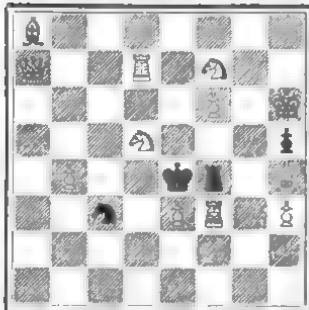
Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Marco, D.D., Miss S., and Schach.

VOILA.—1—Kt takes Kt (R 6) is met by 1..... Kt to K 6, then 2 to Kt 5 is not mate, for Kt interposes.

PROBLEM NO. 414.

By M. ANDREW.

A First-Prize Irish Problem.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

"JAPAN MAIL" PROBLEM COMPETITION.

Our chess readers will be glad to hear that "W.H.S." intends to present this year's prize to the winner of our problem-solving competition. We hope that with such an inducement before them many of our solvers in the years gone-by will make a reappearance in the lists and so increase interest in the affair. The competition begins with the problem to be printed in our issues of April 1st.

GAME NO. 488.

Notes by W. B. Mason, Tokyo.

The following game played by correspondence presents a few features which will be found useful to players unfamiliar with certain theoretical aspects of the openings.

EVANS' GAMBIT.

(Remove White's Q Kt.)

White—(Mr. M.)	Black—(Mr. S.)
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to Q B 3	5—B to R 4
6—Castles	6—P to Q 3
7—P to K R 3	

This move was not so attacking as White intended; but it has obvious advantages.

8—B to Q Kt 5

7—B to K 3

B takes B followed by Q to Kt 3 is probably better.

9—Kt to Kt 5

8—K Kt to K 2

A bad move. He should have Castled. Having missed this opportunity, White never gives him another chance of Castling without serious loss.

10—Kt takes B

10—P takes Kt

11—Q to Kt 3

11—P to Q 4 (best)

12—P takes P

12—Q takes P

Involving the loss of a pawn and a move.

13—B to B 4

13—Q to Q 4

14—B takes B

14—R to K B sq

White could now capture the Q Kt P, but this would liberate the action of the Rook.

15—B to Q R 3

15—B to Kt 3

16—P to Q 4

16—P takes P

17—Q to R sq

17—R to B 3

The beginning of an attack on the K Kt.

18—Q to Kt 5

17—R to B 3

All the play after this is full of interest.

19—B to Q 5

19—Q to Q 2

20—B takes Kt (B 3)

20—P takes B

21—Q to K 5

21—R to B 2

22—Q to R 8 ch

22—R to B 1 q

23—Q takes B P

23—P to B 4 (best)

Still threatening the Kt.

24—Q takes Kt P ch

24—R to B 2

Here White could equalise the game by R takes Kt ch. If Q takes R, then Q to Q B 6 ch, or if K takes R, Q to K 4 ch, and the Q R is lost in either case.

25—B to B sq

25—Q to Q 4

An excellent move, protecting as it does both his Rooks.

26—B to Kt 5

26—K to Q 2 (best)

27—B takes Kt

27—Q to B 4

For if B takes B, then R to Q 4. White has now no option but to exchange Queens. Black's position is probably the stronger owing to his advanced pawn; but the only ending being a long and tedious one for a game by correspondence, it was agreed to abandon it as a draw.

GAME NO. 489.

THE JANOWSKI-SNOWWALTER MATCH.

TWELFTH GAME.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Snowwalter.	Black—Janowski.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q 4	19 R x R
2 P Q B 4	20 R Q B sq
3 Kt Q B 3	21 R Kt 5
4 B B 4	22 Q B 2
5 P K 3	23 Kt Q 3
6 Kt B 3	24 Q x R ch (r)
7 P B 5	25 R x B ch
8 B Q 3	26 Kt B 5
9 P x P	27 P x P
10 R Q B sq	28 R B 6
11 Kt K 5	29 P x B
12 Castles	30 P x P
13 B x Kt	31 R P x Kt
14 B Kt 3	32 P B 4
15 Q Kt 3	33 R B 7 ch
16 P Q R 4	34 B Q 2 ch
17 Kt B 4	35 R x P ch
18 Kt B 4 (c)	36 K R 2
	Resigns (i)

Notes from The Press, Philadelphia.

(a) Too conservative. B to Q 3 or P to Q B 4 was preferable.

(b) He could not well play P to B 3 followed by P to K 4 on account of White Q to R 5 move which forces the P to B 4 continuation.

(c) Threatening P to Q R 5, followed eventually by Kt takes K P.

(d) He could not play R takes R. White would have answered B takes B P, and if P takes B, then Kt takes P, followed by Q takes P and Q takes Kt, coming out two Pawns ahead.

(e) Brilliant play. White gets a Rook and a B for his Queen. He will also win a Pawn, and the attack he obtains is quite promising. The play seems sound though Black could hold his own.

(f) Well played. He could not move Kt to K 5 at once, for B to K 5 ch would have followed.

(g) Should White capture the Queen then B takes B and B takes Q P leads to an even game.

(h) Black thus far has defended splendidly, and had he now moved Kt to Kt sq or K to B sq his opponent could hardly do better than to draw by perpetual check. The text move, however, is a disastrous mistake which loses at once.

(i) He can not guard against the threatening R to R 4 mate.

GAME NO. 490.

THE "RAZZLE-DAZZLE."

During Pillsbury's recent visit to Chicago he played a game with Dr. D. T. Phillips. The Doctor, having the opening, sacrifices his Knight in the third move, and proceeds to "razzle-dazzle" the Champion in first-class style. We give this wonderful game with a few notes by Miron.

White—Dr. Phillips.	Black—Pillsbury.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K 4	5 P Q 5
2 Kt K B 3	6 B Q 3
3 Kt P (a)	7 Castles
4 P Q 4	8 P Q B 4
	Resigns

9 Kt B 3	Kt K 4	18 P Q Kt 4	Kt Kt 2
10 B K 4	P K B 4	19 B Q 2	Q K 4
11 P K B 4	Kt B 3	20 R K 4	R K 2
12 B Q 3	P x P	31 R x R	Q x R
13 Kt x P	B B 4	32 B x R (d)	P x B
14 K R 4	B x Kt	33 Q x P	Kt Kt 3
15 B x B	Kt B 3	34 R R 6	Kt B 3
16 B B 3	Castles	35 Q Q 3	Q B 2
17 P K Kt 4	Kt Q 2	36 P K B 5	B K 2
18 B K 3	P Q Kt 3	37 P K 6	P x P
19 B K 4	Kt B 4	38 P x P	Q Kt 2
20 B B 2 (b)	P Q R 4	39 Q B 5	Rt Q sq
21 B B 3	Kt R 4	40 R R 3	B B 3
22 R R 3	P K Kt 3 (c)	41 B R 6	Q K 2
23 P K 5	Q Q 2	42 R K 3	B K 4
24 R R 4	R B 4	43 B K 5	Q K 4
25 Q Kt 4	Q R K B q	44 B x Kt	K x P
26 Q R 3	B Q 4	45 B x P	Resigns
27 P Q R 3	Q R B 2		

NOTES.

(a) This is the key-note to the jolly tune.

(b) These churchmen are wonderfully well handled:—

"But whether player or sword subdue the foe, Bid those who fight these battles let me know."

(c) "Begins to let the halter draw, with poor opinion of"—original openings.

(d) An instructive example of self-restraint; he now gets his exchange and compels Black to let down one of his bars. The rest is interestingly played.

NOTES.

Mr. Steinitz has opened an office in New York where he proposes to give lessons in the high developments of chess and to contest matches by correspondence with opponents resident in or out of America.

Janowski places both Lasker and Pillsbury above Tarrasch, with whom he brackets himself. He thinks that in the matter of soundness Lasker stands first; but that Pillsbury stands first in power of combination. At the same time Janowski believes that, because of Lasker's conservatism, he would have the better chance of winning a set match.

Woman's Weekly, one of the recent journalistic ventures, goes interestingly on "The Queen as a Chess-player," as follows:—Her Majesty has, it is said taken to chess again, one of her old and favourite recreations. At one time she played it very regularly, and her chief reason for giving it up was because she used to lose her temper at being beaten. The Queen is a very solid player and fairly sound. She knows the openings well and can beat most of her kin, but the Empress Frederick is far and away a better player than her mother, and is able to give her a knight now although twenty years ago she could not. The argument is, of course, that the Queen's age has deteriorated her play, but this by no means follows. It is more probably due to the study by the Empress Frederick of the German Handbuch, which has now for years been her inseparable companion. The games of Von der Lase and other great players, and the various analyses of the openings with their possibilities, are Her Imperial Majesty's constant concern, as much so that the Kaiser, after getting a sound drubbing at the game by his mother—and he thinks he can play—remarked that it was a great pity she wasn't a man, as that would enable her to enter the lists against Dr. Tarrasch and others at the public tournaments. It is the enthusiasm of the Empress for the game which has induced the Queen to take to it once more. One wet day at Balmoral the chessboard was brought out, and the two ladies had a long and brilliant tussle, ending in the defeat of the Empress. This so elated the Queen that she played three more games and drew another one. Then a recent game between Steinitz and Tchigorin, the Russian master, was played through, after which dinner interrupted the worship of Chess; but even then the Queen could not get the sixty-four squares out of her head, and Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, the Master-in-Attendance, had quite an essay on chess to listen to through the meal. It is to be hoped that he understands the game thoroughly and is interested in it, for the Empress doted him with facts about the great chess masters of the past, and the Queen incidentally mentioned that the Prince Consort, during the Exhibition year of 1851, witnessed a game played between Anderssen and Staunton, the English champion, and believed that the Englishman was beaten. Anderssen certainly won the tournament of that year. Her Majesty's memory is marvellous, for she spoke of one La Bourdonnais, who came over to play before she was Queen, and also beat the then English champion, who, upon reference to a chess history in the Balmoral library, turned out to be one M'Donnell (1834).

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,265, W. H. Cope, 10th March.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 21st February, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 10th March.—Shanghai via ports, 4th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwangsue, British steamer, 1,240, A. Harris, 10th March.—Takow, 4th March, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. H. Watkins, 12th March.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 11th March, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Krobbe, 12th March.—London via ports, Kobe, 11th March, General.—Cornes & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 13th March.—Vancouver, B.C., 27th Feb., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Suevia, German steamer, 2,663, Foerck, 13th March.—Hamburg via ports, Kiaochow, 9th March, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Walterdorff, 13th March.—Hongkong, 8th March, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachl.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, F. R. Evans, 13th March.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 12th March, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Oni Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, Albert E. Moses, 13th March.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Kobe, 12th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 13th March.—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 22nd Feb., Mails and General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.

Sudo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,748, W. Thompson, 15th March.—London via ports, Hongkong, 9th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, H. Pybus, 16th March.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 14th March, General.—C. P. R. Co.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, John McKenzie, 16th March.—London via ports, Kobe, 15th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Belgian King, British steamer, 2,170, T. L. Weiss, 10th March.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Elingshire, British ship, 2,038, John G. Hannah, 10th March.—Tchilo, New Caledonia, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,265, W. H. Cope, 12th March.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Trocas, British steamer (Tank), 2,657, Morris, 12th March.—Saigon, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 13th March.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Wittenberg, Japanese steamer, 2,363, Madsen, 13th March.—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, S. Kawamura, 14th March.—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwangsue, British steamer, 1,240, A. Harris, 14th March.—Hakodate, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, S. Schmitz, 15th March.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Oni Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, Albert E. Moses, 15th March.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, F. R. Evans, 15th March.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Lia, Norwegian steamer, 2,003, Rasmussen, 15th March.—New York via Suez Canal, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Suevia, German steamer, 2,663, Foerck, 16th March.—Havre, Amsterdam, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Krobbe, 16th March.—Muji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 16th March.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, H. Pybus, 17th March.—Victoria, Vancouver and San Francisco, General.—C. P. R. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Nippon Maru**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. D. Rivers and Mr. Walter Slower, Mr. Paul Fielder, Mr. E. Frank, Mrs. I. J. Abbott, Mr. Ho, Mr. I-aga, Mr. Marshall, and Rev. J. H. Hykes, in cabin. In Transit:—Rev. J. E. Munger, Mrs. Mozley, Capt. Patterson, Mr. S. G. Wilder, Mr. A. Queston, Mr. G. A. Morgan, Capt. S. S. Inxton, Miss Nouse, Mr. S. F. Taylor, Mr. A. Mueller, and 3 Chinese, in cabin; 10 in second class, 11 in European steerage, and 11 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **America Maru**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. J. H. Rosenthal, Mrs. J. L. Wilder, Mr. J. A. McIlhennys, Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Cowell, Mrs. A. J. Simpson, Mr. O. M. Waterhouse, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Wallace, Mr. Otto Winter, Mrs. A. M. Rogers, Mr. F. B. H. Paine, Mrs. J. A. Danats, and Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Pettibone, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mrs. G. S. Theall, and Miss M. C. Teat, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. C. M. Dyer, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Hon. Chas. Denby, Mr. Denby, Mr. R. M. Morley, Mrs. Denby, and Mrs. E. Parker, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Rosetta**, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Smith, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Kinze, Mr. Gludkoop, Mr. Bousfield, Mr. Holloway, and Mr. Kerr, in cabin; 5 on deck.

Per British steamer **Empress of China**, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Burns, Dr. and Mrs. E. McCauley, Mr. H. A. F. Denny, Dr. and Mrs. Horsey, Rev. Osmon F. Hall, Mr. Kinze, Mr. T. Kato, Mr. B. Matsuki, Mr. S. B. McQuade, Mr. Sowter, Mr. Simpson, Mr. G. T. M. Trew, and Sir Chas. Ross, Bart, in cabin.

Per German steamer **Hohensollern**, from Hongkong:—Mrs. T. Bayne, Dr. K. Kishimoyu, Dr. Mignani, Mr. and Mrs. C. Guinness and child, Misses E. B. Lucas, Mrs. M. Lucas, Miss Robinson, and Miss Bruce, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Reimund and child, in second class; 14 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Sado Maru**, from London via ports:—Mr. W. Tucker, Mr. Y. Yamazawa, Mr. Chas. D. Jones, Mr. D. B. Fullaton, and Mr. W. Hamilton, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Empress of China**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. R. Pescio, Mr. C. F. Pope, Mr. Theo. Guignard, Mr. R. Finch, Mr. G. Finch, Mr. M. Finch, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. De Berigny, infant and amah, Miss H. C. Henson, Mr. Ch. Rogers, Mr. C. Ga Tung and native servant, and Mrs. C. E. Miller, in cabin.

Per French steamer **Oceanien**, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. H. Fukuba, Colonel Kamin, Capt. Matsui, Capt. C. Wellbach, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Ribeiro, child and amah, Miss E. Ribeiro, Mrs. L. M. Faras, Mr. Bietcheider, Mr. Lao Yen Jong, Mr. H. M. Effendi, Mr. Numazu, Mr. Mande, Mr. W. F. Morgan, Mr. Ch. Guignard, and Mr. A. Rappi, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A small general business continues to be done in yarns, but there is no keenness in the demand. A few more sales are reported in grey shirtings, and some forward business has been done in fancy cottons and woolsens, but the demand for supplies now in godowns is very dull.

COTTON PICK-UPS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 35 inches	\$2.60 to 3.00
Grey Shirtings—9 yds, 35 inches	3.00 to 3.40
1 Cloth—7 yds, 24 inches, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 35 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italian and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	\$0.10 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 36 yards	0.35 to 0.50
Musseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 to 55 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 to 55 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 to 55 inches	0.35 to 0.85
Woolens—Scarf and Green, 3 to 5 yds, 28 1/2 yds	0.65 to 0.75
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	7.75 to 10.00
Victoria Lanes, 12 yards, 12 1/2 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47 1/2

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
30s 16 24, Singles	\$3.00 to 3.50
Nos. 48 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 58 42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.50 to 45.50

Nos. 2 60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	80.00 to 81.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	77.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	90.00 to 93.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	117.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$20.00
Indian Broach	18.50
Chinese	20.00 to 21.00

MARKETS.

There has been some demand for bar iron, sheet iron, galvanised corrugated steels, and tin plates, but latterly this fallen off, and the market loses quiet.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 4 inch. and upward	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 5.00
Sheet Iron	5.15 to 5.40
Galvanised iron sheets	9.75 to 11.50
Wire Nails, assorted	8.25 to 8.50
Pig Iron, per box	6.30 to 6.60
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.80 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.25 to 5.50

RUSSIAN.

The market continues steady, a slight decline being reported in Russians.

American	\$2.00 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	1.95 to 2.00

SUGAR.

There has been a rise in prices, especially for low grade Manillas. Formosas also show an advance of 15 to 20 sen per picul.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takan	14.90 to 5.00
Brown Manila	5.25 to 6.25
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 4.30
Brown Cantou	4.90 to 5.00
White Java and Peang	7.00 to 8.50
White Refined	7.75 to 8.35

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a fresh advance in prices, chiefly owing to native demands. There is little inquiry from Europe or America. The stock is now very small.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal	Nominal
Filatures—Kata, Fine	Nominal	Nominal
Filatures—Kata, Coarse	Nominal	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1060 to 1070	1070 to 1080
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1060 to 1070	1070 to 1080
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1070 to 1080	1080 to 1090
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1070 to 1080	1080 to 1090
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1080 to 1090	1090 to 1100
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	1080 to 1090	1090 to 1100
Common—Coarse	Nominal	Nominal
Reels—Extra	Nominal	Nominal
Reels—No. 1	Nominal	Nominal
Reels—No. 2	Nominal	Nominal
Reels—No. 3	Nominal	Nominal
Kakadas—Extra	Nominal	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 1	Nominal	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 2	Nominal	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 3	Nominal	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 4	Nominal	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

The market is dull and prices are unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$110 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	no stock
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115 to 125
Noshi—Bushi, Good	95 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Jashu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Jashu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 95
Kibiso—Filature, Medium	80 to 85
Kibiso—Jashu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 30

IRA.

The season may be considered closed. There have been no arrivals and no sales. There is nominally a stock of 900 piculs, chiefly of low grades. The total settlements for the season have been 208,143 piculs against 215,000 piculs last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choice	Nominal
Choice	Nominal
Finest	no stock
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

(Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.)

Yokohama, March 16th.

The following quotations have been received from Hongkong to-day by wire:—Sales of H. & S. Banks at 26 1/2 per cent. premium, Buyers of Na-

tional Banks at \$20, Sellers of China Pines at \$82 ex dividend, Sellers of Hongkong Pines at \$300 dividend, Sales of H. & W. Docks at 312 per cent. premium, Buyers of H. & K. Wharfs at \$80, Sales of Douglass at \$58, Sellers of Indo-Chinas at \$67 50, Sales of Panjin Mines at \$5 25, Sales of Rub Mines at \$60, Sales of Hongkong Lands at \$78 50, Sales of Union Insurance at \$230, Sellers of China Traders at \$63, Sales of Straits Insurance at \$5, and Buyers of H. C. & M. Steamboats at \$28.

Bank of China and Japanese Deferred shares are wanted at £1.

LOCAL STOCKS.

A few Iron Works can be had at yen 205. Japan Brewery old shares have likely buyers at yen 310; new fully paid up shares are wanted at yen 145. Grand Hotels have buyers at yen 222.50. Club Hotels are offering at yen 90. Oriental Hotels are strong at yen 100; Founders' shares are procurable at a trifle under yen 450. Offers for Nagasaki Hotels are wanted. Bets are on offer at yen 9.50. North & Rees are in demand at yen 900. Langfeldts can be had at yen 145. Hyogo Gas shares can be had at yen 170. Offers of Y. U. Club Debentures changed hands to-day at yen 108 ex accrued interest. Nagasaki Hotel Debentures can be had at par. In other Debenture stocks we have no changes to report.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50	205 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100, Old	310 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., yen 30	145 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100	222.50 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	90 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Founders'), \$100	450 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 100	9.50 S.
North and Rees, Ltd., \$100	900 S.
Watt & Co., Ltd., \$100	9.50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100	145 S. & B.
Hyogo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	170 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb., \$100	145 S.
Kobe Iron & Steel, Ltd., \$50	50 S.
Yokohama United Club 7 1/2 Deb., \$100	145 S.
Watt & Co., Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb., \$100	145 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb., \$100	145 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb., \$100	145 S.

Reserve Fund.—1, yen 10,000; 2, yen 3,000 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property
1, yen 17,770-80 1/4; 2, yen 16,709.44.

N.B.—S. = Sellers, B. = Buyers, S. = Sales, St. = steady, N. = Nominal, W. = Weak, R. = Reaction.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 16th.

Silver from London unaltered, and rates quoted almost the same as yesterday with little doing.

Bank T.T.	1/0 1/2
— Bills on demand	1/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	1/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	1/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	1/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	257 1/2
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	261 1/2 to 1
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	107
— Private 4 months' sight	110 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 1/2 dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	77 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
On Sivas (London)	37 1/2

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YOKOHAMA, MARCH 11TH, 1899.

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[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News.....	277
Code of Criminal Procedure.....	278
Allowances of Members of the Diet.....	279
House of Peers and the Pilots Law.....	280
The Diet and Religion.....	280
High Schools in Japan.....	280
The Court of Cassation and the Dreyfus Affair.....	280
Prisons.....	280
The Industrial Bank.....	281
Nationalization of Railways.....	281
Loans of the Bank of Japan.....	281
Japanese Public Opinion on Italy's Doings.....	281
Foreign Employees at the Iron Foundry.....	281
Germany in China.....	281
Parental Officialdom.....	281
What will Italy do?.....	281
Registration of Foreigners' Right of Property.....	281
The Earthquake.....	281
The Last Day of the Diet.....	281
Bank of Japan.....	281
Leading Article—Italy in China.....	281
Imperial Diet.....	281
Correspondence—A Bad Case.....	281
Korean News.....	281
Chinese Notes.....	281
Consular Appointment to Yokohama.....	281
News of the Week.....	281
Japan Brewery Company.....	281
Yokohama Cemetery.....	281
Shooting Affair on a Sailing Ship.....	281
Washed overboard in a Hurricane.....	281
Telegrams.....	281
Cheese.....	281
Latest Shipping.....	281
Latest Commercial.....	281

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 11TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

A Yokohama, on March 7th, the wife of E. T. OSBORN of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Diet was prorogued on Friday.

THE Queen of the Belgians is reported to be dying.

M. FALLIERES is the new President of the French Senate.

THE U.S. Congress has adjourned without dealing with the bills relating to Hawaii.

COL. PICQUART is to be tried by court martial on some counts, by the Assize Court on others.

MR. HOOLEY, the notorious company-promoter, is to be prosecuted for offences under the Debtors' Act.

IN Tokyo the prices of commodities have been falling since last autumn, but a rising tendency is now apparent.

THE condition of the Pope has been causing some uneasiness, but later advices announce that His Holiness is better again.

THE Spanish Cabinet has been reconstructed,

owing to the impossibility of finding a majority to approve of the cession of the Philippines.

A POWDER magazine near Toulon exploded on March 6, spreading death and destruction over a wide area. Over 100 bodies have been found.

PRINCE HENRY of Prussia is the new German Naval Commander-in-Chief of the Asiatic squadron, replacing Admiral Diederichs, who has gone home.

REAR ADMIRAL DEWEY has been promoted to be Admiral and Colonel Otis to be Major-General, in recognition of distinguished services.

H.I.H. the Emperor graciously contributed yen 800 towards the funeral expenses of the late Lieut.-General Tamura, ex-Commander of the 12th Army Division.

FRANCE has obtained a coaling station at Muscat, but very conflicting statements in regard to the affair have been made in the French and English parliaments.

MR. GEORGE JAMISON, C.M.G., who was Acting Judge of H.B.M. Court for Japan some years ago, has been obliged to resign from the service owing to continued ill-health.

A SEVERE earthquake was experienced in Central Japan on Tuesday. Much damage was done to property at Osaka and Nara. At the latter place some lives were lost.

THE officers of the Kanagawa Prefectural Office have presented Mr. Takeshima, ex-superintendent of Police of Kanagawa Prefecture, with a gold watch-chain in recognition of his services.

PRINCE KONOYE is to proceed to Europe on a pleasure tour via Korea and China. He leaves by steamer *Higo Maru* on the 26th inst. and will return in time for the 14th session of the Diet.

THE military authorities have been encouraging the study of the English language among the Gendarmes, and there are now four or five in each regiment capable of acting as interpreters.

BARON A. D'ANNE HAN, Belgian Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Japan, was received in audience by the Emperor on the 2nd, when he presented a letter from King Leopold.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE, who is now staying at the Detached Palace at Numazu, will leave for the Detached Palace at Hayama about the 10th inst. and remain there until the commencement of April.

THE foreign community of Yokohama have formally set aside the accumulated funds of the Yokohama General Cemetery to be used as a trust fund to be applied to the up-keep of the grounds and graves in the years to come.

THE Diet this week passed the special subsidies to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Tokyo Kisen Kaisha; increased the emoluments of its own members, and approved of the amended Code of Criminal Procedure.

ITALY has demanded from China the cession of Sun-moon Bay, in Chekiang province. China refused the request and Italy is now sending a squadron of six ships, including the *Stromboli*, to make a naval demonstration.

RABIES being prevalent in Kanagawa Prefecture, Mr. Miyahara a veterinary physician in the service of the Kanagawa Central Police

Office, has submitted proposals to the authorities for establishing protective regulations.

ONE Fukuda Takijiro (42), a paper hanger at Nichome, Otamachi, Yokohama, placed himself before a train near Ishizaki, Tobemachi, on Wednesday night, and was cut to pieces. He had been leading a dissolute life for some time past.

A MAN named Sakuma Isojiro (28), Shishikimura, Isumi-gori, Chiba Prefecture, recently opened a tea-house. He had, however, only a few guests, while an old woman of 72, Tonda Matsun, drove at excellent trade. In a fit of jealousy, Sakuma waylaid, and killed her with a hatchet. He was arrested.

THE *Times*, in a leading article, sympathises with Italian demands for concessions in Chekiang province. It hopes that the British Foreign Office will grasp the true condition of affairs before too late, as China is breaking up, its future lying with nations who understand what to do.

TANABE JITSUMI, aged 55, of 22, Sogakicho, Honjoku, who had filled the offices of Superintendent of the Agumabashi Police Station, and headman of the district, has been arrested on suspicion of obtaining yen 2,000 by false pretences from one Saito. His brother, Tanabe Katsuji, has also been apprehended for complicity in the alleged offence.

THE fire which occurred near the English Legation on the 2nd and appeared at one time likely to extend to the Legation buildings, and the Emperor despatched a message to the British Minister expressing sympathy with him in the worry and inconvenience resulting. Sir Ernest Satow expressed his thanks through the Minister of the Imperial Household.

REV M. CHRISTLIEB, who is leaving Japan on the 16th, for Germany, was given a farewell dinner on the 4th at Fujimiken, Tokyo. Over 100 foreign and Japanese gentlemen were present. Prof. Clay McCauley and Mr. Miwami delivered speeches eulogising Dr. Christlieb's work in Japan and his profound insight into Japanese character.

HERR VON BÜLOW, German Foreign Minister, in a speech in the Reichstag, stated that, unless the culprits who perpetrated outrages upon Germans at Tientsin are severely punished, or if such outrages be repeated, China would incur grave consequences. Referring to the Anglo-German Agreement, the speaker said that it deals rather with future contingencies than actualities.

MR. OTANI KANREI will attend the Philadelphia Commercial Conference to be held in October next as representing the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce. The Agricultural Department thinks it advisable to send as many representatives as possible from the Chambers of Commerce in Japan, and Mr. Kiuchi, Director of the Commercial and Industrial Bureau, will visit every Chamber on his way back from Kiushu to impress this on the officials.

THE Japanese 30 knot t.b.d. *Yūgiri* (*Evening Mist*) was successfully launched from the yard of Messrs. John I. Thornycroft and Co., of Chiswick, on 26th January, by Admiral Matsunaga, accompanied by Captain Kondo and Captain Kurabe, and other Japanese officers. This is the third of the six vessels being built by Messrs. John I. Thornycroft and Co. for the Japanese Government, and, with the exception of the armament, is similar to the numerous vessels launched from this yard for the British and foreign navies.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

Saturday, March 4.

The Special Committee of the House of Representatives on March 3rd presented its report on the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure. The two points of prominent importance in connexion with this question are the abolition of the *mise au secret* and the concession of counsel to a person undergoing preliminary examination. As our readers are aware, the *mise au secret* was nominally abolished by the Government's original Bill; but only nominally, for the *misshitsu*, or secret cell, was replaced by a "segregated cell," where a suspect could be placed in solitary confinement at the discretion of the judge. The Government Delegate, in explaining the difference between the two systems, emphatically denied, more than once, that the segregated cell was intended for purposes of solitary confinement, and alleged that its object was merely to separate a person not yet committed for trial from persons already committed. But, inasmuch as the amended Article indicated that the segregated cell was to be used "when the Judge considered it necessary for the purpose of eliciting the truth," there could be no doubt that the intention was to invest the Judge with power to order a prisoner into separate confinement during the preliminary examination, and to keep him there until his reluctance to make incriminating admissions had been overcome. The Peers showed their appreciation of that point by eliminating the words "for the purpose of eliciting the truth," but they declined to adopt the recommendation of the minority of their Special Committee, namely, that the system of separate confinement during the preliminary examination should be abolished altogether. The Special Committee of the Representatives took the same view. They recommended the adoption of the Article as modified by the Peers, and the House endorsed the recommendation. There is therefore no hope of the complete abolition of this objectionable feature of Japanese criminal procedure, for the present at all events. But with regard to the second, and more important, point, namely, granting the assistance of counsel to an accused person at the preliminary examination, the Representatives showed themselves far more enlightened than the Peers; for not only did their Special Committee, with practical unanimity, report in favour of the privilege, but also no voice was raised against it in the House except that of the Minister of State for Justice. The next step, therefore, will be a Conference of the Houses, and if the Representatives stand firm, the credit will belong to them of having effected a radical reform of the country's criminal procedure.

The Minister of State for Justice, opposing the recommendations of the Lower House's Committee, made a speech which strikes us as singularly inconsequential. He admitted that the rights of the individual would be better protected by allowing an accused person to have the benefit of counsel at the preliminary examination, but he claimed that the interests of society must also be considered. What did that mean? The intention must have been to suggest that the detection and punishment of crime would be rendered more difficult by the intervention of barristers. If such a proposition can be established, barris-

ters ought to be abolished altogether. But the Minister further alleged that the criminal procedure of a State must be adapted to the moral condition of the nation. What did that mean? It must have meant that the Japanese people are not yet sufficiently civilized to adopt the most enlightened form of criminal procedure. Yet, in the same speech, the Minister asserted that the criminal procedure of Japan is based on that of France. We do not think that there is lack of civilization in France. As a matter of fact, France herself has already modified her criminal procedure in the very sense recommended by the Committee of the Representatives. But the Minister also said that the Government contemplated very extensive amendments of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and expected to present a Bill embodying them to the Diet next session. What did that mean? If it had any bearing at all on the question under discussion, it must have meant that the Government expected the country to be sufficiently civilized for the proposed change next December, though it is not sufficiently civilized this March. We have been attentive observers of Japan's doings for over thirty years, and this is the very first instance on record where the Government deliberately places itself in an unenlightened and illogical position *vis-à-vis* the nation.

Monday, March 6.

We certainly did much wrong to the Minister of Justice in our last issue, when we accused him of delivering an illogical, illiberal, and un consequential speech in the Lower House, with reference to the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Our comments were based on the brief *résumé* of the speech that reached us on the day of its delivery. A more misleading *résumé* could scarcely have been compiled. We have now translated the Minister's speech verbatim from the stenographic record, and our readers will see that it is not open to adverse criticism. His Excellency's position is prudent and rational. He does not oppose the principle of the proposed amendment—namely, permitting accused persons to have the aid of counsel in preliminary examinations—but he contends that as such a change signifies the abolition of the secret examination, and therefore displaces the whole basis of the *yoshin* procedure in Japan, the law must be revised in every part, so that the altered system may work smoothly. In short, he maintains that merely to amend or supplement one article, without subjecting the rest to corresponding revision, is an impractical and perilous way of dealing with Codes of law. The Government itself is desirous of making the indicated reform, but has not yet been able to complete the correlated modifications. The Minister's views differ in one respect, however, from those of the Representatives. He is inclined to impose some limitations on the employment of counsel, being convinced that, without limitations, the intrusion of barristers will tend to complicate and prolong the preliminary proceedings. He may be right in that forecast, but we do not think that there can be the least doubt as to how the balance of advantage sways.

Thursday, March 9.

The result of the Conference between the two Houses of the Diet with regard to the Code of Criminal Procedure is that

the amendments of the Representatives have been abandoned, and counsel are not to be allowed in preliminary examinations. When this decision was announced to the Representatives, they endorsed it without a murmur, though, at the time of debating the original Bill, they had unanimously voted for the granting of counsel. Their acquiescence was prudent, for, had they insisted on their own amendments, the Bill must have been wrecked altogether, which would have been a very unfortunate result in view of the other reforms that it embodies. It is probable, too, that, from the outset, the Representatives were not very sanguine of carrying their point this session. They understood that, in order to introduce such a radical change of procedure, extensive alterations and careful revision of the whole Code would be advisable, and they were content to place on record an emphatic declaration of their opinion that the system of secret examination should be abandoned. The reform is only deferred. Its ultimate consummation is now quite certain.

ALLOWANCES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

Wednesday, March 8.

A curious feature of the measure for increasing the emoluments of members of the Diet is that a number of those who originally appended their signatures to the Bill, voted against it when it came before the House. Possibly our readers remember that, about six weeks ago, when this question first came upon the *tapis*, vernacular newspapers announced that the project would certainly be carried, inasmuch as it had obtained the written endorsement of 240 members of the Lower House. Yet the ballot taken on the 6th instant showed only 134 "ayes" and 125 "noes;" a narrow majority of 9. In fact, the Progressists changed their attitude at the eleventh hour. This incident has given rise to some very bitter comments. The belated opponents of the measure are accused of having behaved with hypocrisy. They wanted the Bill to pass, and they knew that it would pass, so they attempted to make capital for themselves by posing as virtuous and disinterested servants of the State. Thirty-three names of members who thus veered round are published by Tokyo papers, and it is said that the list could be greatly enlarged. The question now is, what will these objectors do about accepting the increased allowance, supposing that the Bill passes the Upper House and becomes law? As originally drafted by the Government, the measure left no choice to a member: he had to take the money whether he wished or did not wish. But the Special Committee, doubtless having regard to the unexpected conjuncture which had arisen, erased the negative from that particular clause, and craftily created a right of choice. Will the members who cast blue ballots assert their consistency by declining to receive the additional 1,200 *yen* tendered by the Treasury? If they do not decline, they will expose themselves to a great deal of criticism. If they do decline, and if to decline becomes the rule of the Progressist Party, the latter will find itself terribly handicapped, for to be returned in Liberal interests will then bring 1,200 *yen* a year more than to be returned in Progressist interests. We think that the Progressists would have been more

astute had they decided to figure as children of this world rather than as children of light, but if they act up to their professed principles in this matter, they will deserve and obtain great honour.

As to the question itself, the only point deserving consideration seems to be the seasonableness of the measure. There are great differences of opinion in Europe about the wisdom or unwisdom of giving salaries to members of Parliament, but Japan made up her mind on that point ten years ago. She decided in favour of salaries, and so soon as the main proposition that salaries are necessary is granted, there should not be any difficulty in conceding the corollary that they ought to be sufficient salaries. Two thousand *yen* a year is the Japanese Government's estimate of a sufficient salary. We presume that it is a fair estimate. But the time for making the change appears to be very badly chosen. That can scarcely be denied.

Thursday, March 9.

On Wednesday the Bill for amending the Law of the Houses, in the sense of increasing the allowances of the members, came up for discussion in the Peers. The Special Committee reported unfavourably, the chief reason assigned being that the present time is unsuitable for such a change, in view of the pending augmentation of the taxes and the heavy weight of the people's burdens. On the other side it was urged that a fair day's work merits a fair day's pay: that although the titled nobles sitting in the Upper House may not have any need of increased emoluments, the case is very different with the Imperial nominees, who are generally poor men, depending chiefly on their salaries for means of sustenance; and finally that in order to enable the Sovereign to select suitable nominees from all classes of the people, the emoluments must be sufficient to support a man in comfort. An unsigned ballot produced 119 in favour of the measure and 100 against it, so that the advocates of increase have won the day. It was expected that if the Peers passed the Bill they would restore the provision depriving a member of the right of choice as to accepting the increase, but no such step was taken.

HOUSE OF PEERS AND THE PILOTS LAW.

The House of Peers, in dealing with the project of Pilots Law submitted by the Government, has added a clause restricting to Japanese subjects the right to practise this profession. Such action on the part of the Diet had been anticipated. There is obvious and sound reason for a restriction of some kind. A State can not prudently allow persons of alien nationalities to acquire competence which endows them with highly dangerous potentialities in the event of war. This is especially true in the case of a country where a body of water like the Inland Sea exists. The Inland Sea is practically safe against the inroads of foreign war-vessels so long as they can not procure pilots. One method of guarding against the danger would have been to require every pilot of foreign nationality to give an engagement, as a condition of receiving a certificate, that under no circumstances should his services be placed at the disposal of an enemy of Japan. But the value of such an engage-

ment would be very problematical. The Japanese can not be expected to forget that of the two Americans who came eastward in 1894 for the purpose of selling to the Chinese an invention which would, they alleged, destroy the Japanese fleet, and who, having been arrested in Japan, were released on giving a pledge not to take any part in the war—of these two one only kept his word, the other joining the Chinese and ultimately figuring among the prisoners at Wei-hai-wai. He was not recognised by his captors, or perhaps they did not want to recognise him, but he demonstrated the valuelessness of pledges when subjected to the test of war. The only thoroughly trustworthy method of averting all dangerous contingencies is to confine the practice of the profession to Japanese subjects. The restriction looks illiberal, but we can not justly complain of it. What is to be done, however, about the foreigners who have already received licenses, and are practising as pilots? There can not be any idea of interfering with them, we presume. Indeed, we see no cause for uneasiness on that score, for the provisions of the new Law are applicable only to the granting of licenses after it goes into operation: it can not have retrospective force. Nevertheless as it declares distinctly that only Japanese subjects can engage in the profession of pilotage, the House of Peers might have been better advised had they supplemented their amendment by a provision in the sense that persons already duly licensed would remain beyond the purview of the restriction. The famous "*métier*" of the French Revised Treaty will probably be cited by some critics as invalidating the action taken by the Peers. The British Treaty secures for foreigners the privilege of manufacturing and trading in all goods of lawful commerce, and the French Treaty adds the right of practising any *métier*. Dr. Lönholm says that the meaning of the word *métier* in the latter Treaty is "handicraft or mechanical occupation." That is also the primary signification of the term according to Littré:—*Exercice d'un art mécanique*. The same authority, however, in his sixth definition of the word, says:—*Par extension, profession quelconque*. A great deal of capital was made, some time ago, out of the fact that this sixth definition is given by the eminent lexicographer, and we, as well as Dr. Lönholm, were freely charged with dishonesty and all kinds of moral obliquity, because we took the primary meaning instead of the sixth. The framers of the Treaty know what they meant, and are at hand to assert their interpretation.

THE DIET AND RELIGION.

If the near approach of the era of mixed residence has caused some trepidation in Japanese commercial and industrial circles, the prospect seems to be viewed with even more apprehension in the sphere of religion. So greatly, indeed, do the believers in Shinto shrink from the collision with Christianity which they seem to expect as an immediate consequence of the opening of the country, that they want to be allowed to step out of the arena altogether, abandoning their claim to be regarded as the representatives of a religious creed, and preferring to be called professors of a mere cult—a cult which confines itself to the management of rites and ceremonies. That is plainly the object of the agitation recently fomented

by the leaders of Shinto. Their ambition is to cease to be a "church" and to become a bureau of rites, covered by the Government's ægis and secured against the storms of religious controversy. The Buddhists are working on different lines, though it is plain that they also feel very uneasy. They want to have Buddhism recognised as the State religion of Japan. But they are too subtle to present their wishes in the form of an ordinary aspiration. Their plan is to claim that their religion is in very truth the State creed of Japan, that it has always been recognised as such, and that the onus of disproving its title rests on its enemies. Such is the obvious import of a Representation now awaiting discussion in the Lower House. It relates to the appointment of religious teachers in jails, and is, of course, connected with the celebrated Sugamo incident, about which the Buddhists raised such a commotion. The Prison Regulations now in force give no indication as to the creed of the persons employed as religious instructors (*shōkashi*) in jails. They leave that point entirely unsettled. Thus, when the Governor of the Sugamo Prison appointed a Christian pastor, he was strictly within his rights, whatever may be said of his discretion. The Representation proposes that in future the persons appointed to give religious instruction in jails shall be professors of the State religion. Such is the rule always obeyed in Western countries, say the drafters of the document, and such ought to be the rule in Japan also. Now there is no State religion in Japan. Certainly Buddhism cannot assert any valid title to the epithet, for whatever its status may have been under the Tokugawa Regents, it was emphatically disestablished at the Restoration. But if the proposed alteration were made in the Prison Regulations, it would amount to an official declaration that there is a State religion, and the Buddhists might then fairly assert that the definition applies to their creed and to no other, especially since, as we have seen, the professors of *Shinto* are willing to be erased from the roll of religions rather than to fight for their place on it.

HIGH SCHOOLS IN JAPAN.

A very clever case has been made out from educational statistics bearing on the progress of higher education in Japan. When Viscount Mori was Minister of Education ten years ago, he planned and organized Five High Schools (*Kōtō-gakko*), and since that time only one has been added to the number, namely, the Yamaguchi High School. Under such circumstances it is not surprising to find that while the Middle Schools and the students attending them have increased rapidly during recent years, the record for the High Schools has remained, at best, stationary. The following figures are striking:—

	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
Number of Middle Schools.....	58	65	73	79	126
Public.....	15	16	18	21	107
Private.....	43	49	55	58	119
Total Middle Schools.....	73	84	95	100	125
Students attending Middle Schools.....	19,917	22,331	20,679	20,577	52,442
Number of Upper Schools.....	1	1	1	1	1
Students attending Upper Schools.....	4,483	4,304	4,285	4,231	4,426

It may easily be conjectured that great numbers of students have to stop their education half-way on account of the impossibility of obtaining admission to the High Schools. Thus, in 1897, the num-

ber of applicants for admission was 2,923, and the number admitted was only 1,358, or 45.87 per cent. The case is not much better at the University. It has to turn back a large number of applicants every year, though the figures are not so striking as those relating to the High Schools, for the obvious reason that the want of accommodation at the latter serves as a kind of barrier to the crowd of students who, could they enter the High Schools and graduate there, would pass on to the University. An obvious remedy for this unhappy state of affairs is to remove the restrictions which now operate to drive private enterprise from the educational field. If the status of a high school received official recognition without regard to the nature of the religious instruction included in the curriculum, the number of such institutions would soon cease to be only six. Japan is pursuing a suicidal policy in this matter.

We may mention in this context that the establishment of a new High School is contemplated in Hayama Prefecture. The people have agreed to contribute 100,000 *yen* and twenty thousand *tsubo* (about 17 acres) of land, and the Government has promised, conditionally, of course, on the Diet's consent, to defray the remaining cost, namely 109,328 *yen*. A Supplementary Budget in that sense has been submitted to the Lower House, and we learn from it that the work is to take two years; that expenditure during the first year will 20,000 *yen*, and the Treasury will not be required to contribute anything until the fiscal year 1900-1.

THE COURT OF CASSATION AND THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Monday, March 6.

The first step taken by the Court of Cassation, sitting in full conclave, is unfavourable to the Dreyfus cause, as will be seen by our telegraphic news this morning. Picquart was cited before the Correctional Police last October, on a charge of having communicated to a third party (Boullot) secret military documents. The police tribunal declared that, his case being intimately connected with that of Dreyfus, then about to be revised, its hearing must be deferred. General Zurlinden thereupon placed Picquart in confinement and appointed a court martial to try him on December 12th. But Picquart applied to the Court of Cassation for a ruling, and the Criminal Chamber of the Court demanded that the Picquart portfolio be placed in its possession. That meant an indefinite postponement of the court martial, and it was generally believed that the postponement would last until after the revision of the Dreyfus case. But the full Court of Cassation has evidently decided to depart from the procedure followed by the Criminal Chamber, and Picquart will now have to appear before the court martial. This incident will, of course, be regarded as a check to the Dreyfusites.

Thursday, March 9.

So many letters have reached us with reference to our recent remarks on the Dreyfus case that we are led to suspect the foreign community of being almost as much excited over this strange business as the folks at home. We perceive, also, that our own position in the matter is

misunderstood. It appears to be thought that we firmly believe Dreyfus guilty; that we accuse the Jews of being mainly responsible for the complications which have ensued; that we blame them for the stand they have made, and even that we sympathise with the persecutions to which they are subjected. No description of our views could be more incorrect. Nothing seems to us to disgrace the nineteenth century more than the recrudescence of racial antipathies which its closing years witness. In our mental vista the Jew is as good as the Christian. If Continental Europe, to its shame, turns its back on him, we are proud to think that he will always find a welcome in England, and that England will benefit largely by his presence. For the part he has played in the Dreyfus drama, we have only praise, so far as he has been instigated by impulses of justice and fair play. But it is idle to pretend that the Jews are in no sense responsible for the prejudice which has been developed against them in France, in Germany, and in Russia. There is something in their method of life or their manner of doing business that provokes the hostility of the peoples among whom they sojourn. It may be their exclusiveness, it may be the peculiar aptitudes which harsh restrictions have developed in them; but whatever it be, the folks whom it revolts are not swayed by the vertigo of racial prejudice only. These things must be taken into account when we attempt to cast up the rights and wrongs of the singular struggle now convulsing French society; a struggle which, for aught we know, may be destined to leave an indelible mark on the history of Europe. The Jews did not make their *début* upon the Dreyfus stage after his trial and conviction only. They were dragged upon it even before his arraignment by that curse of modern times, the journalistic agitator. Rochefort, Drumont, and the crowd of sufferers from hysterical epidemic whom they lead sought, from the very outset, to inflame popular passion against Dreyfus because he was a Jew. In justice, therefore, we must admit that the Jews did not strike the first blow. But in justice also we must try to place ourselves in the position of the average Frenchman, and to estimate the aspect which this affair presents to him. When we do so, we are confronted at once by the cold fact that every person who has had an opportunity of examining the whole of the evidence against Dreyfus has pronounced him guilty. There has been no exception. Picquart is not an exception. Picquart's knowledge did not extend beyond the three documents produced by Cavaignac in the Chamber of Deputies. Every man who has had access to the whole of the evidence has declared that no doubt could be entertained of Dreyfus' guilt. That is what the average Frenchman sees. Nothing can obscure that fact. In his eyes the question is between a verdict pronounced by a tribunal of officers and endorsed by five Ministers of War, and a theory advanced by men who have not seen the proofs, and supported largely by the funds of aliens whom he has learned to dislike and distrust. It is the fashion at present to raise hands of horror over France's action in this Dreyfus affair; to picture her as inundated by a wave of hysterical passion which has swept away all the landmarks of justice. Yet thousands upon thousands of Frenchmen in every rank of life have

sacrificed fame and fortune in the cause of right, as they discern it, and are insisting upon a revision of the Dreyfus sentence. Even those foreign onlookers who have persuaded themselves to think that French soldiers, French Ministers of State, French deputies, and French private gentlemen are either so indifferent to justice or so blinded by prejudice as to have lent themselves deliberately to the perpetration of a most inhuman crime, even such persons must admit that there is a noble side to this drama, and that, if it is to become a tragedy, it will have its martyrs as well as its malefactors. To us it seems that a large section of the foreign public who have convinced themselves of Dreyfus' innocence without seeing the proofs of his guilt, and of France's military, ministerial, and magisterial degradation without balancing the motives that influence her or the circumstances that aggravate them, are not many degrers removed from the prejudice which they condemn so loudly.

PRISONS.

Statements are published by vernacular newspapers interested in disturbing the *entente* between the Government and the Liberals, to the effect that the latter are indignant because the former postponed the transfer of the Prison Expenditures from the Communes to the Treasury. That is interesting. It has been well understood and clearly stated for a considerable time that, under any circumstances, the condition of the finances did not permit the carrying out of this much-needed reform until next year. In the decennial programme of finance submitted to the Diet, on the basis of a Land-Tax of 4 per cent., it was shown that, from the fiscal year 1900-01, the Treasury would have incurred a charge of 5,077,322 *yen* on account of the prisons, from which outlay had to be deducted the earnings of the prisoners, namely, 1,038,500 *yen*, the net addition to the Treasury's burdens thus being 4,038,822 *yen*. But in consequence of the Land Tax being reduced to 3.5 per cent., the Government's programme was dislocated, and the prison question was shelved. If the Liberals were so anxious to see this reform effected, why did they vote against it again and again in former years? The story of the prisons is not at all creditable to Japanese party politicians. Originally the Government handed over the prisons to the Communes under pressure of necessity,—the necessity of accumulating a specie reserve for the resumption of hard-money payments. That object having been successfully accomplished, the Diet, when it assembled in 1891, found a large surplus in the Treasury and a flourishing financial condition, the revenues of the State being always in excess of its expenditures. One of the very first proposals made by the Government to the newly assembled House of Representatives was that it should consent to the re-transfer of the prisons to the central administration. But the majority of the members had committed themselves to a promise, as a means of conciliating the constituencies, that they would insist on a reduction of the Land Tax when they confronted officialdom in Tokyo. So they rejected the Government's proposal with regard to the prisons, and even pretended that it was a device, on the one hand, to shelve the Land Tax question by absorb-

ing the available surplus; and, on the other, a manoeuvre to placate the communes by relieving them of the comparatively small prison expenses, though making no reduction of the heavy burden of the Land Tax. Again, when Count Inouye last spring formulated a scheme of finance providing for the immediate transfer of the prisons to the Government, the two political parties combined to defeat the reform by opposing the increased taxation necessary to effect it. Finally, when the present Government planned to raise the rate of the Land Tax from 2½ to 4 per cent., thus obtaining an additional revenue which would have justified the Treasury's assumption of the prison outlays from next year, the Liberals once more interfered on behalf of the tax-payer, and by reducing the rate to 3½ per cent., and insisting, at the same time, on re-assessment which involved a further loss of 3½ millions of revenue, necessitated a postponement of the reform. Yet now these same Liberals have introduced and passed a Bill for effecting the reform which they so often prevented in the past, and they quietly leave the Treasury to find means of defraying the 4 millions involved in the change. What is the meaning of their volte-face? Confronted by the record here set down, it is impossible to suppose that the Liberals care anything about prison reform as compared with the tax-payer's goodwill. They have persistently sacrificed the former on the altar of the latter, and plainly what they want now is to be able to say to the constituencies:—"It is true that we have agreed to increase the Land Tax by 12 millions of yen for a term of five years, but, on the other hand, we have insisted on re-assessment, which means a reduction of the burden by 3½ millions, and we have further insisted on the transfer of the prison expenditures to the Treasury's charges, which means a diminution of the communal burdens by over 4 millions, so that the net increase of your payments is only 4½ millions. Moreover, after the conclusion of the period of 5 years, you will find that your sum of taxation is actually 7½ millions less than it was before we consented to a temporary increase. In short, by paying 4½ millions for 5 years, you are purchasing permanent immunity thereafter to the extent of 7½ millions." We do not detect a genuine desire for prison reform among these manoeuvres. They may be good as party tactics, but they are not suggestive of any sincere spirit of progress.

THE INDUSTRIAL BANK.

The staff of the Industrial Bank seem to have been visited by the same vertigo that recently overtook the staff of the Bank of Japan. Several of them have resigned *en masse*, and to make the analogy perfect, the cause of their discontent is said to be some purely sentimental grievance against the President, Mr. Kawashima. There are also rumours that whereas the object of the Government in establishing the Bank was to provide cheap capital for manufacturing enterprise, persons seeking accommodation have been obliged to devote from 2 to 5 per cent. of the amount to what is euphemistically termed *undo ho*, or "movement expenses." We mention that for what it may be worth—not a great deal, we imagine—and as to its bearing upon the resignations, we can not pretend to offer any explanation.

NATIONALIZATION OF RAILWAYS

The Commission appointed to consider the question of nationalizing the principal private railways has resorted to the practical course of appointing a committee to conduct preliminary investigations. Any attempt to do business with such an unwieldy number as that of the Commission itself, must have been futile. The Committee includes the names of Mr. Sakatani and Baron Tajiri of the Finance Department, Mr. Matsunoto of the Railway Bureau, and Lieut-General Baron Oseko. These representatives of officialdom are all men of acknowledged ability, and any recommendation endorsed by them will command public confidence. The president of the Commission is Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Communications. In addressing the Commission at its first meeting, His Excellency made some interesting statements. He said that, owing to the extraordinary rise which had taken place in the cost of labour and materials since the programme of first-period railways was drawn up, the Government's estimates had been completely dislocated, so that the figure—68 millions—originally set down for these lines would probably be doubled before their completion. That is a very serious consideration. There is not, at present, the slightest prospect of the Government's being able to find a market at home for its Public Undertakings Loan and Railway Bonds. Recourse must be had to foreign capitalists, and, if circumstances have so greatly affected the estimates in the matter of railways, the same must be true with regard to the building of barracks, the construction of forts and dockyards, and the making of arsenals. Japan can well afford to contract a substantial foreign loan, but it is to be hoped that she will set about it in a substantial manner.

The second interesting statement made by Viscount Yoshikawa was that the Government, in drawing up plans for the construction of railways and laws for their control, had always proceeded on the principle that the whole system of lines throughout the country would ultimately come into the possession of the State. That is a much more definite interpretation of the Railway Law than the public in general would have been disposed to put upon it. The Law does certainly reserve to the Government the right of buying up the private lines within a period of 25 years from the date of granting their charters, at a price determined by capitalizing the average market value of their shares during the three years preceding the transaction. But the mere reservation of such a right differs essentially from its actual exercise. From one point of view it is desirable that several of the lines now in private hands should be transferred to the State, for their owners show no disposition to keep them in proper repair or to spend money on improvements. But the railways already under official control are run on the essentially faulty principle that a profit should be derived from them for the purpose of general revenue. The State has no right to manage these lines with the object of obtaining a surplus, unless the surplus is applied to building new roads or increasing the facilities offered by those already built. A net profit of about 5 million yen annually accrues to the Treasury at present from

the State Railways, yet not only are the conveniences of travel exactly what they were twenty-five years ago, but fresh loans are raised for every additional mile constructed. The same remark applies to the Post and Telegraph Services. Japanese publicists gravely inform us that the Department of Communications has no funds to employ good and trustworthy letter-carriers and telegraph-clerks, and, that, being thus obliged to rely on the dregs of the population, the officials can not fairly be held responsible for delays in delivery or other defects of administration. Yet the Posts and Telegraphs transfer to the hands of the Treasury every year a sum of nearly 3 million yen net profit, and the Government, with the consent of the Diet, has just raised the rates so as to obtain an additional revenue of 1½ millions. In the face of such facts, it is a strange contradiction to speak of insufficient funds. "Misapplication of funds" seems a more appropriate term. Were the Communications Department free to employ the profits of the posts and telegraphs on purposes connected with the improvement of the services, there would be few causes of complaint, whereas there are now a great many. The gross earnings of the posts and telegraphs for 1893-1900 are estimated at 16,879,837 yen, and the gross expenditures at 14,027,430 yen. The difference—2,852,407 yen—is thus more than 20 per cent. of the expenditures, and there can be no doubt that it would amply suffice to place the two services on a thoroughly sound footing. In short, under the heading of railways, posts, and telegraphs, the State is earning a net profit of 8 million yen annually—it will be more than 10 millions when the increased rates are imposed—not a *sen* of which should be carried over to the general revenue while new railways remain to be built, and while the posts and telegraphs continue to call for improvement. If the true principles of the economy of communications were applied in Japan, every one would rejoice to see the private railways transferred to the State, for, though official methods of conducting business are always costly, that objection does not weigh for a moment against the incomparably greater advantage of having the people's money devoted to the interests of the people at large instead of going into the pockets of a few monopolists.

LOANS OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

It is stated, as an evidence of increasing ease in the money market, that the Bank of Japan's loans are being rapidly discharged. They amounted to 81 million yen at the beginning of the year, but have now fallen to 56 millions. No less than 4 millions were returned on the 3rd instant. The issue of convertible notes is now 8½ million yen below the legal limit (80 millions). This state of affairs is attributed mainly to the fact that the balance of trade has been restored since the commencement of the year. During January and February exports exceeded imports by 7,800,000 yen, and there was a considerable inflow of specie. In February, the excess of exports—at Yokohama and Kobe—was 4,221,704 yen, and the excess of specie imported was 127,689 yen.

JAPANESE PUBLIC OPINION ON ITALY'S DOINGS.

The concentrated essence of the Tokyo press' comments on Italy's San-moon departure is that Japan should go and do likewise. We admit that such a version of our contemporaries' theses is rather blunt; but it is correct. Undoubtedly they all speak—some in very admirable terms—of the neighbourly duty that they owe to their ancient friend, the paragon of the East, and there is no difficulty in crediting them with a sincere desire to keep China on her feet, if that were possible. But they recognise that it is quite impossible, and, being practical folks, they abandon the fruitless occupation of crying for the moon, and are now chiefly solicitous lest their country, restrained by qualms of conscience, should allow herself to be excluded from a scramble which offers such rich prizes. There can be no second opinion about the wisdom of this attitude. Japan was shouldered out of Liaotung by a conspiracy which will stand in the pages of history as one of the most solemn specimens of international chicanery ever perpetrated. Territory which she had fairly won by the sword was taken from her on the plea that its alienation from China would be dangerous to the latter's integrity, and then the chief of her despoilers deliberately stepped in and annexed the same territory for itself. Liaotung has at least taught Japan what to expect. She knows now, or ought to know, that any ace scored to her credit in this game of grab must be played with her own cards. Perhaps she hesitates to take a hand because she hopes that the dimensions of the gamble may still be limited. Vain hope, in truth. If Italy joins in without having any stake whatever in the pool, Japan may fairly claim to be the *croupier*. Italy? Why, her appearance on the scene reduces the whole thing to a farce. By-and-by we shall perhaps get accustomed to think of her seriously as a claimant, but at present we can only regard her procedure as an example of the well-known metaphysical phenomenon that the human mind, by familiarizing itself with the thought of a crime, can succeed in mistaking it for a virtue. The Italian statesman who conceived the notion of acquiring a naval station and a province in China, doubtless laughed at the comicality of the phantasy when it first flashed across his mind. But when it next visited him, it looked less grotesque, and at last it came in the guise of an old friend with a prescriptive right to tender treatment. The world has not enjoyed a similar opportunity of accustoming itself to this wonderful *coup*, and may therefore be excused if its astonishment is breathless. But Japan should thank the statesmen in Rome for helping to elucidate the situation. Perhaps she will now awake, and abandon the policy which her *littérati* cleverly describe as "stolen rest" (*tsan saku*).

FOREIGN EMPLOYEES AT THE IRON FOUNDRY.

Fourteen foreigners are to be employed at the Iron Foundry. Their engagements are to be for two years. Two will receive annual salaries of ten thousand *yen* each, and the remaining twelve will have 4,000 *yen* a year; and all will be handed a sum of 3,000 *yen* each at the termination of their engagements.

GERMANY IN CHINA.

It is alleged that the reference made recently in the German Reichstag, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to "outrages upon Germans in Tientsin" has for its explanation a fracas which occurred on the night of February 24th. Four Germans entered the walled city in *jinrikisha* to witness the festival of lanterns, and, in making their way through the crowd, were roughly handled. One of the *jinrikisha* was overturned, but neither its inmate nor his three companions suffered any serious injury. We have no information of our own on the subject, but it appears to us scarcely credible that the above version can be correct. The streets in the walled city of Tientsin are incredibly narrow. At all times, even in broad daylight during rain, when the traffic is comparatively small, few persons ever think of driving there in *jinrikisha*. The writer of this note has passed through frequently, and has always, as a matter of course, alighted from his *jinrikisha* and sent it round to meet him at some other point. If that is true of daylight, what shall be said of the night, especially a night of festival, when the streets are thronged with women and children? No one, unless he has actually visited the walled city of Tientsin, can conceive the extraordinary narrowness of the streets, and the multitudes that struggle through them when there is anything to summon the people from their houses. Canton is not to be spoken of in the same breath. If such conditions existed in any Western city, the streets would be permanently closed to wheel traffic. It is alleged that, in deference to the complaint of the German Consul, the Viceroy promised to punish the policeman on duty at the place where the disturbance occurred, but declared his inability to lay hands on the particular units of the seething mob among which the *jinrikisha* had become entangled. We certainly think that the policeman should be punished; not for failing to restrain the crowd, however, but for permitting any one to ride through the streets in *jinrikisha*. But we refrain from further comment lest the impression be created that we credit the story. We do not credit it. Our conviction is that had the incidents been such as we have here set down, the German Minister of Foreign Affairs could not possibly have deemed the matter worthy of parliamentary allusion.

PARENTAL OFFICIALDOM.

Some speculations have probably been caused by Mr. Taguchi's proposal—embodied in a Bill now lying before the Lower House—that when a private railway company has declared a dividend of 10 per cent. or upwards for three years consecutively, the Minister of State for Communications should be competent to order a reduction of the fares charged on the company's lines. Mr. Taguchi's reason for drafting such a Bill is that the private companies devote themselves solely to the acquisition of profit, and take no adequate concern for keeping their roads in good order, still less for improving them. There is a very general impression that the same criticism applies to most of the industrial undertakings carried on by Japanese. People say that the machinery is not properly kept, and that no reserve is set aside for depreciation.

We are disposed to think that such a comment does some injustice to the management of the industrial undertakings. Last spring, when the cotton-spinners complained of being crippled by want of working capital, the then Minister of Finance, Count Inouye, came to their rescue and assisted the Industrial Bank to provide them with funds, on condition that they complied strictly with certain regulations, one of which related to the provision of a suitable reserve against depreciation. It is to be presumed that the Bank adopts means of enforcing the regulations. It has power to do so. Recently a Tokyo Journal predicted that the Agricultural Bank would soon find itself confronted by a serious state of affairs, for several of the farms in Hukaido, to whose owners it had given accommodation, were practically exhausted owing to lack of fertilizers, and would have to be abandoned. A danger of that kind is on all fours with the imprudent policy attributed to many industrial concerns, but we can not believe that the Banks take no step to protect their interests against such obvious perils.

TELEGRAPH RATES.

It is possible that our readers may have been misled by our statement of the increased telegraph rates, for the frank truth is that one point in the new regulations defied our own comprehension without reference to expert explanation, which we had not time to seek before going to press. That point is the rule about the name and address of the sender. The Japanese regulation says that the name and address of the sender are charged, as a general rule, but that if written on what is termed the *Yohaku* (literally "remaining white space"), there is no charge. The simple fact is that if the sender wants to telegraph his name and address, he must write them into the body of the address, and pay for them as so many syllables. If he does not wish to have them telegraphed, he writes them in a separate place, merely for the information of the telegraph clerk. As for the name and address of the person to whom the message is sent, they are not charged for, unless there is more than one name, when the first only goes free. These are the rules applicable to Japanese telegrams. But the sender of a message in an European language is not so well treated. He has to pay for the name and address of the sendee. It is interesting to see how this "pans out." Here, for example, are two fairly illustrative sentences:—

Yokohama 75 A-ada
A-u-gu-en jinrikishu Tanaka = 13 syllables.
Cost 20 *sen*.
Yokohama 75 Jones.
Coming to morrow ten forenoon Robinson =
8 words. Cost 40 *sen*.
Kobe yamate 50 Hamada.
Dô kakeatte mo samô de tsukôchi = 16
syllables. Cost 25 *sen*.
Kobe Hill 50 Brown.
He will not consent on any terms = 11 words.
Cost 50 *sen*.

On the whole it will probably be found in practice that to telegraph in an European language over Japanese wires costs from 50 to 100 per cent. more than to telegraph in Japanese. Of course some additional charge is fair, but the difference seems too great.

WHAT WILL ITALY DO?

The present situation in the East is particularly interesting. China has refused Italy's application for a lease of San-moon, and Italy is waiting until she is in a position to convert her proposal into a demand. Perhaps it would have been better had she held her peace until she was ready to speak peremptorily, but the mischief is done now, and it only remains to be seen whether China will stand to her guns. The wrong is absolutely on Italy's side. Germany's action at Kiaochow had one redeeming feature, its magnificent indifference to international usages, and had also the pretext of a murdered missionary. But Italy's enterprise is frank brigandage. She wants something which does not belong to her; she asks for it; is refused, and then proceeds to take it by force. Five years ago, who could have seriously entertained the notion of Italy's essaying to seize and hold Chinese territory? It is the most striking *coup* we have hitherto had the pleasure of witnessing, and from a theatrical point of view the effect is fine, though in that respect the palm must of course be awarded to the pioneer act of piracy in Shantung. China is now fully forewarned. She knows precisely what is to be exacted, and she can accurately localize the pending stroke. Will she make preparations to resist? The alternative is to admit definitely that she has surrendered herself to the knife of the nations and will endure dissection without wincing. We predict that she will embrace the alternative. Unfortunate China. For centuries she has been placing her reliance upon time, and results have generally justified her confidence. But her old friend is now going back upon her. The longer she waits and the more patiently she takes her woes, the worse her plight becomes. Of late, too, she has found safety in the mutual jealousies and rivalries of her oppressors. But even that resource is failing. They are marshalling themselves into two camps for the purpose of cutting her up, and instead of manoeuvring to keep each others' hands off her altogether, their sole aim will henceforth be to divide her to the best advantage in their own interests.

REGISTRATION OF FOREIGNERS' RIGHTS OF PROPERTY.

There is now before the Diet a Bill relating to the registration of the rights of property acquired by foreigners within the Settlements. These rights have hitherto acquired validity against third parties by registration at the Consulates, and the question now arises, what arrangements shall be made for perpetuating their validity so that cognisance may be legally taken of it by Japanese tribunals? The Government evidently finds some difficulty in devising a system which shall fully meet the requirements of the case, and we can easily appreciate the nature of the puzzle when we remember the varied character of the procedure pursued at different Consulates. Instead, therefore, of attempting to draft a hastily elaborated measure, the Government wisely confines itself to asking parliamentary authority for the settlement of the matter by Imperial Ordinance hereafter.

THE EARTHQUAKE

The earthquake on the 7th instant belongs to the category of serious shocks. Our daily life in this country is perpetually disturbed by tremblings and shakings which become at last so familiar that we scarcely notice them. Yet not a few of these ugly visitors fall short of calamitous dimensions by only a narrow margin, and the unconcern with which we receive them is simply the result of habit. Apparently the centre of disturbance on the 7th instant was somewhere in the vicinity of Osaka. Such, at least, is the conclusion arrived at by the Meteorological Bureau, though the record of damage done suggests that Nagoya may share the honour. The time telegraphed from Nagoya is 9.45 a.m., and that telegraphed from Osaka, 9.56, but it is not possible to place much reliance on these figures. Nagoya city does not seem to have suffered. The damage occurred chiefly at Ono, Handa, and Chirin, where houses are said to have been overturned. Wakayama, also, was severely visited, houses and godowns being overthrown in the two districts of Nishi-mura and Higashi-mura. The most accurate accounts come from Osaka. There the direction of the shock was from south-east to north-west. At first vertical, the movement presently became horizontal, the latter phase, which lasted about two minutes, developing the maximum intensity. Apparently the only personal injuries were not directly due to the shock, but resulted from a panic among the *employés* at the Osaka Cotton-spinning Factory. In attempting to escape from an upper storey, several fell downstairs, and 28 were hurt, two severely. Fuller details may show, however, that the falling of chimneys and buildings was not unaccompanied by loss of life.

Considering the wide area through which the seismic disturbance on the 7th instant was felt, it is inferred that the origin of the force must have been at a point very deep below the surface. The great majority of the earthquakes experienced in this country are of distinctly limited scope. Thus, the statistics collected by the Seismological Bureau show that out of 2,670 shocks felt in 1891, only 8 were felt throughout an area of over 10,000 square miles. The great earthquake on the 28th of August in that year made itself perceptible throughout an area of 15,750 square miles, and the shock on the 7th of this month had a range of 15,000 square miles. The latter did not reach farther north than Yokohama: it was not felt at all in Tokyo.

A telegram received by the Home Department from Nara Prefecture gives details of the damage done by the earthquake:—

A strong shock was felt at 10 a.m. on the 7th. At T. Katsunuma twenty houses fell and two children were hurt in the ruins. At Sakurai, a man was crushed to death. Other damage is in course of investigation.

A telegram received subsequently says:—The result of investigation shows that three persons were killed and eleven injured, 67 houses destroyed, and 24 damaged. The mountains in Amanogawa Mura, Yoshino District, shook greatly and emitted a thunderous sound, and the ground opened in parts, landslides occurring here and there. Roads westward of Hirase have been broken away in places.

Ten workers in the Tenwa mine were buried alive, but were dug out safely.

THE LAST DAY OF THE DIET.

The two Houses of the Diet discharged a mass of business on Thursday, the closing day of the session. The Peers sat from 10 a.m. to 11.05 p.m., and the Representatives from 1 p.m. to 10.15 p.m. We necessarily hold over our report of the proceedings, which, for the rest, were of little interest to foreigners. Perhaps the most important point was the passing of the Supplementary Budget for granting special subsidies to the European and American services of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. It was expected that this measure would meet with opposition in the Upper House. More than one of the leading Tokyo journals had denounced it in strong though ill-considered language, and had endeavoured to raise a prejudice against it by alleging that its successful passage through the House of Representatives had cost a hundred and fifty thousand *yen*, and by challenging the Peers to reject it in the interests of parliamentary morality. These manoeuvres failed signally, however, for the Budget was voted without any hesitation or appreciable dissent.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, March 4th:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	...	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	...	14,136,378
Amount of convertible notes issued	...	172,031,895
Government deposits	...	36,705,578
General deposits	...	6,615,429
Exchange liability	...	69,995
Total	...	259,559,276

	Cr.	Yen.
Discount notes	...	24,215,304
Foreign discount notes	...	19,647,308
Loan to Government	...	22,000,000
General loans	...	59,063,350
Exchange liability	...	2,344,363
Government bonds	...	40,331,062
Property	...	1,770,449
Bullion and Specie	...	99,184,444
Total	...	259,559,276

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued... 176,703,520

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	...	97,030,807
Silver	...	—
Total	...	97,030,807

Securities:—

Government bonds	...	31,364,280
Government certificates	...	22,000,000
Government bills	...	12,833,333
Commercial notes	...	13,475,800
Total	...	79,673,413

Total reserves ... 176,703,520

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week show:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess-issue	...	6,815,932

Specie Reserve:—

Gold	...	5,537,062
Silver	...	—
General loans	...	4,299,699
Government deposits	...	1,103,704
General deposits	...	1,491,097

A telegram received in Tokyo on Wednesday from the Japanese Minister at Brussels, announced that Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians was seriously ill and that little hopes were entertained of her recovery.

ITALY IN CHINA.

THERE is no reason why Italy should not have colonial aspirations. She sends abroad every year a large number of able-bodied men who thenceforth become wealth-winners for foreign countries. The first business of every human unit on the face of the globe is to live. That people should go to foreign lands in search of the sustenance which they can not find at home is natural and proper, and that the land of their adoption, in return for granting them facilities to support life, should seek to derive a maximum of benefit from their labour, is also natural. If the story ended there, the greed of colonial expansion would scarcely become a passion. Men would make new homes for themselves wherever favourable opportunities offered; would preserve a warm corner in their hearts for the place of their nativity, and, in matters of buying and selling, would be, as far as possible, customers of "the old country." But Protection effectually mars the record. Protection compels a man to throw patriotism over-board when he embarks to seek his fortune abroad. Protection lays claim to everything that he earns, and penalizes every attempt he makes to contribute to the support of his own countrymen. The people of the United States are proud to think that they have never been carried away by the mania of territorial expansion; yet the people of the United States, by their protective policy, have contributed not a little to the spread of that mania. They have presented to the world an object-lesson not easy to misinterpret. A prominent factor of their growing greatness has been the absorption and monopolization of the surplus population of other nations. Millions of Italians, for example, have migrated to America. Under a free-trade system they might have opened in the land of their adoption a rich market for the land of their origin. Protection has put its veto on anything of the kind, and has thus gradually led Italy to think of colonies where her migratory sons may contribute to her strength instead of diminishing it. The analysis is not exhaustive, of course: other factors have to be included. But it may fairly be claimed that if countries like Italy and Germany had not seen the wall of protection raised between them and their overseas nationals, they would have remained comparatively beyond the contagion of the colonial epidemic. We have no right, then, to condemn Italy's aspirations, though at first sight it seems a little startling to find her taking part in the big drama of assassination upon which the curtain rose at Kiao-chou in 1897. Assassination is the only appropriate term. China is being deliberately and slowly assassinated. It has come to be simply a game of cut in who cut can. There was a pretence for Germany at Kiao-chou. There

was a pretext for Russia at Port Arthur. There was a plea for England at Weihai-wei. But there is neither pretence, nor pretext, nor plea for Italy at San-moon: there is only an apology. If any of the ordinary canons of morality were applicable to international dealings, sermons innumerable might be preached on this text. But morality is out of date. The plain fact is that the arena of Western politics is being shifted to the Far East, and that the allies and rivals of Europe are providing for themselves new bases of union and antagonism in China. Any right or title of independent existence that belongs to the Middle Kingdom is a valueless quantity. China, as a living entity, does not count in the matter at all. She is simply a cake for every one to bite into. If diplomacy were omniscient we might credit it with having contrived in the Far East a situation necessitating alliances which are unmanageable in the West; for, though England has been able to stand aloof from the Dreibund in Europe, she certainly can not stand aloof from it in China. It is true that Austria has not yet entered the Oriental lists. But that is probably a question of time only. Interests can be created for Austria quite as readily as they have been created for Italy; and though it is a far cry from Vienna and Rome to Chili and Chekiang, it is a much farther cry from St. Petersburg to Liaotung if the Suez Canal be closed to the Russian flag. In short, events are now unfolding themselves in China exactly as they have marshalled themselves already in Europe, with this difference, that England has had to enter the circle of alliances and that the United States has come within arm's length of it. Our Tokyo contemporaries are disposed, we observe, to draw two conclusions: first, that England has abandoned the open-door policy; secondly, that she is herself contriving a violation of the pledge which she exacted from China with regard to the Yangtze Valley. Both of these views seem to us to be erroneous. That England has abandoned the idea of preserving China's integrity can scarcely be denied. But the open-door is a different matter. In encouraging Italy to enter the arena England merely provides another janitor. As to the Yangtze Valley, San-moon can not be called a part of it. Chekiang, however, is a Yangtze province. Perhaps some folks will say that in promising Italy that Chekiang shall not be alienated, China merely repeats, on a limited scale, the pledge already given by her to England. But if these quaint engagements which it has become the fashion to exact from China, confer a reversionary title on the Power to which they are given; if it is understood, for example, that when England obtains a promise from Peking that the Yangtze region shall not be voluntarily vivisected for the sake of any outsider, the promise includes a construc-

tive pledge that, if vivisection ever does take place, it shall be in British favour, then indeed her alleged endorsement of the Italian proposal about Chekiang is a surrender of a portion of her own titles. We do not, for our own part, see how the affair can be otherwise interpreted, for it becomes a mere comedy to exact a public promise from a country that she will not surrender to any third party a particular section of her possessions, unless the promise implies an exception in favour of the Power to which it is made. Of course it implies such an exception. Of course the British nation considers that the Yangtze Valley has been solemnly placed within England's sphere of influence, and of course the British and Italian nations will fully understand that this arrangement about Chekiang indicates England's willingness to enter into partnership with Italy for the exploitation of the richest regions of the Chinese empire. Circumstances are much stronger than diplomacy or good intentions. England's hand is being gradually forced, and it is fortunate for her that she has taken care to be prepared for the new departure.

IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3RD.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

NEW BILLS.

The House met at 10 a.m., and, having read the four following Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House), handed them to Special Committees:

Bill for establishing a Movables Bank. With regard to this Bill the Government Delegate stated that the changes made by the Lower House could not be approved by the Government.

Bill relating to the rights of persons who have lost their nationality.

Bill for amending the portion of the Civil Code relating to foreign mortgages of land.

Bill for the better prevention of offences against the Tobacco Monopoly Law.

The Government Bill for regulating consular functions, under the conditions resulting from the operation of the Revised Treaties, having been endorsed by the Special Committee, with trifling amendments, was passed, and the House then (11.10 a.m.) went into secret session to continue the discussion of the Emperor's questions with regard to the amendment of the Peers Law. The doors were re-opened at 3 p.m. and the following measures were handed to Special Committees:—

REPRESENTATIONS

Representation urging that State Aid be given to the National Learning Association.

Representation for opening Itazaki in Hiroshima to foreign trade.

Representation urging that the branches of the Government Agricultural Experiment Station be abolished, and that the funds spent on them be handed over to the City and Prefecture Agricultural Stations, the main Government Station in Tokyo being, at the same time enlarged. The *exposé* of motives states that the effect of a few branch stations supported by the Government tends to retard rather than to encourage local efforts in the places where these stations exist, and that the better plan is to have only one main Government Station in Tokyo, leaving the local stations to rely on themselves solely.

The House, having dealt with 14 petitions rose at 3.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Nomura Goro said that although the Government had asked for speedy procedure in the case of the Bill relating to a Public Undertaking Loan in Formosa, the report of the Special Committee had not yet been presented, and the Chairman of the Committee had advanced an incomprehensible explanation of the delay. He thought that the Chairman should be invited to state the reasons clearly.

Mr. Nemoto Sei presented a Question with regard to the control of lepers and beggars. Did not the Government regard leprosy as a contagious disease, and if it did so regard it, why were no measures adopted for the segregation of lepers? As to beggars, they were left to their own devices in a manner which did little credit to the country's administration, and would certainly attract unfavourable attention when mixed residence was established.

The House having approved the amendments made by the Peers in the Bill for assessing and regulating lands in Okinawa Prefecture, and the Bill embodying a project of Pilotage Law, proceeded to consider the Government Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure.

AMENDING CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

Mr. Seki Naohiko, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported the result of the Committee's deliberations on the Government Bill (sent down from the Peers) for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure. He said:— "With regard to the purport of the amendments proposed by the Government, one is intended to abolish the *mise au secret*, which is a variety of torture (*gomon no ishiki*). Another is to extend the system of bail, so as to contrive that the privilege may be granted as freely as possible to persons undergoing trial in criminal cases. With regard, again, to the amendments introduced by the Upper House, one provides that a Court of Law must allot counsel for the defence of women, persons of tender years, or deaf mutes; another, that judgments in criminal cases shall embody a clear statement of the reasons upon which they are based. There are also excellent reforms. They have long been desired. Now that the Treaties have been happily revised and the era of mixed residence is about to be inaugurated, it would have been a very great disgrace to the country *vis-à-vis* foreigners had such bad and uncivilized systems of criminal procedure remained in operation, and while it is a matter for congratulation that the Government has been moved to introduce these reforms for the sake of the country's fair fame, we may reasonably ask why it was not done previously in deference to our own wishes. At all events, so far as the correction of such abuses is concerned, we have only to cooperate most willingly. The House of Peers, also, has shown itself an advocate of sound progress in this matter. The additional clauses introduced by it for the protection of women, minors, and persons afflicted with physical infirmities, and for the more lucid statement of judicial findings, are worthy of all praise. But as for us, we want something more. We want to have the privilege of employing counsel granted to persons undergoing preliminary examination. The denial of that privilege is the flaw in the bright jewel (*hakuhaki no bisho*); the one defect that mars the whole achievement. According to the present system, the preliminary examination of a person charged with crime is conducted in secret. The law, indeed, forbids the examining judge to employ either intimidation (*kyō katsu*) or deception (*himan*) in the *procès verbal*, but, as a matter of actual practice, these objectionable weapons are used with such freedom that the plight of the accused is often very pitiable. Frequently he is so flustered that he can not find words to say what he ought to say; so perturbed that he can not put forward proofs of the utmost importance to his case; placed in such a disadvantage by the superior acumen and the practised ability of his questioner that he involves himself in contradictions; so bewildered that he loses the

power of defending himself, and is finally convicted of an offence which he never committed. If I do not dwell long upon these phases of the matter, it is not because I under-estimate them, but because language is inadequate to convey any clear idea of the abuses actually practised. (Hear, hear). Then when these painful preliminary stages have been passed, and the accused finally reaches the Court where his public trial is to take place, he finds judges few in number, overwhelmed with work, having scanty time at their disposal, and precluded by stress of business from giving exhaustive attention to his case. He applies for permission to call witnesses whose testimony his counsel considers cardinal but is probably met with a refusal from the Bench, and the upshot is that the judges, unable to find leisure for a really thorough sifting of the charge, fall back upon the indications furnished by the preliminary examination with all its defects and abuses. So fully have these things come to be appreciated, that in many of the provincial districts a barrister deems it hopeless to attempt the defence of an accused person, and declines the task. I am not speaking from hearsay. I am describing facts which have come under my own observation in the practice of my profession. Therefore it has seemed to your Committee, especially since the country is about to enter a new era of international intercourse, that the system of criminal procedure calls urgently for reform, and that, while gladly endorsing the Government's amendments, as well as those of the Peers, this House should insist upon adding an amendment of its own—namely, that the privilege of counsel be granted to persons undergoing preliminary examination, to the end that the accused may be able to do justice to his own case, to furnish evidence such as may lead to the elucidation of the truth, and to be secure from the abuses of intimidation or deception. This same amendment was advocated by the minority in the House of Peers, and we may therefore reasonably hope that, if our House adopts it unanimously, the Upper Chamber will not be unwilling to reconsider the question with the care and attention that it deserves.—(Cheers.)

The amendments proposed by the Committee took the form of additions to the 68th Article of the Code, and were as follows:—

Art. 68.—(add the following clauses):—

(a) The defendant is entitled to employ counsel at any time during the preliminary examination.

(b) The lawfully appointed representative of a defendant is entitled to select counsel.

(c) The Public Prosecutor or the counsel for the defence is entitled to apply to the judge, at any time during the preliminary examination, for permission to examine the record of evidence. Further, an extraordinary application in the above sense may be made if such a step be necessary.

Mr. Hanai—I am one of those that endorse the Committee's amendments, and I have sent in my name to the President as desiring to address the House in that sense. But as I see that the Minister of State for Justice is present, I will take the opportunity of asking two or three questions instead of delivering you with a speech. My first question is this—(Cries of "Never mind asking questions.")—In every Occidental Country, persons accused of offences against the law are granted the assistance of counsel during the preliminary examination. Such is the case in England. Such is the case in America. Such is the case in France. Why is the Japanese system different? What is the rationale of the difference? In the second place, the Code of Criminal Procedure is a compilation from the laws of France. At the time when the Code was compiled, accused persons were not allowed the benefit of counsel at their preliminary examination in France. But the French system was amended two years ago, and counsel is now allowed. If Japan followed France in the outset to the extent of adopting her laws wholesale, why should she now hesitate to follow the reforms effected by France in those laws? My third point is this:—His Excellency, in addressing the House of Peers with reference to this change which our Committee proposes, and which was

suggested by the minority of the Upper Chamber's Committee, said that it would disturb the whole policy of the Code of Criminal Procedure and affect its very basic principle. What is the policy of criminal procedure in Japan? What is the basic principle? Did not that statement of His Excellency's partake slightly of a dust-throwing character? There is no such thing as a policy of criminal procedure in Japan at present, nor any such thing as a basic principle. Does the present system regard the defendant as a man or a thing? What we desire to have is a human policy; a humane basis. Why should any opposition be offered to this reform that we propose? Is it because, so soon as a man becomes a defendant in a criminal case, he ceases to be counted a human being? Is the preliminary examination an inquisition, an impeachment? Such certainly has been its character hitherto. Speaking to the House of Peers, Your Excellency intimated that you did not disapprove of this reform, but that you desired to postpone it for a little time. Why should it be postponed? If it is a good thing, why should we not have it at once? Is there any occasion for slow, hesitating methods when we see the right before our eyes? The Government has been introducing Bills about the stamps used by foreigners on legal documents, about their position as mortgagees, and about other petty matters that concern their convenience when they come under Japanese jurisdiction. But here is a really important reform; a reform which can not fail to exercise a potent influence upon our foreign relations. Yet we are told to wait. The Department of Justice has hitherto occupied a sort of insular position in the sea of politics. The waves of political strife have never invaded its coasts. We have left it virtually unmolested. But its immunity is not permanent. There are many charges to be brought against it, and if I attempted to marshal them all I could talk for a day and a night. (Voice—"Don't do that, please.") I content myself, however, with asking for answers to my questions.

The Minister of State for Justice (Mr. Kioura Keigo)—The session is drawing to near its close gentlemen, and so little time remains at your disposal, that I had not intended to encroach upon it. Several questions have been addressed to me, however, and though many of the subjects to which they relate are doubtless perfectly familiar to you, it seems advisable that I should entreat your attention for a few minutes. Stated briefly, the first question I am asked to answer is why, when all Western countries have embodied in their systems of criminal procedure the reform which your Committee now recommends, Japan should hesitate to do so. I answer that Occidental countries certainly have adopted it, but, before drawing any hard-and-fast conclusion from that general fact, we must examine it a little closely. England and America have long allowed counsel in preliminary examinations, but their system of criminal procedure differed radically from that of other Western States. How is it with Germany? She used not to allow counsel in preliminary examinations, and it was only quite recently that she removed the veto. And what are the facts about France? The proposal to allow counsel was submitted to her Senate in 1879—if I remember aright—but so important was the innovation deemed, and to such exhaustive consideration was it subjected, that not until the year 1897 did it receive the consent of both chambers and become the law of the land. It is an undeniable proposition that legislation must keep pace with the developments of the age and the progress of society. The Government has uniformly striven to discharge its duty to that principle. You yourselves see how many projects of law we have submitted for your approval during this very session. The Japanese Code of Civil Procedure is modelled on French lines. Well then, you say, if France has already allowed the employment of counsel in preliminary examinations, why should not Japan do the same. Need I point out that legislative

reform must be adapted to the condition of the people legislated for? Need I insist on the vital necessity that a nation's laws should conform to the degree of its civilization? The fact that foreign countries have introduced a certain system does not seem to me a valid reason why we should introduce it. I am told that Japan has no policy of criminal procedure. But the argument that I have just listened to advocates nothing less than the total abolition of the *proces verbal*. (Mr. Hanai—"Yes. That is precisely what I advocate.") I must point out that if counsel have not been allowed at the *proces verbal*, neither have public procurators. That in the system, I do not wish to be understood as saying that the Government is radically opposed to the change your Committee advocates. It suitable methods of carrying it out were enacted, and if due limits were set, the Government would not object. It is mainly a question of providing methods. Allow me to point out, however, that if the bases of the present Code are to be preserved, it will not do, simply because we have applied our pens for the alteration of one part, to let them lightly run on to changes which affect the whole. To permit the employment of counsel at preliminary examinations is to metamorphosize the structure of the Code, and to dislocate its working. Moreover, if we attempt to put this change into immediate operation, it will probably lead to various abuses. The legal aspects of a case will become much more complicated, and its processes will be correspondingly retarded. Unless the varied mechanism of the tribunals is modified to suit that state of things, there can be nothing like satisfactory or expeditious procedure. Obstacles and embarrassments will inevitably present themselves. From the point of view of the accused person, it would certainly be very desirable to allow counsel, but if the peace and good order of society and the proper application of penalties are taken into consideration no pains must be spared to guard against the introduction of abuses. I need not remind you that blessings are never unmixed. But I may observe that if we can actually detect the losses coming in the suite of a gain, it is our duty to avert them as far as possible. That is the legislator's business. My chief apprehension is that if we allow the use of counsel at preliminary examinations, the proceedings will be greatly retarded. Do you ask me why? Because the processes will be much complicated. Because days will have to be fixed for calling witnesses, and it may be that the witnesses can not attend, or it may be that the counsel cannot find it convenient to do so. Then other days will have to be chosen. Further delays will probably attend the scrutinies of the record of evidence, as proposed by your Committee. In speaking thus I do not intend to say anything disparaging of barristers. But I hold in my hand some statistics which, you will admit, are impartial witnesses. They tell us something about changes of fixed days, and how the responsibility for delay is to be divided. For example, out of every hundred criminal cases, I find that postponements due to the Judiciary totalled 48, whereas postponements due to the Bar totalled 246. In civil cases the record is still more striking, for whereas only 1.9 of the delays stand to the account of the Judge, the barrister has to be credited with 30.1. These figures are fair witnesses. They tell something of what would result from employing counsel in preliminary examinations. That the liberty and rights of the subject must receive the utmost respect, goes without saying. But it is equally evident that a man must be detained in custody, even at the expense of his personal rights, where there is reason to apprehend that, if set at large, he would fly from justice, or destroy the proofs of his guilt, or repeat his offence. Farther, nothing is more important than to abbreviate as much as possible the period of detention in the case of persons not yet convicted of crime. I am afraid that if counsel were employed, the period would be greatly prolonged. (Mr. Hanai: No.) At all events, proper rules of procedure must be elaborated. The organization

of the courts must be changed and a fuller provision of judicial machinery made, if this proposal about counsel is to be carried out. Mr. Hanai spoke to you of foreign countries. Let me quote some facts about them. France has 359 local courts and 2,866 district courts. The corresponding numbers in Germany's case are 172 and 1914. Those in Japan's case are 49 and 298. If we examine the ratios of local courts to population, we find that there is one local court in France for every 194,431 persons; one in Germany for every 262,989; and one in Japan for every 910,047. It is easy to see that, however diligent Japanese judges may be, however anxious to expedite affairs, there is great danger of delays and retardments. If you allow the employment of counsel, thus changing the whole preliminary system, it can not be doubted that the procedure will be greatly complicated and the course of justice delayed. In connexion with Treaty Revision, various amendments of the laws have had to be made. Some persons call it regrettable that whereas we have been busy with measures relating to the use of stamps on legal documents, and other merely technical questions, we have not proposed anything like a radical reform. I can only say that if the Government seen any necessity for radical reforms, it is not deterred for a moment by their dimensions. Mr. Hanai alleges that there is no such thing as a policy of criminal procedure in Japan. Our criminal law was taken from France, and we therefore followed France in having the secret *proces verbal*. That is our policy. If we propose to make a radical change of that policy, it behoves us to consider the consequences carefully. It is not right that we should undertake fundamentally destructive operations merely in deference to the cry that the Revised Treaties are about to go into operation. We have agreed that our various Codes shall be working as a preliminary to the operation of the Treaties; a provision in that sense exists in the German Treaty. But there is no condition requiring us to alter our Code of Criminal Procedure or other laws. Certainly it is our duty, now that a number of nationalities with manners and customs different from our own are about to pass under our jurisdiction—it is our duty to do everything in our power to make things satisfactory for them. Further, even though our treaties with foreign States impose no obligation of the kind on us, it is our duty to try and provide for our own people a beneficent system of laws. When, however, a radical change is proposed, we are compelled to observe that it must not stop short at one part of the Code but must extend to all parts. The result of a change fundamental in character but defective in method must be a loss of consistency and expedition. The Department of Justice has for some time been considering the question of amending the Code of Criminal Procedure. Various investigations of the subject have been made, and the amendments proposed by the Peers were, for the most part, the outcome of those investigations. We gladly endorse them. On the other hand, though the matter has received much attention from us, we have been so closely occupied, as you have yourselves seen, preparing measures connected with Treaty Revision and other essential affairs, that it has been impossible for us to submit a draft of an amended Code of Criminal Procedure during this session. We hope to have it ready by about next session. If you ask me on what lines revision is to be effected, I confess that I can not yet give you an explicit answer. But the important point is that the protection of the rights of the individual will be made cardinal, while, at the same time, the peace of society will receive attention. To combine these two aims harmoniously is an essential responsibility which devolves upon you, gentlemen, as much as upon us. Again, it has been stated in this House that the preliminary judges treat defendants to-day not as if they were men but as if they were merely things. As to that, I do not apprehend that among persons who have studied the elements of jurisprudence, there are any who have failed to grasp the fact that until a man has been

definitely proved guilty, he must be treated as entirely innocent.—(Cries of, "There are; there are.") Of course, among the many judicial officials hitherto employed it is not impossible that some have failed to observe that principle fully. But you must remember that vigorous measures have gradually been adopted of late and are still in progress, to sift the judiciary, and to furnish it with judges and procurators of the modern school. Further, as to actual practice, instructions have been given to them—but I am precluded from entering into particulars in that direction. I may say, however, that we are doing everything in our power to extend the facilities for obtaining bail and to reduce to a minimum the detention of persons prior to commitment.—(A voice, "You are not succeeding.") I do not say that, as a point of judicial procedure, I consider the limited employment of counsel in preliminary examinations to be altogether wrong. On the contrary, I am distinctly in favour of such a system if the limits and the methods be duly prescribed. But I do consider that to make such a radical metamorphosis of the system of preliminary examination in connexion with a comparatively trifling alteration of one part of the Code, must involve difficulties in practice, and we can not regard the prospect without grave misgivings. I would therefore beg of you to postpone this matter for a season, as we hope to be in a position to submit a full revision of the Code for your consideration next session.

Mr. Seki—Your Excellency alleges that the use of counsel would tend to retard the proceedings, and you have read to us statistics showing that in civil and criminal cases the responsibility for delay rests chiefly with the barristers. I would point out that such figures are misleading. Barristers are obliged to make written application when they ask for a postponement, and a record in this clearly established. But no such obligation devolves upon judicial officials. There is no record of the delays caused by them, and any comparison of figures must therefore be most unfair. As to the contention that barristers would complicate the proceedings and retard them, the very opposite would probably be the case. The assistance of counsel could not fail to expedite the progress of the trial. It is owing in great part to the absence of counsel that persons accused of offences not involving more than a couple of months' imprisonment, are now kept in jail sometimes for as long as a year before their case is decided. Surely Your Excellency must be aware of these things. Are you not mistaken in the views you have advanced?

The Minister—I do not think there is any occasion to discuss these points in detail. (A Voice—"Yes, that's the way.") That the proceedings in preliminary examinations are protracted, is a fact established by practical experience and quite familiar, I imagine. I leave you to form your own estimate of the causes. For my part, I have lately heard much talk about the responsibility of preliminary judges, and I confess that I am very glad to hear it. If it reaches my ears, it reaches theirs also, and doubtless prompts them to even greater diligence than they already employ. I have some figures here relating to the year 1897, and as they bear upon this point I will read them:—

Number of persons who underwent preliminary examination in 1897	20,482
No. of decisions rendered within 5 days	930
do do do 10 do	1,903
do do do 15 do	2,305
do do do 20 do	2,229
do do do 30 do	3,376
do do do 60 do	5,425
do do do 90 do	2,076
do do do 180 do	1,424
do do do one year do	231
No. of decisions not rendered within a year.	23

There is certainly room for improvement, but all concerned are doing their best.

No further discussion took place, and the House, without dissent or division, passed the Bill as amended by the Special Committee.

VARIOUS MEASURES.

The Government Bill (sent down from the

Peers) relating to assistance in the arrest and detention of seamen refugees from foreign men-of-war was then passed.

A Government Bill for the Regulation of Farm Boundaries was then read and handed to a Special Committee. The purpose of this Bill is to re-arrange the paths and straighten the divisions between agricultural holdings; and also to effect exchanges of lots so that each farmer shall have his land in a single holding. At present considerable areas are wasted by crooked boundaries and needless paths, and the labour of farmers is dissipated owing to their farms being divided into fragments separated sometimes by long distances. Official efforts have for some time been directed to correct these defects, but it is found that legislation is required. The Bill proposes that farmers objecting to co-operate in carrying out the desired improvements may be required to do so, and that if they fail to furnish the necessary labour, its monetary value may be assessed, and levied after the manner of a tax. On the other hand, the Government will not reassess the taxable value of land thus appreciated, or make any charge for its registration, and surplus areas created by the process will be bestowed on the most active promoters of the improvements.

Government Bill for extending the competence of the State to appropriate lands for public purposes.

THE PRISONS.

A private Bill was then introduced for transferring the Prisons to the control of the Central Government, the latter to assume all charges connected with them, and to take over all buildings and property belonging to them; the law to go into operation from October 1st, 1900.

Mr. Horiya having briefly recommended the measure as essential to the uniform regulation of prison affairs, Mr. Kudo Kokan invited an expression of the Government's views with regard to the Bill.

Count Matsukata said that the Government had always approved of the proposed transfer, and had made several attempts to accomplish it. The financial programme originally elaborated by the present Cabinet had included this reform. But the programme had been based on an increase of the Land-Tax rate to 4 per cent., whereas the House had cut down the rate to 3.3 per cent. A diminution of the Treasury's income to the amount of 9 million yen had resulted, and, although compensatory measures had been adopted, there was still a difference of some four millions as compared with the Government's estimate. That action on the part of the House had dislocated the programme; otherwise the Government itself would have introduced a Bill for transferring the prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury, from the fiscal year 1900-1. But, having no revenue in sight to defray such an outlay as 4 or 5 million yen, the Government had been obliged to abandon its purpose. If the House passed the measure now before it, and if the new law became operative from Oct. 1st, 1900, the expenses for half a year would have to be provided. That could be accomplished, perhaps by temporarily drawing upon the fund set aside to assist engineering work necessitated by inundations. But for the fiscal year 1901-2, some new source of increased taxation would have to be provided. Doubtless the House would give its consent to that when the time came, but the fact had better be borne in mind when dealing with this Bill.

Mr. Kudo gathered from these remarks of the Minister's that the Government contemplated the probability of not being able to abolish the increased Land Tax at the end of five years, although it was understood to have agreed to that limitation.

Count Matsukata declined to discuss future contingencies.

Dr. Hatayama approved of the principle of the Bill, but failed to see how it could be carried out without funds. The Minister had told them that some additional source of increased taxation would be required if they passed the measure. It appeared that the Government wished to exact from them a tacit

pledge about future taxation. The question was certainly one that called for minute investigation, and he moved that the Bill be handed to Special Committee.

A long, and sometimes turbulent, altercation ensued. It was plainly the aim of the Opposition to have the Bill handed to a Committee, which would have dispelled all hope of passing it during the present session, whereas the Liberals and National Unionists were equally determined to deal with it once. A ballot was finally taken, when 135 voted against, and 109 for, handing the Bill to a Committee. The discussion was therefore terminated.

Mr. Ooka Ikun spoke at some length, but his speech consisted chiefly of an exhortation to the House to lighten the burden of local taxation by transferring the prison expenditures to the Treasury's charges. The measure, he said, had been earnestly desired by him for the past seven years, and he regretted to observe that the Government's attitude towards it was one of hesitancy. The Government, when introducing the Budget, had assured them that it was at the end of its revenue resources, yet they had subsequently been asked to pass supplementary budget after supplementary budget, and it was quite evident that ways and means were available if necessary. He suggested that if the Government maintained its hesitating attitude, and induced the Upper House to display a similar mood, they should decline to pass any more supplementary budgets which might be submitted to them.

After some further discussion the clause was applied, and the House passed the Bill.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The private Bill for amending the Business Tax Law then came up for its Second Reading, and was favourably recommended by the Special Committee. The proposed amendment is to abolish all the taxes which the present law imposes on renting values of premises and on employers. The introducers of the Bill estimated that the loss of revenue resulting from their amendment would not exceed half a million yen, but the Government Delegate alleged that it would be nearer 3 millions. The Bill was finally passed by 102 votes to 80.

The Special Committee's report on the private Bill for separating the businesses of physician and pharmacist recommended that no hard and fast rule be adopted, but that discretionary power be vested in the Minister of State for Home Affairs. The House rejected the Bill by 115 votes to 53, and rose at 5.15 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS. NEW BILLS.

The House met at 10 a.m., and, having read the following two Government Bills, handed them to Special Committees:—(1) Bill providing for the registration of immovable property held in perpetuity by foreigners within the present Settlements. (2) Bill containing a project of Lost Articles Law.

Three Government Bills were then unanimously passed for increasing the pensions of school teachers and improving their status, and the Special Committee's report on the Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the system of Local Government, was presented. The Committee recommended many changes, and after some debate these were endorsed by the House. In spite of the Government Delegate's opposition. The Second Reading was voted by 131 votes to 70, and the Bills, having been discussed clause by clause, were ultimately passed.

The Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for the Regulation of Farm Boundaries, was placed upon the Order of the Day as a matter of urgency, and, having been read, was handed to a Special Committee, after which the House, went into secret session to consider the private Bill (sent up from the Representatives) for abolishing the import duty on salt fish coming from Saghalien, and, having rejected it by 82 votes to 69, rose at 4.10 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m.; and, having decided that a Conference of the House be held with regard to the Peers' amendments of the Tonnage Dues Bill, endorsed their amendments of the Government Bill for making changes of local boundaries in Okinawa Prefecture, and passed the Government Bill providing for the remission of taxes on manufactured tobacco intended for export.

SETTLED ACCOUNTS, ETC.

The Settled Accounts for 1896-7 were approved, but the House endorsed the Committee's report that they contained items not in conformity with law, not proper and not sufficiently considered.

The Peers' amendment—introduction of the qualifier "artificial" before the word "fertilizer"—of the Bill for exempting fertilizers from import duty was approved, and the following measures were handed to Special Committees:—

A Representation relating to the restoration of property confiscated in 1873.

A Representation urging that steps be taken to expedite the construction of the lines included in the First-Period Railways.

A Representation urging that work on the Umita Kure Railway—12 miles; cost, 1,260,003 yen—be commenced from the fiscal year 1900-1.

SILK REELING.

A Representation urging that steps be taken to promote the use of the silk reeling machine now working in the Government's experimental filature at Nishigahara. Japanese sericulturists still adhere, for the most part, to their old custom of hand-reeling, and have no adequate appreciation of economical methods of manufacture. Their work is often unprofitable, and always unfitted to compete with that of Occidental peoples, who, in spite of their higher scale of living and more costly labour, are so clever in employing scientific machines that they easily beat their clumsy Oriental rivals. It is calculated that if the reeling machine now working at Nishigahara—which appears to be particularly well adapted to Japanese silk—were generally employed, the value of the labour saved in reeling 2 million *koku* of cocoons (Japan's yearly production) and of the increased weight of the silk obtained, would be 26,600,000 yen.

THE PAY OF MEMBERS.

Mr. Hoshi Tora moved that the Order be changed for the purpose of reading a Government Bill for amending the Law of the Houses, in the sense of increasing the emoluments of the members; the President's pay to become 5,000 yen annually; the Vice-President's 3,000 yen; and the members', 2,000 yen each. The House endorsed the motion, and handed the Bill to a Special Committee, with instructions to report on it by the 6th instant. (The increased rates are to become operative from July 1st, 1899).

PARIS EXHIBITION.

A Representation for giving State aid to open a *saké* stall in the Paris Exhibition was handed to a Special Committee. The idea is to find a market abroad for Japanese *saké*, and with that object it is proposed to dispense the liquor gratis at the exhibition. The projectors calculate on giving free drinks to 500,000 people, and, such extensive hospitality being beyond their means, they ask for State Aid.

REPRESENTATIONS.

The House adopted Representations for establishing a High School in Shikoku, and for abolishing the Premunition Law of 1892, and then proceeded to consider a Representation relating to the affair of religious instructors at Sugamo Prison. This document declared that the Buddhist teachers had been forced to resign; that the course adopted towards them had been exceedingly harsh; that the officials of the Home Department had themselves recognised the wrong, and that public opinion was now in a state of great excitement about the matter.

Mr. Shimada Saburo asked for a statement of the Government's view. If the Buddhist teachers were forced to resign, there had been a violation of the Constitution. Had they been

forced to resign? Also, was it true that the wrong had been recognised by the officials of the Home Department? Finally, if public opinion was in a state of great excitement, why did not the Government deal with the question?

The Government Delegate emphatically denied that anything in the nature of force had been employed, and recounted the actual facts. He emphatically denied that the officials of the Home Department had recognised any wrong. And he emphatically denied that any symptoms of public excitement were apparent to the Government.

An excited discussion ensued as to whether the Representation should be entrusted to a Committee or debated at once. The House finally rejected the proposal for a Committee by 104 votes to 89.

Mr. Shimada Saburo said that the House was called upon to decide between the *Kenshi-to* Cabinet, which held office at the time of these occurrences, and the signatories of the Representation. The Government Delegate, speaking on behalf of a Cabinet in which Count Itagaki had been Minister of Home Affairs, repudiated the charges *sertafim*. If the charges were declared true, the Representation would amount to an impeachment of the Government. If they were to be declared untrue, the House must have grounds for the declaration.

A brief debate ensued, and the House adopted the Representation by 102 votes to 91.

OTHER MATTERS.

The following measures were handed to Special Committees:—

Bill for amending the Colonists Protection Law, in the sense of allowing Emigration Companies to pay the whole of their security in public bonds or approved mercantile paper.

Representation for the Multiplication of Salmon and Masu.

The House, having dealt with two petitions, rose at 5.05 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 6TH. HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.35 a.m., and, having agreed that a Conference of the Houses should take place with regard to the Tonnage Dues Bill, and received the report of the Petitions Committee, read two Bills sent up from the Lower House and handed them to Special Committees.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

The changes made by the Representatives in the Bill for amending a portion of the Code of Criminal Procedure, then came up for discussion.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, while sensible of the inadvisability of the House's reversing its decision, urged that the present case might well be made exceptional, in view of the important bearing of the question on Treaty Revision and the country's foreign relations. He spoke of what had passed when he attended the conference on International Law in Geneva in 1893, and said that this very problem of allowing counsel to assist accused persons at preliminary inquiries had come up for discussion, and that the maintenance of the secret system in Japan had been strongly condemned. All European countries now allowed accused persons to have the benefit of counsel, and it did not redound to Japan's credit that she should be an exception. Of course she could choose her own time for making a reform, either before or after the inauguration of mixed residence, but there could be no doubt that the alteration of the system would come with much better grace if it preceded the complaints which the secret examination would certainly evoke from foreigners when they had to submit to it. Japan had at last gained admittance to the comity of nations, and the occasion was eminently suitable for a reform which her new associates universally endorsed.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu pointed out that if foreign systems were to be implicitly taken as models, they must not stop short at abolishing the secret examination. They must also adopt trial by jury.

The Government Delegate denied that counsel were allowed by all Occidental countries in preliminary examinations. With regard to the charge that the present system works harshly and leads to the conviction of innocent persons, he quoted the statistics for 1897, which showed that whereas the public procurators had sent 39,067 persons before the *juges d'instruction*, the latter has dismissed 12,491 of the number, after examination. Each country had its own system, and must consider its own condition in drafting its laws and designing its procedure.

Mr. Miyoshi Taizo declared that the secret examination was responsible for terrible abuses. Above all, it opened the door wide for judicial corruption. He cited the Soima case; the Waterworks case, and the Okayama Prefecture case, and affirmed that the administration of justice could never be sound so long as such procedure was adopted.

After some further discussion, the closure was applied, and the House rejected the Representatives' amendments, and commissioned the President to nominate Managers for a Conference.

NEW LAWS.

The following Bills were passed:—

Government Bill (sent up from Lower House) relating to the rights of persons who have lost their nationality.

Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) relating to the rights of foreign mortgagees.

Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for the prevention of offences against the Tobacco Monopoly Law.

Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) relating to the relief of losses caused by inundations.

Government Bill relating to the registration of the property rights of foreign individuals and judicial persons.

Private Bill relating to the property qualifications of electors and candidates.

The private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for transferring prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury, was handed to a Special Committee, and the House, having dealt with various petitions, rose at 2.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The House met at 1.15 p.m.

Questions were submitted with reference to the action of the former President of the Board of Audit, and with reference to the declaration of the Minister of Finance on the 3rd instant that the transfer of prison expenditures to the Treasury's charges would necessitate increased taxation from the year 1900-1.

The Peers' changes in the Bill for amending the Local Government System were endorsed, but their changes in the Registration Bill were referred to a Conference. The latter question led to a discussion between the Liberal and Progressist leaders. Mr. Hoshi Toru condemned the Peers' amendments, first because they produced an increased revenue of only 80,000 *yen*, whereas the Representatives' amendments would produce 500,000; and secondly because the Peers had favoured the rich at the expense of the poor. Dr. Hatoyama retorted that the Articles amended by the Peers had been passed by the Representatives so hurriedly, under the leadership of Mr. Hoshi himself, that no proper consideration could be given to them, and that the amendments were highly commendable.

THE PAYMENT OF MEMBERS.

The Bill for increasing the allowances of members of the Diet then came up for discussion. The Special Committee reported in favour of the measure, but recommended an amendment in the sense of allowing to members the option of receiving or rejecting the increase.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo regarded this project as secondary in importance to only one question—the question of the Ashiwa-Mine poisoning. It was stated in the *exposé* of motives that an increased allowance was necessary so as to enable the members to support their position. Money had nothing to do with a member's position. To say so was to insult the House.

From one point of view, this increase was simply a bribe. The country was already suffering from increased taxation. The market value of arable land had declined by 20 per cent. A financial emergency existed scarcely less acute than that which had induced the Sovereign to make a grant out of the Privy Purse for the building of warships six years ago. This was a question of morality. What sort of face could they show to their Sovereign and their fellow-countrymen if they voted for such a Bill?

Mr. Hoshi Toru observed that when the question of paying members came before the British Parliament, the Liberals had supported it, the Conservatives had opposed it. In short, the rich had been arrayed against the poor. He considered it an honour to the present House that it should be called upon to deal with such a question. In effect, what they were invited to discuss was whether members should have any allowance at all, for if it were denied that the allowance should be adequate, then it was constructively denied that there should be any allowance at all. They were all agreed, he presumed, as to the principle. If so, why should an increase be deemed immoral? It could not reasonably be pretended that a sum which did not exceed the pay of a District Headman or a Bureau *employé* was adequate for a member of the Diet. To shrink from raising the emolument to a reasonable figure while, at the same time, admitting that there ought to be an emolument, was a case of *sa-jo no jin* (the Chinese Emperor who thought it right to fight against his enemies but wrong to follow up his victory). There was no question of additional taxation on account of this payment: it would be defrayed out of taxes already imposed. The expenditure was a bagatelle—only some 600,000 *yen* annually, or 1.8 *sen* per head of the population. They had to defray out of their own pockets the cost of their elections, and the State possessed no title to their unremunerated services. The people wanted to see their allowances increased—were anxious for it. This project had been mooted when the Okuma Ministry was in power, and had received the consent of the Cabinet. The Progressists could not logically condemn it merely because it was brought forward by the Yamagata Cabinet. Besides, the Committee's amendment would give members the option of taking or leaving the money. Those that could not reconcile themselves to receiving it, had only to let it alone. The Minister of Finance would applaud their scruples.

Mr. Shimada Saburo considered that to talk of what had been contemplated by the Okuma Cabinet was out of place. As for England he was quite sure that the question of paying members of Parliament would never have been considered for an instant had the country been reduced to such financial straits as to be obliged to tax the machinery of communications, posts, telegraphs and railways. Upon Mr. Hoshi Toru and his followers would be the responsibility of having compelled the adoption of most improper taxes. Had they not just reduced from ten thousand *yen* to three thousand the appropriation for a committee to investigate the State purchase of private railways? How, on the very morrow of such a step, could they vote a large increase of their own allowances? As for the pretence that a larger sum was required to maintain the status of the members, he protested that money had nothing to do with the status of a member.

Mr. Matsumoto (Liberal) ascended the rostrum, and was commencing, on behalf of himself and his fellow Liberals, a vehement declaration of dissent from the views expressed by their respected leader, Mr. Hoshi, when the closure was put and carried.

The House, by 134 to 127, decided that the decision should be by unsigned ballots, and the result was that 134 voted for the Second Reading and 125 against.

Mr. Matsumoto moved an amendment that the President's allowance should be increased by 100 *sen*, and that the allowances of the members should remain unchanged, but he

found no supporters, and the Bill was passed as amended by the Committee.

The following business was then discharged:

The three Bills relating to Capital Fund for Education, the Maintenance of the Navy, and for Aid in Natural Calamities, and the Bill for restoring the Central Radium Relief Fund, were passed without debate; and the Representation for the Official Compilation of Primary-School Ethical Text Books, and the Establishment of an Industrial School, were adopted.

The following measures were read and handed to Special Committees:—

Bill for regulating Consular Functions (sent down from Peers).

Three Bills (sent down from Peers) for increasing the Pensions and improving the status of School Teachers.

Bill (Private) for amending the Law of Organization of the Courts of Law, in the sense of providing that Judicial Consultations in the Court of Cassation may be open to the public, inasmuch as, not questions of fact, but only the interpretation and application of laws, were debated.

Three Private Bills for abolishing Security Payments in Criminal Appeals.

A Private Bill for amending the 23rd Article of the Criminal Code in the sense of including the badges worn by members of the Diet among the articles whose use is forbidden to ordinary persons.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The House met at 10.15 a.m., and, having agreed to the appointment of Managers to confer with the Lower House on the amendments of the Bill relating to the Registration Law, should have proceeded with the first reading of the Bill for increasing the Allowances of the Members, but Viscount Tani moved that the reading be postponed until some of the Cabinet Ministers attended to answer questions, and the House, endorsing the motion, took the next measures on the Order, namely, the Bill embodying a Law of Lost Articles, the Bill relating to the Sale of State Lands, Forests and Moors, and the Bill for the Adjustment of Arable Lands, all of which were passed. The private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Business Tax Law, was handed to a Special Committee, and at this stage, the Prime Minister, the Minister of State for Finance, the Minister of State for Communications, and the Minister of State for Justice having entered the House, the reading of the Bill for increasing the Allowances of the Members was proceeded with. Marquis Yamagata stated briefly that the question whether members should have allowances or should not have allowances had passed beyond the range of discussion, and the point to be now determined was what amount of allowance would enable a member to support his position worthily; concerning which point the Government's view was embodied in the Bill. After these few words from the Prime Minister, Viscounts Soga and Tani, supported by Baron Date, commenced a long series of interrogations, dealing primarily with the meaning of the word position, as applied to a member of the Diet, and secondly with the sources from which revenue to meet this outlay was to be obtained. The iterated and reiterated questions on the former subject failed to elicit any clear response, being framed chiefly with the object of perplexing the Government Delegate, but with regard to ways and means the Minister of Finance explained that he expected to obtain surpluses from the Stamp Tax, the Adjustment of Arable Lands, and the Revised Delimitation of Building Lands in Districts and Divisions. The two Viscounts, while couching their statements in the form of queries, as was necessary at this stage of the proceedings, denounced the untimeliness of such a measure at a juncture when the Treasury was compelled to resort to taxation of a most objectionable character, and sought to create the impression that the increased allowances would serve solely to minister to the luxurious habits of men who ought to serve their country gratis. An attempt was made to apply the closure to this

protracted process of questioning, but the President ruled it out of order. The Bill was finally handed to a Special Committee with instructions to report on it by 10 a.m. on the following morning.

Baron Suyematsu raised a question about the propriety of the President's ruling that the closure could not be applied during the question stage of a Bill. Such was not the intention, he said, of the rules relating to the closure which he had recently introduced, and which the House had endorsed. The President pointed out that, whatever the intention of the rules might be, their text admitted of only one interpretation. The question having been put to the House, however, it endorsed the view of Baron Suyematsu.

The private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for changing the Local Government System in Tokyo, though favourably reported on by the Special Committee, obtained only one vote for its Second Reading; but the House unanimously adopted a Representation urging the better conservation of former Imperial residences, and, having dealt with a number of petitions, rose at 2 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

BUDGETS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., having decided to sit the whole day for the remainder of the session. A large part of the business related to Supplementary Budgets all of which were favourably recommended by the Budget Committee, with some reductions. When the House was about to discuss these Budgets, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro inquired whether any answer had been received to the Question presented by him on the previous day, namely, did the Government intend to affirm that some new source of taxation must be found if the prison expenses were transferred to the charges of the Treasury? The President said that no reply had yet come, and Mr. Inouye then moved that the House defer the discussion of the Supplementary Budgets until the Minister of State for Finance attended, and made some definite declaration on this point. He said that, while asked to believe that the Treasury could not, without recourse to increased taxation, find 4 million yen to carry out an essential reform, they were nevertheless invited to pass a crowd of Supplementary Budgets involving expenditures of many millions.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo supported the motion, but while he was speaking the Government's answer to Mr. Inouye's Question arrived, and, being read aloud, was found to be a curt statement that Mr. Inouye's version of the Government's intention was exactly correct. This announcement created great merriment, and Mr. Inouye, declaring himself satisfied, withdrew his motion. The Supplementary Budgets were then taken one by one and passed, as amended by the Committee. With regard to two only did any serious discussion take place; namely the Budget providing for a Formosan loan on account of public undertakings, and the Budget providing special subsidies to the European and American steamship services of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. The former measure was opposed, chiefly by Mr. Noma Goso, on the ground that the nature of the administration of Formosa did not justify the proposed expenditures, and that, if the Budget were adopted, the country would find itself committed to a series of constantly increasing outlays. The House nevertheless passed the Budget, with the Committee's amendment reducing the total of the loan by 5 million yen.

SUBSIDIES TO STEAMSHIPS.

The Budget for steamship subsidies did not provoke any radical or resolute opposition. Mr. Ooka Ikuzo spoke against it, but his objections were of a trivial character. They related only to the maximum speed (14 knots) of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamers for its European service. He said that such vessels were not fitted to compete with the ocean grayhounds of the highly advanced countries with which Japan had to compete, and he charged the Govern-

ment with having fixed the speed so as to suit the convenience of a private company, rather than with a view to the interests of the nation. Mr. Shimada Saburo also asked some questions, and the Government Delegate said that the Government deemed the speed sufficient, and that the proceeds of the taxes already imposed would suffice to defray the projected outlay. An unsigned ballot having been taken, the Budget was passed by 165 votes to 78.

NEW LAWS.

The two Bills relating to the Formosa Public Undertakings Bonds and amendment of the Navigation Encouragement Law were then passed, as were the following also:—

Project of Law for dealing with persons taken sick or dying while on a journey.

Project of Law for establishing a Colonization Bank in Hokkaido.

Project of Law relating to the Special Financing of a Capital Fund for State Forens.

Project of Law for restoring the Hereditary Pensions of the Touami Clansmen.

The following were handed to Special Committees:—

Project of Law (sent down from the Peers) relating to the Registration of the Rights of Property of Foreigners and Foreign Legal Persons.

Project of Law (sent down from the Peers) for determining the Property Qualifications of Electors and Candidates for Election.

Project of Law relating to lost articles.

The House was counted out at 4.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS.

The House met at 10.15, and, having handed four Supplementary Budgets to the Budget Committee with instructions to report on them the following day, proceeded to discuss the Bill for increasing the allowances of members of the Diet. Viscount Nagaoka, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported against the Bill, the Committee's view being that such a measure could not properly be adopted at a time when the financial condition of the State was such as to require large additions to the people's burden of taxation. A report was presented on behalf of the minority of the Committee also, approving the Bill, on the ground that the allowance now received by the members did not suffice to support their position. An animated debate ensued. Viscount Tani led the opponents of the measure and Mr. Kato Hiroyuki headed its supporters. The former did not advance any solid arguments. They rested their case on sentiment only. Making no attempt to controvert the principle that members should be paid, they confined themselves to declaring that on the very morrow of voting increased taxes, the House would be acting a disgraceful part if it voted an increase of its own emoluments. They strenuously denied the applicability of foreign precedents to Japan's case, especially precedents borrowed from republican countries, and they urged that to wear fine clothes and fare sumptuously did not in any way tend to improve or maintain a man's social status. Viscount Okabe and Baron Date endorsed these arguments. Mr. Kato Hiroyuki and Baron Ozaki, on the other side, took the simple ground that if men serve the State for a salary, the salary should obviously be adequate; that 800 yen a year was by no means adequate, and that men of wealth and title were scarcely in a position to judge how these questions presented themselves to their less fortunate fellows who had to think carefully of ways and means. The discussion elicited from Viscount Tani an interesting avowal, namely, that if the House passed the measure, he did not imagine that any one would be so foolish as to refuse the increased allowance, though the Law permitted him to do so.

A signed ballot was taken to determine the method of voting, when 116 were in favour of an unsigned ballot and 102 in favour of a signed ballot. The unsigned ballot resulted in 119 for the Second Reading and 100 against it. Viscount Tani then proposed an amendment, dis-

criminating between the Houses by not making any change in the allowances of the Upper House, and increasing those of the Lower to 1,500 yen annually. Baron Suyematsu denounced this proposal as unbecoming, and said that such an amendment would stultify the action just taken by the House in voting for the Second Reading. The amendment was rejected by 141 to 60, and an attempt to deprive the members of the right to refuse the increased allowance was negatived by 96 to 90.

Having handed some Bills to Special Committees, the House rose at 3.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.30 p.m.

FRANCE SILK TARIFF.

Mr. Kato Masanosuke presented a Question with regard to the action taken by France in imposing an arbitrarily increased tariff rate on Japanese silk stuffs. He asked what steps the Japanese Government intended to take, and whether retaliatory measures would be adopted.

ASHIWO.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo devoted nearly an hour to expounding a Question on his favourite subject, the poisonous products of the Ashiwo Copper Mine. He declared that he had presented fourteen Questions to the Government on this subject since 1891, but had never once succeeded in obtaining a satisfactory answer.

PRISONS.

Mr. Kudo Kokan presented a Question seeking information about the declaration made by the Minister of State for Finance on the 3rd instant, to the effect that some new source of taxation must be found if the Prison Expenditures were transferred to the charges of the Treasury.

NEW LAWS.

The House then proceeded to the Order of the day. There was an almost entire absence of discussion, the only Bill that gave rise to any argument being the project of Fishery Law, which was ultimately rejected. The following business was done:—

Bill for extending the Government's powers appropriating property for public uses. Passed.

Bill embodying a project of Fishery Law. Rejected.

Bill for establishing a system of Special Accounts in the case of the Public Undertakings Bonds and Railway Bonds. Passed.

Amendments by a Conference of the Houses in the Code of Criminal Procedure. Adopted.

Bill relating to a Special Account for the Forestry Capital Fund. Passed.

Special Supplementary Budget No. 5 for 1899-1900. Passed.

Bill relating to Consular Functions. Passed.

Three Bills for increasing the Pensions and improving the Status of School Teachers. Passed.

Project of Lost Articles Law. Passed.

Bill relating to the Property Rights of Foreigners and Foreign Legal Persons. Passed.

Bill relating to Grounds in the neighbourhood of Temples and Shrines. Passed.

Bill for the better control of State Forests and Moors. Rejected.

Bill relating to the rectification of errors in commuting the Pensions of Shinto Officials. Rejected.

Bill abolishing Law No. 11 of 1897, which empowers the Government to entrust to private Companies the Construction of Lines included in the Railway Building Programme. Passed.

Three Bills for abolishing Security Money in connexion with Appeals in cases of Crimes, Delicts and Fines. Passed.

Bill for amending the limits of Law Courts Jurisdiction in Iwate Prefecture. Rejected.

Representation for appointing a Continuing Committee when the Settled Accounts of Revenue and Expenditure are not passed during the course of the regular Session. Passed.

Representation urging that certain portions of the Civil Code be amended, so as to bring them into harmony with Japanese Customs. Handed to a Special Committee.

The House was counted out at 4.40 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A SAD CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly give the following "facts" a place in your paper?

In Western Japan lives a widow and her three children—two daughters and a son. The eldest daughter when twelve years of age was adopted by another family. Three years later the adopted father died, when the adopted mother desired to be relieved of the child, but had no intention of giving her up without remuneration. She therefore wrote the true mother offering to return the girl on the payment of yen 150, and, in the event of the mother not paying this price, stating that she would sell the child for three years to a brothel. The price demanded was more than the poor mother could meet, for she was struggling to supply the needs of herself and other children; and this child of 15 years was sold for "seven" instead of "three" years—the purchase money going into the hands of the foster-mother.

Seven years rolled round, and the true mother expected to receive her child; but through the intrigue of the brothel-manager and foster-mother—the latter was receiving a monthly percentage of the girl's earnings—it had been so managed that the helpless girl must earn still yen 300 before her slavery would end. The letters from this victim of man's passion and greed told only of repugnance for the life to which she was bound, and were full of entreaties to be freed. Finally a letter came saying death was preferable to the life she was leading. In despair the mother journeyed to the city where her child was in bondage, and succeeded in getting possession of her. Ten years of enforced slavery—to which "death is preferable"—has been this girl's portion. Happy in her freedom, she is now earning her living in an honest and respectable way; but on this innocent woman, who is but 25 years of age, will rest the blot of a soiled life. Where are the patriots? surely the time has come for such to lift their voices and say—these things shall not be.

How long is the Government of this land going to sanction a condition of things that permits of such cruel enslavement of her women? for, Mr. Editor, however the law may "read," morally, these girls have no liberty; and, so long as legalized prostitutes are possible, so long will such sacrifices be forced upon the women of Japan.

If it be true that a nation is judged by the esteem in which her women are held, is it not time for ambitious Japan to remove this blot upon her name?

Yours, &c.,

WHITE RIBBON.

March 8th, 1899.

KOREAN NEWS.

Korea seems to be falling again into a state of unrest. The telegraph says that the Russophile party are agitating for the restoration of Cho Pyöng-sik to power, and for the investiture of Lady Om as Empress. This lady has long been the Emperor's favourite mistress, and her influence would doubtless be entirely at the disposal of the pro-Russian politicians if they succeeded in obtaining for her the position of Imperial consort.

On the other hand, there is a small source of friction between Russia and Korea. Russian subjects have whaling privileges in the waters off the north-east coast of Korea. It appears, however, that, for some unexplained reason, a whaling boat which carried a Russian permit was seized by the local authorities near Gensan. They forwarded a report of the fact to Söul, but in the meanwhile Russia had preferred a demand for compensation to the extent of 34,000 yen. The Korean plea, we presume, is that, although Russia

has acquired the privilege for her own subjects, she has not acquired the right of conferring it on third parties.

Describing Chinese New Year in Söul the *Korean Weekly Repository*, which appears to have stepped into the shoes of the deceased *Independent*, says: For centuries until 1895 the Chinese calendar prevailed in Korea, and about it has grown up a large number of customs and observances. Though the Gregorian calendar was legally adopted in 1895, and Jan. 1st is observed as the official New Year, yet the people hold to the old calendar and celebrate its opening as a gala-day. One reason for the strong hold it has on the people is that by this time the winter costume has reached that stage in its transformation from immaculate white to the colour of mother earth where it becomes convenient to make a change. Therefore on that day the entire nation, from the patrician of the bluest blood to the unwashed coolie on the street, appears in new or freshly washed garments. The season was generally observed throughout Söul. The streets were gay with the variegated costumes of the children. The air was full of pugnacious kites. The creditor pursued the unfortunate debtor with all the merciless vigour of yore. Stone fights appeared to be as popular as ever, though the burden of maintaining them seems to have fallen upon the "small boy." Korea, in supreme self-sacrifice, gave up serious life for fifteen days and united in a grand effort to help the sun through the winter solstice.

The school for the study of Chinese classics is to be reorganised. The present Minister of Education, Hon. Sin Kiann, is a staunch believer in the doctrines of Confucius.

The total number of Korean Scriptures (portions), published last year was 93,000 and the actual sales 34,913, as against 6,335 in 1897, and 1,253 in 1895. The readiness with which Koreans buy Scriptures and Christian books generally is a constant and pleasant surprise to the missionary.

On account of an escape of three prisoners from jail no less than five officials, including the chief-keeper, clerks, and keepers, have been deprived of their positions.

The Paddlers lately petitioned the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce for the re-organization of their guild. The Minister gave them little encouragement, telling them the organization had been abolished by Imperial edict, and that he was subject to the further pleasure of the government.

CHINA NOTES.

The *Echo de Chine* states that the latest trials of the new French cruiser *D'Entrecasteaux*, which is under orders for the China station, have been very successful. Using her full power she made over 19 knots, and she did her twenty-four hours' continuous steaming at 17.8 knots, with a smaller consumption of coal than had been anticipated, while the working of her engines and boilers gave complete satisfaction.

H.M.S. *Iphigenia* returned to Shanghai from target practice on February 27th, we learn from China exchanges. Shooting was carried on under favourable conditions and excellent results were obtained, seventy per cent. of hits being recorded. At the commencement of the practice a unique incident took place, a shrapnel shell exploding in the target and setting it on fire.

The balance sheet of the Municipal Council of Shanghai shows that the total assets of the municipality amounted last year to Tls. 1,439,366, against which there are loans outstanding amounting to Tls. 1,066,800. The total ordinary revenue in 1898 was Tls. 753,370, and the ordinary expenditure Tls. 733,099; the extraordinary revenue (chiefly from loans) was Tls. 244,564, and the extraordinary expenditure Tls. 247,140. The budget for 1899 is very

interesting. The ordinary income is estimated at Tls. 767,300 and the ordinary expenditure at Tls. 763,610; the extraordinary income at Tls. 145,000, of which the ratepayers are to be asked to authorize the raising of Tls. 110,000 by loan, and the capital expenditure, including the deficit from 1898, at Tls. 144,605. While revenue shows no great changes, in expenditure there is a large increase in the appropriation for the police, the estimate being Tls. 211,870 against an expenditure of Tls. 182,382 in 1898. The new loan is to be spent on public works which have been found indispensable and are estimated to cost Tls. 144,775. The increase in the Secretariat is very considerable as a glance at the following figures will show:—

	Estimate for 1898	Tls.
Secretary.....	5,000	
Accountant.....	3,600	
Two Assistants	4,600	
	13,200	
For 1899:—		Tls.
Secretary.....	7,200	
Assistant Secretary	3,600	
Accountant.....	3,900	
Sub Accountant.....	3,100	
Assistant, General Office	2,400	

20,300

It must be borne in mind that the population of Shanghai now numbers nearly 350,000 souls. The death-rate among foreigners, we notice, is 16.2 per mille, which is considerably higher than the ratio at Yokohama.

News has been received at Foochow of the destruction by fire of the gaol at the Futsing district magistracy on the night of the 6th Feb., resulting in twelve prisoners being burnt to death and the escape to freedom of five. Four prisoners were recaptured, but not before receiving severe wounds at the hands of the soldiers sent after them. The fire was caused by the upsetting of a lamp on a quantity of straw, materials for making sandals by prisoners working in the industrial department of the gaol.

It is reported from Changking that Yü Mantse and about 3,000 followers have enrolled themselves as a battalion under the command of General Chou of Chengtu, and that Chiang and Tang, his notorious lieutenants, who refused to join, have been arrested and thrown into prison by the district magistrate of Pishan.

A new edition of the travels of MM. Hue and Gabet in Tartary, Tibet, and China, is to be published, and in their preface the publishers somewhat sarcastically remark:—"These gentlemen did not find in Tibet lost manuscripts of the Life of Jesus, nor do they describe the Tibetans as savages. Their half-dead servants did not take kodak pictures of them while being tortured on the rack. Nor did they use the powers of hypnotism in dealing with the Lamas and while being subjected to outrageous tortures. There is, in fact, nothing incredible in M. Hue's story, and yet, perhaps because of this reason, the book is far more interesting than any report that has since appeared." We notice from home papers that Mr. Savage Landor's tales of Tibet are being somewhat roughly handled by men who know something about the country. If his description of things Tibetan is anything like the "faked" experiences detailed in his book "Among the Hairy Ainsu," then they are assuredly not worth the paper they are printed on.

According to a Peking dispatch the electric railway between the Machispu terminus and the Yungting-gate of Peking will be ready for traffic by the 10th of March next. With reference to the Lu-Han Railway, at the end of the Chinese year about four miles of that new road had already been laid outside of the Paotingfu terminus.

The death occurred in Shanghai on the 26th Feb. of Herr C. Zedelius, M.D., physician to the German and Austro-Hungarian Consulates, and one of the medical attendants to the I.M.

Consulate. Dr. Zedelius was attacked recently with inflammation of the lungs, and, though every care was given him, he was not strong enough to rally from the attack. He was born at Oldenburg in 1852 and came to Shanghai in 1879 to join Dr. Goltburg, whom he succeeded in his practice. He was devoted to his profession and made himself very much liked and respected by all with whom he came in contact. He leaves a widow and four children.

The Peking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—

The Peking University has no fewer than 160 young men, mostly M.A.'s and licentiates, who are divided into classes for the study of English, German, Japanese, and Russian. Since the realization of this important reform project of the Emperor Kuang Hsü about two months ago, no fewer than two high Ministers of the Empress Dowager's Court have denounced the University in strong terms, namely Ch'ü Hsin (Manchu), President of the Board of Rites, and Hsü Fu (Chinese), President of the Board of War. Although the Empress Dowager is inclined to make these denunciations a pretext for closing up the University, some of her more politic advisers, such as Jung Lu and Prince Ching, are strongly advising her to refrain from making herself still more obnoxious to her people and the Foreign Ministers by such a step.

The Empress Dowager is evidently preparing to make another grand coup. It will be remembered that soon after the *coup d'état* of September 1st she caused the raising of a bodyguard of 10,000 young Tartars for her protection, and this large force was organized, armed, and officered by the end of December last. In the middle of January last she suddenly ordered the secret raising of 3,000 more young Tartars, selected by Jung Lu. This force was organized and armed with repeating rifles just before the last week of the last Chinese year. It is entirely officered by the Empress Dowager's kinsmen and these 3,000 men now act as a special guard around her quarters, wherever she may be residing, whether in Peking or at Eho Park, in addition to the regular force of Hosen and Foot Guards detailed for this duty by the Imperial Household Department. The majority of the people of Peking who sympathize with the Emperor in his present circumstances are afraid that his death will be announced within a month from now and it seems strange to them that the Foreign Powers do nothing to protect him, since he has been brought low for following their advice and representations.

With reference to the proposed Hankow-Canton Railway, the Chinese Director Chang Taotai, formerly Consul-General at Singapore, has informed his friends—says a contemporary—that the line will begin at Canton, pass Fatsan to the city of Samshui, on the West River. From this place the trunk line will go across and enter Hunan joining at Hankow the Lu-Han Railway. From Samshui again there will be constructed branch lines; namely, one to Koeilin, the capital of Kuangsi province, which will be called the Western branch line; while from Canton will be an Eastern branch line connecting that city with Huichou, thence to Swatow and northward into Fukien province. The Viceroy T'an has already detailed one Battalion of 500 men of the Chien Regiment to act as a guard to the workers on the new railway which it is intended to begin early in May next.

The remains of Mr. I. Wheeler, Chief Engineer-artificer, H.M.S. *Phanis*, were buried with full naval honours on March 1st, at the New Cemetery, Shanghai. Capt. Cochran and officers being present. Deceased, who was only in his fortieth year, was a native of Plymouth and had been 13½ years in the Service. He was only taken ill on Feb. 23rd, went to the hospital on the following Saturday, and died at 3 p.m. on Feb. 28th. A *post mortem* was held which proved death was caused by a combined attack of pneumonia and pleurisy. He leaves a widow and eight children.

It is now known definitely by wire that Mr. George Jamieson, C.M.G., will not return to Shanghai, having retired from the Consular Service, which losses in him, remarks the *N. C. Daily News*, one of the best men it has ever numbered in its ranks, and a man most popular

both privately and as an official. Mr. Jamieson entered the Service as a student interpreter, after a competitive examination, in 1864, and became a 3rd class assistant in 1867, a 2nd-class in 1869, and a 1st class in 1872. In his service of nearly thirty-five years he has been at Taiwan, Chefoo, Pagoda Island, and Yokohama, where he was Acting Judge for a year and a-half, having been called to the Bar in 1885. At Shanghai he has been at various times Acting Law Secretary, Acting Assessor, Acting Interpreter, Acting Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court, Assistant Judge, Acting Judge, and Consul-General, the post which he was occupying with that of Commercial Attaché when his health broke down and he had to go home on leave. He lost his wife, who was most highly respected and valued in Shanghai, some three years ago, and of his three daughters two are now married. Although it has been feared that Mr. Jamieson's health would not allow him to come back to work, the knowledge that he has definitely resigned comes as a distinct blow, and the best wishes of every one who knows him will go with him in his retirement.

The *N. C. Daily News* of March 2nd says:—On the first of the flood, at one o'clock yesterday afternoon, the French mail steamer *Sydney* carried away her buoy shackle whilst swinging in the upper reach. The starboard anchor was immediately let go, but the wind that was blowing across the reach carried her over towards Pootung shore. On the tautening of the cable the vessel swung round with considerable force and fouled the P. & O. Co.'s tender *Gutslaff* which was at her buoy, the stem of the tender smashing in two of the steamer's plates and denting a third just abaft the after gangway on the port side. The heel of the mail steamer then touched the bank and she swung round head up river dragging her anchor home. Assistance was immediately summoned and Capt. Aubert of the *Sydney* engaged the five available tugs and every effort was made to tow the vessel off. A nine-inch hawser was also carried out to the Company's buoy and hove on by the powerful winches on board, but all to no avail. At five o'clock, as the water had fallen, the tow boats cast off. It is anticipated that the steamer will be towed off on this morning's high water.

The M. M. steamer *Sydney*, under her own steam and assisted by four tugs, came off the mud in the Shanghai river, on March 2nd. She seems to have sustained no injury.

For many years Shanghai has possessed a capital public band mainly supported by the Municipal Council. The musicians have always been Manila-men and now it seems that the troubles in the Philippines have so far turned their heads that the men refuse to serve the Shanghai ratepayers any longer unless their salaries and perquisites are considerably increased. Here is a chance for some of the Japanese "foreign music-makers" who now find living rather hard in Yokohama owing to the dearth of public entertainments.

A Russian school was opened on the 25th ultimo at Tientsin, specially built in its own grounds, owing to the fact that "it was the Russian Minister's desire to have it so"—at least, so it is reported amongst the Chinese in that port, says the *N. C. Daily News*. It seems that a class for the study of Russian was added to the English school at the Eastern Arsenal, but Viceroy Yü Lu was asked by the Russian officials to provide separate funds for the building and maintenance of an independent Russian School or College.

Mr. C. J. Dudgeon delivered an interesting speech at the fifth ordinary meeting of the Lao kong-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd. Having alluded to the varied experience of the year—the first six months' working was so favourable that an interim dividend of 4 per cent. was declared; but the second half-year's output subsequently led the Directors to regret their generosity—he gave an illustration of the

"rigging" of the market that Chinese speculators had indulged in.

Taking as the basis the price of cotton in January, 1898, which then was abnormally high, the course of the market was in round figures as follows: from January to June the market rose some 12 to 15 per cent.; from June to September it fell (from June prices) between 25 and 30 per cent.; from September to the present date, the pendulum has again swung the other way, and there has been a rise from the lowest point of nearly 25 per cent., which in effect brings us back to the prices of January, 1898. The fluctuation between highest and lowest quotations during the 14 months has been (on lowest cost basis) very nearly 40 per cent. Now, gentlemen, it is clearly absurd that fluctuations such as this, which are entirely unwarranted by any movement in cotton prices in other parts of the world, should occur in Shanghai. The plain inference is that the still undeveloped condition, as may call it, of the Shanghai cotton market is being exploited by the cunning of native speculation. I venture to think, however, that this native manipulation of the local market rests upon such a slender foundation of ignorance and short-sightedness, that it can without much difficulty be checked. Cotton is a commodity which has what may be called a world's value, and it is absurd that such world's value of China cotton should be upset, to the extent which it has been, and is, by the cunning of the native speculators. There is reason to think that the present speculative rise will result in badly burnt fingers to its originators, but, however this may be, it seems to me that one means of preventing further repetition of this manipulation of market lies in combination among the foreign buyers; that, in fact, something in the nature of a Cotton Exchange be established, having for its object the regulation of local cotton prices in relation to world's value, and preventing the cotton sellers from playing off one buyer against another, which they certainly are doing at the present time.

Mr. Dudgeon said that the Company had been able to obtain supplies of cotton from abroad that allowed them to watch the market-rigging with complaisance; but such a condition of affairs was far from satisfactory, in view of the fact that the mills were originally started to spin Chinese cotton. In the latter part of his address, Mr. Dudgeon, referring to the stoppage of the night-work, said:—

The Company's experience of night-work has not been satisfactory; the work done is bad, the wages bill is high, and the wear and tear which day and night working entails upon the machinery is very great indeed; in fact expert opinion has been given that for every 1 per cent. depreciation that is written off for day-working, 2½ per cent. should be written off for day and night working. This of course means that the profit on night-work is very much less than that on day work. Further than this, the changing of the day and night shifts causes a disorganisation in the work of the mill entailing considerable loss. As an illustration, on the double shift system the workers going off one shift care little as to the state in which they leave the machines, knowing that it is someone else's business to put them right; but, more than this, a worker on one shift will deliberately leave a machine in a messed-up state in order to spite the incoming worker on the next shift. This is not done on the one-shift system when the only result of a carelessly left machine means loss of wages on the following day to the worker who is responsible for the trouble. It may be that when there is still further organisation of labour—when the desired industrial class has been created—and perhaps under circumstances of great profit in spinning, the resumption of night work may be desirable, but for the present the Directors are fully satisfied that a long day shift gives more satisfactory results than day-and-night working.

Shanghai papers report that telegrams have been sent by order of the Empress Dowager to the Generals commanding troops in Shansi, Shensi, Honan, and even as far west as Kansu province, to make all haste to assemble with their best troops in the vicinity of Peking and await orders there. Apropos of the above, the notorious General Tung Fu-shiang, Commander of the half-savage Kansu troops, now in Chihli province, has also had orders to present himself at Court, as the Empress Dowager "has need of him."

Li Hsing-chang is still engaged on his survey of the Yellow river. The story of his recall to Peking must therefore have been apocryphal.

CONSULAR APPOINTMENT TO YOKOHAMA.

The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* announces that Mr. Coates has been appointed H.I.G.M.'s Consul-General to Yokohama. Mr. Coates in 1886 was Vice Consul to the German Consulate-General at Yokohama, and Acting Consul in Kobe from 1887 to 1888. Later he was appointed H.I.G.M.'s Consul at Hong-kong, and then went to Christiania in a similar capacity. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* also formally announces the appointment of Mr. R. von Krencki as H.I.G.M.'s Consul to Stockholm.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We understand that the passenger lists homeward of the next two N.D.L. steamers—the *Bayern* and *Prinz Heinrich*—are filled to their utmost capacity, and berths can not be obtained on either.

The P. & O. *Brindisi* (registered tonnage 2,265 tons, gross 3,687 tons) was sold at public auction on Saturday morning for 50,000 yen, through Messrs. H. Lucas & Co., to Mr. Denbigh, a Vladivostok merchant. Messrs. Whymark and Thompson were the auctioneers. —*Hogo News*.

It is stated that the Japanese officials who have been making a tour of Europe with a view to obtaining a practical comprehension of the European educational systems have warmly reported in favour of the British. They admit the German to have a more definitely technical character, but technical education is already in a measure provided for in Japan, and it is also urged that the English system is more suited to the Japanese temperament.

Mr. Otani Kahei will attend the Philadelphia Commercial Conference to be held in October next as representing the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce. The Agricultural Department thinks it advisable to send as many representatives as possible from the Chambers of Commerce in Japan, and Mr. Kiuchi, Director of the Commercial and Industrial Bureau, will visit every Chamber on his way back from Kinshu to impress this on the officials. —*Yoroku Choho*.

How to get Indian tea into Tibet has long been a perplexing problem, and the valuable report of Captain Trench on the disastrous shrinkage of trade with Turkestan gives it additional importance. There is no question about the enormous advantage which would result could it be accomplished. The Tibetans are great tea-drinkers, and would be only too glad to get the Indian leaf instead of the refuse of the China market. Nor is it disputable that the tendency to over-production at the Indian tea gardens, which lowers prices more and more, would be kept in check if such a splendid outlet for the surplus as Tibet could only be secured. There, however, lies the difficulty; the country, although ostensibly under mere Chinese suzerainty, is governed by a host of Celestial officials who set their faces resolutely against the importation of Indian tea. Their main reason for this hostile attitude is that they make fine pickings out of the duties they levy on imports from China, a source of income which they believe would shrink miserably if the embargo on Indian competition were removed.

The *Novos Vremya* publishes an interview with the Japanese Minister to Russia on the present situation in Korea. M. Hayashi is represented as depicting the state of affairs in very dark colours, declaring that the country was in a condition bordering upon anarchy, and was a prey to political agitators of all shades, who aim simply at turning events to their own personal profit. The Japanese Government was consequently closely following the development of affairs, and was ready, by armed force if necessary, to protect the Japanese subjects residing in Korea, although without in any

way aiming at the independence of the kingdom. M. Hayashi denied the existence of any special understanding between Japan and Great Britain. Japan, he added, only wished to see her subjects allowed freedom and tranquillity to pursue their avocations, and was firmly resolved faithfully to observe the agreement existing with Russia. Even if the present Japanese Cabinet left office, as appeared probable, the foreign policy of Japan would not be modified, more especially as the chief of the new Cabinet would probably be Marquis Ito.

The death is announced of General Annenkoff, the constructor of the Transcaspien Railway, by whom also the idea of a trans-Siberian Railway from European Russia to the Chinese frontier was also largely evolved and suggested. He was a kind of Napoleon of railway-making. His reply to a question with regard to the opening of the Central Asian Railway was characteristic. He was asked, "So you opened your railway on the right day, notwithstanding the rain, which was said to have washed away part of the line?" "When I fix a day," replied the General, "for opening a line, it is opened on that day, come rain or storm." General Annenkoff strongly advocated the project of an Anglo-Russian junction line. "We could make a branch from Merv to Herat without difficulty," he remarked, "if you would run your railway on from Pishin to Candahar to meet our line at Herat. If that was done I would undertake to deliver your reliefs, officers and men, for India at Candahar in nine days after leaving London."

The Budget of the Ministry for the Colonies has been presented to the French Chamber, and M. Doumergue, who drew it up, estimates that the increase for 1899 amounts to little less than five and three quarter million francs, while the whole Budget is about one hundred million francs, or four million pounds sterling. This is a considerable augmentation, and M. Doumergue thinks that it might easily be lessened. He thinks that the military budget for the Colonies is too great, and also that the local budgets will bear diminution. The civil officials are especially too numerous. In Martinique, Guadeloupe, and Réunion alone there are more than two thousand functionaries, some of whom are paid by the Home Government. If all these officials had to be paid by the Colony, the local councils would have less hesitation in demanding, or in acquiescing in, the abolition of many of these useless posts. The same evil exists in all the French Colonies. There are in all some eleven thousand functionaries employed in them, and the Home Authorities pay their salaries to the amount of nearly eight million francs. On the other hand, M. Doumergue urges the development of Colonial trade, if possible, without employing any more functionaries. The commerce of the French Colonies is already increasing slightly. It rose from 477 millions of francs in 1896 to 514 millions in 1897. With a careful development of trade and agriculture, and a diminution of unnecessary expenses, the French Colonial Empire may in course of time be made to pay.

JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY.

THE RECONSTRUCTION SCHEME.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Japan Brewery Company was held on Monday afternoon at the Company's office with the object of considering the following resolutions:—

- (1).—That it is desirable to reconstruct the Company, and accordingly that the Company be wound-up voluntarily, and that James Dodds and James Stewart be and they are hereby appointed liquidators for the purposes of such winding-up.
- (2).—That the said liquidators be and they are hereby authorized to consent to the registration of a new Company to be named The Japan Brewery Company, Limited, with the Memorandum and Articles of Association which have already been prepared with the privacy and approval of the directors of this Company.
- (3).—That the draft agreement submitted to this meeting and expressed to be made between this company and its liquidators of the one part

and The Japan Brewery Company, Limited, of the other part be and the same is hereby approved, and that the said liquidators be and they are hereby authorized, pursuant to section 149 of the Companies' Ordinance 1865 of the Legislature of Hongkong, to enter into an agreement with such new Company (when incorporated) in the terms of the said draft and carry the same into effect with such modifications (if any) as they may think expedient.

Mr. J. Dodds (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Messrs. M. Kirkwood, H. Z. Wheeler, F. S. James, R. A. Wylie, A. B. Walford, W. Sutter, B. Gillett, R. Ward, W. R. Brinett, A. Woolley, R. J. Ward, Stradman, O. Hayne-mann, Veend Dier, H. Hecker (Chief Brewer), and J. Stewart (Secretary). These gentlemen represented 4,374 shares.

THE OBJECT OF THE MEETING.

The CHAIRMAN read the notice convening the meeting, which was as follows:—

The object of the reconstruction is to carry into effect the wish already expressed by the shareholders that the capital of the Company should be in Yen and not in dollars and that the shares should be uniform and not of different denominations as they are at the present time. Advantage has also been taken of this opportunity to recast the Memorandum and Articles of Association which in their old shape were the occasion of much difficulty and doubt.

At the above-mentioned meeting the resolutions necessary for carrying out the reconstruction will be proposed. A copy of them will be found on the other side. It is perhaps unnecessary to point out that the resolution for winding up is merely part of the machinery advised by counsel for effecting what is desired, and will not involve any disturbance of the business, since the new or reconstructed Company will step into the shoes of the existing Company.

The CHAIRMAN made a few introductory remarks, and read the resolutions passed by the two meetings of the company held in April and May of last year. He then read the draft agreement which had been drawn up by their legal adviser, which embodied the wishes of the shareholders as expressed in the resolutions which had already been passed. He added: I do not know that it is necessary for me to make any lengthy remarks on this subject. This agreement will be here for your approval until the next meeting, which will be called to confirm it if it is passed. Meanwhile there is one point to which I would call your attention. You will notice that the limit that the directors can pay out by way of dividend for the current year on the old shares is yen 45,000, or 30 per cent. for the year. I think that a few words are necessary to explain why that limit has been fixed. We have, as you are aware, increased our capital very largely, and that increase of capital is being used for the expansion of the Brewery plant, machinery, and premises in order to meet the increased business that we confidently expect from the increased consumption of beer in Japan and from the general tendency of events in the Far East. But this new capital will not be capable to any great extent of increasing the Company's earning capacity until next year, and meanwhile the new shares will have to rank for dividend with the old. Whilst the profits distributable as dividend for this year will exceed the sum of yen 45,000 unless some unfortunate event should occur we consider it will be wise to carry over to next year as large a sum as possible, so that we may next year find ourselves in a position to maintain, we hope, the same dividend on even larger capital, whilst much of it is not earning anything, as we now propose to pay on the old. If this be done it will not be very sanguine, perhaps, to have confidence in maintaining at least equally good dividends in future years. Our number of local shareholders has considerably increased and these should be of great value to the company if these shareholders will bear in mind that their personal efforts can be of great assistance to the Board. There is another point I would mention. You will notice that in the articles of association the directors are named for the new company. In the new articles the number of directors is limited to six, and those six are to be the old directors. That is being done under advice that in carrying out reconstruction it facilitates matters very much if the old and the new directors are the same. After the new company is reconstructed the number can be increased of necessity, but at present we think no changes are desirable. I think perhaps the best way will be to put these resolutions *seriatim* to the meeting, but possibly before doing so some of the shareholders may have some remarks to make on the reconstruction scheme itself. Of course it is to a large extent a technical document carrying out the wishes of the

shareholders. The directors have followed the advice of their legal adviser in the matter.

None of the shareholders offered any remarks, and the resolutions were proposed from the chair and passed *seriatim*.

The CHAIRMAN—That closes the meeting. It is necessary for an interval of three weeks to elapse before the confirmatory meeting is held. I would suggest that the third Wednesday from this would be a convenient date, as it is desirable to have the matter completed within this month if possible.

This was agreed to.

AN EXPLANATION.

The CHAIRMAN—I will take this opportunity of referring to another matter. The Directors regret extremely that there has this winter been some beer placed on the market that was undoubtedly not good and was injurious to the reputation of Kirin. They think it their duty to take this opportunity of informing shareholders and the public that the cause of this inferior quality was not due to any change in the quality of material used nor to any alterations in the system of brewing, but was unfortunately caused by an accident to the machinery—an accident which there is no probability can occur again, and which, through temporarily raising the temperature of some of the cellars, affected the beer stored in them. Before the effects of the accident on the beer, which were greater than were expected, were detected it was put on the market. The pecuniary loss in the way of repairs was light, and these bad effects have for more than two months past disappeared, and the beer now being put on the market and the beer in the cellars is, the brewers feel confident, as good as any beer, that has ever left the Brewery. No question of cost of material will ever make your present Board depart from the rule, which has been the rule observed since the Brewery was started, of using only the very best malt and hops that can be purchased in Germany irrespective of price, and it is for this reason, as well as for the expert German brewers—the Brewery has now three skilled German brewers—that Kirin has maintained, and will still, they believe, maintain, its superiority over other beers brewed in the East.

The meeting then closed.

YOKOHAMA CEMETERY.

A general meeting of the Yokohama Foreign Community was held at Keil's Building on Thursday afternoon to take into consideration the appointment of trustees for the accumulated funds for the Yokohama General Cemetery. His Honour Judge Wilkinson presided, and there were also present, the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine, Messrs. J. F. Lowder, J. Dodds, J. P. Mellison, J. H. Brooke, H. Gauert, A. O. Gay, N. F. Smith, W. B. Walter, G. H. Allcock, and B. Gillett (Hon. Secretary).

Mr. Gillett was asked to act as Secretary of the meeting, and read the notice calling it.

His Honour Judge WILKINSON then said:—I have been asked by the committee to take the chair on this occasion, and I have responded to that request with very great pleasure. The place given to us by the Japanese Government for the burial of our dead is now being fast filled up, and the time is near at hand when fresh ground can no longer be opened there. Thanks to the care of successive Committees appointed by this community for taking charge of the cemetery that place has been kept in a condition which is a credit to the community. We all know how much that is due to the personal care of Mr. Gillett—(hear, hear)—and I wish on this occasion, as I have done on previous occasions, to express my own personal gratitude to Mr. Gillett for the care which he has taken of the place.—(Hear, hear.) The cemetery has been placed at our disposal free, and in the management of it funds have been accumulated without in any way preventing that care being taken of it which we should all wish to see taken. But the income is about in excess, or any rate be very seriously diminished, and it is right that the community should consider what steps can be taken to preserve it in that order in which it has been up to now and in which we should all like that it should be kept after we are no longer here to look after it. We might trust to those who come after us in this community to see that it is cared for, but if there are any means by which that burden can be lightened and by which the care of it can be secured it is only right that we now should take such steps as will be necessary and proper and right under all the circumstances. It appears that a sum has accumulated which is not absolutely necessary to

spend at once, upon the cemetery. I have no doubt that it could be all expended on the cemetery with advantage, but it has appeared to the committee—and I for one would wish to express my concurrence in that view which they have taken—that the money can be better applied by forming a permanent fund in which a sum—perhaps a small sum—can be added from time to time for the necessary repairs and for the proper care of the Cemetery. A resolution will be proposed to you in that sense, and as I understand the resolution it is one suggested by the committee, and it is for the community themselves to determine whether that resolution shall be adopted, but I have no doubt that the community will endorse the view taken by the Committee and say that the money which has accrued from the management of the Cemetery should be applied for its further preservation. I shall ask Mr. Lowder to move the resolution.

Mr. LOWDER—Mr. Chairman, as a member of the community to which you have just alluded I have very great pleasure in proposing for the consideration and approval of this meeting a resolution which I understand meets with the approval of the Committee:—

Whereas in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that permanent provision be made for the maintenance and preservation of the grounds now used as a burial place for the members of the foreign community of Yokohama it is resolved that the Committee be and are hereby authorised and instructed, out of the moneys now in the credit of the Cemetery fund, to set apart the sum of 9,000 yen and by deed or declaration of trust to vest the same in the Committee of Yokohama General Cemetery for the time being in trust that the said sum shall by the Committee be securely invested or placed on fixed deposit with a bank or banks in Yokohama and so that the interest thereon shall alone be available and shall from time to time and at the discretion of the Committee be exclusively applied to the maintenance and preservation of the grounds heretofore and now set apart and used and known as the Yokohama General Cemetery.

Mr. WALTER seconded.

Mr. BROOKE said the resolution spoke of investing the money in the names of the Committee. The Committee was a changing body. Were they to understand that the Committee for the time being would always be the trustees for the Cemetery?

The CHAIRMAN said that was a legal question. Difficulties had arisen from time to time as to the succession of trustees, and so far as it could be done he should understand that by this resolution the Committee for the time being should be the trustees. It would be for any legal gentleman who should be working with the Committee to assist the Committee as far as possible.

Mr. LOWDER bowed assent to this latter proposition.

Mr. ALLCOCK pointed out that according to the deed of trust the interest alone of this money would be at the disposal of the Committee for the time being. The amount was about 9,000 yen, and that would perhaps yield 450 yen per annum. In the event of a serious disturbance a typhoon or anything of that sort, the expenses would considerably increase. Would it not be well to allow the Committee to have the option in such circumstances of reducing the capital instead of depending on the interest alone?

Mr. GILLETT—In reply to the remarks Mr. Allcock has made I may say the subject has received the attention of the Committee for some time past. In the event of a typhoon or something occurring and creating damage it will be a matter to call on the community generally to repair the damage. The interest on the amount of 9,000 yen is supposed to be set apart monthly to pay the wages of the work-people about the place. I think in regard to any extraordinary expenses which may occur the community will readily respond to any application that is made to them.—(Hear, hear.) Probably if we get a typhoon only once in three or four years it will not amount to anything very much. It will be much better to set apart this sum for the work-people instead of going to the community time on time when the cemetery has been closed up. I may add that the current wages amount to from 24 to 30 dollars monthly. The interest on this fund brings in 450 yen, and I think there will be some little left over to meet any particular emergency which may arise.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously, and the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding and to the executors of the late Mr. Keil for the use of the room, on the proposition of Mr. GILLETT.

SHOOTING AFFAIR ON A SAILING SHIP.

A Board of Trade inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of William Hughes, boy on the British ship *Haddon Hall*, who was shot accidentally by another boy named Harloch on Jan. 11th, was held on Friday morning before Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, Consul.

Owen Prichard, master of the *Haddon Hall*, of Liverpool, said that on or about Jan. 11th, in latitude 6° 54' south and longitude 125° 30' west, the deceased was shot on board. They were passing through islands which were infested by dangerous savages, and for fear they should be boarded at night, being becalmed, he gave a loaded revolver to his chief officer, who he believed put it away in his drawer. It was a Smith and Wesson 32 bore weapon. This was a day or two days previous to the accident. On the 11th about seven a.m. Hughes was sent by the chief officer to wash his room out. Soon after a boy named Henry Harloch also went in to trim the lamps. Witness was asleep at the time, when he heard an unusual noise. He immediately jumped up, and, running on deck, saw Hughes standing by the cabin door. The chief officer was holding him, trying to nip a wound in his neck so as to stop the flow of blood. Witness ascertained that it was a bullet wound, and he tried to ascertain the direction the bullet had taken. While they were examining him deceased dropped on the deck from weakness. Witness asked him if he would have some brandy, but he would not have any. They carried him on to the main hatch under an awning. Deceased said he was going to die, and nothing could save his life. Some water was brought to him, but he declined to take it. Witness did all he knew of, but he saw the case was hopeless. Deceased died at ten minutes to eight, about 40 minutes after the accident. He was only conscious for 30 minutes after the accident. Witness thought the bullet must have gone right down into the stomach. Deceased was buried the same evening at five o'clock. Harloch looked very much frightened when witness saw him after the accident. Witness asked him some questions as to how the accident occurred, and he said he pulled the trigger of the revolver twice. The first time it missed fire. When he first saw deceased he was putting his hand to his abdomen as if he had cramps there.

Dr. Wheeler was at this point asked to give his opinion as to the cause of death, and he interrogated both the captain and the boy Harloch. The latter explained that when the revolver was fired deceased was in a kneeling position, and he (Harloch) was standing above him. When the shot was fired deceased got up and walked out of the room.

Dr. Wheeler said from the fact of the deceased putting his hand to his abdomen it would appear that the bullet had effected the phrenic nerve. He should have thought the vertebral column was injured, but for the Captain's statement that there was no sign of paralysis. There was evidently internal hemorrhage, and possibly one of the large arteries might have been torn by the bullet. He was of opinion that with such a wound no medical aid could have been of any service.

The Captain added that the accused was a delicate boy. His conduct was everything that could be desired, and he was a general favourite with everybody.

Harry Harloch said he went into the mate's room to trim the lamp, and found deceased washing the floor. He said, "Have you seen the mate's revolver?" Witness said, "No," and deceased was going to open the drawer where it was when witness opened it before him and took it out. Witness held it with the muzzle in his left hand, and the trigger in his right, and accused was about two feet to the left of him. Witness pulled the trigger once, and it missed fire. He pulled it a second time, and the charge exploded. Before witness pulled the trigger accused told him that the mate had taken out the cartridges. After witness pulled the trigger the first time accused knelt down to wash the floor, but still looked at the revolver with interest. He was then three or four feet away. Witness was holding the revolver in one hand when he pulled the trigger the second time, and it must have been pointing in deceased's direction. Deceased jumped up suddenly from the floor when the shot was fired, and uttered an exclamation. He then went out of the room. Witness put the revolver back in the drawer and followed deceased outside. He was leaning against a rail about 10 feet away. Witness had never had a firearm in his hands before. He took it from the drawer out of mere curiosity. When he took it out he was not certain whether it was loaded or not; but

when deceased told him it was not loaded he took it for granted that was correct, and after the first shot he had no doubt whatever that the chambers were empty. He had been on the best of terms with deceased.

Thomas Jones, mate of the *Haddon Hall*, said he heard the report of a pistol, apparently from his cabin. He ran aft, and met Hughes coming out of the cabin, with both hands on his neck, and blood running out between his fingers. Deceased went forward, but witness took him aft to place him on the hatch. The captain then came out and examined him. He was looking very pale, his lips were blue, and the flesh round the wound was burnt and black.

The revolver was here produced, and examined, and witness said anyone who had a knowledge of fire arms could see whether it was loaded or not if it was held in the proper way. When witness sent Hughes into his room he thought possibly one of the boys might find the revolver, and he went into the room to take out the cartridges. He did so, and looked round for a little box to put them in, but could not find one, and as he did not find one, and did not like to put the cartridges loose in the drawer he replaced them in the chambers. He could not tell why Hughes told Harloch that he (witness) had unloaded the revolver.

The Captain, asked to explain why the revolver missed fire the first time, said it was probably because it had not been in use for some time, and the clogging of the oil prevented the hammer striking with sufficient force to explode the cartridge.

William Owen, able seaman, also gave evidence.

The finding of the Court was that the deceased died from the results of a bullet wound accidentally inflicted by Harloch, who was ignorant of the revolver being loaded, and that nothing could be done by the officers after the accident to save deceased's life.

Mr. Bonar then called forward the boy Harloch, and addressed him as follows:—I think no doubt that you are more sorry for this than any one else can be and this will be a warning to you—and no one could have a more serious warning—as to the use of firearms. The occurrence is finished, but you must remember that causing the death of someone else by your own carelessness is a very sad business. I hope you will never handle firearms carelessly again.

WASH'D OVERBOARD IN A HURRICANE.

A Board of Trade Inquiry was held at the British Consulate, Yokohama, on Saturday morning before Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, Consul, as to the death of Owen Smith, an able seaman on the British Barque *Fiery Cross*, on the 23rd February, at sea.

Albert James Kain, master of the *Fiery Cross*, said previous to the accident they had had hard gales and a tremendous sea. On the morning of the accident witness gave orders to "wear ship." There was a great sea running, and they were close to a lee shore in latitude 32° 40' N. longitude 131° 0' E. The sea was breaking right over the ship. Owen Smith was on deck about 3.30 a.m. going along with other men, and witness received a report that he had been washed overboard. A life buoy and lines were thrown overboard after him. The ship was going about a knot or a knot and a half at the time; it was then calm. The deceased was on the quarter about five or six yards from the ship when witness saw him. It was very dark and rainy and the deceased apparently could not grasp the lines thrown to him. Witness did not know if deceased could swim; he did not think swimming would have been of any avail. Witness called the crew to man a boat, but they all said it was madness to do so. The man and a boat which had been washed overboard were then at least five hundred yards astern. The weather was not fit for a man to go over the side with a line to deceased's assistance; he would have been dashed to pieces. The only thing left for witness to do was to get the ship to the wind, as she was close on a lee shore, and all their lives were in danger. They were to the north of Van Diemen's Strait, and 15 to 20 miles from shore. It was a bad coast, and witness was being driven to leeward by the heavy easterly sea. Witness therefore got his ship to the wind. The main hatches, and the side of the house, were stove in by the same sea which washed deceased over.

W. H. Gascoe, boatswain, said between three and four on the morning in question he gave the order to square the fore yard. It was very dark. Two men left the poop before witness did, one being deceased. The sea was running south to east, and the ship heading north-west. A tremendous sea broke over the ship, and witness

"sang out" a warning. He saw immediately afterwards a man swept overboard, and was told it was deceased. Witness made his way to the poop and saw a life line heaved overboard. The Captain afterwards suggested manning a boat, but witness pointed out that it would be useless, and that the ship was dangerously close to the lee shore.

A seaman named Maclean said he was on deck when the sea broke on the ship, and saw deceased in the water four or five yards from the ship. The man at the wheel threw a line overboard and witness thought accused had caught it, but he failed to hold it. The Captain then threw the life buoy. The Captain asked for volunteers to man a boat, but witness and others thought it would be endangering their own lives without being able to do anything for deceased. Witness believed deceased could swim a little. Smith was able to shout when he was washed overboard. They roared out to him to catch hold of the boat which had been washed overboard at the same time, and deceased shouted back, "Where is she?"

A seaman named Allen also gave evidence. If an attempt had been made to lower a boat it would, he said, have been at once broken to pieces.

Hugh Caird said he was at the wheel at the time of the accident. He heard a cry and saw deceased in the water. He threw a rope as far as he could towards deceased, and witness thought deceased had caught it until the line was drawn in slack. The Captain came out a few seconds after and threw a life buoy. He thought nothing further could have been done for the deceased.

In answer to Mr. Bonar the Captain said there were five buoys, all on the poop. There were no lines attached to the buoys.

Mr. Bonar said he had no doubt everything possible was done, but it struck him it would be well to have lines attached to the buoys.

The finding of the Court was that deceased was washed overboard and drowned and that everything possible was done by the Captain and crew to save him.

TELEGRAMS.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, March 4, 5.42 p.m.
Admiral Diederichs has been recalled, and Prince Henry of Prussia has been appointed chief of the German Asiatic Squadron.

GREAT EARTHQUAKE IN CENTRAL JAPAN.

APPALLING DISASTER AT OSAKA.

SERIOUS LOSS OF LIFE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, March 7, 5.55 p.m.
The severest shock of earthquake experienced since 1891, was felt here at 9.55 this morning. Great alarm was caused, the people everywhere rushing out of their houses into the streets.

No serious damage is reported in the immediate neighbourhood of Kobe, but at Osaka a portion of the Boseki Kaisha mill collapsed, killing and injuring no fewer than sixteen persons. Other damage of a minor nature is reported.

No reports of damage are to hand from Kyoto. The shock was felt with great severity at Gifu, but no damage was done.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

NEWS FROM PARIS.

Paris, March 8.

The Senate, by a vote of 125, has decided to proceed with the discussion of articles of the project of law having for its object to entrust to the Court of Cassation, that is to say, to all the Chambers united, the revision of the Dreyfus case. M. Dupuy, the Premier, raised the question

of confidence. During the morning visits were made to the offices of various associations and political groups of the Opposition, and numerous papers were seized.

The condition of Pope Leo XIII. is causing uneasiness. He has been obliged to undergo an operation in his leg.

The Spanish Cabinet has tendered its resignation in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining a majority in the Senate to approve the cession of the Philippines.

Paris, March 3.

The Senate has adopted the project of procedure by 153 votes to 131.

The Pope is better. His speedy recovery is hoped for.

Saigon, March 5.

In the affair of Colonel Picquart' appeal against appearing before the court martial, the Court of Cassation has issued a ruling rendering Picquart justiciable by the court martial with regard to certain counts and justiciable by the Assize Court with regard to others.

The Senate has elected M. Fallières by 131 votes against 85 for M. Constans.

M. Fallières was Minister of Home Affairs in 1882; Minister of Foreign Affairs, *ad interim*, and of Public Instruction in 1883; Minister of Home Affairs in 1887; Minister of Justice in 1889, and again Minister of Justice in 1890. M. Constans is a Senator, and was formerly Ambassador at Constantinople.

France and England have come to an agreement that France shall have at Muscat a coal depot under the same conditions as those obtaining in England's case.

M. Silvela, Conservative, has formed a new Cabinet in Spain.

Paris, March 4.

The Government will demand of the tribunals the dissolution of all illegally constituted Leagues. It is confidently stated that no proof has been found of the existence of a Royalist plot.

DISASTROUS EXPLOSION IN FRANCE.

Saigon, March 6.

The powder magazine at Lagoubran, near Toulon, exploded at 2 a.m. to-day. The magazine was razed to the ground, and about one-fourth of Lagoubran was destroyed. Sixty persons were killed and a hundred and ten wounded. The cause of the catastrophe has not yet been ascertained.

Later.

The number of persons killed by the explosion near Toulon is more than 50. It is believed that the explosion was of spontaneous origin, and that its cause was the fermentation of the powder.

Saigon, March 9.

The sad ceremony of interring about a hundred victims of the explosion at Lagoubran took place to-day.

The sentry on duty at the Melinite Magazine of Toulon was attacked during the night by a band of six men. Dynamite cartridges were found which had been placed against the Arsenal. There is much excitement in the town.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Saigon, March 7.

The public discussion of the revision of the Dreyfus case will commence on the 10th of March.

MUSCAT.

Saigon, March 8.

M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs,

speaking in the Chamber of Deputies, announced that England had hastened to recognise the right of France to establish a coal depot at Muscat, and that the British Government had expressed its regret with regard to the proceedings of its agents.

THE COLONIAL BUDGET.

The Chamber has adopted the Budget for the Colonies.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE POPE'S ILLNESS.

London, March 2.

The Pope having had a prolonged swoon; has been ordered to bed, and absolute repose is enjoined by his medical advisers. He is somewhat better.

ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

Herr von Bülow, German Foreign Minister, in a speech in the Reichstag, stated that, unless the culprits who perpetrated outrages upon Germans at Tientsin are severely punished, or if such outrages be repeated, China would incur grave consequences.

Referring to the Anglo-German Agreement, the speaker said that it deals rather with future contingencies than actualities.

THE CHURCH QUESTION IN ENGLAND.

The English Church Union has decided to memorialize the Queen, the Archbishops, the Bishops, and both Houses of Parliament, denying the right of the Crown or of Parliament to determine the doctrine, discipline, or ceremonial of the Church of England, and stating that the Union is not prepared to barter the principles of the Church for establishment or endowment.

THE DISTINGUISHED PATIENTS.

London, March 3.

The Pope is doing well. Rudyard Kipling is improving.

LORD HERSCHELL DIES SUDDENLY.

Lord Herschell has died suddenly at Washington, D.C.

[The Right Hon. Barrister Herschell was the son of a clergyman, was born in 1837, called to the bar in 1860, made a Q.C. in 1872, was made Solicitor General and knighted under the Liberal Government of 1880, was raised to the peerage in 1886, and made Lord Chancellor. He also acted as Lord Chancellor in the Gladstone-Rosebery administration of 1892-95. He was a sound lawyer, a fair speaker, and a man of solid, though by no means brilliant parts. At the time of his death he was representing his country on the Anglo-American-Canadian Commission.—J.M.]

THE DREYFUS BILL PASSES.

The Senate has passed the Dreyfus Bill. SAGASTA CABINET RESIGNS.

The Sagasta Cabinet has resigned, having met violent opposition in the Cortes.

HOLLAND APPRECIATIVE OF JAPAN'S PROGRESS.

The Second Chamber of Holland has passed a bill placing Japanese on an equal footing with Europeans in the Dutch East Indies.

THE "TIMES" ON ITALIAN DEMANDS IN CHINA.

The *Times*, in a leading article, sympathizes with Italian demands for concessions in Che-kiang province. It hopes that the British Foreign Office will grasp the true condition of affairs before too late, as China is breaking up, its future lying with nations who understand what to do.

ENGLAND APPROVES ITALIAN DEMAND.

London, March 4.

It is believed here that Great Britain has approved the Italian demand for the lease of San-moon Bay.

THE NEWCHWANG RAILWAY AGREEMENT.

Replying to a question about Russia's protest against the terms of the Newchwang Railway agreement, Mr. W. St. John Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, said that the Government regarded the engagements of China thereon as binding.

BRITISH ARMY ESTIMATES.

Mr. Geo. Wyndham, Under Secretary for War, in introducing the Army estimates, said that the country must face the fact of new burdens, the Empire being placed under additional responsibilities. He added that the colonial troops, including those at Wei-hai-wei, now numbered 31,991.

NAVAL AND MILITARY PROMOTION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

London, March 5.

Rear-Admiral Dewey has been promoted to be Admiral and Colonel Otis to be Major-General, in recognition of distinguished services.

THE NEWCHWANG QUESTION.

A despatch to the *Daily Graphic* states that the British Minister, Sir Claude MacDonald, assured the Tsungli Yamen that China may rely on the support of Great Britain in resisting any attempt that may be made to force her to repudiate the Newchwang contract.

NEW SPANISH CABINET.

Signor Silvela has formed a Conservative Cabinet.

The Cortes have been dissolved.

EXPLOSION OF NAVAL MAGAZINE NEAR TOULON.

A naval magazine near Toulon exploded, involving the death of all the soldiers on duty and of many inhabitants. Forty of the dead bodies have already been recovered.

THE TOULON EXPLOSION.

London, March 7.

A further report from Toulon puts the killed at 60 and injured at 100, as the result of the explosion of the naval magazine.

SAN-MOON OCCUPIED.

The Rome correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* reports that official despatches have been received intimating that Italian Marines have landed and occupied San-moon.

THE HOOLEY AFFAIR.

The Official Registrar has ordered the prosecution of Hooley on offences against the Debtors' Act.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

London, March 8.

The whole Court of Cassation has assembled to try the Dreyfus case; but the public hearing is not likely to be fixed before the 10th of April.

MUSCAT.

M. Delcassé, Foreign Minister, speaking in the Chamber of Deputies, said that the British Government recognizes the identical rights of France and England in Muscat, and that the same Government had expressed profound regret to France for the incorrect, spontaneous action of one of its agents.

The *Times* comments on the divergence between this statement and those made in the British Parliament, and says, if the latter are correct, the local agents (at Muscat) deserve commendation, and not repudiation, for apparently their action has baffled the original designs of France.

THE KAISER AND MR. KIPLING.

Kaiser Wilhelm, as an enthusiastic admirer of his unrivalled works, has cabled enquiries after Kipling's condition.

THE ITALIAN DEMAND.

FRANCE DENIES GIVING ADVICE.

London, March 9.

It is positively denied at Paris that France had advised the Tsung-li Yamen to reject the Italian demands, which she approved.

ITALIAN REINFORCEMENT.

Admiral Grenet on board the *Stromboli* sails from Venice in a few days, to take command of the Italian squadron of six ships concentrating in Chinese waters.

THE MUSCAT AFFAIR.

BRITISH COUNTER-DECLARATION.

The Hon. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary to the Foreign Office, speaking in the House of Commons, said that the Government had expressed no disapproval of the action of the British Agent at Muscat, which was taken under its instructions.

The English and French Press are discussing the discrepancy between the statements of M. Delcassé and Mr. Brodrick.

The *Times* regards M. Delcassé's declaration as transparently misleading and suggests the publication of the official papers.

THE ITALIAN DEMAND AND THE POWERS.

Peking, March 3.

The Italian demand being supported by England, it is supposed that the rest of the Powers will make no objection in the matter.

ENGLAND WILL SUPPORT JAPAN.

It is thought here that England will not object should Japan propose to the Chinese Government the establishment of a coaling station at an important point in the province of Fukien.

THE DEMAND REFUSED.

Peking, March 4.

The Chinese Government has refused to countenance the Italian demand, and sent back the documents.

THE ATTITUDE OF ENGLAND.

The Chinese Government is much irritated by the attitude of England in the affair.

FRANCE FOREWARNED CHINA.

France acquainted the Chinese Government several days ago with the intended demand of Italy, and the Tsung-li Yamen had already been resolved upon the course to be taken in the affair.

RESOLUTION OF ITALY.

The Italian Government will attempt a military occupation on the arrival in Chinese waters of the three newly despatched men-of-war.

ALLEGED PLEDGE OF THE SHANHAIKWAN-NEUCHWANG RAILWAY.

It having got abroad that the Shanhaikwan-Newchwang Railway had been hypotheated against the Chinese loan, Russia has sent in a protest.

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL")

Manila, Feb. 21.

The chief leaders of the important sugar-producing island of Negros have made a declaration which is likely to have great influence in the settlement of the disturbances in the Southern Philippines.

After a conference with Brigadier-General Marcus P. Miller at Iloilo, the Filipino leaders returned to Silay, a large town in the North of the island of Negros, and the American flag was hoisted amidst great enthusiasm.

The Filipino Commissioners then came on to Manila, and had a conference with General Otis, in the course of which they intimated their desire to resume their peaceful occupations under American protection.

Important developments are expected.

An extensive conflagration has taken place at Paco, a suburb of Manila. It is beyond doubt that the fire was due to incendiarism by sympathisers with the rebels.

Manila, Feb. 23.

Last night, Filipino sympathisers with the rebels set fire to numerous houses in the districts of Santa Cruz, Tondo, Binondo, and a huge conflagration resulted.

The English Fire Brigade, co-operating with the American soldiery, turned their attention to checking the spread of the conflagration, and they did splendid work in prevailing the spread of the flames to the Escolta, which is the principal business quarter of the city.

Upwards of fifteen hundred houses were destroyed.

In the excitement which prevailed large numbers of rebels were successful in evading the lines and entering the city. Many Filipinos were killed, and numerous arrests were made.

To-day, the fires were renewed in other districts of the city, but thanks to the vigilance of the American authorities the native rising proved abortive.

Manila, Feb. 24.

A quiet night has been experienced in the city. Two small fires occurred, but the precautions taken by the authorities to prevent incendiarism by Filipinos proved effective.

Mr. C. F. Simpson, foreman weaver, in the Manila Trading Co.'s Cotton Mills at Tutuban, who was shot in the stomach in the fighting which took place in the neighbourhood of the mills, has died from the effects of his injuries.

It was John Haslam, not J. Ellis, who was the other man wounded. He is not seriously injured.

In the skirmishing outside the city on the previous night the rebels lost heavily in the district between Caloocan and Tondo.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
America	T. & E. K.	America Maru	Su. Mar. 25
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	M. Mar. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Mar. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	M. Mar. 25
Hongkong	T. & E. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Mar. 24
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. Mar. 26
Hongkong	M. N. Co.	—	Th. Mar. 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	Th. Mar. 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	P. Mar. 24
America	P. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Mar. 26
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Mar. 26

3 Left San Francisco on the 2nd Feb.
 5 Left Hongkong on the 4th inst.
 5 Left Hongkong on the 4th inst.
 4 Left Shanghai on the 9th inst.
 5 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	M. Mar. 25
Hongkong	T. & E. K.	America Maru	M. Mar. 25
Europe, via S'hal.	M. N. Co.	Oceanian	W. Mar. 25
Shanghai	N. V. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Mar. 25
America	T. & E. K.	Nippon Maru	W. Mar. 25
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	F. Mar. 27
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. Mar. 26
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Mar. 26
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	F. Mar. 27
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Sa. Mar. 25
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. Mar. 26
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. April 1

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 410.

WHITE.

1—B to Q 2
 2—B to B 4
 3—B to Q 6 mate

2—Kt to B 4
 3—Kt (B 4) to Q 3 mate if 2—K takes P
 3—R to R 5 mate

2—B to B 4
 3—Kt to K 7 mate

BLACK.

1—K to B 4
 2—K takes R (must)

1—K to K 4
 2—K takes P

1—K to Q 2
 2—K to Q sq or B sq

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Voita, and Marco.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

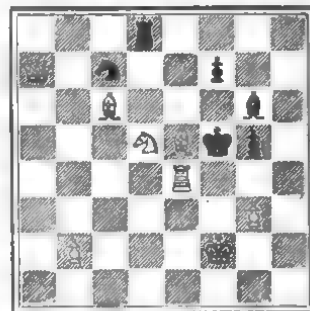
"Marco."—See our next issue.

W.B.M.—Many thanks for contribution.

PROBLEM No. 413.

By A. ROSSER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 486.

A FINE OFF-HAND GAME.

The following played off-hand by Mr. A. Guest (White) and Mr. A. Burn (Black), is worth following. It is an interesting specimen of the Scotch Gambit:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K 4	P K 4	20 P KB 4	Kt Q 6
2 Kt KB 3	Kt QB 3	21 BxKt	BxR
3 P Q 4	PxP	22 R B 3	B R 3
4 Kt x P	B B 4	23 Kt K 4	Q B 3
5 B K 3	Q B 3	24 Kt B 2	Q K 4
6 P B 3	R Kt K 2	25 Kt K 4	Q H 4
7 Q Q 2	Castles	26 K R 4	R Q Kt 3
8 Kt K 5	BxR	27 Q B 2	R K 7
9 Q B	P Q 4	28 Q B 5	QRxP
10 Kt x BP	R Kt 4	29 R K 4	R K 7
11 PxP	Kt B 4	30 R x R	B x R
12 Q B 4	Q K 2	31 R K 3	Q H 4
13 B K 2	Kt K 4	32 Q x Q	KxQ
14 Kt K 6	Q Q 3	33 P KR 3	B B 5
15 Q x Kt	PxRt	34 P R 3	R K 6
16 Q B 2	PxP	35 P B 5	RxP
17 Castles	B B 4	36 Kt K 5	B K 4
18 Q K 3	R B 3	37 P K 4	P Q 5
19 Kt Q 2	R R 3		Resigns

JANOWSKI AND PILLSBURY.

Pillsbury has accepted Janowski's challenge under certain conditions which may prevent the match. Pillsbury stipulates that no one, unless personally agreeable to him, shall have anything to do with the match or its arrangements. He also wants all the profits from the publication of the news, etc., to be divided between himself and Janowski, and stipulates that they shall supply the reports themselves, allowing no newspaper reporters to be present; that the match shall be played in a private room, and that no one shall be admitted without the consent of both players. On receiving this letter, Janowski gave out a statement to the effect that he would only play in public, and that he would insist that the newspapers reporters should have the news of the games free of charge.

GAME No. 487.
THE JANOWSKI-SHOWALTER MATCH.
FIFTH GAME.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Showalter.		Black—Janowski.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	24 K K4	P Q R4
2 P Q B4	P R3	25 K (K4) P P K5	
3 K QB3	K KB3	26 P x P	P x P
4 K B3	P B4	27 K B6ch	K x Kt
5 B P x (a) K P x P		28 P x Kt	P x Kt
6 B K5	B K3	29 P x P	R K x q
7 P K3	Q Kt Q2	30 P x Kt (g)	Q x P
8 B Q3	B K4	31 P K4	R K2
9 Q R B q	P B5 (h)	32 P K5	K6 (h)
10 H K q	P Q R3	33 R B3	R O q
11 P Q R3	P R4	34 P K5 (i)	Q B q
12 P R3	Castles	35 B K4	O R6
13 Castles	R K q	36 Q H6	R R Kt q
14 Kt K5 (c)	Q B2	37 P Q5	F B4ch
15 P B4	Kt K3 (d)	38 K K2	B x QP
16 Q B2	P K3	39 B x B	Q x B
17 Q KB2 (e) R4		40 Q x B Pch	Q x Q
18 P K K4	B x B	41 R x Q	R x P
19 P x B	Kt K2	42 P K6	R K6
20 H B2	Q K2	43 P K7	R K7ch
21 Q B4	Kt Q2	44 K K5q	R K6ch
22 Kt B6	Q B q	45 K R q	R x Pch
23 Q R B2	Q R B q (f)	46 K K5q	R K6ch

Drawn by perpetual check.

Notes by James Mason in *The British Chess Magazine*.

(a) Letting out Black's Queen's Bishop—truly no great matter, seeing that he may isolate the Queen's Pawn—no great matter either. A comparatively light and open game ensues, agreeable to the genius of both players.

(b) A move later.—White Bishop having now a good retreat, as it were, behind the Rook.

(c) With this, and the advance of his Bishop's Pawn, White secures a fine attacking position. Black can hardly afford to exchange, and have his Knight driven away from f3; for then his Queen's Pawn would be in danger, and the operations against his King no less formidable than they actually appear. Any way, the defense is extremely difficult.

(d) To guard the Q P. If Kt to B sq; 16—P to B5, and may be, 17—B takes Kt, loss would be almost inevitable. So, the weakening 16..... P to K3 must come.

(e) It is said that Mr. Showalter afterward expressed an opinion that 17—P to B5 would have been stronger, an opinion which seems to be perfectly correct. The clearing of the Bishop's file in that way, at expense of the exchange, would greatly intensify his attack—already very nearly irresistible.

(f) Of course Black sees he loses a Pawn in consequence of this, but he diverts his adversary's main attack, and, on the whole gets off rather cheaply.

(g) No hurry to take the Knight. 30—P to K4 seems stronger. Then, if 30..... R to Kt2, 31—B to B2, Black's course would not be so simple—in order to arrive at a Draw.

(h) The Rook is no longer wanted to defend, as the Bishop can not be easily driven off from K3. Mr. Janowski's play is very ingenious.

(i) Or, perhaps better, 33—B to B4. The ending is indifferently conducted by White. When Black recovers his Pawn, as he does presently, a Draw naturally results.

OUR PROBLEM-SOLVING COMPETITION.

W.H.S. as usual heads the list of solvers, having sent 43 correct solutions of last year's problems. The following is the list of the six principal solvers:—

W.H.S.	43
Mico	23
D.D.	22
Valla	16
Skak	14
Miss S.	13

The prize offered by the Chess Editor—a valuable work on chess—falls thus to W.H.S. who indeed deserves great credit for his exceptional abilities in solving.

NOTES.

Lasker has been showing splendid form in Scotland, says an exchange. On two successive evenings at Glasgow he played in all 52 simultaneous games, winning 50, drawing 2, and losing 0! On each occasion his time was but a little over three hours. These are vastly different performances from some we have seen in England, and we imagine that in a considerable measure the change is due to the fact that gambits and

lighter openings have entered more largely into the play of the champions. One notable incident is that he lost an Evans gambit, opened by Sheriff Spens, this being a single-handed off-hand game. At Stirling Mr. Lasker encountered twenty-five opponents, of whom 24 were defeated, while one, Mr. Henderson of Perth, was successful in winning. At Edinburgh out of 27 games he won 24, drew 1, and lost 2 (to Messrs. D. V. Mills and J. H. Graves, of the Northampton County team).

M. Rosenthal, the great chess player, has been giving M. Balashoff, a Russian amateur, for 26,000f. for a journey to Stuttgart in October, 1896, to give him lessons. The Court has awarded 15,000f. being the sum promised. Rosenthal was the French chess champion of about ten years ago. He was, however, not so good a player as Zukertort to whom he lost in a match of several games. He appears to have retired from chess altogether several years ago and to have been succeeded by Janowski, the present leader of French chess.

SINGAPORE CHESS CLUB.

For the championship competition there have entered Su Lionel Cox, Messrs. C. W. Banks, A. L. Chittenden, L. M. Cordova, W. Craig, J. B. Elcum, P. McIntyre, T. R. Miles, W. Mosbergen, G. S. Reutens, and P. A. Reutens. Play has already commenced and the tournament is expected to be very lively.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

There was an exceptional large attendance at last Thursday's chess meeting. In all three members appeared—that is two more than usual—and the happy coincidence was celebrated by a consultation game. It was not such a bad game either considering the standard of our players. We give the score without further comment:—

Game No. 4.

CENTRE GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Mr. Friedlander.		Black—Capt. Weillbach, Dr. Ottoly.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	16 K x B	R R K5q
2 P Q4	P Q3	17 P x P	P x P
3 B B4	H K3	18 Q K3	Castles (Q)
4 P Q5	B Q2	19 H K3	Q R K-q
5 Kt Q R3	K KB3	20 H x Kt	P x B
6 P B4	B K2	21 R Q q	Q K2
7 Kt B3	B K5	22 R B5	R R B q
8 Castles	P Q B3	23 R x P	R K2
9 Q Q3	Q Kt Q2	24 Kt K5	R Q2
10 Kt K K5	Kt B4	25 Q5	B Q q
11 Q K3	P K R3	26 R x Pch	B2
12 Kt B3	Q Q2	27 R x Beh	R x P
13 P x Kt	B x K (7)	28 B x Qch	R x B
14 P x Kt	P x Kt P	29 Kt Q6ch	Resigns
15 R B2	B x B P		

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, W. H. Lacy, 3rd March,—Glasgow via ports, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mitsushima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,055, S. Kawamura, 3rd March,—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 1st March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 3rd March,—Yokkaichi, 2nd March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. B. Murray, 3rd March,—Shanghai via ports, 25th Feb., Mail & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Menmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 4th March,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 2nd March, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 5th March,—Seattle, Washington, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Moynas, British steamer, 3,016, R. Conradi, 5th March,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 4th March, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munemune, 5th March,—Osaka via ports, 28th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 5th March,—Kobe, 3rd March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, M. Takahashi, 5th March,—Yokkaichi, 4th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ettrichdale, British steamer, 2,468, J. R. Stewart, 6th March,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 4th March, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, J. McGilvary, 6th March,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria,

B.C., 17th Feb., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Dencalion, British steamer, 1,374, B. B. Auch, 6th March,—Hongkong, 26th February, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 6th March,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 5th March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, M. J. Currow, 6th March,—Osaka via ports, 1st March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, S. Yoshizawa, 7th March,—Kobe, 5th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 7th March,—Kobe, 5th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Shantung, British steamer, 1,835, H. C. D. Frampton, 7th March,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 5th March, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,483, S. Muramatsu, 7th March,—Osaka via ports, and Mar., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, A. G. Cubbit, 7th March,—London via ports, Kobe, 6th March, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Ordanien, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 7th March,—Marseille via ports, Kobe, 6th March, Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.
Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 7th March,—Yokkaichi, 6th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 8th March,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 6th March, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Trocas, British steamer (Tank), 2,657, Morris, 8th March,—Batavia via ports, Kobe, 6th March, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, S. Yoshizawa, 8th March,—Yokkaichi, 7th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Liv, Norwegian steamer, 2,003, Rasmussen, 9th March.—New York via ports, Kobe, 7th March, General.—Frisz & Co.
Belgian King, British steamer, 2,170, T. L. Weiss, 9th March,—San Diego via Honolulu, 28th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Waltenberg, German steamer, 2,363, Madsen, 9th March,—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 2nd March, General.—C. Lies & Co.
Otari Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibbatts, 10th March,—Kobe, 8th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
DEPARTURES.
Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, K. Kato, 3rd March,—Osaka via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 4th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Teruich, 4th March,—Moji, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Otari Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibbatts, 4th March,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,886, J. B. MacMillan, 4th March,—Marseille, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mitsushima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,055, S. Kawamura, 4th March,—Uraga (Docks) Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 5th March,—Portland, Oregon, via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Menelaus, British steamer, 2,711, W. Towell, 5th March,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Ettrichdale, British steamer, 2,468, J. R. Stewart, 6th March,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 6th March,—Osaka via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, J. McGilvary, 6th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, Nishimura, 6th March,—Bombay via Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 7th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, N. Munemune, 7th March,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, I. Nuri, 7th March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, M. Takahashi, 7th March.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 7th March.—Hongkong via Koko and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,048, F. D. Saunders, 8th March.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Ito Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 8th March.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 8th March.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, N. Ohno, 8th March.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 9th March.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 9th March.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. Higo, 9th March.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, M. Yagi, 9th March.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shantung, British steamer, 1,835, H. C. D. Frampson, 9th March.—San Diego via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, M. J. Curnow, 9th March.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dencalion, British steamer, 1,374, B. Branch, 9th March.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Moyuna, British steamer, 3,016, R. Conrad, 10th March.—New York via Suez Canal General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Yamashiro Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Lieut. General T. Kuraki, Lieut. T. Tsunomi, I. J. A., Lieut. S. Nakano, I. J. A., and Mrs. A. Nakano, in cabin; Mr. V. Sakai, Mr. K. Tanaka, Mr. N. Komori, Mr. J. Watanabe, and Mrs. K. Watanabe, in second class; 20 in steerage.

Per British steamer **Glanogla**, from Tacoma, Wash.:—Miss Ida John, Miss Emma Patchett, Mrs. Kidwell, and Mr. Alan Stewart, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Doric**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. Christy, Dr. M. Phillipson, Rev. F. H. Eveleth, Mr. V. F. Deacon, Bishop Cranston, Miss Cranston, Miss R. Cranston, Mr. Dementieff, Mr. Th. de Benigny, Mr. R. Boyes, Mr. J. Marshall, Mr. Horncastle, Dr. R. B. Goldschmidt, Mrs. Eveleth, Dr. Mary Browne, Mrs. Cranston, Miss L. Cranston, Mr. Neville, Mr. W. Yatman, Mrs. de Benigny, child and servant, Mr. W. Grantoff, and Mr. W. Dichter, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Rev. E. W. Thuring, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. P. L. P. Att, U.S.N., Mr. F. H. Huston, Mr. J. H. Gillen, Mr. P. C. Kennedy, Rev. M. McBurney, Mr. W. T. Coughlin, Lt. F. P. Bactin, P.N., Miss Brackbill, Miss L. O. Rothwell, Mr. C. N. Crowe, Mrs. L. N. Naylor, Mr. R. A. Best, Mr. W. Walker, Mr. S. E. Bgozeth, Mr. A. Geiber, Mrs. McBurney, Mr. C. L. Merry, Mr. F. L. Harris, Mrs. M. Crossette, Miss Frey, and Mr. J. M. Crowe, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Formosa**, from London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Saxton, in cabin.

Per American steamer **Tacoma**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Henry, in cabin; 3 in second class, and 287 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer **Wakasa Maru**, for London via ports:—Miss A. C. Allen, Captain H. Uyemura, I. J. N., Com. S. Kawai, Inspector of Mach. S. Asada, Com. M. Yada, Inspector Surgeon M. Takeda, Inspector Paymaster K. Sakuma, Lieut. Com. I. Takeshita, Eng. Y. Yamazaki, Sub-Lieut. J. Tsukido, Dr. H. Katsura, Mr. E. L. James, Dr. and Mrs. Spencer and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Mihara and child, Mrs. and Miss Uyemura, Mr. K. Matsukata, Mr. and Mrs. S. Tajo and child, Mr. Y. Iobe, Petty officers S. Mayeda, K. Narasaki, K. Koto, M. Fukuda, H. Hanamitsu, and N. Yezaki, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Rohilla**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. and Miss Mouro, Mrs. G. D. Saunderson, Mr. A. Nomi, Mr. Albert Sulzer, Mr. Charles Manuel, Mr. and Mrs. Townley, and Mr. Rugg, in cabin; 14 Chinese and 4 children, in steerage.

Per British steamer **Bombay**, for London via ports:—Mrs. Lockyer and 4 child, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Doric**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Lieut. Boris Asanidoff, I. R. A., Mr. and Mrs. Richard Abenheirn, Lieut. F. P. Bactin, Miss Brackbill, Mr. A. R. Best, Mr. H. Bethell, Dr. Mary Browne, Mr. S. E. Bgozeth, Mr. F. H. Bull, Mr. W. T. Coughlin, Miss M. Crossette, Mr. C. N. Crowe, Mr. J. W. Crowe, Mr. V. Christy, Rev. and Mrs. F. H. Eveleth, Miss Frey, Mr. A. Geiber, Mr. J. H. Gillen, Surgeon S. Gumer, I. R. A., Mr. F. J. Harris, Mr. Wm. Horncastle, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mr. F. H. Huston, Mr. P. C. Kennedy, Miss J. Lee, Mr. Narcisso Minas, Mr. C. L. Merriam, Mr. Z. Mitsunome, Rev. and Mrs. E. McBurney, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Morgan, Mrs. L. M. Naylor, Mr. L. L. Pratt, U.S.N., Miss I. O. Rothwell, Mr. Christian Sattler, Mr. Jos. Schedel, Rev. E. W. Thuring, Mr. W. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wenz, and Mr. Y. Yokokawa, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Yamashiro Maru**, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. P. R. Goldknop, Mr. E. L. Conan, Mr. T. Nishimura, Mr. S. Hideshima, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Aoyama, Mr. J. Shimatani, and Miss Shimatani, in cabin; 18 Japanese, 1 European, and 12 Chinese, in steerage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

Business all round is very dull, and no sign of a general movement is yet observable.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

Grey Shirts—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 3 1/2 inches	\$2.60 to 3.00
Grey Shirts—9 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 3 1/2 inches	3.00 to 3.40
1 Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 2 1/2 inches, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shirts—12 yds, 1 1/2 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 2 1/2 yds, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Havana and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

Flannels	90.10 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 10 yards	0.30 to 0.42
Assorted de Laine—1 cap, 4 1/2 yards, 31 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Cloths—Pillots, 5 1/2 yds, 50 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 5 1/2 yds, 50 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 5 1/2 yds, 50 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scotch and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75
Vests—Black, 35 yards, 4 1/2 inches	7.75 to 9.25
Victoria Lawn, 12 yards, 32 1/2 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0 lb, 2 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb, 2 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.45 to 3.47 1/2

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$3.50 to 38.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38 to 42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.50 to 45.50
Nos. 3.60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2.80, Plain	70.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2.60, Gassed	99.00 to 110.00
Nos. 2.80, Gassed	70.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2.80, Gassed	90.00 to 93.00
Nos. 2.100, Gassed	115.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	\$10.50 to 10.60
Indian Broach	18.50
Chinese	20.00

MILLS.

There is not much doing on the whole, though sales are reported in some lines.

Round and square 1 inch, and upward	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 5.00
Sheet Iron	5.15 to 5.40
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.75 to 11.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.35 to 6.50
Lin Plates, per box	6.30 to 6.60
Pig Iron, 40 lb	2.08 to 2.10
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.15 to 5.50

IRONWORK.

The market is steady at last week's quotations.

American	12.00 to 12.10
Russian	2.20
Langkat	1.95 to 1.98

SUGAR.

The market is firm at last quoted prices.

Brown Takan	\$4.75 to 4.80
Brown Manila	4.00 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	4.35 to 4.50
Brown Canton	4.90 to 5.75
White Java and Penang	6.20 to 7.00
White Refined	7.75 to 9.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a slackening in sales, and comparatively little business has been taking place, while arrivals are small, and the stock is greatly reduced. Quotations nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Flatures—Kata, Fine	Nominal
Flatures—Kata, Coarse	Nominal
Flatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Flatures—No. 1, Coarse	10.05 to 10.15
Flatures—No. 14, Fine	10.20 to 10.30
Flatures—No. 14, Coarse	9.80 to 10.00
Flatures—No. 2, Fine	9.80 to 9.90
Flatures—No. 2, Coarse	Nominal
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Reels—Extra	Nominal
Reels—No. 1	Nominal
Reels—No. 14	Nominal
Reels—No. 2	Nominal
Reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakadas—Kata	950
Kakadas—No. 1	920
Kakadas—No. 14	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 2	Nominal
Kakadas—No. 3	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

There is still practically no business doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Noahi—Flature, Best	\$110 to 125
Noahi—Flature, Good	100 to 110
Noahi—Oahu, Best	110 to 125
Noahi—Oahu, Good	100 to 110
Noahi—Oahu, Medium	Nominal
Noahi—Shinait, Best	Nominal
Noahi—Shinait, Good	no stock
Noahi—Bushu, Best	115 to 125
Noahi—Bushu, Good	95 to 110
Noahi—Bushu, Medium	80 to 95
Noahi—Joshu, Good	65 to 70
Noahi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Flature, Best	85 to 95
Kibiso—Flature, Seconds	80 to 85
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 30

SILK.

The market has been almost entirely without life. Quotations are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	no stock
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	23 to 24
Medium	21 to 22
Good Common	19 to 20
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 9th.

Rates again reduced on opening by 1/2, but very little doing. Silver and China sterling quotations unaltered.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/1
On Paris—Bank sight	258
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	262
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	208 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	212 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	43 1/2 dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	54 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	77 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	156 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[MURRAY, BISSSET & URE'S LIST.]

Yokohama, March 9th.
Hongkong wires us the following quotations today:—Sellers of H. & S. Banks at 270 per cent. premium, Sellers of National Banks at 230, Sellers of China Banks at 280, Sellers of Hongkong Banks at 325, Sellers of H. & W. Ducks at 338 per cent. premium, Sellers of H. & K. Wharfs at 282, Sales of Donglasses at 258, Sales of Indo-Chinas at 267.50, Sellers of Panjom Mines at 25.50, Sellers of Rauh Mines at 260.50, Sellers of Hongkong Lands at 278.50, Sellers of Union Insurance at 230, Sales of China Traders at 263, Sales of H. C. & M. Steamboats at 27.75, and Sellers of Straits Insurance at 25.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Iron Works can be had at yen 210. Japan Brewery new shares fully paid up are wanted at yen 140; old shares are obtainable at yen 315. Grand Hotels are offering at yen 225. Club Hotels have been sold at yen 90. Oriental Hotels continue strong at yen 100; Founders' shares are on offer. Nagasaki Hotels are enquired for. Bretts are procurable at yen 9.50. North & Racc are in demand at yen 200. Langfields have sellers at yen 145, and Hyogo Gas at yen 170. Y. U. Club Debentures are wanted at yen 102 ex accrued interest as usual. Other Debenture stocks are unchanged at quotations.

Yokohama Kaiten & Iron Works, Ltd. \$50	100 W.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100, Old	125 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50	140 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Edo), \$100	100 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 100	100 S.
North and Red Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Scott & Co., Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Illing & Co., Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 2 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 S.
Edo Club 6 1/2 Deb., \$50	100 S.
Yokohama United Club 2 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 S.
Scott & Co., Ltd. 2 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 2 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 2 1/2 Deb., \$100	100 S.
Reserve Fund.—1, yen 10,000 1/2, yen 1,500 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property	1, yen 17,770 50 1/2, yen 6,229 44.
N.M.—S. Sellers, H.—Buyers, R.—Rates, M.—Monday.	
N.—Nominal, W.—Week, E.—Enquiries.	

Tokyo, March 9th.

Redemption Loan Bonds	95 30
War Loan Bonds	95 30
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	96 00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 100	171 00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	47 50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	104 00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	104 00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	104 50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	104 50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	104 50
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 50	104 50
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Japan Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 45	104 50
Japan Railway 3rd issue—paid up yen 30	104 50
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45	104 50
Fanjo Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 50	104 50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Hokkaido Colliery R'y 2nd issue—paid up yen 25	104 50
Yokohama Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Itoya Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Itoya Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Nagasaki Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Hokkaido Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Itoya Railway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 50	104 50
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	104 50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	104 50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	104 50
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	104 50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 50	104 50
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 50	104 50
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 50	104 50
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 50	104 50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Mercantile Exchange—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	104 50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 50	104 50
Japan Beer—paid up yen 50	104 50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 50	104 50
Kanagawa Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	104 50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 50	104 50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	104 50

965



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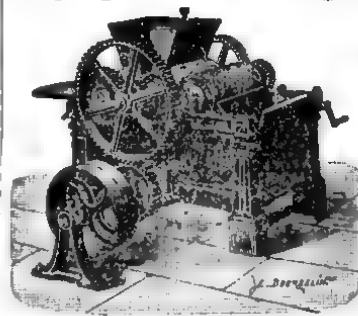
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No. 9.]

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YOKOHAMA, MARCH 4TH, 1899.

三月五日 禮拜六
西曆一千九百零九年三月四日

[VOL. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	297
An Important Case	298
Japanese Politics	299
Democratic Spirit in Japan	300
Question of Titles	301
Mortgages of Immovables by Foreigners	302
Japanese Character Painted by a Japanese	303
Shilly-Shally Devices	304
Posts, Telegraphs, Telephones, and Railways	305
Crime in Tokyo	306
Municipal Autonomy	307
Sōul-Fusan Railway	308
The Bank of Japan	309
New Banks	310
Brazil	311
Distribution of Kerosene	312
Foreign Chambers of Commerce after the Operation of the Revised Treaty	313
The Nationalization Law	314
Private Schools and Conscriptio	315
The Tonnage Dues Bill	316
Shareholders	317
News from Paris	318
Shooting Fatality on a Sailing Ship	319
Leading Articles	320
Encouragement of Navigation	321
An Emergency Fund	322
Monthly Summary of Japanese Current Literature	323
The Book-shelf	324
Imperial Diet	325
Correspondence	326
The Last Year of the Century	327
Reform of the Judicial System	328
Chinese News	329
News of the Week	330
American Notes	331
Bank of Japan	332
The White Man's Burden	333
H. H. M.'s Court for Japan	334
The Fighting at Manila	335
Telegrams	336
China	337
Latest Shipping	338
Latest Commercial	339

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAISCE QUE DOIS; ADVISAR QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH, 1899.

MARRIAGES.

At Hongkong, on the 28th February, E. J. Moss, of Cirencester, England, and Yokohama, Japan, to ELLEN, widow of the late J. S. Robinson, of Yokohama, and of Shrewsbury, England.

On Thursday, March 2nd, by the Rev. E. C. Irving, M.A., LIZETTE L. LAUGHLIN, of Wheeling, West Virginia, to GEO. W. CONNOR, of Yokohama.

No cards. At Home after April 1st, 120 Bluff. (Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai papers please copy.)

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

It is proposed to form a St. George's Society in Yokohama.

The missing Hamburg liner *Bulgaria* has arrived at Anzore.

The Japanese warship *Tsukushi* left Shanghai for Foochow on the 25th.

According to the latest investigations the number of foreigners in Tokyo is 921.

The Tonnage Bill has been passed by the Peers as presented by the Government.

It is announced that Mr. Chinda, Minister in Brazil, will be appointed to Brussels.

POSTAL rates, telephone charges, and railway fares will be raised throughout Japan on April 1st.

A heavy gale prevailed in the Yokohama-Tokyo

district on Wednesday night and telegraphic communication with the south was temporarily suspended.

DYSENTERY is prevalent in Kanagawa Prefecture, six cases having appeared in Yokohama during the last month.

COURT WEDL, the newly appointed Secretary of the German Legation, arrived per steamer *China* on Monday.

MR. TAKAHASHI KOREKIYO, of the Yokohama Specie Bank, was appointed Vice-President of the Bank of Japan on the 28th ultimo.

THE scene of the manoeuvres of the Standing Squadron has been changed. They will take place between Kyushu and Suruga Bay.

A MARINE named Inamura (26), belonging to Yokosuka, who had been charged with murder, was sentenced to death on the 17th inst.

THE sale of the *Asahi Shimbun's* issue of Feb. 27th has been prohibited on account of containing matter injurious to public morals.

CAPTAIN GEO. CONNER, for so many years Commander of one of the N.Y.K. Shanghai mail boats, was married in Yokohama on Tuesday.

MARQUIS YAMAGATA and other Ministers of State will entertain the members of both Houses of the Diet at the Imperial Hotel on the 10th instant.

THE last football match of the season was played on Yokohama on Wednesday afternoon, resulting in a win for the juniors by two goals to one.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha will open its new line between Tamsui, Amoy, and Hongkong, from April 1st. The *Maisuru Maru* will be placed on the line.

THE cruiser *Akashi* at Yokosuka, and the despatch boat *Miyako* at Kure, have been completed, and trial trips have been made with very satisfactory results.

MR. ODAORI, Consul in Shanghai, has proceeded to Nanking, and Mr. Kato, Consul in Chungking, to Sueng-tu, to enquire into the rebellious prevailing there.

THE trouble among the staff of the Bank of Japan has been dealt with in drastic fashion, the resignations of the discontented being accepted in every instance.

AT 11.30 p.m. on Tuesday a fire took place at the residence of Amenomiyama Toyofuro, Nichome, Tsukiji, Tokyo, resulting in the destruction of two houses.

THE Sennenji Temple, Bakan, Choshu, has in contemplation the erection of a large bell in memory of the patriots who lost their lives during the Japan China War.

SINCE last year much damage has been done by gales to the famous Isukubahina Shrine, Aki. It is now in contemplation to re-build the shrine at a cost of yen 100,000.

A young clerk in the employ of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire has just died at Shanghai from hydrophobia. He came to Japan for treatment but only lived to land in China.

MR. RUDYARD KIPLING is seriously ill with pneumonia at a hotel in New York, both of his lungs being affected. The only chance of recovery is his personal tenacity to life.

It is reported that Mr. Kato, Japanese Minister in London, intends to retire, and that Mr. Kurino, Minister in Paris, will be appointed

in his stead, Mr. Tsuzuki, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, succeeding the latter.

ONE hundred and eighty members of the Imperial Diet left Shimbashi by the 7.40 train on Monday morning for Yokosuka, where they inspected the newly built warship *Akashi*.

ABOUT 11 p.m. on Sunday fire broke out in a house occupied by Takeuchi Gosaburo, Hirazuka Inura, Ehara-gori, Tokyo, and destroyed two houses. This is the nineteenth case of fire in the district this year.

KOHARA KINZABURO, charged with embezzling Government money while in the service of the Japanese Legation at Paris, has been sentenced to 6 years' minor imprisonment and has been ordered to repay yen 6,870.

ONE Koike (23) was bitten in the leg by a dog while walking in Nagasaki-cho, Yotsuya, Tokyo. The Yotsuya police, on learning of the incident, killed quite a number of masterless dogs in the district.

A TELEGRAM from London states that the warship *Kasagi*, which took on board her guns at Newcastle-on-Tyne, has entered the Dockyard for repairs to the bottom of her hull. She is expected to leave shortly for Japan.

ON Wednesday morning last, a youth was found badly injured near the Owaricho tunnel Ushigome, Tokyo. He had attempted suicide by placing himself before a train. He is supposed to be a student of the Koahu Gakko, Tsukiji.

THE Nationalization Law has passed both Houses after a compromise had been effected in the matter of a foreigner obtaining Japanese nationality through marriage with the female head of a family and one other amendment dealing with the qualification for the post of Minister Resident.

CAPTAIN H. KANIMURA and other officers commissioned to bring out the warship *Asahi*, in course of construction in England; Mr. Uchida Kakichi, councillor of the Department of Communications, who has returned from Europe; and Major Kakizaki, who has been in France, were received in audience by the Emperor on Monday morning.

A despatch from Formosa, dated the 25th ult., states that on the 23rd Feb. three new cases of plague appeared in Tainan Prefecture. Two patients died. On the following day, another death took place in Taipei Prefecture; two new cases occurred in Taichu Prefecture, and six new cases in Tainan Prefecture. Five proved fatal.

THE *Times* states that the Chinese Government cannot be allowed to ignore Sir Claude MacDonald's protests. It further says that the British public is entitled to demand that no arbitrary administrative changes be tolerated, affecting enterprises wherein British capital is invested on the virtual recommendation of the British Government.

VARIOUS schools, firms, and banks in the metropolis are making preparations for the spring regattas. The dates already fixed are as follows:—Keiogijuku, 7 a.m. on the 5th instant; Imperial Law College, 10 a.m. on the 5th inst.; Nippon Yusen Kaisha, 9 a.m. April 2nd; Higher Commercial School, 9 a.m. April 9th; First High School, 8 a.m. April 10th; Bank of Japan, 9 a.m. April 16th; Noble's School, 6 a.m. April 21st and 22nd; Second Year Class Higher Commercial School, 7 a.m. April 23rd; Keisei Middle School, 7 a.m. April 29th; Misaki Rowing Club, 9 a.m. April 30th; Bank of Japan, 9 a.m. May 7th.

AN IMPORTANT CASE.

We learn from Kobe journals that the Mascarenhas case is likely to come before the Courts once more. This case occupied a great deal of attention some years ago. In 1870, a Portuguese subject, Mr. J. S. Mascarenhas, leased from a Japanese a plot of land outside the Kobe Settlement at an annual rent of 4 yen, paying also 900 *bu*, or 300 yen, for the buildings on the land. The rent was doubtless fair at the time. At least the owner of the land was content to let it on those terms. As for the form of the lease, there is, we believe, a difference between the Japanese wording and the English wording; but that point need not concern us here. It is enough to say that the lease was for an unlimited period. The official arrangement under which these extra-Settlement leases are made at Kobe provides that "all foreigners occupying ground and houses within the extra-Settlement limits are liable for payment of the same municipal charges or Government land tax as are paid by Japanese subjects." Mascarenhas ought, therefore, to have been responsible for the taxes on the land. That responsibility remained with the landlord, however, for reasons which we do not understand, and as the conditions of the place changed, the taxes increased gradually, until they far exceeded the amount of the rent. Under these circumstances the landlord appealed to the Japanese courts, and obtained a judgment raising the rent from 4 yen to 107.43 yen. Mascarenhas was then under Japanese jurisdiction, in common with all Portuguese subjects. Rendered uneasy by this experience, he transferred the land to an American citizen, in order that any further enterprises against him should be tried in a Consular Court. Now the official arrangement referred to above provides that "when a foreigner and a Japanese have made an agreement for leasing ground * * * each agreement must be reported by the respective parties to the Japanese Authorities and to the Consul of the nation concerned, in order that the agreement may be sealed and registered on both sides as proof of validity." Mascarenhas duly reported the matter to the Portuguese Vice-Consulate, but the Japanese landlords—there were now two of them—did not report it to the Japanese Authorities. In fact, they refused to do so, and, on the contrary, instituted proceedings to have the rent raised, on the ground that they had not been consenting parties to the transfer, that they would not consent to it on the former terms, and that it was consequently invalid. The Court admitted this plea and doubled the rent. It would, of course, have been competent for Mascarenhas to surrender the land, but he preferred to keep it. In fact it is pretty plain that the ultimate object of the landlords was to recover possession of it. The next incidents were the death of Mascarenhas, and an attempt to transfer the land to his heirs. Again the Japanese owners refused to register the transaction. They also declined to receive the rent, which was nevertheless duly paid by Mascarenhas' executor into official hands. Things remained thus for some time, until suddenly the landlords agreed to register the transfer and receive the rent. But their complacency was not a sign of resignation. It was simply due to the discovery that in the new Civil Code perpetual leases are not recognised, and

that if a lease of land has been concluded for an indefinite period, a law court, on the application of either party, may fix a time for its duration, not less than 20 years and not more than 50.

The interesting point in this matter is that any leases of unlimited period now existing between foreigners and Japanese with respect to extra-Settlement lands, are liable to be treated as the Mascarenhas lease will probably be treated by the courts. That is a fact to which we drew attention long ago. Perpetual leases of lands within the Foreign Settlements are specially protected; but leases of extra-Settlement lands fall within the unrestricted purview of the laws of the empire. There is a proposition in Kobe to raise a public fund for the defense of this Mascarenhas case. Such a step appears to us to be quite useless. The Courts of Japan can not ignore the Codes, and the Civil Code provides, with the utmost explicitness, that a lease like that of Mascarenhas may be limited by order of the Court. There is, however, a curious ambiguity. Dr. Lönholm, in his translation of the 268th article of the Code, says:—"The Court may, on the application of a party interested, fix the duration of the right at from 20 to 50 years;" and in his treatise on "The Condition of Foreigners under the New Treaties," he writes, "the Court, on the application of either party, must fix a time for its duration, not less than 20 or more than 50 years from the time of its beginning." Mr. Gubbins' translation of the same Article is:—"A Court of Law shall, on the application of the parties, determine the period of the duration within the limits of 20 and 50 years." It will be observed that there are two differences here. Dr. Lönholm speaks of an application by either party; Mr. Gubbins, of an application by both parties. It is a fundamental difference, for if both parties have to apply before the Court can take action, a one-sided application like that now made in the Mascarenhas case would be insufficient. Looking at the Japanese text, we find that the word employed is *tōjisha*, which may be translated either "the parties concerned" or "a party concerned." It appears to us, however, that the latter interpretation must be accepted, for evidently if both parties are agreed as to the necessity of fixing a term, there can be no reason to apply to a Law Court. Besides, the superficiary is explicitly entitled to relinquish his right of superficies at any time, if the original superficies is for an indefinite period, and he has consequently no occasion to seek the intervention of a Law Court. Evidently the Code refers to an application by the lessor only. The second point of difference is that the period of from 20 to 50 years fixed by the Court is reckoned according to Dr. Lönholm, from the date, of the beginning of the superficies, whereas Mr. Gubbins' translation does not indicate any manner of reckoning. Dr. Lönholm's actual translation, indeed, is virtually identical with that of Mr. Gubbins, but his subsequent analysis explicitly assigns the beginning of the superficies as the date from which the Court counts. We do not believe that such an interpretation is tenable, and there is nothing in the original Japanese version to warrant Dr. Lönholm's analysis. Take, for example, the lease of the Mascarenhas land. It was concluded in 1870, and has there already run for 29 years. Hence a

Law Court could terminate it at once, if the minimum period of 20 years be counted from 1870. It is not absolutely inconceivable, of course, that the framers of the Code may have intended to confer that power on a Court. But it is very improbable. Besides, another difficulty arises. Suppose that an unlimited superficies has been running for 50 years before any application is made to a Law Court. In that case the Court would be powerless, according to Dr. Lönholm, for the maximum period within which its authority is exercisable would have terminated. The Code must be read, we think, in the sense that the period fixed by the Court dates from the time of the application. It will be interesting to see how these questions are determined in the Mascarenhas case, but, for the rest, there can be no doubt that the Code gives the lessor a right to have the duration of the lease fixed by a Law Court, and that the Courts will have to recognise the right. We do not wish to be interpreted as defending the course pursued by the Japanese throughout this affair. There appears to have been a great deal of manoeuvring, some of which was probably crooked. But the gist of the matter is that the Japanese found they had made a very bad bargain, and it is precisely against the hardship of being perpetually tied to such a bargain that the 268th Art. of the Civil Code protects a land-owner. We may note that the land in question is situated in the extra-Settlement area at Kobe, about which there has been so much talk lately. If, as has been persistently contended, land leased by foreigners within that area was on the same Conventional basis as land inside the Settlement, the heirs of Mascarenhas would be secured against the difficulties they are now encountering.

JAPANESE POLITICS.

It appears to be supposed in certain quarters that there has at length emerged upon the Japanese political stage a principle about which men may range themselves in some kind of compact phalax. That such an incident is much to be desired, can not be denied. It would puzzle the wisest man in Japan to explain the bases of political organizations at present. Ten years ago, there were some visible and intelligible materials for constructing party shibboleths. There was the agitation against the so-called "clan statesmen," and there was the clamour for liberty of speech and of public meeting. Incidentally, a great deal was heard about cutting down administrative expenditures and reducing the Land Tax. But those were side issues, and, at any rate, since the parties have endorsed schemes and expansions involving more than twice the former outlays of the State, their mouths are closed so far as these problems in their old forms are concerned. Neither will it be questioned by any candid student of the times that the anti-clan-statesmen agitation retains no shred of vitality. It is a dead issue; as thoroughly defunct as the problem of freedom of speech, which has been fully solved. The clan statesmen are still very much to the fore, and they will remain to the fore as long as they live. But it is not because of their clan connexions. It is because of their reputation, their ability, and their experience. They alone have emerged from the ten years'

struggle with enhanced fame. To them the country has seen itself compelled to turn in every difficulty. If, when the contest commenced at the opening of the Diet in 1891, there seemed to be a possibility of their being pulled down permanently from their high places, the idea has now ceased to be entertained in any quarter, and the public recognises that these men are essential factors of sound and stable administration. The encounter has, indeed, been quite artistically, even picturesquely, conducted by the clan statesmen. They have preserved a calmly defensive attitude throughout. Like a skilled fencer who allows impetuous adversaries to impale themselves on his weapon, they have suffered each of the parties in succession to demonstrate the shallowness of its own political creed. Looking back now at the general features of the struggle, the salient impression we gather is that the party politicians, for the sake of union with the clan statesmen, have done the things which they previously denounced, and when the union was severed, have denounced the things that they had previously done for the sake of preserving it. Their platforms have fallen to pieces, and if they have accomplished anything it is the feat of showing that for purposes of constructive statesmanship they possess no useful recipes. What then is to be the next step? It is certain that the parties comprise many men of high ability and great organizing capacity; men whose services Japan needs. But we doubt whether the history of political evolution in any country can show a phase precisely parallel to that now existing in Japan, where no party is in a position to pretend, with the least chance of being credited, that it obeys a motive other than the ambition of capturing office. Granting the potency of that motive the world over, we nevertheless find that elsewhere it is at least associated with, if not subordinate to, some plausible principle of statesmanship, or plan of reform. But here the quondam principles of party politicians have become a by-word and their plans obsolete. We are not suggesting any intrinsic lack of morals or poverty of conception. The situation, as it presents itself to us, is that until Japan gets sufficiently tired of her progress to tolerate conservatism, there can be no genuine differentiation of political parties, and no really respectable struggles in the political arena. Some people, as we observed at the outset, seem to think that the time has come, and that the legend on the new banner will be reduction of military armaments and retrenchment of public outlays. We do not believe it. Here and there advocates of that policy have begun to raise their heads. The Progressists lost two of their most puissant leaders for its sake, and are now threatened with the loss of some lesser lances. Viscounts Tani and Soga, with their following in the Peers, constitute a little band of men ready to support the same cause, and one or two brilliant but erratic journals endorse it in a fitful kind of way. But there is that in the hearts of the Japanese people, whether they like to confess it to themselves or not, which holds them firmly to this programme of big armaments. They will not abandon it. It is not there that the materials for a new platform will be found.

DEMOCRATIC SPIRIT IN JAPAN.

The prime object of law-making and law-enforcing is to secure life and property. Theoretically speaking, there are no differences in the values of lives. So far as the protection of life is concerned, the duty of the State is the same towards every individual of the population, and every individual may claim an equal right to assist in framing and administering the laws that make his life safe. But the case is different when we come to property. The larger a man's possessions, the greater interest he has in the executive and legislative systems by which good order and public peace are preserved, and the heavier the taxes he pays, the greater weight should his voice have in regulating their employment. These fundamental principles were observed by the drafters of Japan's Local Government System in 1888 and 1890. The District Assemblies being places that have to do with the assessing and expenditure of taxes for local purposes, it was enacted that twenty-five per cent. of the members of such Assemblies should consist of, and be elected by, the chief land-owners of the locality; namely, men possessing land officially valued at ten thousand *yen* and upwards. There is nothing offensive to justice in such an arrangement. The inhabitants of a country may be regarded as a huge joint-stock company, the share unit being the property of the smallest taxpayer; and just as in an ordinary mercantile or manufacturing association, each share should confer a vote on its possessor, so the number of units of property held by a member of a national company should represent an equal number of legislative votes. These are academical notions, it is true, and there is seldom any practical possibility of giving effect to them. But in the local government system of Japan they received recognition, as we have just said. The owners of comparatively small lots of land, lots valued at less than ten thousand *yen*, elected 75 per cent. of the members of the District Assembly, and the owners of lots assessed at higher values elected the remaining 25 per cent. To that arrangement there has been constant objection on the part of the bulk of the local inhabitants. They never could persuade themselves to recognise its justice, and session after session has witnessed the introduction of bills in the Lower House for abolishing the *ōjinushi seido*, as the system is called. The agitation has at length succeeded. Hitherto the proposals for change came entirely from the people and were uniformly discountenanced by the Government. But now the Government itself has not only abandoned its position, but has even consented to father the desired alteration by embodying it in a bill of its own drafting. Of course the Lower House has passed the bill amid plaudits. Its fate in the Upper is uncertain: it will probably be wrecked on the familiar rock of want of time, for many measures have precedence of it. We note the incident, however, as another illustration of the democratic spirit prevailing in Japan.

QUESTIONS OF TITLES.

It is a frequent source of perplexity to foreigners to know what forms of address to adopt in writing or speaking about the members of a Japanese nobleman's family. Ought the daughter of a peer to be called "Lady So and So," and the son "the Honorable So and So," or should they be plain "Miss" and "Mr."? There is really no room for this doubt. Japanese law is explicit on the subject. It limits the title to the nobleman and his wife. His parents and his eldest son are to receive the treatment of nobles, but without titular distinction, and with regard to daughters and younger sons there is no provision whatever, so that the country's legislators evidently do not intend them to receive any title or to be distinguished from plain, every-day folk. It is at all events comfortable to know that we are not offending against any written rule or unwritten usage when we speak of a Marquis' son as simply "Mr." or his daughter as "Miss." The law from which we extract this information has just undergone revision at the hands of the House of Peers, but the amendments were made with closed doors, and as they have not yet received the Imperial sanction we can not speak about them with any assurance. If, however, they passed in the shape given to them by the Special Committee, one great disability under which the daughters of noblemen now labour will perhaps be remedied. A female can not, according to the present law, succeed to a title of nobility. The Throne, as our readers probably know, is similarly interdicted to female occupants. Japan can not have a reigning Empress. She may have a female regent, when there is no prince to fill the post, but the sceptre can not be wielded by a woman. Neither can there be, under existing rules, a peeress in her own right. The latter restriction is singular from a Japanese point of view, because an ordinary family name may be perpetuated by a woman. There are, indeed, special facilities of that nature in this country. A woman is competent to establish herself as the head of a house, and in that capacity to take a husband who adopts her family name and plays a subordinate rôle in her legal life. A husband married under such circumstances is called *ninshu*, and if he be a foreigner, he acquires Japanese nationality. Such, at least, is the present rule, and such also is the rule which the Government has adopted in framing the new Law of Nationalization. The House of Representatives, however, has changed the Law in the sense that a foreigner becoming a *ninshu* shall not acquire Japanese nationality, and it remains to be seen whether the House of Peers will endorse the alteration. That is a question apart, however. Our point here is that although an untitled female may become the head of a house and may perpetuate its name, a titled female does not enjoy the same privilege. The amended Peers Law does not explicitly remove the ineligibility of a nobleman's daughter to succeed to a title, but its provisions seem to us to be not incapable of interpretation in that sense, whereas no such interpretation is possible in the case of the present law. It would certainly redound to the credit of Japan's system if such discriminations against women were abandoned. We say nothing about

the Throne, though we note that some of its greatest occupants in ancient times were females. But a peer's title ought not to be above a woman's right. In this matter Japan and Occidental countries are in the same category, so there is room, not for special criticism, but only for an aspiration. We do think, however, that the sons and daughter of peers might advantageously be given a distinctive appellation. Of course it will be understood that we are speaking here of nobles only; that is to say, bearers of the five titles Prince (not of the Blood), Marquis, Count, Viscount and Baron. All the children of Princes of the Blood are Princes or Princesses, and the rule holds good through all generations, though from the fifth downwards they lose the distinction of being "Imperial." Some of these days Japan will have as many Princes as Russia has. We wonder how they will be supported. It would shock the sentiment of the nation that a Prince of Imperial Blood should work for his living. Of course under the old regimen there were innumerable examples of that kind of thing. Indeed, there is scarcely a hereditary noble in Japan who can not trace his lineage direct to an occupant of the Throne, and there are many commoners who could do as much if their social position did not impose silence. But then, under the old regimen the title of "Prince" was not perpetuated by law. It had, indeed, no element of perpetuity, for the term was applied to the sons of the Sovereign only, their sons and sons' sons having no such distinction. The Imperial House Law has rectified that omission, whether wisely or unwisely is another question. There is another point which deserves notice in speaking of the Peers Law. In its present form it provides that a title of nobility becomes extinct if, at the time of its holder's death, no heir has been duly nominated. Posthumous children are thus debarred, which seems a strange arrangement. The rule was found to work hardly in the case of the late Count Katsu, for though he left a daughter, and though he had often expressed his wish and intention to adopt one of the sons of his former feudal lord, Prince Tokugwa Keiki, and make him his daughter's husband, he had not complied with the necessary formalities before his death, and the title would have lapsed unless the Emperor had made a special exception. The Law has now been amended so as to confer the inheritance on an heir nominated within a year after the death of the noble whom he succeeds, and it is probable that the Emperor will endorse the amendment.

MORTGAGES OF IMMOVABLES BY FOREIGNERS.

It has been observed, of course, that many projects of law submitted to the Diet during its present session are connected, directly or indirectly, with the operation of the Revised Treaties. Hitherto Japanese legislators were not required to take account of their country's jurisdiction being extended to foreigners, and it is consequently found necessary to alter or supplement many of their enactments in order to bring them into touch with the conditions that will exist after next July. Thus we have had amendments in the sense of opening the field of Japanese

journalism to foreigners; of enabling foreigners to practise medicine on the strength of a foreign diploma; of dispensing with the use of stamps (*natsuin*) by foreigners on legal documents; of extending to foreigners the system of succour in litigation; of providing for such a division of capital as shall relieve foreign insurance companies and banks from paying an excessive business tax, and so on. To this list may now be added a Bill just submitted to the Diet for amending the Civil Code. It is known to most of our readers that a foreigner is entitled to acquire a mortgage on an immovable, and that the mortgage confers on him the same rights as though he were a Japanese subject. By way of parenthesis, we may mention that this provision is regarded by some persons as a means by which the veto against foreign ownership of land may be practically overcome. A foreigner, they say, can acquire a mortgage on land, and then by foreclosure—easily arrangeable with the proprietor of the land—can obtain permanent possession of the land so far as concerns its use for building or other purposes. That theory seems to us to be based on a defective knowledge of law. A mortgagee in Japan can not, by virtue of his mortgage, obtain any right of possession. If the debt secured by the mortgage is not paid at maturity, action for foreclosure must be brought in a Law Court, and the latter then orders a public sale of the property involved. It results, therefore, that a foreign mortgagee is not more favorably situated for obtaining possession than any other foreigner. At all events, the notion underlying the above theory appears very clumsy and quite superfluous. The propounders of the theory do not contemplate ownership of the land, but only possession of it for building purposes, and that can be obtained for a hundred or five hundred years in the form of a superficies. The amendments of the Civil Code which, as we have said, have just been submitted to the Diet, refer to articles 384 and 900. The former has to do with the removal of mortgages. For example, *A* has acquired property carrying a mortgage in favour of *B*. Desiring to remove the mortgage, *A* offers a certain sum to *B*. If *B* deems the offer too low, he may demand a public sale of the property, but in adopting the latter course he must pledge himself to buy the property at a price at least 10 per cent. higher than the sum offered by *B* in satisfaction of the debt, should the public sale fail to produce that price, and he must give security that he will do so. The clause of article 384 bearing on this question, says:—

A creditor who demands a sale by auction for the sake of obtaining a higher price, must state that he will himself buy the immovable at a price of one-tenth higher than that offered by the purchaser in case such price or a higher price is not obtained at the auction. In such case the creditor must give security for the price and expenses.

Now, inasmuch as a foreigner can not own land, the above provision is not applicable to him, and it follows that a foreign mortgagee is at the mercy of a dishonest debtor, for the latter may make a nominal sale of the immovable to a third party, and the new owner can force the foreign mortgagee to compound the debt, since he can not himself be forced to submit to the test of public sale. The Government Bill proposes to amend the Article in the sense that a foreign mort-

gagee need not undertake to buy the immovable at a price ten per cent. higher than the sum offered to him in liquidation, but shall merely make himself responsible for the difference between that price and the price actually obtained at auction, as well as for the expenses of the sale. For example, *A*, a foreigner, holds a mortgage for 1,500 yen on a property which *B* has purchased. *B* offers 1,000 yen to remove the mortgage. *A* declines and demands a public sale. The property, being put up to auction, fetches only 900 yen. Then *A* is debited with 200 yen plus the expenses involved in the sale.

The amendment of Art. 900 is of trifling interest. The second clause of the Article runs:—

If the person (*ie.* the head of a house) who loses his nationality has rights which only a Japanese subject can hold, these fall to the heir of the house, unless the former head assigns them to a Japanese subject within a year.

This is supplemented so as to read that the rights fall to the heir of the house or to the nearest relative, and that if neither the heir nor the nearest relative can lawfully hold the rights, and if they are not assigned to a Japanese subject within a year, they revert to the Treasury.

JAPANESE CHARACTER PAINTED BY A JAPANESE.

A pessimist's views about his fellow-mortals must usually be taken with all reserve. The *Mainichi Shimbun's* mood has been very pessimistic lately, and we regard its columns, therefore, with a certain amount of scepticism. Still the editor is a man of great eminence, and, although his judgment may have been temporarily warped by political experiences of an exceptional nature affecting him personally, no opinion expressed by such a writer is unworthy of notice. He says that the Japanese are deficient in the self governing faculty, and that they are without breadth of view. When they are in positions of authority they abuse their power to control others, and when they are in positions of inferiority they prostitute their judgment to their interests. No high plane of civilization can be reached by men of that mould. Having thus condemned his own countrymen, the writer passes on to the Anglo-Saxon, whom he describes as a person without any desire to rule others and with a strong objection to be ruled by others. Very complimentary to the Anglo-Saxon. But can he justly appropriate the praise? When did he free himself of the masterful ways, the innate love of empire, which have proved as useful to him in his career of conquest, whether commercial or military, as his inveterate objection to be mastered by any one else? That by way of parenthesis, however. The *Mainichi* proceeds to synthesise the records. The history of the Orient, it says, reveals only two kinds of peoples, despots and slaves. You can not escape from the evidence of history: it is conclusive. Every nation has the kind of government it deserves. The Japanese are brave. Of that there can be no doubt. But if you want to see how they interpret the uses of bravery, consult the chronicles of the *Shikoden*, where you can read what fine ends the hundred and eight bandits achieved by their courage, and if you then remember that these are the ideals proposed to himself by a Japanese, you can form an estimate of his moral standard.

SHILLY SHALLY DEVICES.

One of the Government's most recent steps has been to invite the Diet to remove the restriction upon foreign ownership of bourse-shares. This measure is heartily welcomed by a prominent Japanese journal, not for the sake of liberality—if, indeed, it can be called liberal—but because it seems to open a route for the advent of foreign capital. Most of us have become somewhat weary of this talk about the introduction of foreign capital, but the subject remains perennially interesting to Japanese, which is not wonderful, seeing that their industrial progress is virtually checked for lack of cheap money. How, then, is the privilege of owning bourse-shares likely to encourage foreign investors to seek employment for their money in Japan? The explanation given is that, in their capacity of bourse shareholders, they will become familiar with Japanese securities, and will develop a desire to acquire them. That appears to us to be a naïve notion. The commonest belief among the Japanese is that foreigners are ignorant of their affairs. "Unacquainted with the conditions of the country" used to be a kind of stock epithet for foreigners in the columns of Japanese journals, and though that precise form of expression is becoming obsolete, the idea that inspired it is entertained just as firmly as ever. "Only let the foreigner learn what Japanese shares are, what kind of dividends are paid on them, and how flourishing are the enterprises they represent, and he will open his purse-strings." Such is the notion. We are sorry to be obliged to disagree with it *in toto*. The Japanese would probably be greatly surprised if they obtained an insight into the knowledge that foreigners already possess of their affairs. We grant readily that neither in Yokohama nor in Kobe, nor yet in London, Paris, or Berlin, is there a very accurate acquaintance with Japan's national finances. The Japanese officials who compile the Budgets and keep the State's accounts, appear to be entirely indifferent whether foreigners understand or misapprehend the empire's pecuniary record, and, without their active assistance, the individual foreigner finds immense difficulty in obtaining information. But the affairs of Japanese commercial and industrial companies are very closely watched, not for the sake of the abstract interest they inspire, but because of the possibility that they may offer means of making money. We doubt whether there is as much as one Japanese enterprise that has not been keenly scrutinized by the shrewd, watchful foreigner, always ready to avail himself of every legitimate avenue to wealth. But no Japanese shares, whatever the quantity of gilt upon their edges, will tempt investors until the latter can obtain not merely a voice, but a controlling voice, in the management of the enterprises concerned. It would give us great satisfaction to be able to write in a different strain, but to conceal the truth would be distinctly mischievous, and the truth is that foreigners do not believe in the soundness of Japanese enterprises or in the integrity of those to whom their management is entrusted. Granting, as we ourselves confidently believe, that this scepticism is exaggerated, that in the majority of cases it has no valid basis, the unfortunate fact is none the less incontrovertible. The average for-

reign capitalist would as soon think of putting his money into a Japanese Company whose books he can not inspect, whose management he can not take part in, and whose methods are beyond his scrutiny, as he would think of shipping merchandise in vessels not surveyed by Lloyds and not eligible for insurance. The Japanese will probably receive these statements with some indignation. They are very disagreeable statements, and, in a sense, very rude. But they are certainly not intended to be either unpleasant or discourteous. We are impelled to make them when we find a prominent vernacular journal deluding itself and its readers with hopes that such a device as opening the ownership of bourse shares to foreigners will create a market for Japanese securities abroad. It will do nothing of the kind.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES AND RAILWAYS.

The cost of all these vehicles of communication has now been raised. The postage on mail matter of the first class becomes 3 *sen*, instead of 2 *sen*, for any weight up to 4 *momme*, and 3 *sen* for every additional 4 *momme* or fraction of that weight. The charge on second class mail matter—post cards—becomes 1.5 *sen*, and the charge for a return card, 3 *sen*.

With regard to telegrams, the minimum charge is to be 20 *sen* for a message not exceeding 15 *kana* syllables, and 5 *sen* for every additional 5 syllables, or fraction of 5. Messages in a foreign language will cost 25 *sen* up to 5 words, and 5 *sen* for each additional word. These rates carry a message to any part of Japan. Within the limits of a town, the corresponding charges are 10 *sen* and 3 *sen* for a Japanese telegram, and 15 *sen* and 3 *sen* for a foreign telegram. The name and address of the sender are counted, but the name and address of the receiver are not charged for, unless there is more than one receiver, or unless more than one address is given—as when the telegram has to be sent from place to place after a traveller whose whereabouts is not certainly known to the sender. It appears, however, that in the case of a foreign telegram, all the names and addresses are to be charged for, which means that the whole of the minimum limit will probably embrace nothing more than these preliminaries. The charge for special delivery will be 20 *sen* for any distance not exceeding 3 *ri*, and 6 *sen* for every additional half *ri*, or fraction of it. This last charge is, in our sense, less than the present rate of 12 *sen* per *ri*.

The telephone rates are to be raised from 10 *sen* to 15 *sen* for messages within the first circuit, and from 20 *sen* to 25 *sen* for messages within the second circuit.

Concerning passenger fares on Government Railways, the rates are to be as follows, for third-class passengers:—

	per mile.
For distances less than 50 miles	1.5 <i>sen</i>
For distances from 50 to 99 miles	1.3 <i>sen</i>
For distances from 100 to 199 miles	1.1 <i>sen</i>
For distances from 200 to 299 miles	0.9 <i>sen</i>
For distances from 300 miles upwards	0.8 <i>sen</i>

Hitherto the average rate has been 1.2 *sen*, and it will now become 1.428 *sen*, for distances less than 100 miles. The first-class fares, being, in every case, three times the third-class fare, can be calculated at once from the above table. We may

note, however, that the third-class fares from Tokyo to Yokohama and from Tokyo to Kyoto, hitherto 20 *sen* and 3.27 *yen*, respectively, will become 27 *sen* and 3.62 *yen*; and the corresponding first-class fares will be 81 *sen* and 10.86 *yen*. The miles run by trains on the State railways throughout the year aggregate 800,986,967, and the result of the increased rates will be an additional revenue of 1,200,000 *yen*.

All these changes will become operative from April 1st.

CRIME IN TOKYO.

The population of Tokyo has increased largely during recent years, but the record of crimes shown a tendency to diminish. Omitting the two years, 1895 and 1896, when special conditions, immediately following the victorious war with China, produced a state of affairs unlikely to foster crime, the *Fiji Shimpō* notes that the number of robberies with violence and larcenies in 1893 and subsequent years was:—

	Robberies with Violence.	Petty Larcenies.
1893	173	24,000
1894	180	—
1897	128	17,000
1898	108	19,000

This diminution may be due in part to the vigilance of the police, but can scarcely be attributable to the success of the latter in apprehending offenders. Thus, out of 19,000 cases of larceny in 1891, arrests were made in 5,400 instances only, and of these 2,400 were released on account of deficiency of evidence. Thus only 3,000 convictions and punishments resulted from 19,000 offences, more than 5 law-breakers escaping for every one brought to justice. Our contemporary attributes this unsatisfactory record to the very meagre character of the emoluments given to the police. Up to the spring of last year, their monthly pay was 8 *yen* for the lowest class and 12 for the highest. These limits were then changed to 9 and 15. But they are still much too low. It is found impossible to keep the force up to its full strength, and, instead of proving a permanent attraction to capable men, as is most desirable in a service where experience counts for so much, the metropolitan police lose one-sixth of their number every year. Such frequent changes are fatal to efficiency. A battalion of six hundred men could scarcely hope to become a highly trained and thoroughly competent machine if it had to exchange a hundred of its veterans every year for raw recruits. It is not a question merely of insufficient pay: the rewards of merit are also paltry. Thus a constable who apprehends the perpetrator of a robbery with violence receives a maximum reward of 10 *yen*, and if the offender is a murderer the reward is increased fifty per cent. Ten *yen* is poor recompense for an act which involves danger to life and limb. The other day, two burglars armed with drawn swords entered a house in Hamacho, in the Nihonbashi district of Tokyo. If a policeman receives, in the discharge of his duty, injuries so serious as to incapacitate him totally and permanently, he is allowed 40 *yen* per annum for the rest of his life. If, though too much disabled to earn a livelihood, he still retains the use of his limbs, the allowance is 30 *yen*. If he is killed on service, his family is presented with 100 *yen* and an allowance of 30 *yen* yearly to his wife and children, if he has any. These miserable pit-

tances read strangely in the context of proposals to raise the stipends of members of the Diet from eight hundred to fifteen hundred *yen*. It should be added that policemen in Japan are never allowed to accept rewards from private individuals. In the case of the Nippon-bashi burglary alluded to above, the householder sent a pecuniary acknowledgement as compensation to the brave constable, but the money was returned by the inspector. One hears a great deal of talk about corruption in Japan, but certainly police-constables and porters on State railways are remarkable exceptions.

MUNICIPAL AUTONOMY

Some time ago, the citizens of Tokyo indulged in quite an animated demonstration over the practical recognition of their municipal autonomy. They were to have a mayor of their own, their very own; elected by themselves and responsible to themselves. This civic dignity was no longer to be absorbed into the person of the Governor of the City, an official nominee. Tokyo is a very wretched city. It would be impossible to infer from its condition that Japan is among the highly civilized countries of the world. Scattered throughout the provinces, there are many places which do not aspire to the honour of being called "cities," but are content to be known as humble "towns." These present, in the great majority of cases, a marked contrast to the first city in the empire. The state of their streets and their municipal arrangements generally reflect as much credit on their provincial situation as Tokyo brings disgrace on its title of metropolis. The towns have had mayors of their own since the inauguration of the new system of local government ten years ago. But no one pretends that their praiseworthy condition is due to the exertions of their mayors. They owe it, as is universally recognised, to the efforts of the prefectural governors sent by the Minister of Home Affairs to look after their affairs. It would seem that the citizens of Tokyo are now beginning to appreciate the fact. Their delight over the idea of having a mayor of their own appears to have evaporated, though they only began to enjoy the boon a few months ago. Dr. Hatoyama, supported by seven members of the Lower House, all, like himself, representatives of Tokyo city, has introduced a bill, and the Lower House has passed it, for investing in the Minister of Home Affairs extensive supervisory power in municipal matters. In short, it may be said that eight out of the twelve parliamentary representatives of Tokyo desire the re-establishment of a special system of municipal government in the metropolis, although for years the public heard nothing but a perpetual clamour on the part of the citizens against a special system when they had one. We admire Dr. Hatoyama's practical courage, and strongly applaud his wisdom. A little active interference on the part of the Home Department, and some efficient scrutiny by the experts in its service, would soon mend Tokyo's sorry plight. The closer our acquaintance with the conceptions of the Municipality the less commendable do we find them. Their latest fancy is to send a committee abroad to study Occidental systems of municipal government. That will be a very agreeable trip for some worthy citizens, no doubt, and they will

come back considerably impressed, unless, as is not improbable, men are selected who have already paid one or more visits to Europe and America. But what is the use of such a step? What is there to be learned abroad about street-making, about drainage, about sewerage, about lighting, about policing and so forth, that can not be as well, or better, learned by engaging one or two competent foreigners at home, whose salaries during three or four years would not amount to the expenses incurred by the peripatetic committee on a single trip? The committee can not possibly discover how to make Tokyo respectable. They can discover what metropolitan respectability is, if they want an object lesson to guide them. But to reach the standard revealed by their inspection there will be precisely the same need of expert assistance after their return home as there was before they set out. Their wisest plan would be to make the offices of the Home Department in Tokyo the bourne of their travels.

SŌUL-FUSAN RAILWAY.

There is a very marked tendency among the Japanese at present—and when we say the Japanese, we mean the official as well as the non-official classes—to revert to the system of State aids which prevailed so extensively for several years at the beginning of the *Meiji* era, until a strong reaction was provoked against it in the early eighties. We have a vivid recollection of the outcry raised about *Seifu kansho*, when the people began to think that they could walk profitably without official guidance, and when the record of the Colonization Department and of the proposed sale of its properties gave occupation to so many political pens. Count Kuroda and his *Kaitakushi* doings were in terribly bad odour in those days; so bad that they almost became a synonym for costly failure. But time has vindicated the wisdom of his methods. Not many Japanese publicists could now be found to deny that the million a year which the Colonization Bureau used to receive from the Treasury with *carte blanche* as to the manner of employing it, has failed to bear good fruit. Marquis (then Count) Ito led the movement of State effacement in such matters, and thenceforth until the *post-bellum* programme came to be elaborated, the Government carefully abstained from meddling in industrial or commercial affairs. The law for encouraging navigation and ship-building may be said to have marked a revival of the old tendency, and thereafter came the grant of money to tea-producers and the attempt to put a premium on the direct export of silk. The present session of the Diet is distinctly remarkable for a disposition on the part of the members to draw officialdom once more into the sphere of affairs which, as Englishmen are accustomed to think, can be managed better and more efficiently by private individuals. There have been Representations presented by the Houses advocating the formation of sericultural associations, the construction of boats for deep-sea fishing, the organization of credit guilds, the purchase of private railways by the State, the establishment of a central industrial experiment station, the culture of salmon and *masu*, the revival of stud farms and cattle breeding stations, and so on, all under official auspices; and the Government, on its side, has introduced

a Bill for establishing no less than three State protected banks, the Formosa Bank, the Colonization Bank, and the Movable Bank. We observe now that the fever has extended even to the *Fiji Shimpō*, which urges that the Government should encourage the construction of the Sōul-Fusan Railway by guaranteeing interest on the capital invested. Apart from the principle involved—and perhaps a State guarantee for such a purpose is one of the least objectionable forms of official interference—we can not but wonder that with the story of the Formosa Railway fresh in public recollection, the idea of inducing Japanese capitalists to put up money for building a Sōul-Fusan line should be seriously advanced. In the case of Formosa, not only did the Government offer to guarantee 6 per cent., but it promised to hand over the line already constructed and open to traffic, and to grant other important privileges and facilities. Yet the money could not be obtained. Is the prospect brighter in the case of the Sōul-Fusan road, which could scarcely be a very paying concern for some years, at any rate, and which would probably have to be constantly guarded throughout a great part of its length by gendarmes?

An interesting feature of this matter is the *Fiji's* view about the Sōul-Fusan road. It thinks that when Russia's Trans-Asian railway is completed, the eastward-bound goods carried over the line will travel through Korea by rail to Fusan; thence to Baku by sea, thence to Yokohama by rail, and thence, finally, by ship to America; the westward-bound goods coming first to Yokohama, and thence taking the above route in the opposite direction. From that forecast we gather that the *Fiji* does not believe in Vladivostok as the terminus of the Trans-Asian Railway, but looks to see the line traverse Shingking, cross the Yalu, and debouch at Sōul. It is hard to share that view. Appearances at present are strongly in favour of Vladivostok as the Russian terminus for goods coming to Japan or going westward from it by the overland route, and Newchwang seems much more likely than Talien to be the port for Manchuria's foreign trade.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The Government has dealt in a summary manner with the ferment among the officials of the Bank of Japan. The resignations of three Directors, Messrs. Usui, Kawakami, and Tsurubara, have been promptly accepted, and Mr. Takahashi Korekyo, a Director of the Specie Bank, has been appointed Vice-President of the Bank of Japan, an office not previously existing. Count Matsukata's views of the matter was that the resignation of several high officers of the Bank simultaneously could not be regarded as anything but a turbulent proceeding, and that peremptory measures were alone suitable under the circumstances. Friction between factions, a mere affair of sentiment, constituted the basis of the trouble. The action taken by the Minister of Finance is heartily approved by the vernacular press. Some journals go so far as to apply the epithets "strike" and "mutiny" to the conduct of the retiring Directors. It must be noted, however, that, while tendering their resignations, the Directors remained at their posts, and announced their intention of continuing to discharge their duties until their successors were appointed.

NEW BANKS.

Projects for two new banks have been elaborated by the Government and submitted to the Diet. One is called the *Hokkaido Takushoku Ginko*, or Hokkaido Colonization Bank. It is to have a capital of 3 million *yen*, with power to issue debentures to the extent of five times the paid up capital. The charter will be for 50 years, and the Government takes a million *yen* worth of shares upon which the Bank need not pay any dividend for the space of ten years. The business of the Bank is to be:—(1) To make loans on the security of immovables, according to the system of repayment by installments spread over 30 years. (2) To make loans upon the security of immovables, repayment to be at some fixed time within 5 years. (3) To make loans on the security of shares or debentures of companies engaged in the colonization of Hokkaido, and to subscribe for the debentures of such companies. (4) To make loans on the security of Hokkaido products and to buy bills on the same account. (5) To receive deposits and safe-custody deposits. It is provided that the Bank must carry 8 per cent. of its net profits to a reserve against losses of capital, and at least 2 per cent. to a reserve for equalizing dividends; and that its affairs shall be under Government superintendence.

The above institution has objects which explain themselves. There has, of late, been much talk about the necessity of adopting some measure of the kind, in order to facilitate the progress of colonization, and works of reclamation in Hokkaido.

The second bank is called the *Dosan Ginko*, or Movables Bank. Its business is to make advances against national securities, local securities, debentures and shares of companies, so as to facilitate industrial enterprises of all kinds, including railway construction, harbour improvement, and so on. The capital is 10 million *yen*, and the Bank will have power to issue debentures to an amount not exceeding five times its paid up capital. During a period of five years the Government guarantees a 5-per-cent. return on the paid up capital, and the sums to be carried to the reserves are the same as in the case of the Hokkaido Colonization Bank. There is also to be official supervision.

It is difficult to see how such institutions as the above can be expected to accomplish much. The Hokkaido Bank has certainly a great advantage. It receives from the Treasury a million *yen* upon which it need not pay any interest for ten years, and it will therefore be entitled to issue debentures to the extent of five million *yen*, even though the shareholders do not pay up a *sen* upon their shares. Any enterprise getting such a "send off" as that must be counted fortunate. But will the debentures find subscribers? They will have to carry at least 7 per cent. interest in order to attract buyers at present, and it is exceedingly doubtful whether money obtained on such terms can be profitably employed. In one branch of its business—the purchase of bills against Hokkaido produce—the Bank will come into direct competition with the Bank of Japan, which has a branch in Hokkaido, and a very unprofitable branch, if popular report does not err. As for the Movables Bank, its business seems to be of such a character as to fall within the legitimate sphere of the Bank

of Industry and Agriculture, already existing. But that is a secondary consideration compared with the difficulty of attracting capital to an institution whose shares are guaranteed to the extent of only 5 per cent. There is nothing in such a prospect to tempt capitalists when 7 per cent. can be obtained by simply lodging money in perfectly safe banks, and when ten-per-cent. railway debentures are going a-begging.

BRAZIL.

A private letter, received in Tokyo and published by a vernacular journal, says that the financial affairs of Brazil are in a hopeless condition; that the attempts of the Rothschilds to restore order have proved fruitless, and that national bankruptcy is imminent. The writer attributes the closing of the Brazilian Legation in Tokyo to the impecuniosity of the Treasury in Rio, and adds that the prospects for Japanese immigration are most gloomy. Brazil's case is certainly peculiar. A magnificent country, 2,600 miles from north to south, 2,500 from east to west, with a sea-board of 3,700 miles; splendidly watered; abounding in the most valuable minerals; possessing immense tracts of forests whence inexhaustible supplies of mahogany, logwood, rosewood and so on can be obtained; capable of growing European fruits and grain crops as well as coffee, cotton, sugar, tobacco, cocoa and india-rubber; with nearly ten thousand miles of railways and a foreign trade of 720 million *yen*, it has nevertheless been unable for many years to achieve the essential feat of making its revenue cover its expenditures, and it has now a foreign debt of 350 million *yen*, and a domestic debt of 1570 millions. Considering that the population—if we exclude blacks and Indians—does not exceed 14 millions, it will be seen that the burden of debt is 137 *yen* per head. That would not be a crippling amount by any means if the finances were otherwise in order, but when a State spends every year 15 or 20 million *yen* more than it receives, its solvent survival must be a mere question of time. We have no information as to the causes that have contributed directly to bring about a crisis, but the general condition of the republic's finances is sufficient to account for the trouble. Brazil has certainly not been a success under republican management. She did better when the Pedros held the sceptre.

DISTRIBUTION OF KEROSENE.

Note is taken by the *Shogyo Shimpo* of the great British enterprise which has been quietly maturing during the past two years for the economical distribution of petroleum. The oil in question comes from the Caspian and Borneo. It is to arrive to Japan by tank-steamers of 8,000 tons, and be transferred to reservoirs at Yokohama and Kobe, the former being the centre of supply for the Kwantō districts and the latter the centre for the Kwansei. Arrangements have been made with the Japan Railway Company, the Government Railway Bureau, and the Sanyo Company, and 140 special cars for carrying the oil will soon arrive from England and be placed on these roads. It is a big affair, with a capital of a million sterling, the Japan section being only a fraction of the enterprise.

FOREIGN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AFTER THE OPERATION OF THE REVISED TREATIES.

It has been suggested journalistically that after the Revised Treaties go into operation difficulty will arise with regard to Chambers of Commerce organized by foreigners at the open ports. The point made is that Japanese law does not permit the existence of more than one Chamber of Commerce in an urban or prefectural district, and the Japanese Chambers, already duly constituted according to legal provisions, will necessarily have the preference. It is, perhaps, a little misleading to affirm that the law does not permit the existence of two chambers in one and the same district, for no explicit veto appears. There is, however, a provision to the effect that the limits of a chamber's purview shall be coterminous with those of the district in which it is established, and a second Chamber in the same district is thus inferentially forbidden. But this law has no effect so far as foreign Chambers are concerned. It is a public law, and its operation is consequently limited to Japanese subjects. Japanese Chambers of Commerce are elective bodies. Detailed regulations exist as to the qualifications of electors and candidates for election, as to the duration of office, as to the functions of a chamber, and so forth. In fact, a Japanese Chamber of Commerce is a quasi-official body, established in strict accordance with legal provisions and regularly sanctioned and recognised by the Government. Foreigners will not be qualified either to elect or to be elected, and there will be nothing whatever to prevent their having their own independent chamber just as they have at present. We understand that some intention is entertained of altering the law so as to enable foreigners to become, or to elect, members of Japanese Chambers of Commerce, if they are so minded, but the amendment is not likely to find its way to the Diet before the session of 1900-1. Meanwhile, and doubtless subsequently also, the foreign Chambers will remain precisely as they are at present—private associations without any official status whatever.

THE NATIONALIZATION LAW.

The result of the difference of opinion between the two Houses of the Diet with regard to the Law of Nationalization has been a compromise. The points in dispute were two. The Law, as drafted by the Government, provides, first, that a foreigner marrying into a Japanese family in the quality of *nanfu*—that is to say, taking the name of his wife, who is the head of the house—acquires Japanese nationality *de facto*; and, secondly, that a foreigner who obtains Japanese nationality shall be eligible for the post of Minister Plenipotentiary. The House of Representatives, animated by the peculiar spirit of self-assertion for which Japan is paying such a high price at present, cut out both of these provisions, and the House of Peers, which has always shown itself far more large-minded and statesmanlike, restored them both. Then followed a Conference, and it resulted in the inevitable compromise—inevitable because, had each side adhered obstinately to its views, the Bill must have been wrecked. The Lower House agreed to

the *ninpu* clause, and the Upper consented to the elision of that relating to Ministers Plenipotentiary. Japan can not be congratulated on this Nationalization Bill. As the Government Delegate justly remarked, it stands conspicuous for illiberality among all cognate measures. If a foreigner who has obtained Japanese nationality serves the country of his adoption so well as to be within reach of an appointment as Minister Plenipotentiary, it might be supposed that his record would answer for his fidelity, and that the Cabinet appointing him would be qualified to estimate his trustworthiness. But the House of Representatives thinks it necessary to legislate against the possibility of the country's profiting by the services of a man of foreign blood. It is a very poor kind of timidity. It is true that we suffered from it ourselves in England, and that a fuller sense of self-respect came to us only 40 years ago. But those 40 years have sufficed to establish the safety of our methods, and the Japanese might take a leaf out of our book if they were not so romantically resolved to exercise the right of making blunders on their own account. The quaint part of the matter is that, while closing the post of Minister Plenipotentiary to nationalized foreigners, they have left open the posts of Ambassador and Chargé d'Affaires.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND CONSCRIPTION.

At last the question of not penalizing religious education has entered the field of practical politics. There is no feature of Japan's systems that does such discredit to her intelligence as her attempt to eliminate religion from the education of her youth. For that, and nothing less, is what it amounts to. No school where religious teaching forms part of the curriculum is allowed to complete the education of its students. They are liable to be removed for service in the Army as conscripts at the age of twenty, whereas, if religious teaching is entirely banished from the curriculum, the youths are safe against conscription until the age of 27, and can then escape by serving for one year. It follows, of course, that if a father sets the intellectual training of his son above the moral, he sends him to a school whence religion is banished; whereas if he thinks that the lad's morals are of any importance, he must sacrifice his general education. It is a cruel hardship, and the fact that the Japanese people tamely submit to it, speaks badly for their sense of right and justice. Indeed, such arbitrary discrimination can scarcely be reconciled with the Constitutional grant of freedom of conscience, for certainly conscience is not free when the exercise of freedom is heavily penalized. The matter has now been brought before the Diet in the form of a Representation signed by 41 members of the Lower House, among them being Mr. Shimada Saburo and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi. They advance the simple but unanswerable argument that the object of granting exemption from conscription is to enable students to complete their education, and that it has nothing whatever to do with religion. Religious teaching is very properly excluded from a school supported, wholly or partly, by taxes which all persons have to pay whatever their creed. But to say that a lad, solely because his parents happen to be

religious, must be debarred from completing his education, though he receives it at a school supported entirely by voluntary contributions, is a pure absurdity. The Representation urges that provided a private school satisfies the official requirements with regard to its secular curriculum, its students shall be granted the same exemption from conscription as that enjoyed by students in public schools. We sincerely hope, not merely for the sake of Japan's moral health, but also for the sake of her reputation, that the House of Representatives will vote against this unhappy discrimination.

THE TONNAGE DUES BILL.

After a gallant fight the minority in the House of Peers has failed in its attempt to remodel the Tonnage Dues Bill on liberal lines. The Bill, as drafted by the Government, provides that a ship must pay 10 *sen* per ton (registered) on entering a Japanese port, and that the single payment of 30 *sen* shall clear the vessel for the space of one year in respect of the port where the payment is made. This the Special Committee of the Peers amended in the sense that, where a ship had to enter several Japanese ports, a payment of 20 *sen* should clear her for all during the period of 12 months. It will be seen at once that there is a very great difference. For example, one of the trans-Pacific steamers, which calls, every voyage, at Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki, *en route* to and from Hongkong, would have to pay 30 *sen* per ton at each port, or 90 *sen* in all, according to the Government's Bill, in order to obtain a quitance for one year. That would mean a total payment of 2,700 *yen* in the case of a ship of 3,000 tons. On the other hand, the same vessel would escape with a payment of 600 *yen* if the system proposed by the Peers' Committee were adopted. The Bill has been for a long time in the hands of the Upper House. It was entrusted twice to a Special Committee, the latter's number being increased for the purpose of the second investigation. But the Committee persisted in recommending the above amendment. The majority of the House decided, however, to restore the Government's Bill in its entirety, and it now remains to be seen what will be the result of the conference that must be held with the Lower House, which also reduced the rates proposed by the Government. There will be a compromise, we presume.

SHAREHOLDERS.

We published in recent issues statements of the principal shareholders in the Japan Railway Company and the Taiko Railway Company. We add here the principal shareholders in the Bank of Japan, the shares of which have a face value of 200 *yen* and are selling for 355 *yen* in the market:—

	Shares.
Imperial Estates Bureau.....	69,660
The Mitsui Bank	2,108
The Yokohama Bank	1,780
Marquis Nabeshima	1,500
Mr. Wakan Tamiz	1,400
Mr. Yasuke Zenguro	1,100
Prince Shimazu	1,050
Mr. Hara Zenzaburo	1,050
Mr. Nakagawa Seizo	1,000
Marquis Mayeda	1,000

NEWS FROM PARIS.

With reference to the news from Paris which we publish this morning, it may be well to explain that M. Deroulède, who has been repudiated by both sections of the royalists in France, is a deputy representing the Department of Charente. He has made himself conspicuous of late as President of the League of Patriots, who have for some time been conducting a very violent campaign against the Government, their platform being a revision of the Constitution. M. Deroulède was arrested during the disturbances which took place on the 23rd ultimo, but no explanation of the reason has yet been telegraphed.

The affair of the Court of Cassation is one of the unhappy incidents of the Dreyfus complication. The Criminal Chamber of the Court was suspected, apparently with some reason, of partiality towards the Dreyfusites. Hence the Chamber of Deputies, a few days ago, adopted a resolution that the case should be tried, not by the Criminal Chamber alone, but by the whole Court, that is to say, by all the Chambers united. The resolution had to be ratified by the Senate, of course, and it is to the latter's action that the telegram alludes. Nothing could be more regrettable than that the integrity of the highest tribunal in the land should be open to any question, but when we consider the dimensions this affair has assumed and the passions that have been roused, it is not at all surprising that even the Judges should be suspected of bias. The expedient of employing the whole strength of the Court seems, for the rest, decidedly commendable, for a decision which has the endorsement of the united Chambers will deprive even the most sceptical of room for doubt. It will be a matter for universal rejoicing when this wretched business finally ceases to be a source of disturbance. From one point of view, of course, it does honour to the French nation. Only among a people whose love of justice had been educated to a high standard could such an agitation have been fomented. But when we remember that Dreyfus was originally tried by a tribunal whose members, had they been disposed to lean in either direction, would have inclined to acquittal, and that Minister of War after Minister of War, five Ministers in succession, have examined the proofs of the man's guilt and have publicly ranged themselves on the side of conviction, it is impossible not to sympathise with the indignation felt against the Jews to whose money and efforts the agitation is mainly due. The nineteenth century closes with a very dark prospect for the Jews. In Russia, in Germany, and in France they are the objects of a feeling which threatens to repeat some of the incidents of mediæval history.

SHOOTING FATALITY ON A SAILING SHIP.

The captain of the British sailing ship *Haddon Hall*, from Beaufort, South Carolina, reports a fatality which occurred on board on January 14th in latitude 65 south and longitude 125 30 west. A boy named Harry Hartoch was handling a revolver when the weapon exploded, and killed instantly another lad named William Hughes. An enquiry was held on Friday morning at H.B.M.'s Consulate.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF NAVIGATION.

THE Government has submitted to the Diet a Bill making an important new departure in the system of navigation encouragement. The method inaugurated by the laws promulgated in March, 1896, is general in character. To make the matter quite clear it will be necessary to recapitulate the provisions of the present laws. The Navigation Encouragement Law enacts that any iron or steel steam-ship of at least 1000 tons (displacement), capable of steaming at 10 knots speed, and owned and employed by a Japanese subject on service between Japan and foreign countries, or on inter-port service in foreign countries, shall receive 25 *sen* per ton for every thousand miles run annually, provided that she is constructed in such a manner as to satisfy certain prescribed requirements; and provided, further, that, if built abroad, she is not more than five years old at the time of registration (for the purpose of obtaining a subsidy in Japan), or more than fifteen years old whenever built. With regard to vessels bigger and faster than the above minima, there is a sliding scale of encouragement money. Thus, for every additional 500 tons the subsidy is increased by 10 per cent., and for every additional knot of speed, by 20 per cent., up to 6,000 tons and 17 knots, after which limits there is no increase. The grant is not permanent, of course: it is paid in full for the first five years, after which it is reduced by 5 per cent. annually. Vessels receiving encouragement money are always to be at the service of the State in case of emergency. They are also required to carry mail matter and officials without charge, and they have to give free passage and suitable maintenance to students of navigation: two in each ship up to 2,500 tons; three up to 4,000 tons, and 4 in larger vessels. There is also a law for encouraging the construction of ships in Japan. It provides that any steel or iron steam-ship, of not less than 700 tons burden, built in a Japanese yard with materials not of foreign manufacture (unless specially permitted by the Minister of communications), shall be eligible for a bounty, on condition that her quality satisfies legal requirements, the rate of bounty being 12 *yen* per ton from 700 to 1,000 tons, and 20 *yen* per ton for larger vessels. Further, if her machinery is made in the same yard, or in some other Japanese yard approved by the Minister of Communications, she is entitled to a further bounty of 5 *yen* per unit of registered horse-power.

Evidently the tendency of this system is to encourage speculative ship-building. When it is known that a vessel satisfying certain conditions as to size, construction, and speed, will obtain from the Treasury an annual allowance sufficient

to go far towards paying her working expenses, there is a great temptation to build her on the mere chance of finding for her a modicum of employment somewhere or other. Take the case of a 4,000 ton vessel with a maximum speed of 15 knots. Her encouragement money, according to the above scale, is 65 *sen* for every 1,000 miles run during the year. Hence if she is at sea for six months in the year, running 250 miles a day, the total distance covered is forty-five thousand miles, and her encouragement money amounts to 117,000 *yen* per annum. With such an income assured her owners can afford to place her upon a line where the transport business is in itself much too small to warrant any services of the kind. Possibly if the spirit of speculation had not been unduly excited by the war of 1894-5, these new laws would not have produced any undesirable results. But they are plainly based on a defective principle, the better advised plan being to grant subsidies for services which not only meet national needs, but also offer some prospect of becoming self-supporting. The Government's navigation aids are not, indeed, confined to the sums disbursed under the above laws. Various lines have to be independently subsidized. In order to give our readers a clear idea of the disbursements now made by the Treasury in this section of State expenditures, we proceed to collect the details, from the various chapters of the Budget for next year:—

AIDS TO NAVIGATION IN 1899-1900.	
Services between Nemun and Ienup, Otsu and Hakodate, and Otsu and Ahashiro	15,000
Service to Ogasawara (formerly 6 voyages annually; now increased to 12)	11,000
Service between Ogasawara and neighbouring Islands	900
Service between Oki and Hoki	600
Service to Okinawa	5,000
Service to Oshima and Islands of Kagoshima	6,000
Service between Okinawa and neighbouring Islands	3,000
Service to Hokkaido	15,000
Subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Service to Australia	880,000
(This subsidy is now actually 525,657 <i>yen</i> , but a proposal to increase it will be submitted to the Diet and doubtless passed.)	
Service to Bombay	192,108
Service to Vladivostok	27,717
Service to Korsakoff	23,490
Service to the Yangtze-Kiang	228,753
(This subsidy is now 249,547 <i>yen</i> , but a proposal to increase it is about to be made.)	
Service to Shanghai, Suichow and Kiao-chow	30,179
Grants under the Law of Navigation Encouragement	3,968,084
Grants under the Law of Ship-building Encouragement	277,250
Total	6,309,738

This is a somewhat formidable list, but it will be observed that out of the total of 6 millions, in round numbers, the new laws are responsible for 4½ millions. We do not understand, however, that the Government is alarmed at the amount. The point is that the laws are not working satisfactorily, and that they commit the State too deeply unless some limit is enacted. It has therefore been decided to

invite the Diet's consent to the imposition of two restrictions. The first is that in the case of ships constructed abroad and registered in Japan subsequently to the 1st of October, 1899, only one half of the encouragement money provided by the Law will be granted. The second is that the total period for granting assistance shall be eighteen years, counted from October 1st, 1896, when the laws went into force. The 1st of next October has been fixed in consideration of the fact that all vessels, ordered in consequence of the promulgation of the Law, will be completed and registered by that date. To change the Law so as to exclude such vessels would be an obvious injustice, whereas, on the other hand, it is evidently desirable to prevent the placing of any new orders. Briefly speaking, the effect of these amendments is, on the one hand, to make the Navigation-Encouragement Law's operation terminate in the year 1914, and to limit the State's maximum liabilities under it to approximately the sum now set down in the estimates. The Law for the Encouragement of Shipbuilding, moreover, is to remain operative as originally drafted. Thus far the expenditure that its provisions have imposed upon the State is not large, nor is it likely to be large, for some time to come at all events. Shipbuilding in Japan shows signs of fairly rapid development, but the number of vessels constructed in such a manner as to satisfy the requirements of the Law is insignificant. The most notable work was that last year completed at the Mitsui Bishi Docks in Nagasaki, when a six-thousand ton steamer was turned out for service on the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's European line. Although the Treasury must have paid encouragement money amounting to a hundred and thirty thousand *yen*, approximately, on account of this vessel, she proved a very heavy loss to her builders. They have another ship on the stocks now—the ship of which Lord CHARLES BERESFORD spoke so enthusiastically to the meeting in the Imperial Hotel, and it is possible that the bitter experience gained in the previous case may bring this second venture to a profitable issue. But there are not many firms in Japan wealthy enough to try experiments so costly as those essayed by the Mitsui Bishi, and no immediate prospect presents itself of the Treasury's being obliged to pay any large sum under the Ship-building Encouragement Law.

Simultaneously with restricting the operation of the law for the encouragement of navigation in general, the Government asks the Diet to sanction yearly subsidies to three special lines, namely:—

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Japan-Europe Line	2,673,894
The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Japan-Seattle Line	654,030
The Toyo Kisen Kaisha's Japan-San Francisco Line	1,013,880
Total	4,341,804

These subsidies are to commence from January 1st, 1900 and to continue until December 31st, 1909, namely, a period of 10 years. It is provided that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha must place upon its Japan-Europe line 12 steamers of at least 6,000 tons displacement, capable of steaming 14 knots; and on its Japan-Seattle line, 5 steamers of 6,000 tons and 15 knots; and that the Toyo Kisen Kaisha must place on its Japan-San-Francisco line, 3 steamers of 6,000 tons and 17 knots. The number of voyages is to be 26 a year, 13 a year, and 14 a year on the European, Seattle, and San-Franciscan Services, respectively; the vessels must not be more than 4 years old at the time of the commencement of the subsidy; they must satisfy the requirements of law as to quality; they must carry the mails; they must give free passage and maintenance to students of navigation, as provided in the Navigation Encouragement Law; and they must be placed at the disposal of the State in the event of a national emergency. If the Diet approves of these proposals, as seems probable, the total sums paid by the State from next year for the encouragement of navigation and ship-building will be 10½ million yen. We have always anticipated this increased call upon the Treasury. Reviewing Japan's *post-bellum* finance in 1897, we pointed out that three additions would have to be eventually made to her expenditures, namely, 13 millions for the maintenance of the Navy, 8 millions for Formosa, and 6 millions for the promotion of navigation. The forecast has proved correct, though the Government's figures differ from our estimates. The additional sum allowed for the Navy is 7½ millions; that for Formosa, 12 millions, and that for navigation and ship-building 8 millions, approximately.

There is one more point to which attention may be drawn. The Navigation Encouragement Law of 1896 contains a clause to the effect that in ships receiving the bounty foreigners must not be employed without the permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs. No difficulty appears to have been experienced hitherto in obtaining permission, but we are glad to see that the clause is not repeated in the new enactment relating to special subsidies. Its omission is not of any practical value, since the vessels on the three newly subsidized lines are already in receipt of bounties under the law of 1896, and must therefore comply with its provisions. Still the disappearance of the restriction constitutes an agreeable feature.

Officials of the U. S. Treasury Department customs division have decided that books are the only articles subject to duty which can be legally imported into the United States in the mails. Books may be delivered upon the payment of customs charges. All other dutiable mail matter must be seized.

AN EMERGENCY FUND.

A VERY interesting measure has been proposed by the Japanese Government and is now awaiting the consent of the Diet. It is the formation of an emergency reserve (*hijo jumbi*) amounting to 50 million yen. When the various drafts to be made upon the Indemnity according to the *post-bellum* programme have been paid, there will remain a sum of 70 million yen approximately, 20 millions of which have been already voted as an addition to the Imperial Estate, and it is proposed to set aside the residue of 50 millions to constitute an emergency reserve. "Extraordinary reserve" would be a more accurate translation of the Japanese term, but in view of the purpose for which the greater part of the money is intended, the expression "emergency" seems to convey a juster idea. It is divided into three parts, namely, 30 millions for naval purposes, 10 millions for education, and 10 millions for natural calamities. These sums are not to be actually spent, however, unless a special occasion presents itself. Broadly speaking, the special occasion contemplated is of a national character; a war, in short. Should the country become involved in war, it will have 50 millions to pay its way at the outset. When the fight with China commenced, there happened to be about 60 million yen lying in the Treasury. Its presence there may, in a certain sense, be called a fortunate chance, for it consisted of accumulations of surplus revenue made during the preceding 9 years, a great part of which would have been already spent could the Diet and the Government have agreed as to the manner of spending it. Some twenty millions of the total had, indeed, been pledged on account of the construction of two line-of-battle ships and three cruisers, so that only 40 millions were really available for war purposes. But those 40 millions proved of immense service; so much so that the Government has evidently recognised the necessity of making similar provision against such an emergency hereafter. At present the yearly budgets of revenue and expenditure do not suggest any accumulation of surpluses. The record is rather in the opposite direction. Hence it becomes necessary to draw upon some other source, and the Government, instead of making any fruitless appeals to the Diet in behalf of a more liberal and far-seeing policy in the matter of taxes, simply asks it to decide that the residue of the Indemnity shall be set apart as above indicated. That is the general scheme of the arrangement. As to the division of the fund into the three headings of "naval," "educational," and "calamity relief," the explanation is a little more complicated. Our readers may remember that in reviewing the *post-bellum* finance last year, we commented on the fact that no

provision for the maintenance of the Navy had been made in the official estimates for the decennial period 1897-1906. Japan contemplated the acquisition of 141,000 tons of battle-ships and first class armoured cruisers, 21,000 tons of second-class and third-class cruisers, and about 20,000 tons of torpedo craft, the value of the whole being 120 million yen approximately. Her fleet was to comprise, in addition to these, 48 fighting ships of various kinds, with an aggregate displacement of 117,000 tons. Thus the whole fleet may be classified thus:—

	Num-	Displace-	Value in mil-
	bers.	ment.	lions of
			yen.
New first-class fighting ships.....	12	141,000	98
New and old cruisers, gunboats, etc.....	—	117,000	45
Torpedo craft—3 gunboats, 1 depot-ship, 11 catchers and 115 boats —	—	20,000	8

It is usual to allow 4 per cent. for depreciation in the case of battleships and cruisers, and 9 per cent. in that of torpedo craft, together with an average of 2 per cent. on account of repairs. Calculating on that basis, the yearly appropriation for a fleet of the above dimensions would be 9½ million yen, approximately, for which, as we have said, no provision was made in the decennial programme elaborated by the Ito Cabinet after the war. One of the objects of the new emergency reserve is to correct that omission. The interest (1½ millions) on the naval portion (30 millions) is to be available, and will be supplemented by a sum of 6,660,000 yen taken yearly from the ordinary revenue. Thus the total annual maintenance fund will be 7,160,000 yen, which is nearly 2½ millions less than the amount of our calculation. We can not offer any exact explanation of the discrepancy, but it appears to be chiefly due to the fact that lower rates of depreciation are taken by the Japanese, namely, 3.9 per cent. for armoured vessels; 5.4 per cent. for unarmoured, and 6.5 per cent. for torpedo craft. A remarkable point is that the system of appropriating 6,660,000 yen every year from the ordinary revenue is not to commence until the fiscal year 1904-5. Whether it is imagined that, as the whole of the new vessels will not be finished until that time, or whether the hypothesis is that the interest on the emergency fund will suffice for present purposes, we do not know, but such is the arrangement. Most people will be disposed to think that as a ship begins to depreciate from the day she enters the water, the allowance should commence from that day, but the Japanese evidently take a different view; another fact of which we can offer no explanation, especially as they fix the lives of the vessels definitely at 25 years for an armoured ship, 18 for an unarmoured, and 15 for a torpedo craft. However, the main point is that provision is now at length made for the maintenance of the fleet.

It will probably occur to our readers to inquire on what grounds the Government

can ask the Diet to vote an appropriation of 6,660,000 *yen* from the ordinary revenue six years hence, when, according to present estimates, the incomings of the State barely balance its outgoings. The answer is that, commencing from 1900-1, the revenue is expected to exceed the expenditures by a considerable amount.

The figures are these:—

Revenue, in mil- lions of <i>yen</i> ...	1900-1	1901-2	1902-3	1903-4	1904-5
Expenditures, in millions of <i>yen</i>	224½	223	214½	205½	203½
Difference...	201½	192	176½	165	162
	23	31	38½	40½	41½

From these surpluses, however, have to be deducted every year 12½ million *yen* on account of Formosa, 5 millions on account of the transfer of prison expenditures to the Treasury, and half a million as a relief fund. Making these subtractions, the net surpluses become, 5½ millions in 1900-1, 13½ in 1901-2, 30½ in 1902-3, and so on. Thus, if the estimate be correct, there need not be any difficulty in inaugurating, from 1904-5, a regular system of yearly appropriations, as indicated above, for the maintenance of the Navy.

The interest (500,000 *yen*) on the educational portion of the fund is to be chiefly devoted to improving the long-service pay of primary school teachers, and the interest on the natural calamity part will be employed to meet outlays connected with inundations, storms, earthquakes, and so forth. But behind these special purposes there is the main fact that the total capital of the fund is always to be kept intact so as to be available in the event of any national emergency. It will constitute, in short, a species of war chest. To that end clauses are inserted in the Bill, explicitly providing that if inroads have to be made upon the capital during any year, the deficit thus caused is to be restored as quickly as possible from the ordinary revenue, and, further, that whenever the interest is not required, it shall be added to the principal. The existence of this fund will greatly strengthen the country's financial position. It is evident, however, that in order to make the money produce interest, it must be invested and thus its availability in an emergency will be more or less impaired. The Bill provides that it shall be held in the Reserve Bureau of the Finance Department in the form of either bonds or gold, but we presume that it will certainly take the form of bonds, since as gold it would be unproductive.

The month of January was one of the busiest in the history of the Corporations Bureau of the New York Secretary of State's office. During the month 171 companies were incorporated and fourteen consolidations of companies already incorporated were effected. The capitalization of the companies incorporated was \$28,436,000 and the amount of tax paid by these companies for the privilege of incorporating under the laws of the state was \$3,554,575. The capital stock of the corporations consolidating was \$37,000,000.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

As already stated in these columns, at the beginning of the year the *Yomiuri Shimbun* published a series of articles "Entitled Japan as seen by Foreign Eyes." The *Yomiuri's* statement and its criticism of Dr. Revon's views on religion in Japan were noticed in the Summary of the Religious Press which appeared a few weeks ago. On other subjects the *Yomiuri* quotes Dr. Revon as follows:—There is no doubt that Japan has always had a civilisation of her own, the peculiar characteristic of which was patriotism founded on respect for the throne. All the family life of the nation has culminated in the Emperor, who is regarded as the father of the people. In no other country in the world is solidarity of precisely the same kind to be found. The courage and warlike spirit which for many centuries characterised the nation were found in equal degree in other countries, but Japanese art certainly has distinctive characteristics. One that may be mentioned is the preference of Japanese artists for natural scenery as subjects for pictures rather than human passions and emotions. Japanese literature is interesting as showing what was the old type of civilisation in this country. Among the defects referred to by Dr. Revon are, the dishonesty of the lower class of traders, the limited influence of religion and the lack of the scientific spirit of inquiry. In her knowledge and adaptation of foreign civilisation, Japan is regarded by this critic as a beginner. She has the form of constitutional government, but not its spirit, says Dr. Revon. Western methods of warfare have attracted too much attention, and ways of obtaining wealth too little. In America women have too much power, but in Japan they have too little. These two countries represent the two extremes in respect of the position woman occupies. Japan should not abandon her own civilisation while utilising all that is valuable in the foreign system. There are many signs that she may become a great nation, but there is one great drawback to her progress, namely, the lack of money and consequent lack of the credit that is essential to real greatness. To enrich the country should be the one object of Japan's leading men.

The next foreigner quoted is a Russian writer, whose name we cannot identify in its Japonicised form. According to the *Yomiuri* he speaks in the highest terms of Japan's civilisation and says that the Russians are far behind the Japanese. "It is the habit," says this writer, "of the Japanese to regard Russia as their enemy. But this a great mistake. There are of course Russians who regret that on their exit in the Pacific they should be confronted by a Power like Japan, and who dislike the Japanese on this account. But general public opinion in Russia regards the island empire with friendly eyes, and now that the completion of the Siberian Railway is about to bring the two nations into closer relationship, it is important that they should study each other's language and show the world how little truth there is in the observation of an English newspaper which represented them as being no less friendly to each other than an ape is to a dog."

Dr. Christlieb's opinions are next quoted and briefly commented on. Dr. Christlieb is of opinion, says the *Yomiuri*

Shimbun, that in the learned world Japan occupies a back seat. Current Japanese literature is ephemeral literature. Magazine writing is an acknowledged enemy of book-writing. Those Japanese who have ventured to publish books on special subjects have not been criticised in a thorough manner, for two reasons: one being that the author usually writes on a subject which hardly anybody but himself among Japanese has studied minutely, the other that most foreigners are unable to understand the Japanese written language. Why do not men like Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō publish works in German or English, asks Dr. Christlieb. Is it because they fear foreign criticism? A book that a short time ago caused a good deal of stir when published, continues Dr. Christlieb, was not the work of the writer whose name was attached to it. This the author himself told me, though he did not wish it known to his fellow-countrymen. . . . Japanese patriotism is often nothing but narrow-mindedness, and is calculated to excite ridicule. . . . The Japanese boast that they can do in ten years what it takes foreigners 100 years to accomplish, but when we come to ask what they have done in the way of translating foreign works, we find it is very insignificant. Many of the translations that have been made show that the translators had not mastered the meaning of the original. As learners the Japanese are quick and eager, but when we come to regard them as teachers, we can no longer praise them. Many Japanese living in foreign countries, in order to represent their country as better than it actually is, say a great deal that is absolutely false. Dr. Christlieb furnishes instances of this. . . . Coming to politics, there is great insincerity on all hands. One party is loud in its profession of loyalty to the throne and boastfully refers everything to the Sovereign. The opposite party clamours for party cabinets, and would usurp the authority given to the Emperor by the Constitution. Politics everywhere are characterised by hypocrisy, but, in my belief, says Dr. Christlieb, there is no country that equals Japan for downright insincerity. Is it permitted for a professor of the Imperial University to criticise the alleged divine revelations published in the *Kojiki*? No. How then can it be said that the Japanese are free to investigate questions for themselves? While this lack of liberty even in the learned world exists, it cannot but appear to foreigners that all the existing political agitation savours of unreality. The persecution of Mr. Ozaki for supposed disrespect to the Emperor was entirely unworthy of a people claiming to be civilised and held the nation up to ridicule. We have chosen, says the *Yomiuri*, the unfavourable parts of Dr. Christlieb's criticism for reproduction, but do not mean to imply that he has nothing to say on the other side. He praises us for some things, but the value of his writing consists in the faithfulness with which he has delineated our many defects.

The writings of other foreigners are noticed by the *Yomiuri*, but space forbids our dwelling on the subject further.

No. 4 of the *Tōajiron* has an article on China entitled "Reform or Revolution?" by Mr. Ikebe Kichitarō, which gives the views of the late Count Katsu on the situation in the Far East. There is no need to fuss over the course that events

are taking in China, says Count Katsui. It is good for China to have foreigners leasing territory, making railways, and expending capital on the development of her resources. What is taking place will prove to be the prelude to a revolution. Reform without a revolution is quite impossible. All the progress that China has made of late years has been owing to the help she has received from foreigners. Under the management of an Englishman her Customs' Service has been rendered a sure source of ever-increasing revenue. To expect the Chinese to inaugurate reforms unaided by foreigners is to expect the impossible. Abuses are only to be got rid of by giving aliens a free hand to tear down what is useless or decayed and raise on the ruins a new structure. China cannot do better than trust England and Japan and allow them to put her house in order before the completion of the Siberian railway brings Russia to her very doors.

The Telephone Exchange between Tōkyō and Osaka has been opened, but the difference in the meaning attached to many very common words in the two cities is said to be causing a good deal of amusement, as well as some embarrassment. The *Fuji Shimpō* publishes a list of some 24 familiar terms and phrases whose meaning is the same, but which differ from each other. We subjoin a few by way of illustration:—

Tōkyō.	Osaka.
Katte kuru	Kōta kuru
Karite kuru	Katte kuru
Bakarashii	Ahorashii
Yokoshite kudasai	Okoshite okunakare
Sōshite ne	Soi desu na
Butcham	Ponchi
Tōsan	Tōsan
O-hachi	O-hitau
Ashida	Taka-gata

A work bearing the title *Rinrigaku Hihan*, "The standard of Ethics," has been published by the Nihon Zusho Kaisha, Ginza, Tōkyō, which covers 1,050 pages and sells at 2 yen 50 sen per copy. It professes to be a translation of one of Professor Henry Sidgwick's books, but from the Japanese title it is impossible to tell of which. Professor Sidgwick has written a great deal on Ethics. His "Methods of Ethics" was published in 1874, his "Outlines of the History of Ethics" in 1886, and his "Practical Ethics" in 1898. It is stated that the author's permission has been given for the translation. Messrs Yamabe Tomoharu and Ota Hideo are the translators, Dr. Nakajima having revised the whole work.

A Biographical Dictionary called the *Teikoku Jūmei Jisho* will appear at the end of March, according to the announcement of the Tōkyō Zusho Shuppan Kaisha. It is to contain some 14,000 names, 600 illustrations, to cover 1,700 pages, and will be brought down to the end of last year. The names will be arranged alphabetically (*iroha*) and the subscription price of the book is 3 yen 75 sen.

The *Nihon Heimin Shimbun* is a new provincial newspaper published in Wakayama, Kii, which is praised by the *Ritugō Zasshi* as a high-class journal. It is connected with the Osaka Nihon-heimin Kyōkai. It gives great prominence to religion, philosophy, and sociology, and, like

so many other publications, aims at regenerating society.

No. 11 of the *Tenchijin* has an interesting note entitled "*Chōmin-Kōji no Bungakudan*," "A talk on Literature by Mr. Nakaye Tokusuke," whose *nom de plume* is Chōmin-Kōji. Mr. Nakaye is noted for his unconventionalism and enterprise. He is never content to follow in the wake of others. His natural talents are such that he has touched few things that he has not adorned. We make one or two extracts from his narrative. "When Iwakura went to Europe, I accompanied him, settled in France, and commenced to study French. I have paid special attention to the French literature of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries. Among modern writers Hugo was one of my favourites. At first I found great difficulty in composing in French, but after a while it grew easy to me. But when I became a merchant I got rid of all my learned books with the exception of a few dictionaries and hence I grew inaccurate. Prior to becoming a trader I tried politics, but got disgusted with it. I seemed to do nothing but sow wheat and reap thorns. Political parties in Japan have no stability, because each member is seeking his own interests. One reason of the non-success of political parties is the poverty of members. It is in a large number of cases quite impossible to make a living out of the enunciation of certain principles, important though they may be. . . . What will be the future of Japanese literature and Japanese orthography? The question of adopting *Rōmaji* is again to the front, but I for one cannot see how it can be carried into practice. The inconveniences attending the total abolition of the characters would be enormous. Mr. Fukuzawa, Mr. Kuki, and others have advocated the diminution of the number of characters in use, but as a matter of fact they are increasing every day. We should find it far harder to get rid of our ideographs than Europe has found it to get rid of her Latin and Greek. Not only are the learned languages of Europe full of Latin and Greek words, but the colloquial of every civilised nation abounds with words of Greek or Latin origin. Newspapers like the *Nippon* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* make the most elaborate use of Chinese characters still and the large majority of magazines and newspapers show no tendency whatever to rely less on the ideographs. I should say the tendency is all the other way."

Mr. Nakae is sometimes spoken of as the Japanese Rousseau on account of his originality of character and his ardent admiration for this great French iconoclast.

The *Keikwa Nippō* comments somewhat unfavourably on the methods of obtaining female life models adopted by the Tōkyō Bijutsu Gakkō. It seems that the school began by paying the girls who serve as models at the rate of 1 yen per hour. This price naturally seemed very high to the Japanese, and as a consequence a crowd of applications reached the school, which induced it to reduce the fee to 50 sen per hour, resulting in its getting quite a different class of women. At present, says the *Keikwa Nippō*, the girls who offer themselves have a history, but formerly there were applicants who were quite superior, but whom some family trouble had induced to

choose this method of earning a little money. There is a humorous side to the affair, observes our contemporary. It often happens that when a painter is in the middle of a portrait he is informed that his model has been married and is not allowed to attend any more.

The *Fūsoku Gwahō* advocates the discontinuance of the use of the terms *shisoku* and *heimin*. In the 4th year of Meiji, when it was decided to forbid the wearing of swords by *samurai*, in order to console them for the loss of this and other privileges, the title *shisoku* was given to them, and they occupied a higher rank in society than the farmers, artisans and traders that constituted the *heimin*, or plebeian class; but since the operation of the Criminal Code the law has recognised no difference between the *shisoku* and the *heimin*, and in society generally no importance whatever is attached to the designation, nor do *shisoku* themselves think themselves the better for holding this rank. It seems quite evident then, concludes the *Fūsoku Gwahō*, that this remnant of feudalism should be abolished.

We find some valuable statistics in the *Kyōiku Jiron* bearing on the money spent on education in the chief European countries compared with the outlay in Japan, which shows most conclusively how far behind the Western world she is to-day in the matter of education. Comparing expenditure with population in England and Wales, Saxony, Switzerland, and one or two other states, the rate is about 2 yen 40 sen per annum for each inhabitant of these countries. In Holland it is 2 yen. Ireland, Belgium, France, and Baden stand next, with 1 yen 65 sen per annum, then comes Sweden, with 1 yen 20 sen, followed by Hungary, Italy, and other countries, where the rate is about 1 yen per inhabitant. But nowhere do we find anything so low as Japan's rate, which is about 30 sen. Coming to the proportion of State help given to local education, we find that France heads the list, the central government bearing nearly half the total cost of the maintenance of elementary schools. The following table, which we give as published in the *Kyōiku Jiron*, shows how the different countries stand as regards State expenditure on behalf of elementary education.

Countries.	Total Expenditure on Elementary Education.	Proportion borne by the State.	Percentage.
	France.	France.	
France.....	172,900,515	84,743,810	49
England and Wales.....	182,638,275	79,507,075	44
Belgium.....	27,387,549	10,727,060	39
Holland.....	27,466,790	9,440,376	34
	Marks.		
Prussia.....	157,000,000	39,500,000	25
	Roubles.		
Russia.....	5,784,353	691,710	12
	Florins.		
Hungary.....	15,117,024	1,794,234	11
	Francs.		
Italy.....	61,768,939	6,110,083	10
	Pesetas.		
Spain.....	29,149,074	1,608,650	3
	Yen.		
Japan.....	15,305,955	430,451	2.60

The following statistics bearing on education are culled from the Mombushō Annual report. The total number of foreigners in the employ of the Department in 1898 was 41: their salaries amounting to 136,800 yen; an increase of 3,200 yen on the previous year. Among libraries open to outsiders were 1 Government Library, 9 Public Libraries (that is, subscribed for

by the public), and 21 that had been established by private individuals. The number of students who passed an Elementary School teachers was 1,520 of the First Class and 173 of the Second Class. The successful Candidates for posts in Middle, Normal, and Female High Class Schools numbered 977. The students attending Normal Schools throughout the country numbered 8,830; the students attending middle Schools, 52,671. There were 47 Normal Schools, 119 Middle Schools, 26 Higher Female Schools, with 6,799 pupils. The total number of students in Higher Schools was 4,436 and in the Imperial Universities 2,255. There were to private schools teaching Law, Economy and kindred subjects, and 5,111 students attending these schools. Coming to the proportion of children attending school compared with the total number which have reached the proper age for attendance, Nara Prefecture stands at the head of the list, with an average of over 80 per cent. Niigata ranges between 50 and 56. Hokkaidō is below 50. Okinawa Prefecture alone stands at about 40.

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In our last Summary we noticed at some length the first part of an Essay of Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō, published in the *Taiyō*, on the tendency of philosophic thought in Japan. The concluding part of the essay is now before us. The gist of it can be stated in a few words. While admitting that the prevailing tendency of thought in Japan is in the direction of philosophy of a practical type, such as is taught and applied in England, Dr. Inoue thinks it is to be noted that the study of Buddhist metaphysics has in certain minds created a taste for a highly transcendental and spiritual type of philosophy such as has been developed in Germany. The similarity of German and Buddhist philosophy has not escaped the notice of Western scholars. Schopenhauer, for instance, specially emphasised this fact. While there is a close affinity between the two systems as regards their transcendental and spiritual character, Buddhist philosophy lacks the clearness and thoroughness of exposition that marks the treatises of men like Kant and Hegel. The fact that in Japan there still remains a certain amount of taste for metaphysics and an appreciation of the abstruse teaching of the *Daijō* (*Mahayana*), prevents the Japanese philosopher from regarding German speculation with the repugnance which is felt for it in England by a large class of thinkers, says Dr. Inoue. The vigour with which Dr. Inoue Enryō has assailed materialism indicates that there is a school among our thinkers which shrinks from going the lengths to which a purely practical and experimental philosophy is apt to carry those who rely exclusively on its teaching. They see that a counterpoise to prevailing materialistic thought is needed, and they look to Buddhist or German philosophy to supply this need. Speaking of the future, Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō thinks that Japan is likely to steer a middle course between German transcendentalism and English experimentalism. Dr. Inoue is invariably optimistic when writing of the future of Japan. He has of late years become an ardent nationalist and he devotes all his learning to the furtherance of the cause known as *Nippon Shugi*.

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A somewhat lengthy article appears in

the *Teikoku Bungaku* from the pen of Mr. Takei Teishinō, which dwells upon the enormous difficulties connected with the adoption of Western civilisation in Japan and the enlightenment of the masses. Mr. Takei, in rather despondent tones, emphasises the fact to which so many writers draw attention, namely, that Western teaching and methods are only familiar to a very small fraction of the nation and that all the attempts made to reach the remainder are miserably inadequate. There is no lack of ideas as to what is required, but the money to carry them out is wanting. Diet after Diet is appealed to in vain. Long years of bitter experience of the inefficiency and lethargy of the Department of Education have convinced many that it is useless to look for help from that quarter. Mr. Takei is in favour of appealing to the Imperial Household Department and of endeavouring through it to induce the Emperor to interfere. Why, asks Mr. Takei, should not a body like the *Gakushūkaiin*, which accomplishes next to nothing, be set to work at translation under the patronage of the Emperor? . . . It has become the custom to choose scholars to fill offices where there is much routine to be gone through and for which no scholarship is required. Highly trained men should be kept for work which they are better qualified to do than any one else and official vacancies should be filled from other ranks. There is any amount of intellectual work to be done, and there are not wanting a fair number of men qualified to do it, but there exists no organisation that makes it an object to collect and utilise for the good of the nation the numerous forces available.

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The *Teikoku Bungaku*, which, as a literary organ, since the decease of the *Waseda Bungaku*, has had no rival, follows its usual custom in publishing, in its January number, a review of the literature, art, religion, &c. of the past year, which covers no less than 37 pages. We give in an epitomised form the substance of this review, taking the headings as we find them in the *Teikoku Bungaku*.

I. PHILOSOPHY.—The movement known as the *Nippon Shugi*, which dates from the year 1897, though not causing such a stir as it did that year, has still a good deal of life in it. One section of the *Nippon Shugi* party has started a paper known as the *Keikwa Shinbun*, which advocates absolute monarchy and suggests that the Constitution might with advantage be abolished. . . . Among Literary post-graduates of the University a very large number have devoted special attention to philosophical questions of a practical kind. At the Imperial University, Dr. Motora has been lecturing on the "Psychology of Society;" Dr. Nakajima on "Our Existence in the World" (*人世論 Jinseiron*). A society has been established called the *Shakai-gak-kenkyūkai* (Sociological Investigation Society), whose membership is large and whose meetings are well attended. . . . No new or striking opinions on philosophy have been expressed during the year. The two philosophical organs, the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* and the *Tōyōtetsugaku Zasshi*, have both fallen off, but the latter is quite inferior to the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*.

II. EDUCATION.—In the latter part of the year there was a marked revival of interest in education. The defects of our

system, the laxity of morals among students, and a variety of other subjects connected with schools and their maintenance were earnestly discussed in newspapers and magazines.

III. RELIGION.—The three great topics of interest under this heading were the Dōshisha affair, the departure of the Otani brothers on an evangelistic tour in foreign lands, and the question of the rights of religious sects in prisons. But all of these may be designated surface topics. None of them impressed the public with the notion that deep faith exists among those who figured conspicuously in the discussion of the questions at issue. The general feeling is that what is needed in the religious world is more real conviction and less agitation about non-essentials.

IV. FICTION.—In 1896 the rage for writing and reading fiction may be said to have been at its highest point. Since then it has steadily declined. The number of magazines that opened their pages to novel writers which have ceased to be published during the year is quite abnormal. Among well-known novelists Messrs. Shōyō (Tsubouchi), Ogai (Mori) Ryōku-u (Saitō) have written nothing, and Messrs. Kōyō (Ozaki), and Rohan (Kōda) have only contributed a few scraps to newspapers or magazines.

V. LANGUAGE.—No progress can be reported beyond the formation of a society called the *Kokuji Kairyōkai* and the appearance of a few articles discussing methods of reform. The sum of money which the Mombushō proposed to devote to the institution of a thorough investigation of this subject was ruthlessly struck out of the Budget by the House of Representatives.

VI. NEW STYLE VERSES.—In 1897 the popularity of this class of poetry was at its zenith. But last year it became apparent that among all the writers who had tried their hands at this style of composition there were two, Tōson and Bunsui, who had no compeers. They have won a reputation that is likely to last.

VII. TRANSLATION.—Under this heading we have to record with much regret the retirement from the field of literature of Mr. Tsubouchi, who as a translator of poetry has few if any equals. His rendering of "Hamlet," which gave so much pleasure to the readers of the *Waseda Bungaku*, has been left unfinished. In our opinion, for real charm of style and powerful rendering of the spirit of the original, Futabatei's *Oyagokoro* has no equal. Among translations worthy of mention are Mr. Doi Bunsui's translation of Carlyle's "Heroes and Hero Worship," Mr. Azevagi Totarō's translation of an Italian work on "Genius," Mr. Anezaki Masaharu's *Shūkyō Tetsugaku* (Hartman's) and Mr. Fujii Uhei's translation of Spencer's "First Principles of the Synthetic Philosophy." Though these works are not without their imperfections, they are of the class that the country needs and on the whole have been very carefully done.

VIII. THE STAGE.—It would be hard to find anything more unprogressive than the Japanese stage at the present time. The most accomplished actors all have an aversion to new dramas. Men of the Kawakami type lack the histrionic ability to put new plays on the stage in a taking

* The nom de plume of Mr. Hasegawa Tatsunosuke.

manner. Though writers like Messrs. Fukuchi and Tsubouchi have taken great pains in penning dramas that suit the age in which we live, there is no theatre in Japan where competent actors are ready to give them a trial. The one ray of sunshine in the midst of universal gloom proceeds from the Awoba-kai, a Society that is bent on bringing about a reform if such be possible.

IX. CHINESE STUDY AND SCHOLARSHIP.—By the death of Dr. Shimada Jūrei, Japan has lost one of her greatest Chinese scholars. There is little life anywhere among learned men of this type. The Tōa-gakkai has been dissolved. The Shibun-gakkai is asleep. Of Chinese verses none have appeared worthy of praise.

X. HAIKAI.—(Comic verses consisting of 17 syllables). Great diligence has been shown in collecting specimens of this class of literature by the Hakubun-kan and other firms, but the activity in this line is far greater in the provinces than in the metropolis. In some provincial towns the interest in this style of poetry is quite remarkable.

XI. HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.—Two festivals were held during the year which revived the memory of two great men; one was in honour of the Taikō and the other in honour of the founder of the Ikkō Shū, Etō-daishi. This would have been a favourable time for publishing new lives of the two heroes. But nothing was done. Though in quantity the historical and biographical works issued fall short of previous years, in quality they are pronounced by good judges to be superior.

XII. FINE ART.—Leading artists seem to have followed in the wake of modern politicians and become factious in the extreme. The most violent dissension has been witnessed during the past months among schools of painting. Industrial art and sculpture alone seem to be making solid progress. The conflict between the old and new schools of art is a severe one. Until last year the advocates of radical reform were assisted by the Government, but as a result of a good deal of plotting and underhand work this support was withdrawn. . . . One fact worth recording is the revival of interest in those sketches known as *Ukiyo-ye*. Such artists as Messrs. Gekkō, Toshikata, and Eisen are making a speciality of this class of art.

XIV. MUSIC.—Though numerous concerts were given in Tōkyō during the year, it cannot be said that anything like a general interest in music has been awakened. The press notices of the efforts of amateurs and professors show little real discernment and usually consist of a string of laudatory epithets. Though the Meiji Ongaku Kai has the support of a large number of influential people, their concerts cannot be pronounced a success. As a step towards making music a general study, the creation of branches of the Tōkyō Ongaku Gakkō is to be mentioned. Then as a means of bringing music to the notice of the public at large the article of Mr. Sakabe Kōzaburō in the *Taiyō* (November Number) on the "Inefficiency of the School of Music," (at Ueno), and the trenchant reply and subsequent defence which it called forth in the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, are worthy of notice. Japanese music seems to have lost all its charm for the people and to be about to become extinct (*Nihon no ongaku wa masani taoren to su.*)

Compared with last year the summary published in the *Teikoku Bungaku* of

which we have given the gist makes gloomy reading, being rather a record of what should be done than of what has been done. The year, 1898, however, cannot but be regarded as a period of literary stagnation in Japan compared with previous years, the reasons for which have been several times minutely discussed by writers whose opinions have been stated in these columns, and hence there is a real cause for the pessimistic tone of the *Teikoku Bungaku's* review.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The New Far East, by ARTHUR DIÓSY; London, Messrs. Cassell and Company, Limited.

MR. ARTHUR DIÓSY's name is very familiar to Englishmen resident in Japan. We know him chiefly on account of his connexion with the Japan Society of London. He was one of that flourishing institution's founders and he has been one of its most active mainstays and most valuable contributors. Yet we have never been quite sure about his nationality. Excellent and numerous reasons as there are for believing him to be English, the accented *ō* in his name has always been a source of doubt. It is interesting, therefore, to learn from the preface of his new work that Britain is his "native country." We learn, also, from the pages of the same work that he has travelled much, acquired several languages, and studied many peoples at first hand. He has a remarkable acquaintance with things Japanese, but it is probably not a very profound acquaintance, for in interpreting a legend written by Professor Takahashi in *hiragana* on the cover of "*The New Far East*," he tells us that it reads, *Shin Kioku To*. It does not read anything of the kind, however. Professor Takahashi was not at all likely to be guilty of the solecism of using *hiragana* to indite a purely Sinitic-Japanese title. What he has written is *Arata naru kigashi no hate*. There are other indications that the language of Japan has not received very earnest attention from Mr. Diósy, but there are also numerous indications that he has keenly studied the habits of her people, the changes the nation has undergone during the past forty years, its present condition, and the prospects that lie before it. The impressions we derive from a careful reading of Mr. Diósy's capital book are that he set before himself two objects in compiling it; first, to convey to the average Englishman an intelligent and favourable idea of the Japanese people; secondly, to convince the British politician that the potentialities of Russia's advance in the Far East demand a much larger share of attention than they receive, and deserve a far greater effort of resistance than they provoke. In the former object he seems to have succeeded very well. The case that he makes out for the Japanese is at once strong and impartial, though we venture to predict that some of his remarks will expose him to no little criticism at the hands of the local English press in Japan. In our opinion his analysis of the causes underlying the adverse comments to which the Japanese used to be so freely and persistently subjected by foreign writers resident in this country, is incomplete. He appears to think that the hostility of the critics was inspired originally, and has been fomented mainly, by the too lavish

encomiums of Japan's panegyrista. That is an explanation which the detractors themselves are very fond of advancing on their own behalf. But it has not the slightest value in the face of historical facts. For from the very beginning of Western relations with this country the columns of the local foreign press were disfigured by bitter prejudice and contemptuous condemnation. There were no flatterers in those days against whom a fine regard for truth impelled onlookers to raise their voices. The critics had the field entirely to themselves, and they displayed just as much bias and rancour when they preached from texts of their own imagining as they ever showed subsequently in traversing the themes of too enthusiastic eulogists. However, those days of abuse seem to be over. Only, in writing their epitaph, we should be inclined to ascribe to the cynics worthier and less ludicrous motives than they claim for themselves when they plead that, though friendly at heart to the Japanese people, they can not endure to hear them praised.

Concerning Mr. Diósy's views about Russia, while fully admitting that destiny is driving her forward towards Japan and China with constantly increasing force, we can not for an instant endorse the extremely unfavourable comparisons that he draws between British and Russian diplomacy in the East. He appears to suffer from the common tendency to invest with magnificent attributes everything unknown. It may be mere extravagance of language to allege that Japan's first successes in the war with China gave a sort of sunstroke to all the statesmen in Europe "except to the ice-cool heads in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the bank of the Neva," but it is a very grave misrepresentation to write as follows:—

The men who work for Russia in the Far East enjoy advantages over their colleagues of other nations—and especially over their British antagonists—that spring from racial causes. The educated Russian is an excellent linguist. I lay stress on the word "educated," because it is a common fallacy that all Russians speak several languages. In comparison with the vast population of the Empire, the linguists are few, but they excel in the languages they acquire. Not only do they learn the tongues of the Far East with greater facility, and speak them more fluently, and with a far better pronunciation and intonation, than Britons, who seldom lose their insular inflections—I know Englishmen who, after a residence of years in Osaka, persist in calling it "Osahka," or even "Osahker"—but they have the inestimable advantage of being able to learn the languages before proceeding to the Far East, in the excellent practical School the Russian Government maintains for the purpose. France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, even Austria-Hungary, all possess special Schools for the same purpose. Britain does not. Comment is superfluous.

Could anything be more misleading? It is possible that the average Russian diplomatist knows more of European languages than his British colleague, for, as a matter of absolute necessity, he has to acquire some language besides his own in order to get on at all. But the question here is not of European languages: it is of Far-Eastern languages; the languages of Japan and China; and in the field of Far-Eastern languages, the members of the British service are miles ahead of the Russian. No one will be readier to admit the fact than the Russians themselves. Consider, for example, the Russian Legation in Tokyo. During the past thirty years it has had one, and only one, competent Japanese scholar, and his services were lost to it a short time ago. How many distinguished Sinologues have belonged to the staff of the British Legation

during that long era? Surely it is unnecessary to enumerate them. If we pass to the *Chefs de Mission* themselves, the only one that has ever been a master, or even an earnest student, of the Japanese language is the present British Minister, and he stands first among all the Sino-logues of the century. The record for China is similar. Since the opening of her intercourse with the West there have been two and only two European Representatives who could converse with a Chinese official in the Chinese language, and they were British Ministers, Sir Thomas Wade and Sir Harry Parkes. Moreover, for every one Russian scholar of Chinese, we venture to say that there have been at least ten British. By whom have Japan and China been made known to the world? But truly the matter is not worthy of further discussion. Mr. Diósy, keen as is his observation and accurate as are his analyses of things Far-Eastern in general, has been completely misled at this point. His admiration for Russian diplomacy is almost emotional. He would have us believe that her exit from the Korean stage in 1898 was a fine stroke of statesmanship; a wise concession calculated to secure a return much larger than the effort of self-restraint it entailed. Well, we can only say that if the intention was so astute and far-seeing, the method of carrying it out belongs to a very much lower grade of conception. And we may add that though Mr. Diósy admires the incident Russia herself has never displayed any symptoms of admiration. On the contrary, the chief actor in the drama has disappeared from the diplomatic horizon. If his country owes him gratitude, she has taken a very singular method of evincing the sentiment. We folks in the Far-East, who have the opportunity of seeing Far-Eastern things more closely, formed a different estimate of the Russian evacuation of Söul in 1898, and as to endorsing another view stated elsewhere by Mr. Diósy—a view not altogether consistent with his previous estimate of the same incident—namely, that it was “a great victory obtained by Japan over Russia without firing a shot,” or, at least, that it “must appear so in the eyes of the East,” we are again compelled to disagree *in toto*. Certainly Japanese statesmen do not hold that theory, nor has the Japanese nation ever been betrayed into any display of exultation. Russian diplomacy, as every one must frankly admit, has a great advantage over British diplomacy, but the difference is due to causes which we should be very sorry to see inoperative in England, even though their removal did more than redress the balance. The wider aspect of the problem, from Mr. Diósy's point of view, is that Russia's ambition—her deliberately conceived and strongly held ambition—is to “rule, in the first place, over China; *absolutely*” (the italics are his own) “over Manchuria, Mongolia, and Northern China proper; then over Chinese Turkestan as far as the Pamir tableland; indirectly over the whole of China.” That is a large programme. Yet, who shall say that it is exaggerated? “To be the mistress of three-fourths of Asia, together with her partner France” is an ambition which might well fire Russian imagination. And England in India has set the example. It is futile to attempt the discussion of such questions within the limits of a newspaper article. We refer our readers to Mr. Diósy's volume, which is certainly

one of the most interesting and suggestive works yet published about the Far East, though in his preface he modestly tells us that it “is not intended for the expert,” having been “written for the many who, knowing a little about the Far East, are anxious to know more.”

Before parting company with our author, we may refer to one among the many minor points which seem to invite comment. He has a great deal to say about Port Arthur, and, *inter alia*, he refers to “The China-Japan War,” by “Vladimir.” That volume, accurately as it describes the course of the various campaigns, makes not the slightest allusion to the excesses committed at Port Arthur, and Mr. Diósy, assuming that the work, “if not officially inspired by the Japanese Government, was at all events written by some one in close touch with it,” describes its silence about the Port Arthur affair as “a final and grave blunder committed by the Japanese Government.” Now who is “Vladimir” and how can it be asserted that he compiled his book under official direction or at official inspiration? In reviewing the work, we ourselves attributed it to a Japanese, but our inference drew from the publishers a written denial that such was the author's nationality. At no time, however, had we imagined that the work was compiled under official auspices. Whatever may have been “Vladimir's” idea in omitting all mention of the Port Arthur reproach, it seems exceedingly unjust and precipitate to conclude that his silence was dictated by the Japanese Government. Mr. Diósy's evident impression is that the Japanese Government carefully and most unwisely abstained from all admission of the incident and from conveying any reproach to the responsible General. Is he, then, ignorant of the despatch addressed by Count Mutsu to Washington, and can he explain why General Yamaji did not take part in the Wei-hai wei campaign, as was certainly his right from a purely military point of view, and as it had been originally intended that he should? But we have already exceeded our limit of space. We take leave of Mr. Diósy's interesting and brightly written work with a very full expression of appreciation.

Domitia, by S. Baring-Gould. London, Methuen; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.

METHUEN have just brought out, in their red backed Colonial Library, “*Domitia*,” the Rev. S. Baring-Gould's stirring story of Roman life. In a short preface the author takes the reader into his confidence regarding the making of the book. It seems that during the winter of 1890, Mr. Baring-Gould visited Rome and Florence to gather materials for his “*Tragedy of the Cæsars*,” and while engaged in this work came across the marble bust of Domitia Longina, which adorns the Chiaramonte Gallery. The beautiful face exerted a wonderful influence upon him, and later when he saw another bust of Domitia in the Capitoline Gallery, representing the Roman Empress in the years when she shared the purple with the tigerish Domitian, he was irresistibly drawn into studying her life-tragedy, and this in time brought him to a third bust—taken in the evening of her days—which is to be found in the Florence Gallery. Reproductions of the three busts are given in the volume and enhance it considerably.

Baring-Gould has ever interesting matter to descant upon, but the critic of his writings often wishes that he would take a little more pains with his composition. Here and there traces of the sloven appear and frequently mar an otherwise readable page. In “*Domitia*,” too,

the schoolmaster, is very apparent, particularly in the opening chapters. Perhaps it is inseparable from the style of the narrative: to bring the details of courtly Roman life more vividly before the reader it may be necessary to go into explanations of customs, articles of apparel, or household use, fashionable crazes, etc., after the manner of a third standard text-book: but it is tiresome reading at times and productive of irritation rather than entertainment.

But to the story. Domitia Longina was the only child of Cæsus Domitus Corbulo, a distinguished Roman General, who, incurring the suspicion of Nero, owing to his successes in Syria, was commanded to commit suicide while on his way home to Italy. This terrible event turns a young girl of 16 into a thoughtful woman almost at one stroke; it has a different effect upon her mother, a woman of baser metal and lower ideals. As the years go by, Domitia is engaged to Lucius Ælius Lamia, a young patrician who had won her father's esteem during his last Pro-Consulship. The day of their marriage arrives; all goes happily, and the beautiful bride reaches her husband's home, when she is forcibly carried off by Domitian Cæsar, who had fallen in love with her during visits to her mother's house. This was some years before Domitian ascended the throne, but the power of his family—the Flavian Cæsars—protected him, and Lamia had to give up his bride. But Domitia refused to love her Imperial husband, and the story of her stormy life with the Cæsar occupies the rest of the book. Life in old Rome between the downfall of Nero and the death of Domitian must have been very exciting; more especially for those of high station. Murder stalked abroad in the full light of day, wrongs unutterable were perpetrated with impunity; it was a cruel world and a dangerous, for patrician and plebeian alike. But it was infinitely more cruel in the treatment of its womankind. A sad, grey outlook they had upon life, intellectually and morally. The old mythologies had long lost all hold upon the minds of men and women, and the light that had arisen in Galilee was as yet too feeble to reach far beyond the immediate circle of the Apostles. But it had begun to shine, and here and there little colonies of Christians were to be found in Asia Minor, Greece, and Italy. Domitia in the course of her sad earthly pilgrimage comes in contact with St. Luke, the good physician, and eventually with Flavia Domitilla, the first of the great dames of Rome who boldly professed allegiance to the Christ: and through her the much-tortured soul reaches “the Light, the glorious Light.”

As we said above, “*Domitia*” is a stirring tale, and, we think, will well repay the time spent in its perusal. The novelist, of course, claims the privilege of his cloth, to hasten or retard events to suit the convenience of his narrative, but on the whole Baring-Gould has kept to the main road of history fairly well. As a picture of Imperial Rome at the beginning of its decline the book is, perhaps, hardly of much value, but as a novel it is very interesting.

IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10 30 a.m.

SPEECH BY THE MINISTER PRESIDENT.

His Excellency Marquis Yamagata briefly addressed the House. It had been, he said, a paramount object with the Government to obtain the consent of the Diet to measures such as would place the finances of the empire on a sound footing, and he desired, on behalf of the Cabinet, to express hearty satisfaction that measures of increased taxation necessary to that end had been passed by both Houses. Various Bills embodying projects of law for dealing with the altered state of affairs that would be inaugurated when the Revised Treaties went into force, had also been presented. “The country had to congratulate itself most sincerely on the fortunate fact that it was about to witness the operation of the new

Intention, which the whole nation had earnestly desired for the long space of 30 years (*sanjūnen no nagai arida kokka wo agete mitsubito seshi shin joyaku mo kōnichi jissai wo min to suru wa kokka no tame keta no itari*). Henceforth it would only be necessary, while seeking to advance the interests legitimately accruing to the country, to pay due respect to the rights of foreigners, and endeavour to promote the mutual advantage of both sides." His Excellency then alluded to the reform of the system of Local Government. The present system had been promulgated during his former tenure of office as Premier. It had necessarily been of a somewhat tentative character, and experience had indicated many points calling for amendment. These had been embodied in a project of law which had received the consent of the Lower House, and he trusted that it would be equally fortunate in its treatment by the Peers.

BANK OF JAPAN TAX.

Viscount Soga having reported the result of the Conference between the Houses with reference to the Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan; and the Bills (sent up from the Representatives) for amending the Local Government system having been handed to a Special Committee, the Committee's report was received on the Bill for rendering assistance in the arrest and detention of seamen refugees from foreign men-of-war. The report was favourable and the Bill was passed without debate.

COMMITTEE WORK.

The following measures were then handed to Special Committees:—

Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for eliminating fractions of a *sen* from the State accounts of land assessment and land tax.

Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for abolishing the tax on marine products in Hokkaido.

With regard to this measure the Government Delegate explained that the administration of Hokkaido was on a system different from that applied to other parts of the empire. All the expenditures involved in managing its affairs were disbursed by the Treasury, and the imposition of a special tax was therefore a reasonable and proper measure. The sum affected by the Bill was 360,000 *yen*, and in the present state of the finances no surplus revenue was available to cover such a reduction.

Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for the Regulation of Fertilizers.

Bill (private) for the establishment of a Colonial Bank in Hokkaido.

REPRESENTATIONS.

Two Representations, one advocating that the fifth national exhibition be held in Osaka, the other that it be held in Tokyo, were put back, on the motion of Mr. Morita, who then introduced a Representation urging that the fisheries section of the exhibition be made international. This measure was handed to a special Committee.

Two Representations were adopted; one suggesting that steps be taken for the artificial propagation of salmon and *masu*, as these important fish threatened to become scarce; the other urging that a measure of State aid be given to the Take Shrine in Hiroshima, which marked the site of the Emperor Jimmu's headquarters in his expedition against Yamato.

The House rose at 12.10 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m.

FORMOSA.

The Government's Answer to Questions submitted with reference to Formosa was read. Its chief points were:—(1) That, having due regard to friendly relations, it was the Government's intention to maintain the rights accruing to Japan, whether under treaty provisions or by international law, on the mainland opposite to Formosa. (2) That no such policy as that of driving law-abiding folks to take up their residence in disturbed districts, was pursued or contemplated. (3) That the temporary use of certain shrines for barrack purposes had been unavoidable, but that steps were being taken

with all possible expedition to dispense with such expedients. (4) That the question of inspecting weights and measures was now under consideration. (5) That in localities where the people were unable to defray the cost of education, it would be borne by the Treasury. (6) That a policy of mingled clemency and severity would be pursued towards the bandits.

Information having been asked with regard to the settled accounts of the War of 1894-5, the Chairman of the Settled Accounts Committee explained that the Committee had not received even the settled accounts for 1896-7 until the 16th instant, and had not seen any possibility of examining those for the War within the period of the session. They thought of moving that a Continuing Committee be appointed for the purpose.

NEW BILLS.

The Government Bill for establishing a *credit mobilier* was then read and handed to a Special Committee.

The Government Bill for granting the right of appeal from Formosan tribunals to the Court of Cassation in Tokyo, as well as the Bill for amending the Registration Law, were passed without debate, and a Bill (Government) was then read providing that the public rights accruing from the payment of income tax shall not be lost in the case of individuals whose income, being derived from enterprises carried on by judicial persons, and therefore taxed while still in the latter's possession, are not taxable a second time in the category of private incomes, and consequently, under the present system, do not confer on their owners the rights usually derived from the payment of income tax.

Two Government Bills for the better regulation of ships and ship's crews were handed to a Special Committee, and the second reading of a Bill sent down from the Peers for the reclassification of urban building lands was then taken. This Bill led to some discussion, especially on the ground that the Government, while endorsing it and showing a strong desire to have it passed, had left it to be introduced by members of the Upper House. The gist of the Bill is that whereas urban building land has to pay a tax of 5 per cent. under the new system, some of the lands now classed as "urban building lands" have long ceased to deserve that designation, and it would therefore be a great hardship to impose the high rate of tax on them. The Bill was finally passed.

PRIVATE BILLS.

With regard to the Bill (private) for restoring the pensions of persons convicted of political offences and subsequently amnestied, the Government Delegate declared that the Government could not give its consent, but the House nevertheless passed the Bill by a vote of 77 to 36, a signed ballot having been taken.

The Second Reading was voted of the private Bill for establishing credit associations. The name of this measure is misleading, for its real purpose is to provide that men with small capital shall combine in order to be able to make wholesale purchases of grain, fertilizers, raw materials, and so on.

The House, having dealt with various petitions, rose at 3.30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.20 a.m.

INDemnITY APPROPRIATIONS.

Three Government Bills were read and handed to a Special Committee. They provided for the appropriation of a sum of 50 million *yen*, the residue of the War Indemnity, to form three capital funds; namely, 10 millions for education; 30 millions for the maintenance of the Navy; and 10 millions for the relief of natural calamities. Under normal circumstances, the interest alone of these monies is to be available for the purposes indicated, but in case of emergency the principal may be employed, provided that any such encroachment on the principal shall be subsequently made good by

drafts from the Ordinary Revenue, so that the capital fund will be kept always intact.

In answer to questions, the Government Delegate explained that the money designed for educational purposes would be employed chiefly to augment the salaries and allowances of primary school teachers who had served long and well, the object being to improve the status of the teacher and attract good men. There was no intention of augmenting the fund from the proceeds of sales of State forests or moors, but voluntary contributions might be added to it with the Diet's consent. The time for putting the proposed system into operation would be fixed by Notification.

THE LAW OF ELECTION.

The first reading of the Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Law of Election, elicited from the Government Delegate a declaration that the Government could not give its consent to the changes effected by the Lower House in adopting signed ballots and *scrutin de liste*, and in giving 3 additional members to Hokkaido.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee, were four Supplementary Budgets for 1899-00. With regard to one of these, which relates to the Iron Foundry, the Government Delegate explained that the present idea was to obtain supplies of iron from the Iwate mines, but other sources were also under investigation.

NATIONALIZATION.

The Special Committee which had been appointed to report upon the amendments made by the Lower House in the Law of Nationalization, announced a unanimous decision against closing the office of Minister Plenipotentiary to naturalized subjects. It was therefore resolved that a Conference be opened with the Lower House.

NEW LAWS.

The following Bills were then passed:—

Bill embodying a project of Law of Operation of the Commercial Code.

Bill for amending the Law of Procedure in non-litigious Cases.

Bills for changing local boundaries in Oita and Kagawa Prefectures.

Bill for granting State aid to agricultural experiment stations in Cities and Prefectures. This Bill was amended, however, so as not to become operative until the fiscal year 1900-1.

Bill for amending the Deep Sea Fishery Encouragement Law.

Bill for amending the Law for the Inspection of Stud Horses.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m.

QUESTIONS.

Questions were presented with reference to the improvement of means of communication in Shimane Prefecture, and the establishment of a special bureau for superintending the affairs of Shrines.

COMMERCIAL CODE.

The Second Reading of the Revised Commercial Code was then taken. The Special Committee recommended two slight amendments, but the House rejected them on the ground that to imperil the enactment of such a voluminous and important code of law for the sake of one or two petty alterations would be impractical. The Code was therefore endorsed in the form given to it by the Revising Committee.

COMMITTEE WORK.

Several Bills were then handed to Special Committees, namely:—(1) The Bill for amending the Procedure in non-litigious Cases. (2) The Bill embodying a Law of Operation of the Commercial Code. (3) A Government Bill relating to the rights of persons who have lost their nationality. (4) A Government Bill relating to Pledges by Foreigners. (5) Two Government Bills relating to the Management of State Forests and Moors. (6) A Government Bill relating to the Sale of State Forests and Moors.

MEASURES PASSED.

The following measures were passed without discussion:—

The Customs Bill (Government).

The Bill (Private) relating to the Government of Tokyo City.

The Bill (Government) relating to Strategic Zones.

Two Bills (Government) for the Regulation of Ships and Ship's Crews.

A Representation recommending the establishment of a Central Industrial Experiment Station.

The House rose at 3 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.10 a.m., and, having received the report of the Petitions Committee, dealt with the following Bills:—

A LAND BILL.

A Government Bill relating to the Right of Appropriation by the State. The object of this Bill is to extend the power already possessed by the Government to enforce the surrender of land required for public purposes, in the event of the owner's declining to sell at a reasonable price. The power is at present confined to ownership of land, and the Bill extends it to water as well as to other rights over land, as superficies or leasing. The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES.

Government Bill (from Lower House) for opening the Supreme Court to appeals from legal tribunals in Formosa. Handed to Committee.

Government Bill (from Lower House) for amending the Registration Law. Handed to Committee.

These three Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House) were all handed to Special Committees, namely, the Customs Law Bill, the Shipping Law Bill, and the Ship's Crews Law Bill.

The Special Committee reported favourably on the Government Bill for forming a Special Capital Fund for Education, and the House voted the Second and Third Reading, the only question raised being whether the Government had any intention of calling upon the Communities to contribute to the Fund. The Government Delegate replied, of course, that no power to make any such demand existed.

The Bill for allowing foreigners to hold shares in the Bourse was then passed unanimously, but the House threw out the Government Bill for making changes of local boundaries in Nagano Prefecture.

A Government Bill for establishing a Hokkaido Colonisation Bank was read and handed to a Special Committee.

PILOTS LAW.

The Government Bill embodying a project of Pilots Law was discussed clause by clause, and passed with slight amendments recommended by the Special Committee. The Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for the Regulation of Land in Okinawa Prefecture, as well as the Government project of Fishery Law were passed, and the private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for granting State Aid to Elementary Education was read the first time, but before any action could be taken with regard to it, the House was counted out at 3.40 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., and having handed to a Special Committee three Government Bills for amending the laws relating to pensions and gratuities to school teachers, in the sense of greater liberality, passed the following three Bills without debate or dissent:—

Government Bill for extending the competence of the State to appropriate land for public purpose.

Government Bill for setting aside a Naval Capital Fund of 30 million yen.

Government Bill for setting aside a Natural Calamity Capital Fund of 10 million yen.

AIDS TO ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

The Private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for granting State Aid to Elementary Schools was favourably reported by the Special Committee. The Chairman said that there were 7 million children of school-going age in Japan, of whom 2½ millions received no education owing to their parents' inability to pay school fees. At present, the number of teachers was deficient by some thirty thousand. The Communities were devoting 50 or 60 per cent. of their total taxes to educational purposes, and could not do more without great difficulty. Parents themselves were paying over 3 millions on account of school fees. It seemed inevitable that the State should render assistance. The Government Delegate had intimated to the Special Committee that the Cabinet approved this Bill, and that the Treasury was prepared to give ten per cent. of the school teachers' salaries, which would mean a contribution of from 800,000 yen to 900,000 yen. The money could be taken from next year's surplus revenue.

Baron Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, called the attention of the House to the condition of the country's finances. The Government had at length succeeded in placing the finances on something like a sound footing, but 25 million yen had still to be returned to the indemnity, and there was a debt of 9 millions incurred on account of last year's inundations. Further, from 1904, a large amount must be set apart every year for the maintenance of the Navy. It was true that the extraordinary outlays on account of the post-bellum expansions of armaments would soon cease; but on the other hand, when the expansions were completed, the ordinary expenditures for the Army and Navy would be greater. It was not possible, therefore, that the Treasury should find means of paying out eight or nine hundred thousand yen here, and one or two millions there, and he trusted that due attention would be paid to these facts.

Mr. Izawa spoke in support of the Bill, quoting statistics to prove that the Treasury's grants to education were quite inadequate compared with the sums given in other countries.

The House passed the Bill by a large majority.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Government Bills embodying projects of shipping law and ships' crews law, and for amending the Registration Law, were passed, and the Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Peers' Law was postponed.

The private Bill (sent up from the Lower House), for dealing with the hereditary and good-service pensions of amnestied political offenders, was read and handed to a Special Committee.

TOKYO'S MUNICIPALITY.

The private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Municipal System in Tokyo, having been read.

Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke observed that the special system of city Government had been abolished in Tokyo last year, and the duty of inspection devolved now, in the first instance, on the Governor and, in the second, on the Minister of Home Affairs. He desired to know whether this altered system was considered to be working satisfactorily, and whether, as a matter of fact, the condition of Tokyo was not much worse than that of Osaka or Kyoto.

The Vice-Minister of Home Affairs replied briefly that the Government opposed the Bill now before the House, and consequently was not called upon to answer questions of the nature just propounded.

Mr. Misaki pressed his point. Did the Government consider that the Mayor, who was now an elected officer, succeeded in discharging the duties devolving on him? Was the Government satisfied with the educational arrangements in the city; with the sanitation; with the engineering works; with the condition of the streets?

The Vice-Minister answered that the function of inspection was performed by the Government and the Home Department within the limits prescribed by law. As for this Bill,

it would lead to a mischievous division of authority, and for that reason the Government could not endorse it.

Baron Ozaki thought that the citizens had just reason to complain of the municipality. The state of the streets was terrible. Had there not been numerous cases of children falling in the Asabu district on their way to and from the primary-school?

The Vice-Minister had not procured any statistics about the number of falls that children had experienced.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The House then passed the private Bills (sent up from the Representatives) for extending the system of Agricultural Associations and for eliminating fractions of a yen from the public accounts of Land Assessments and Land Tax.

The private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for extending the system of State Aid to Technical Education so as to include marine products, was rejected, as was the private Bill (sent up from the Representatives) for abolishing the Tax on Marine Products in Hokkaido. Mr. Murata Tamotou, who associates himself with all fishery questions, supported the Bill, but the Government Delegate explained that until the administration of Hokkaido could be placed on the same footing as the administration of the rest of the empire, a consummation which the Government would spare no effort to bring about, the abolition of the Tax was financially impossible.

SETTLED ACCOUNTS.

A Resolution with reference to the Settled Accounts for 1899 was then adopted, on the recommendation of the Special Committee. It declared that the provisions of the Law of Finance had been violated by the Foreign Office in arbitrarily placing a contract which ought to have been determined by public tender.

AN ART SCHOOL FOR KYOTO.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro introduced, and the House unanimously adopted, a Representation urging the establishment of an Art School in Kyoto. He urged that places for imparting instruction in the principles and applications of art were few and defective. In pre-Restoration days, the Shogun, the territorial nobles, and the priests had all acted as munificent patrons of art, so that its progress had been steady. But of late, first-class art artisans had gradually become scarcer. There were none to follow in the footsteps of their great predecessors. He instanced the dyeing industry. It had fallen into such an evil condition that the use of foreign dyeing materials, though not properly understood, was steadily increasing, solely for the sake of cheapness. The result was bad in quality as well as durability of colour and, as a consequence, Japanese *habutars*, of which five or six hundred thousand pieces were exported every year, had to be taken to France, dyed there and re-shipped to America. If the dyeing were done in Japan, the value of the export would be doubled. In the matter of designing patterns also, the ability of former times was gradually disappearing, and with it all hope of Japan's textile fabrics being able to compete in foreign markets. In the fields of porcelain, lacquer, metal work, and enamel, improvement was equally necessary. Tokyo and Osaka had schools where fairly good education was given, but Kyoto, though from time immemorial it had been the metropolis of Japanese art, was without any such advantage.

The House was counted out at 3 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m.; and passed the following Bills:—

The amendments of the Stamp Tax Law, as agreed upon by a Conference of the Houses.

Two Government Bills relating to Amendments of the Banking Law.

Two Government Bills for the Regulation of State Forests and Moors, and for the Sale of the same to their original owners. The second of these measures led to much discussion. The

House adopted the amendments advocated by the minority of the Special Committee, the Government Delegate having announced approval of them, but rejected a motion by Mr. Nakamura Yaroku to elide the words "State-owned," in order that the measure might include forests and moors which had been transferred by the State to the Imperial Estates.

The Government Bill relating to Aid in Cases of Inundations.

The Government Bill providing for an issue of 10 million yen worth of Bonds in order to compensate persons who had suffered unjust losses of hereditary or good-service pensions.

PROLONGING THE SESSION.

At this point an Imperial Rescript was read, prolonging the session until the 9th instant.

The following four Government Bills were handed to Special Committees.

Bill (sent down from the Peers) relating to security in cases of appeal from judgments in cases of major offences by foreigners pleading *in forma pauperis*.

Bill amending and supplementing the Regulations for dealing with persons taken sick or dying when on journeys.

Bill providing for a rebate of tax to the extent of 20 per cent. on manufactured tobacco for export.

Bill (sent down from the Peers) for assisting to arrest and detain fugitive seamen from foreign war-ships.

NEW BANKS.

The Special Committee then made its report on the Private Bill for establishing an Industries Bank, and the Government Bill for establishing a Movables Bank. The Committee had taken the Government Bill as a basis, and had incorporated the provision in the Private Bill to the effect that the Government should guarantee the principal and interest on debentures offered by the Bank in foreign markets.

The Government Delegate (Baron Tajiri) said that the Government was emphatically opposed to anything of the kind.

Mr. Arai Shogo understood that the Ito Cabinet had drafted a scheme for an Industrial Bank embodying the very provision now denounced by Baron Tajiri, who must then have approved of it. Rumour said that Count Inouye had abandoned the idea in deference to objections raised by Barons Mitsui and Iwasaki.

Baron Tajiri had never heard a whisper of any such thing.

Messrs. Seki and Taguchi strongly opposed the Bill, but the House passed it by a vote of 124 to 91.

The Government Bill for the Regulation of Fisheries was then read and handed to a Special Committee, and the House rose at 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

AMENDING LEGISLATION.

The House met at 10.15 a.m., and, having endorsed the result of the conference with the Lower House on the subject of the Stamp Tax Law, read and entrusted to a Special Committee a Government Bill embodying a law of 21 Articles for defining the duties of Consuls, a measure necessitated by the recent promulgation of various Codes.

APPEALS FROM FORMOSA.

Consent was then given to eight extra-budget expenditures for 1896, and the House proceeded to the Second Reading of the Government Bill (sent up from the Representatives) for opening the Supreme Court to appeals from tribunals of law in Formosa. This measure led to considerable discussion. Its supporters contended that, though the inhabitants of Formosa had not, perhaps, attained a degree of civilization warranting the proposed change, the Japanese and foreigners residing in the island ought not, for that reason, to be debarred the privilege of appealing against errors of law. Its opponents argued that special legislative and judicial powers were vested in the Formosa authorities; that to carry an appeal to Tokyo would be a hardship rather than an advantage to the inhabitants, that even

England did not grant appeals from her colonial courts (for which erroneous statement Mr. Seki Yoshio was responsible); that the number of cases worthy of being appealed was quite insignificant, and that a much better plan would be to reestablish the Appellate Court of Formosa. The Bill was finally rejected, and the House, having read and handed to Special Committee the Government Bills (sent up from the Representatives) relating to forestry affairs, went into secret session to consider the Bill for amending the Peers Law, and rose at 3.55 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 3.55 p.m.

QUESTIONS.

A Question was presented with reference to the case of ex-judge Takano of Formosa, and the Law of Operation of the Commercial Code, and the Bill for amending the Procedure in non-litigious cases, were passed without debate.

A Government Bill for the Prevention of Offences against the Tobacco-Monopoly Law was read and handed to a Special Committee, as was also a private Bill for establishing a Colonization Bank in Hokkaido.

LEGAL MATTERS.

Dr. Hatoyama's Bill providing that judicial officials who had passed their examination should be allowed to practise as barristers without awaiting the completion of their probationary period in a Law Court, and that all statements made by barristers in Court should be without prejudice, then came up for its second reading. The House voted in favour of the first part of the measure, but rejected the second, and, Dr. Hatoyama withdrawing his support from the Bill in that emasculated form, it was thrown out on its third reading.

A private Bill providing that power to punish the President and Councillors of the Board of Audit be vested in the Supreme Court, and two correlated Bills, were thrown out; a Representation was adopted urging that steps be taken to introduce breeding cattle from abroad, as the number annually killed in Japan exceeds the number born, and the stock is decreasing at the rate of 30,000 yearly; and a private Bill for the Regulation of Arable Land was read and handed to a Special Committee.

FIFTH NATIONAL EXHIBITION.

The two Representations with regard to the site of the fifth national exhibition were then taken, and an inscribed ballot resulted in 122 votes being cast for Osaka and 108 for Tokyo.

STATE FORESTS AND MOORS.

A Representation for organizing an Investigation Committee in the matter of State Forests and Moors evoked a long and powerful speech from Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, who declared that the appointment of such Committees had become a mania and that not one of the large number already organized had justified its existence. Dr. Hatoyama strongly endorsed Mr. Nakamura's views, and Mr. Sugita spoke in support of the proposal, contending that everything depended on the kind of men appointed, and that the importance of the subject called for its careful scrutiny. The House rejected the Representation.

CONCERNING PENSIONS.

The result of a Conference with the Peers in the matter of the latter's amendments of the Bill for establishing Agricultural Experiment Stations in Cities and Prefectures, was reported and endorsed, and a Bill was then read granting pensions to the former Tanami Clanmen. These folks were a remnant of the Aizu Clan, which had opposed the Imperialists so resolutely in 1867. After the complete collapse of their cause and the death of most of their comrades, they moved to Tanami in 1868, and there subsisted on a mere fraction of the fief's original income, all distinctions of rank being obliterated, and each man having a slender income of 7.2 *koku* of rice, or a four-men's ration, annually. On the abolition of feudalism in 1871, they lost even that pittance, and were not included in the scheme of commutation adopted with regard to the other fiefs. The Bill proposed to remedy this hardship by giving them pension

bonds. The Government Delegate opposed the project, on the ground that these men's property did not fall within the category of commutable incomes, and the Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

A private Bill for correcting omissions made in commencing the incomes of Shinto officials and Buddhist Priests at the times of the Restoration, was read and handed to a Special Committee. The sum involved was two hundred thousand yen, which the framers of the Bill proposed to pay in *Chitsuroku Kōrai* (a form of pension bond).

RAILWAY DIVIDENDS.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi introduced a Bill for imposing a limit on the dividends paid by Private Railway Companies. He stated that, as a general rule, these companies think only of realizing large profits, and refrain from spending any money on the repair or improvement of their roads. The Bill provides that whenever a Company has paid a dividend of 10 per cent. for more for three years consecutively, the Minister of State for Communications shall be competent to order a reduction of the fares charged on its lines. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

REPRESENTATIONS.

A Representation urging that a number of experts and men of affairs be sent to the Paris International Exhibition to study the arts and manufactures of the West was unanimously adopted; the Peers' amendments of the Bill for granting state aid to elementary education were accepted, and a Representation for opening an international fisheries section in the fifth national exhibition was handed to a Committee.

The House was counted out at 4.50 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE NATIONALIZATION LAW.

The House met at 10.15 a.m. and, having read and entrusted to Special Committees two Government Bills—one relating to the Relief of Disasters by Inundation, the other (sent up from the Lower House) embodying a project for dealing with Hereditary and Good-Service Pensions by an issue of Bonds to the extent of 10 million yen—received the reports of its Managers with regard to the Conference held with the Representatives in the matter of the amendment of the Nationalization Law. It appeared that the Conference had resulted in a compromise, the managers of the Representatives agreeing to restore the right of obtaining nationalization by marriage (*i.e.* the case of *niusu*, where the husband takes the wife's name), and the Managers of the Peers consenting to waive the proposal that the post of Minister Plenipotentiary should be open to naturalized subjects. The House endorsed this arrangement.

TONNAGE DUES.

The Second Reading of the Tonnage Dues Bill was then taken, and a long discussion ensued with reference to the special Committee's amendment that, in the case of a ship which had to enter several ports, a single payment of 20 *sen* per ton at the first port should clear it for all the rest. The House finally rejected the amendment, and passed the Bill in the form given to it by the Government, with slight verbal alterations.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Government Bills containing a project of Customs Law and Amendments of the Registration Law, were passed without discussion; the private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for abolishing the import duty on salted fish coming from Saghalien, was put back, by desire of the chairman of the Special Committee appointed to report on it, and the following measures were passed with brief discussion:—

Bill (private; sent up from the Representatives) for abolishing the import duty on substances used as fertilizers.

Resolution relating to motions for applying the Closure.

Representation relating to the settled accounts for 1896 7.

A Representation was introduced for granting State Aid to the National Learning Association, but the House was counted out at 3 p.m. before any step could be taken with regard to the measure.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. SUNDRY BILLS.

The House met at 1.20 p.m. and, having endorsed the result of the Conference with the Peers in the matter of the Nationalization Law, passed the following:—

Bill (sent down from the Peers) for amending the Bourae Law in the sense of permitting foreigners to hold shares.

Bill for amending the portion of the Civil Code relating to mortgages on immovables where foreigners are the mortgagees.

Bill for the better prevention of offences against the Tobacco Monopoly Law.

Bills providing capital funds of 10 million *yen*, 30 million *yen*, and 10 million *yen*, respectively, for education, for the maintenance of the Navy, and for the relief of calamities. With regard to the second of these Bills the Government Delegate, in answer to questions, said that the interest on these capital funds would be from 3 to 5 per cent.; that interest amounting to 2½ millions had already been realized, and that, the calculations on which the values of the vessels of war and torpedo craft were based being very intricate, he could not immediately furnish figures.

The following measures were entrusted to Special Committees:—

Government Bill for continuing the system of Famine Relief Funds, the operation of the present Law being limited to the year 1900.

Representation for establishing a School of Industrial Art.

Resolution relating to the House's procedure in the matter of Settled Accounts.

Bill for abolishing the Law which empowers the Government to hand over to private companies, if such a course seem desirable, any of the railways included in the programme of first-period construction.

Representation relating to moral text books in Primary Schools.

Bill (private) for changing the jurisdiction limits of law courts in Ishikawa and Iwate Prefectures.

Representation for amending the Prison Regulations.

Representation for extending to students in private schools the privilege of exemption from conscription.

The House then passed a Representation introduced by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro for granting State Aid to the National Learning Association, and, having adopted various petitions, rose at 3.30 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LAST YEAR OF THE CENTURY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Every little while I see or hear some statement to the effect that the year 1899 is the last year of this, the nineteenth century. Just now I have received a circular plea for a general mission meeting in Tokyo, and am told, that, "this year being the last of this century, * * * unusual interest * * * is being called forth." Now, inasmuch as the first century of the Christian era, or, for that matter, of any era, must have contained one hundred full years before it could be a century, it is very evident that the nineteenth century is not completed until nineteen hundred years are finished. And, inasmuch as the year 1 of the Christian era was the first century, and, therefore, the year 101 was the first year of the second century, the year 1901 must be the first year of the twentieth century. This simple arithmetical calculation is so evident that it is practically an axiom; and yet how frequent is this mistake. Don't hurry Time; he flies fast enough!

UNCAS.

Tokyo, February 24th, 1899.

REFORM OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

We have been asked to publish the following letter:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

SIR,—Allow me to thank you and through you your correspondents for the generous consideration accorded my suggestion regarding an amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure. The information which you and they have given has made, I am sure, a most happy impression upon the community at large. At the risk of appearing presumptuous, I venture to ask space in your valuable journal for certain additional thoughts bearing upon the same subject. In doing so, that I may not appear an unappreciative observer of the great service which the new judiciary has done and is still doing, with your permission I will quote from an address delivered in Tokyo in December, 1894, and reported in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of January 5, 1895. The paragraph runs as follows:—

"Whatever criticisms may be legitimately passed upon the courts by foreign observers, and I concede that some of these criticisms have much weight, the fact remains that they have won the confidence of the Japanese people to an extent which can hardly be over-stated. Even in the case of political contents, where the courts have intervened, there has been a remarkable acquiescence in the equity of the judicial decisions. I have repeatedly listened to testimony to this effect from men most bitterly opposed to the Government. There could hardly be a more impressive illustration of the influence this new conception of the rights of the individual is exerting upon the public sentiment of the nation than is exhibited in the practical working of the judicial system."

If called upon to rewrite that paragraph today, I do not know that I should care to modify in the least the statements which it embodies. Nevertheless, fuller information and more careful weighing of facts have led me to emphasize more than I was then disposed to do certain evils which are incident to the system. The most serious of these evils is the tendency toward routine in the administration of justice, or, I might better say, towards a mechanical interpretation of the law. This tendency is by no means peculiar to Japan. It is seen everywhere, and it has been exhibited by some of the wisest and best men who have sat upon the bench. In many countries the jury system serves as an efficient check upon this tendency and insures a certain elasticity to the administration of the law. The large liberty given the defendant's counsel both in the preparation and presentation of his case, at least in all English-speaking countries, is another important check. Whatever may be said of the abuse of this liberty, there can be no doubt that it has acted as a healthful stimulus to the judges and has increased the popular respect for their decisions. The public knows that these decisions have been made in the face of a practically unrestrained argument on the part of the defendant's counsel, and that the sentences of the court are only pronounced after listening to testimony of almost unlimited range, and after a defence as strong as the defendant and his counsel can make it. There can be no question, I think, that judges so placed exert a far more profound influence upon society than those who are known to be supported by restrictions upon the defendant.

This is no fanciful argument. Not long ago in a Japanese court a man was awarded what, I venture to say, every foreigner in Japan who has heard of the case regards as an extremely harsh sentence. Indeed the sentence was so harsh that it seems impossible that the judge could have pronounced it, had it not been for the limitation put upon the right of the defendant to call witnesses. Now such a sentence must create distrust, and it is precisely this distrust which the Barriers' Association by its various suggestions seeks to forestall. Every one of its proposals, though on its face appearing to curtail the authority of the judges, really

looks forward to an increase of their moral power, and hence of respect for law among the people.

The very success of the judicial system as a whole, brilliant though it has been, has by the benefits it has conferred rendered the people uncritical; but from this time forward the standards of comparison are bound to change, and a more critical spirit will surely prevail. While the features of the Japanese system to which criticism is directed may be found in the codes of Continental Europe, I think it will be found also that indirectly they are offset in a large degree by special provisions of the respective codes or by peculiar social or political conditions which do not prevail in Japan. That this is true of Germany I have been assured by a distinguished German publicist, not now in Japan, but who resided here long enough to give him abundant opportunities for observation. As regards France, while I cannot at this writing make specific references, I am in my own mind thoroughly satisfied that an examination of the practice of her criminal courts would justify my reasoning.

Nor is this merely a matter of prophecy. This criticism of the courts has already begun, though it is yet confined to a relatively narrow circle, and I have reason to know that, within that circle of well-informed and intelligent men, the belief is prevalent that mistaken convictions are more numerous than they ought to be, and they are so because of the limitations put upon the defendant and his counsel. In my judgment, the existence of this opinion is a real danger to the judicial system, which cannot be recognized too early. There cannot be a better way to allay the dissatisfaction which it embodies than to strengthen the defence by adopting the very thoughtful recommendations of the Barriers' Association, among which there is none more important than that of abandoning the element of secrecy in the preliminary examination to the extent of admitting the defendant's counsel, at least as a *spectator*, to every session of the *yoshin*. The current system accords to the *yoshin* a large influence upon the public trial. It is not enough that the counsel should see the record; he needs to know the atmosphere of the court-room and the thousand and one details which necessarily escape the most punctilious reporter. Without this knowledge his defence is liable to be weak at essential points, for he can not properly weigh the so-called admissions of his client without knowing the circumstances which called them forth. It is difficult to see why granting this admission should necessitate other changes as prerequisites, or how it could impair in any degree the proper authority of the examining magistrate. This change has already, I am told, been introduced into the French code.

An opportunity has been afforded me recently of listening to an earnest argument against this proposition by a gentleman who, at one time, as I understand, served for a considerable period as judge. He did not, while I was able to listen to him, go into details, but claimed that judicial experience was so strongly against the change that he could not understand how any one who had ever held the position of judge or procurator could possibly favour it, and he seemed to claim that this essentially unanimous testimony of men of experience should be decisive on this question. It is, nevertheless, gratifying to know that certain men of long experience on the bench, after a careful consideration of the questions in debate, have not merely signified their sympathy with the proposed amendments, but have given them their vigorous support.

But, even if these exceptional men had not appeared, the argument of my friend would have run counter to the settled conviction of some of the wisest statesmen the world has seen. It is, of course, fitting that men of experience should be given a respectful hearing, and that their opinions should be weighed with care; but it ought not, at the same time, to be forgotten that, with all their advantages, they have the grave disadvantage of being a part of the mechanism which is under discussion and

are liable to be unduly biased by a conservatism, in itself healthy and honourable, but which unfits them for accepting at their full weight considerations which to fresher minds assume an overwhelming importance. Is it not possible that the House of Peers in its recent decision gave too large a place to this argument from experience?

This letter is written with feelings of great respect for the integrity and general wisdom of the judiciary of Japan, but it is my firm conviction that the measures now under discussion involve elements of such grave importance, that the members of the Diet may without arrogance claim for themselves fresher minds, a wider outlook, and a truer perspective. Is it too late to hope that even now the way may be opened for this much-desired reform?

D. C. GREENE.

CHINESE NEWS.

Mr. A. G. Palmer, a young and exceedingly popular member of the Shanghai staff of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, died on February 20th from hydrophobia. He was bitten by a pet dog and came to Tokyo for treatment under the Pasteur treatment, returning to Shanghai only on the day he died.

On Feb. 23rd, the Shell liner *Cowrie* collided with the Indo-China steamers *Exang* and the *Suiwo* while steaming up the Shanghai river. The *Exang* and *Suiwo* were badly damaged, but the *Cowrie* escaped without injury.

The Imperial Maritime Customs kindly send us a copy of the statistical report for the last quarter of 1898. From it we gather that the trade of the Chinese empire showed an improvement in that quarter over the corresponding period of 1897:—

	1898.	1897
Custom Duties collected at Chinese Treaty Ports ...	6,231,339*	5,526,386*
At Kowloon and Lappa ...	237,493	228,661
At Lungchow, Mêng-tze, and Sze-mao	39,270	39,749
Total	6,508,102	4,794,795
* Signifies Hk. T.		

The collection at Shanghai amounted to Haikuan Tls. 2,117,594 against Haikuan Tls. 1,831,678 in 1897.

The steamer *Kwonghoi* (Captain Mackenzie), which arrived in Manila on the 12th instant from Calbayog, in the Island of Samar, reports the disappearance of the chief officer under peculiar circumstances. He was invited ashore to a native *festa* from which he returned later in the evening. Having occasion to inspect the deck, he discovered six of the native crew breaking into the treasure room which contained a large sum of money for the purchase of hemp. Upon being discovered, the men attacked him, beat him over the head with clubs, and whilst he was in an insensible condition, either threw him into the sea or into a boat alongside. They then abstracted two cases of \$5,000 each from the treasure room, and made for shore in the ship's boat. Since then nothing has been heard of the men or the mate. The captain supposes that the sailors had made arrangements, on previous voyages, with their co-conspirators on shore, as this steamer frequently takes large sums of money each trip to the agencies of the firm along the coast.—*China Mail*.

The present revenue of the territory lately annexed to Hongkong is estimated at £16,000 a year.

The Directors of the Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co. have decided to recommend to the shareholders at the approaching annual meeting a final dividend of 15 per cent. on account of the 1897 tobacco crop, making 40 per cent. in all for the year, and to carry about Tls. 36,000 to the Reserve fund.

The *Universal Gazette* says that much difference of opinion has existed between the Taotai and the British and Japanese Consular Representatives in the negotiation of suitable

sites for their respective settlements in Ying-kow, and it was only after prolonged discussion that more satisfactory arrangements were concluded. The regulations have, however, not yet been formulated.

The *Universal Gazette* learns by wire from Ngankin that charitable relief is urgently needed in the north of that province and that the authorities have collected \$180,000, which was sent to the distressed districts in charge of a deputy.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The firm of Rob. M. Sloman and Co., of Hamburg, has opened a new line of steamers between New York and Japan, and has bought several steamers of the Hamburg-America Line for that purpose. The steamer *Catania*, formerly running between New York and Rio Janeiro, will run in future to Japan; the *Moravia* (now named *Parma*) and the *Bohemia* (now *Pompeji*) will follow on the same new route.

Foreign fleets in the Far East will this spring witness a series of Russian naval and military evolutions. According to the *Standard's* Odessa correspondent, it is reported that these evolutions will be on a grand scale. The garrisons at Port Arthur and Talien-wan are to be equally divided, each force being supported by a naval squadron. The objective feature of the evolutionary campaign will be the assault and capture of Port Arthur.

From the *Globe*: "New York will be concerned to learn that the effigy of Liberty in New York Harbour is not the largest statue in the world. A larger one, of Buddha, exists in Kamakura, the ancient capital of Japan. And what adds insult to injury is the fact that there is no shoddy about the statue of Buddha. It is all what it pretends to be, solid stone throughout. There were no contractors when it was built." "Kamakura," we presume, must be Kamakura. Probably the paragraph was written by one of those well informed persons at home who pronounce Hakone "Hack-won," and make Kobe rhyme with Job. And the Dai Buten of "solid stone," too!

The news from Manila is ominous. A private wire received by a well known local firm announces that supporters of the Filipinos in the city of Manila set fire to the place, and before the conflagration was put down 1,500 houses had been destroyed. During the fire a rising of the natives was attempted, but the American troops speedily crushed this, and the rebels have now retreated from Manila.

The general meeting of the members of the Kuragi district of the Red Cross Society was held on Sunday at the Miohoji Buddhist Temple, Sugita, over 800 members assembling. The Temple garden was very prettily decorated with flags and lanterns, and over the platform from which speeches were delivered was a large and handsome cross of red plum blossom, flanked with the title of the Society in white bloom, which is now to be seen in perfection. Addresses were delivered by a number of Japanese gentlemen, and at night there was a grand display of fireworks and illuminations.

In H.B.M.'s Court for Japan on Tuesday morning, a formal application was made to His Honour Judge Wilkinson to adjourn the public examination of Charles Emil Leopold to March 10th. His Honour acceded to the proposal.

A watch stolen from a passenger from Yokohama on a Tokaido train has been recovered, but the police have not received any claim, and they ask the person who has experienced the loss to report to them. The stolen property is now at the 2nd Section of the Police Department, Kanagawa Ken.

Mr. M. Suzuki, manager of the Yokohama Branch of the Mitsui Bank, has been appointed to the Kobe branch, his previous position being taken by Mr. S. Yada, late manager of the Kyoto

branch of the Mitsui Ginko. Mr. Suzuki left for Kobe by train on the 19th, and was given a warm send off. The new manager was heartily welcomed by a large circle of friends when he arrived the same day.

A remarkable man was the late "Brother" Henry James Prince, who, 40 years ago, founded the Agapemone, or Abode of Love. He was 90 years of age at the time of his death and was formerly a clergyman in the Church of England. He died at Spaxton, near Bridgewater, the location of the conventual establishment, a luxuriously fitted-up retreat. In his "Spiritual Wives," the late Hepworth Dixon severely commented on the Princeite community, in which were many wealthy ladies and gentlemen. About four years ago the deceased assisted in the opening of a branch at Clapton, North London, where the Ark of the Covenant, the first church of the Agapemonians, was built at a cost of some £20,000.

The long expected autobiography of Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Keppel is now on the point of being published. It will be capably and splendidly illustrated by drawings from the pencil of the late Sir Oswald Brierley, marine painter to Her Majesty. Messrs. Macmillan, in apologising for the delay in the appearance of the book, which was promised early last year, state that unavoidable causes are responsible.

According to Major Waddell, who has written an interesting book of travel about the Himalayas, it is the Chinese, and not the Tibetans, who exclude British trade and travellers from the Grand Lama's country. He declares that it is the object of China to prevent any trade with Britain and India in the gold and wool of Tibet, and he suggests the wisdom of throwing over the Chinese, with their deceptions and false promises, and dealing direct with the Tibetans themselves.

An interesting event is expected in the Russian Imperial family in May. For this reason, says the Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News*, the Russian Imperial couple will remain the whole winter at Tsarskoe Selo. The Empress's delicate health, and the family mourning for the Queen of Denmark, will practically prevent any Court festivities taking place at St. Petersburg this winter.

The tea inspecting house which it was decided to establish in Yokohama will be situated in front of the Railway Station, in a building belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha which the latter have agreed to lend *gratis*. The inspection of tea for export will be commenced before the end of the month.

The American Minister and Mrs. Buck were passengers by the *Coptic*, which left Yokohama on Friday. They go on a visit to Shanghai, Hongkong, Tientsin, and Peking, returning to Tokyo in April.

Weather permitting, the Nippon Bicycle Club takes a spin on Sunday to Ikegami. The members start at 9.30 from the boat house.

Three elephants now play a game of skittles every night on the stage of a London music-hall. The animals appear to be masters of pantomime, and the audience is convulsed with laughter by the ludicrous manner in which the huge beasts imitate the way men play the game.

The likelihood of Her Majesty's becoming a great-great-grandmother is causing no little interest in London. She has already thirty-two great-grandchildren, but if all goes well she will in May put another record to her wonderful career, for then the confinement of Princess Heinrich Reuss is expected. For a sovereign to have great-great-grandchildren is unparalleled in history.

The *Daily News* continues its "mayor's nesting" for good stories with excellent results. An author who was preparing a book on Corporation Regalia wrote to a mayor in Shropshire asking for a photograph of his insignia. The Mayor replied that he was only too pleased

to grant the request, but, "instead of sending a mere photograph begged to enclose the genuine article." It was his autograph.

The growing taste of the Russian peasants for beer, and the recent action of the Russian Government in reference to the production and sale of vodka in the rural districts, have led to a considerable increase in the brewing industry. Nearly all these breweries, though nominally Russian, are really worked and financed by wealthy German firms, and, having almost undisputed possession of the market, are realising immense profits. The demand for English "pale ale" and "stout" in the capital and the larger towns is rapidly increasing; though the price is extravagantly high. The brewing of "English" pale ale and stout is now one of the most important and profitable branches of these Russo-German Companies, but as yet no serious attempt has been made by any English firms to establish Anglo-Russian breweries in Russia.

The total gold output for December of all the mines of the Transvaal making returns amounted to 419,504 ounces for the Witwatersrand district and 21,170 ounces for the outside districts, in all 440,674 ounces. The production of the Witwatersrand district was 393,310 ounces in November, 1898, and 310,712 ounces in December, 1897, and for the outside districts 20,307 ounces in November, 1898. The return shows an increase over November of 27,157 ounces.

The cause of the last duel in Germany appears to have been the idle boast of a civilian that he had thrashed an officer in the Army. This stupid story, which seems to have been told chiefly in taverns, reached the ears of the Court of Honour of the regiment concerned, and it was decided that satisfaction should be demanded. The father of the civilian, who is a man of wealth and prominent in civic life, appealed to the police to stop the duel, but in vain. The combat took, and the civilian was shot through the heart.

At the close of the Meerut rifle meeting some very interesting experiments were conducted, under the superintendence of Colonel Hill, to ascertain the effect of the Lee-Metford and Martini-Henry bullets fired at 100 yards at full boxes of Lee-Metford cordite and Martini-Henry ammunition. The results clearly proved that a full box of Lee-Metford cordite ammunition is absolutely bullet-proof against Lee-Metford or Martini-Henry bullets fired at 100 yards; that the Lee-Metford bullet only penetrates three packets of ammunition and lodges in the fourth; that the boxes of Lee-Metford cordite ammunition do not explode, the cordite having only burned when penetrated. Consequently, a breastwork of single boxes of Lee-Metford cordite ammunition, placed one on the top of another, affords ample protection against the fire. Secondly, the results proved that boxes of Martini-Henry ammunition with black powder are bullet-proof, but are liable to explode, the contents being scattered in all directions within a radius of 15 or 20 paces.

The situation in Abyssinia, says a home review, is viewed with great anxiety in Rome, and, so long as Menelik keeps from 90,000 to 100,000 men under arms, the Sirdar on his part is bound to maintain a much larger force in the Soudan than would otherwise be necessary. Menelik has declared the deposition of Ras Mangascia, King of Tigre; and Ras Makonnen, his successor designate, is at Haussen with 40,000 men prepared to fight. Whichever side wins, there is likely to be trouble, as the Italian force in Erythraea is quite inadequate for the defence of the colony, and a victorious Ras in Tigre is pretty certain to try and regain the territory ceded to Italy. Menelik's claims in the west are quite inconsistent with the new boundaries of the Egyptian Soudan. In spite of treaties, he was not long ago meditating a descent into the Valley of the Nile. The crushing victory at Omdurman and the withdrawal of Major Marchand from Fashoda have appreciably cooled his ardour, but Egypt can never be altogether at peace while Abyssinia is at war.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The bearing of American competition upon the German sugar industry has been the subject of some discussion in Germany, where the Secretary of the Imperial Treasury was lately quoted as contending that the native sugar industry was not threatened by competition on the part of the United States. This opinion was traversed in the course of a debate in the Prussian Diet by the Prussian Minister of Agriculture and others, who said that such a view did not take into account the enormous financial resources and energy of the American Sugar Trust. The danger threatening from the United States was declared to be most serious, and it was suggested that the competition feared would be accentuated through the exploitation of Cuba by intelligent American capitalists, who would greatly increase the competitive power of that island in the direction of producing and marketing sugar. It seems to be felt abroad, remarks *Bradstreet's*, that the economic development of Cuba from this time on will be different from what it was heretofore, while the production of beet sugar in the United States bids fair to exhibit a marked growth in the near future.

A report has been filed by the majority of the House Committee on Territories, which has for some time had the Hawaiian bill under consideration. As might be expected, it takes ground in favour of the establishment of a territorial form of government for Hawaii as nearly like that of the other territories of the United States as the location of the islands, their physical condition, and the character of people will permit. One amendment of importance suggested in the report makes all laws passed by the Hawaiian legislature subject to the approval of the Congress of the United States. A feature of the legislation proposed in the report is the retention of property qualifications for electors and for members of the senate. It is recognized that such a provision as this is likely to excite antagonism in the United States, but it is pointed out that such a qualification has long prevailed in Hawaii, and, as far as can be ascertained, meets the approval of the people.

The Pittsburg Reduction Company has booked an order for a quantity of aluminium for a new telegraph and telephone line to be erected in Manila. Twenty-five miles of telephone wire and other material for electrical purposes have been ordered by interests in Manila from New York city concerns.

Fifty-seven whisky and distillery concerns have entered into an agreement in New York city to pool their interests. The new company will be known as the Kentucky Distillers' Warehouse Company of Kentucky.

A certificate of consolidation of the Union Tobacco Company of America and the North American Commercial Company, forming the Union Tobacco Company of America, with a capital stock of \$19,350,000 has been filed with the Secretary of New York State. The company manufactures and distributes tobacco in all its forms, and will operate throughout the United States, Cuba, Porto Rico, and other countries.

A Chicago paper announces that Captain Adolph Frietsch intends to take a trip across the Pacific in an open sailing-boat. Captain Frietsch, who is a navigator from Milwaukee, was in Chicago on Feb. 10th making arrangements for the proposed expedition. He has a record for open-boat sailing. In 1894 he crossed the Atlantic in fourteen days and three hours, making the 5,000 miles from Sandy Hook to Teer-eight alone in the schooner *Nine*, only forty feet on the water line. In the Pacific trip Frietsch expects to reach Honolulu after twenty-one days' sailing from San Francisco, and will endeavour to cover the distance from Honolulu to Manila in forty-two days. The boat that Frietsch will use will be twenty-four feet on the water line, flat-bottomed, with a heavy centre-board. The captain sailed the

Pacific Ocean when a boy, and is well acquainted with trade winds that will be encountered on the journey.

Having read to her pupils a description of the sinking of the *Merrimac*, the teacher some days later asked her pupils what the word "catamaran" there used meant. These are some of the answers:

A catamaran is a mountain lion.

The catamaran is a savage officer in the Philippine islands.

A catamaran carries clubs in a golf game.

The catamaran is the place in Chicago where the cat show was held.

The catamaran was a convention hall prize.

The catamaran is the proper name for a catboat and war ram together like the Catadin.

Hubson obtained a catamaran from the Spanish officers, which was all he had to eat.—*Kansas City Star*.

A law has been enacted in Delaware to punish persons who commence a crime in Delaware and complete it elsewhere. This is to cover cases like that of Mrs. Botkin, where poison is alleged to have been sent by mail.

At a meeting recently held at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, for the purpose of raising \$10,000 to maintain the Squirrel Inn in the Bowery as a wholesome competitor of unwholesome drinking places, Bishop Potter, the well-known Episcopalian divine, made the assertion that the saloon is a "social necessity," the "poor man's club," which satisfies his "re-creative instinct." The Bishop's statements have been made the subject of wide comment, and he has since explained that coffee-rooms and such-like places were in his mind when he spoke.

In London nervous prostration now goes by the name of *Americanitis*.

Mr. Rudyard Kipling writes as follows in the *New York World*:—"When America sells her hand to administer with show of force races helpless in themselves for good government, when she creates roads, drains, schools, hospitals, and an elementary form of justice in countries where they do not now exist, using her best men freely for work, she will, I fancy, find herself even better understood and appreciated by Great Britain than she is to-day. After a nation has pursued certain paths alone in the face of some slight misrepresentation, it is consoling to find another nation (which one can address without a dictionary) preparing to walk along the same lines to, I doubt not, the same end."

Mr. Joseph Hodges Choate, the new American Ambassador, once received a fee of \$80,000. He was engaged in the controversy concerning the income-tax, when the Supreme Court held such a tax to be unconstitutional except in time of war. Mr. Choate's brief was marked \$40,000, and the sum was doubled on the successful termination of the litigation.

Champion Go Bang, acknowledged to be the finest wire-haired fox terrier in England, has been sold to an American breeder for the record sum of £500.

Considerable dissatisfaction is expressed at Berlin at the reports from the United States of the practice, under the instruction recently issued from the Treasury Department, of closely interrogating passengers arriving from abroad at New York and other seaboard ports. Several members of the Reichstag have resolved to interpellate the Government regarding the matter.

President McKinley, on February 10th, sent the following Message to Congress. It deals with the Pacific cable:—

As a consequence of the ratification of the treaty of Paris by the Senate of the United States and its expected ratification by the Spanish Government, the United States will come into possession of the Philippine islands, on the farther shores of the Pacific. The Hawaiian islands and Guam being United States territory and forming convenient stopping places on the way across the

sea, the necessity for speedy cable communication between the United States and the Philippine islands has become imperative.

Such communication should be established in such a way as to be wholly under the control of the United States, whether in time of peace or war. At present the Philippines can be reached only by cables which pass through many foreign countries, and the Hawaiian islands and Guam can be only communicated with by steamer, involving delays in each instance of at least a week. The present conditions should not be allowed to continue for a moment longer than is absolutely necessary.

The time has now arrived when a cable in the Pacific must extend as far as Manila, touching at the Hawaiian islands and Guam on the way. Two methods of establishing this cable communication at once suggest themselves. First, construction and maintenance of such a cable at the expense of the United States Government, and second, construction and maintenance of such a cable by a private United States corporation, under such a safeguard as Congress shall impose.

I do not make any recommendation to Congress as to which of these methods would be the more desirable. A cable of the length of that proposed requires so much time for construction and laying that it is estimated that at least two years must elapse after giving the order for the cable before the entire system could be successfully laid and put in operation. Further deep-sea soundings must be taken west of the Hawaiian islands before the best route can be selected for the cable. Under these circumstances, it becomes a paramount necessity that measures should be taken before the close of the present Congress to provide such means as may seem suitable for the establishment of a cable system.

I recommend the whole subject to the careful consideration of the Congress and to such prompt action as may seem advisable.

WILLIAM M'KINLEY,

Executive Mansion, Washington, D.C., February 10, 1899.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, February 25th:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	...	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	...	14,156,046
Amount of convertible notes issued	...	176,894,246
Government deposits	...	37,809,282
General deposits	...	5,124,332
Exchange liability	...	58,867

Total ... 264,042,775

	Cr.
Discount notes	26,176,644
Foreign discount notes	13,187,341
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	63,363,049
Exchange liability	1,726,596
Government bonds	40,351,465
Property	1,767,138
Bullion and Specie	95,570,488

Total ... 264,042,775

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued	177,129,443
Including excess-issue	458,320

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	93,493,045
Silver	—

Total ... 93,493,045

Securities:—

Government bonds	31,364,280
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government Bills	15,000,000
Commercial notes	15,272,118

Total ... 83,636,398

Total reserves ... 177,129,443

The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week exhibit:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess issue	—	6,815,932
Specie Reserve:—		
Gold	172,734	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	1,167,551	—
Government deposits	1,003,863	—
General deposits	1,377,694	—

THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.

BY RUDYARD KIPLING.

[RUDYARD KIPLING'S FIRST EXPRESSION OF OPINION ON THE GREAT PROBLEMS AMERICA IS CALLED UPON TO DEAL WITH BY VIRTUE OF HER ISLAND CONQUESTS IN THE RECENT WAR.]

Take up the White Man's burden—

Send forth the best ye breed—

Go, bind your sons to exile

To serve your captives' need;

To wait, in heavy harness,

On fluttered folk and wild—

Your new-caught sullen peoples,

Half devil and half child.

Take up the White Man's burden—

In patience to abide,

To veil the threat of terror

And check the show of pride;

By open speech and simple,

An hundred times made plain;

To seek another's profit

And work another's gain.

Take up the White Man's burden—

The savage ways of peace—

Fill full the mouth of Famine,

And bid the sickness cease;

And when your goal is nearest

(The end for others sought)

Watch sloth and heathen folly

Bring all your hope to nought.

Take up the White Man's burden—

No iron rule of kings,

But toil of self and sweeper—

The tale of common things.

The ports ye shall not enter

The road ye shall not tread,

Go, make them with your living

And mark them with your dead.

Take up the White Man's burden—

And reap his old reward—

The blame of those ye better,

The hate of those ye guard—

The cry of hosts ye humour

(Ah, slowly!) toward the light—

"Why brought ye us from bondage,

We loved Egyptian night?"

Take up the White Man's burden—

Ye dare not stoop to less—

Nor call too loud on Freedom

To cloak your weariness,

By all ye will or whisper,

By all ye leave or do,

The silent, sullen peoples

Shall weigh you, God and you.

Take up the White Man's burden!

Have done with childish days—

The lightly proffered laurel,

The easy, ungrudging praise;

Come now, to search your manhood

Through all the thankless years

Cold-edged with dear-bought wisdom,

The judgment of your peers.

H.B.M.'S. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before His Honour Judge WILKINSON.

FRIDAY, February 24th.

THE KOER INSURANCE CLAIM.

EHREMBHOT PARANEY V. CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY and CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

The hearing of this case was resumed from Thursday.

Mr. Lowder said he had omitted at the last hearing to ask the witness Teverson a question, and he asked permission to recall him.

His Honour assented.

The witness was accordingly recalled, and asked, through the Judge, whether it would be possible in the ordinary course of business for marine policies to attach to goods in the godown at Ono.

The witness replied—Possible, my lord, but I do not think probable; to the best of my belief it would not.

Mr. Walford—Have you seen the China Traders' policy?

Witness—No, I have not.

Mr. Walford—You know, perhaps, that the policy attaches to the goods until their arrival at the final warehouse.

Witness—Yes, but not in the warehouse.

Mr. Walford—But if it attaches up to the door of the warehouse might it not attach when the goods are in the warehouse?

Witness—No, the fire policy would come in there.

Mr. Walford—But could not there be two policies attaching?

Witness—It is not customary.

In answer to His Honour, the witness said he had not seen the whole of the policy, but had read the fire clause.

By Mr. Walford—The China Fire policies, he believed, sometimes contained a similar clause. The clause was a slip attached to the policy excluding the company from liability as far as the goods were covered by marine insurance.

By Mr. Lowder—This slip had been adopted since the fire.

Mr. Litchfield applied to amend the eighth paragraph of the petition. He wished the present figures of yen 54,916.67 amended to yen 47,709; yen 24,755 to yen 23,088; and yen 11,244.55 to yen 12,066.00.

Mr. Walford explained that the matter affected his position. The quantities of cotton destroyed and the question of values had been agreed upon by all parties, and this amendment followed. It was a question whether his clients had paid too much or too little to the plaintiff.

His Honour said he could allow the amendment for the present, it being understood that the China Fire Company was not bound by the figures.

Mr. Walford and Mr. Litchfield agreed to an adjustment in case it was found that the China Traders had paid too much or too little, and his Honour made a note accordingly.

Other points in the petition it was agreed to reserve for further amendment if necessary.

The argument as to the admissibility of certain evidence that had been taken was then entered upon, but before commencing Mr. Lowder, as a personal matter, expressed a desire to retract a statement he was reported to have made in a previous day's hearing to the effect that the China Traders' Company were endeavouring to repudiate their liability. He wished to withdraw that, and he hoped his retraction would be satisfactory to his learned friends and his clients.

Mr. Lowder then proceeded to argue in favour of the admissibility of the letter from Mr. Crosse to Mr. Garfit, telling the ground that the client was bound by his agent's or legal adviser's admissions.

His Honour pointed out that it had been ruled that an admission of a solicitor was not binding until a suit had been actually instituted.

Mr. Lowder said that only strengthened his case as regards the action of Mr. Crosse as agent.

His Honour, however, said he could not regard Mr. Crosse as acting otherwise than as a solicitor and he must rule that the letter was not admissible.

Mr. Lowder—I bow to your Honour's ruling, but I must ask you to take a note of my objection.

Mr. Walford said he should like his Honour to take note of other grounds of objection to this letter, as the case might go to appeal. He recited them at length, and his Honour made a formal entry of them.

Mr. Walford then went on to argue against the admission of other correspondence as irrelevant and having merely for its object the proving of a motive on the part of his client, the imputation of which motive had now, he understood, been withdrawn.

His Honour said he did not consider the statements made in the letters of much importance, and Mr. Lowder finally, to shorten matters, agreed to withdraw his application for their production.

Mr. Lowder said as a personal matter he might say that his learned friend was quite in error in attributing to him the motive he had done. It was not his motive at all.

His Honour said that had been made clear by Mr. Lowder's previous remarks, but from what he had said at a previous day's hearing Mr. Walford might not unjustifiably gather that it was being sought to attribute a motive.

Mr. Lowder said it was not his motive at all.

His Honour—We are sure of that.

The Court then adjourned.

On resuming, His Honour said with reference to the question of the admissibility of the letter he would state rather more fully his reasons. He mentioned it in order to prevent any misapprehension as to what his view was. He took it that when a merchant told his managing clerk to write a letter to anybody that letter was supposed to be the statement of the principal. But when a man employed a solicitor, on the other hand, to guard his interest then he (the learned judge) took it that, unless he knew what was in a letter or authorised a particular statement, he was not bound by the solicitor's statements further than the law bound him generally by what his solicitor said. The view his Honour had taken was that although the evidence was that Mr. Crosse

was authorized to answer the letter of Mr. Garfield, he was authorized as solicitor and not as an ordinary agent. It would be a dangerous thing if suitors were to be bound by everything the solicitor did if he were simply authorized generally to look after the interests of his client. He (the learned judge) mentioned it as a matter of public interest.

Mr. Lowder then commenced his argument on behalf of the China Fire Company, contending that his clients' policy covered only such goods as were not already covered by a marine policy. If the marine policy did not attach then there was no question of the partial liability of the China Fire Company, but he (Mr. Lowder) argued that the marine policy did attach. Mr. Lowder spoke at considerable length, and quoted a lengthy case which had been decided on a similar point.

Mr. Walford argued that if the marine policy was held to attach the question of contribution must arise, as the two companies held the position of co-insureds.

Mr. Lowder, while holding that the China Fire policy did not attach, admitted that if it did, and if it were held that the China Traders' policy attached also, there must be contribution.

Mr. Walford proceeded to argue that the China Fire Company were responsible in the first place for indemnifying the plaintiff; and that the China Traders' were responsible for nothing that was covered by the China Fire policy.

His Honour, after a patient hearing of counsel, reserved judgment.

THE FIGHTING AT MANILA.

WHAT AN AMERICAN HEARD AND SAW.

Hongkong, Feb. 13.

On Friday there arrived in Hongkong by the *Taipei* an American gentleman named Mr. Crocker, who saw a good deal of the stirring events at Manila. During the preceding week by representing himself as an Englishman he had been able to get through the insurgent lines with a French officer. He, however, experienced considerable difficulty in doing so. No such obstacles were placed in the way of these members of the Filipino troops who wished to enter the city, provided they left their arms behind them, though they do not seem to have been invariably searched. He found that there were about as many Filipinos under arms as Americans, and in many cases the opposing sentries were within whispering distance of the other. He corroborates the statement as to the American soldiers having to put up with all kinds of insulting language from the insurgent sentries, saying that the Filipinos would frequently walk up to them, point their bayonets at their faces, and taunt them. The American soldiers had, however, strict orders to take no notice of them unless they fired, when the firing was to be returned with interest. Mr. Crocker informed a representative of the *Daily Press* that before the outbreak took place soldiers, to whom he had been speaking, frequently exclaimed to him, "We cannot stand it much longer!" Mr. Crocker added that in firing upon the Americans the Filipinos wished to see how much the Americans would stand. Continuing, he said:—

"Though the relations between the Americans and the Filipinos were strained I do not think the Americans anticipated any immediate trouble, because the same evening I saw General Anderson and his wife driving along the Luneta."

"I was in the hotel when the trouble commenced. Someone said there had been a collision, and then I noticed carriages driving very rapidly through the streets and officers making their way to the front. It was about ten o'clock when the firing began, and a very few minutes afterwards a portion of the Kansas Regiment which was quartered near the hotel left for the front in double quick time. They went away so silently that notwithstanding their close proximity to the hotel I should not have known they were going had I not been in full view of their quarters. There was not the least confusion or shouting. The firing commenced on the road leading to the waterworks, where the Nebraska men were stationed, but it spread all along the line with great rapidity. There was a continuous roar from 10 to 12 when the firing slackened, to be resumed with increased fury at three o'clock on Sunday morning. After another lull it was again resumed, some of the warships joining. The *Monadnock* was stationed to the south and the *Charleston* to the north, they being subsequently reinforced by the *Concord* and the *Callao*. Admiral Dewey also came down in the *Olympia* and fired a few shots, but as he was right among the shipping and could not do much where he was he soon ceased. The *Monadnock* with her 12-inch guns and the *Charleston* with her 8 inch

guns made a fearful noise, the reverberation shaking the earth.

"At the commencement the Filipinos gained a hundred yards or so, but on Sunday the Nebraska men pushed forward with the object of getting possession of the waterworks and carried all before them, backed up by the Utah Battery and the Tennessee, men and the boys from Colorado and California. Ultimately they secured the reservoir—three miles away—and here they encamped for the night. The next day they again pushed on. Everybody was afraid lest the Filipinos would cut off the water supply, in which case considerable suffering would have been entailed upon the residents of the city. It would have been the easiest thing in the world for the insurgents to have cut the pipes, which are exposed in many places and are of no great strength. The insurgents had still possession of the pumping station, which is four miles beyond the reservoir. It was two o'clock in the afternoon when the Nebraska men resumed their advance, and by five o'clock the pumping station was in their possession. I cannot tell why the Filipinos did not make a better fight for the waterworks or why, when they saw they could not retain them, they did not cut the pipes. I can only think it was because there are a great many Filipinos in the city who would have suffered just as much as anyone else had this been done. On Monday night the Americans took up an impregnable position which commanded a plain some three miles in extent, across which the defeated Filipinos were fleeing to the mountains. A few shots sent by the battery into a village in the plain soon sent the inhabitants running helter-skelter for the cover of the hill-country. Here at any rate the resistance was absolutely broken down.

"In other directions, however, the Americans were not having such an easy time. In the direction of Malate, for instance, on the south and Binondo on the north, though the insurgent lines were commanded by the men-of-war, the insurgents made a stiff resistance. This they were the better able to do in consequence of their having availed themselves of the trenches recently occupied by the Spaniards and the Americans. The shells from the warships did fearful havoc. Now and then one would drop right in a trench, and then you would see men and trees rise in the air and scatter about.

"To the north of the city it was dangerous to walk about, as shots were continually being fired from houses, but in another direction I went as far as ten miles. The district to the north of the city, however, is occupied by a low class of native who are ready for anything. It would have been a most serious thing had the natives risen en masse, because I do not see how our troops could have controlled them. There were immense stores of arms and ammunition concealed in houses and churches, and in many cases these could not be discovered without burning the houses down.

"Fighting was going on when we left on Tuesday, but it was a good distance away. Inside the city there was no great excitement. Except in a few cases the shops were open and business was going on. The Filipino car drivers and conductors were attending to their business as if nothing had happened. Some of the native servants had gone away, but there were still enough left to meet requirements. The Filipinos in the city looked somewhat crestfallen at the course events had taken, but not so much as one might have expected.

"There is no doubt about it that the Filipinos in the city have been plotting for some time. I believe their intention was to rise at night, but when it came to the point they had not the system or the nerve to do it.

"The soldiers had orders to shoot any suspicious characters whom they discovered lurking about the streets after eight o'clock at night. The result was that there was absolutely nobody in the streets after that hour except soldiers.

"During the fighting Aguinaldo, who is believed to have been at Malolos, communicated with Dewey. He sent him a message in which he said, "For God's sake stop the firing," and disclaiming all responsibility in connection with the starting of the trouble. Dewey, however, refused to comply with the request and now I think Aguinaldo is accepting the situation. There was some talk of his resigning and washing his hands of the whole affair, but I do not think he will do that.

"The opinion is that it was not Aguinaldo who precipitated this thing but that his followers whom he could not control are responsible. Aguinaldo himself knows too much to do such a thing. He is much too smart a man for that. And then we know that if he had intended doing this he would have done it more systematically.

"As to the losses, those of the Filipinos may be

anything from 5,000 killed and wounded to 10,000, and then there are several thousand prisoners. I saw 400 or 500 being taken in on Sunday, and on Monday I saw 1,000 who had been taken. I should be inclined to place the American losses at 200 killed and wounded. With regard to the Filipinos I saw myself 50 lying dead in one field. There were the same number in the next, and a little further on there were 50 more. I heard a mining engineer say that there was a pile of 125 to bury in one lot. The *Monadnock* killed as many as 20 and 30, and sometimes 50, with one shell. The *Callao*, which kept steaming close to the shore, also did much damage with her guns.

"There is nothing of the nature of a panic among the Europeans. The ladies and children in the hotel were sent on to the *St. Paul* on Saturday night. They returned in a launch the next day and tried to land, but they were not allowed to do so. On Monday, however, they came again and were allowed to come ashore. Arrangements were made to come bring some of them to Hongkong in the *Esmeralda*."—*Daily Press*.

TELEGRAMS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

London, February 24.

The Venice Convention Regulations have been enforced in Calcutta owing to the appearance there of nine sporadic cases of plague within the last five days.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN ARABIA.

The French Press is irritated over the ultimatum sent to the Sultan of Muscat, which belies the talk of an entente.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMISSION.

The difficulty about the Alaskan boundary is said to have been the main cause of the separation of the Anglo-American Commission.

ITALY AND THE FAR EAST.

Italy has formed a naval division for Chinese waters and has increased the number of her consuls there.

THE KHALIFATE MOVEMENT.

The Khalifa is moving northwards from Kordofan with a considerable following. The British officers have been recalled to Omdurman, and are preparing for emergencies.

FUNERAL OF M. FAURE.

London, Feb. 25.

The funeral of M. Faure was impressive and orderly throughout.

President Loubet met with an excellent reception.

A demonstration, which took place in the evening outside the office of the *Libre Parole*, resulted in a row.

Deputies Deroulede, Habert, Millevoye and others were arrested.

RUSSIA IN LIAOTUNG.

The Hon. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, speaking in the House of Commons, stated that, according to a Chinese version of the collision at Talienwan, a deputation of Chinese peasants asked for a reduction of the land tax, when the Cossacks fired upon the crowd.

CANADIANS INDIGNANT.

The Canadians bitterly resent the attitude of the United States in the recent negotiations. They demand tariff reprisals.

LONDON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BILL.

The Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour has introduced a Bill, dividing London into a number of areas for local government, but leaving the City untouched.

SITUATION AT MANILA.

London, Feb. 26.

Admiral Dewey has asked for the im-

mediate despatch of the battleship *Oregon* to Manila, alleging certain political reasons. It is supposed in Washington that Admiral Dewey apprehends foreign intervention.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Baron Reuter.

SHOOTING AT JOHANNESBURG.

London, Feb. 27.

The Boer Policeman Jones has been acquitted of the charge of shooting a European at Johannesburg last December.

PLAGUE AT JEDDAH.

The appearance of plague is reported at Jeddah (on the Red Sea, in Arabia).

ANTI-LOUBET DEMONSTRATION.

Deputy Millevoye has been released. The Chamber of Deputies has, however, authorized the imprisonment and prosecution of Deputies Deroulede and Lambert, for inciting troops to mutiny. Both the accused avow that their object was to overthrow the Parliamentary Republic.

MISSING HAMBURG LINER

TURNS UP.

The missing Hamburg liner *Bulgaria* has arrived at the Azores.

ROYALIST CONSPIRACY IN PARIS.

London, Feb. 28.

Acting under instructions from M. Dupuy, Premier, the police of Paris have raided the residences of a number of prominent Royalists and seized voluminous correspondence and letters between the Duc d'Orleans and his supporters. The police have also seized the residence of his Secretary.

THE SOUDAN.

The Dervishes recently fired upon a gunboat going to Fashoda. The Khalifa is believed to be within 160 miles of Omdurman.

BRITISH INTERESTS IN CHINA.

The *Times* states that the Chinese Government cannot be allowed to ignore Sir Claude Macdonald's protests. It further says that the British public is entitled to demand that no arbitrary administrative changes be tolerated, affecting enterprises wherein British capital is invested on the virtual recommendation of the British Government.

RUDYARD KIPLING SERIOUSLY ILL.

London, March 1.

Mr. Rudyard Kipling is seriously ill with pneumonia at a hotel in New York, both of his lungs being affected. The only chance of recovery is his personal tenacity to life.

THE MARTYN EXPEDITION.

In the House of Commons, Sir Charles Dilke moved to reduce the vote on Uganda (estimate) in view of the unsatisfactory position there. The Hon. St. John Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, replied that there was no cause for anxiety in the present position and that that country was being largely settled down. Continuing, he said that the object of Martyn's expedition was to explore and plant posts on the right bank of the Nile to make connection between Uganda and the Sudan and ultimately to join hands with Gen. Kitchener.

The motion was rejected.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

PARISIAN NEWS.

Paris, March 1st, 10.20 a.m.

The Orleanists and the Bonapartists repudiate all complicity with M. Deroulede.

The Senate has commenced the discussion of a project having for its object the withdrawal of the trial of the Dreyfus case from the jurisdiction of the Criminal Chamber alone, and the submission of the affair to all the Chambers of the Court of Cassation, united. The adoption of the project seems certain.

THE FIGHTING AT MANILA.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

Manila, February 16.

There is practically no change in the situation since the capture of Caloocan on Friday last by the American forces.

There is skirmishing daily at the various points around Manila, the Americans easily holding the insurgents in check.

A Spanish prisoner from Malolos reports that there are many dissension amongst the leaders. General Montenegro is likely to supersede Aguinaldo. It is believed that General Baldemero, Aguinaldo's cousin, and Minister of War, was killed at Caloocan.

It is stated that Iloilo would have surrendered but for the action of the Filipino military leaders, who ordered the burning of the city before evacuation. The Americans had one officer and three men wounded at the capture of Iloilo.

Since the recent fighting at Manila and elsewhere, the insurgents have formed a great respect for American prowess, and now avoid close quarters. The superior range of the rifles of the insurgents is in their favour, but the American artillery covers the advance of the infantry, who then carry the positions at the charge.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

U. S. PROGRESS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Hongkong, February 23.

The natives hoisted the United States flag on the island of Negros on Saturday. They desire a protectorate with no reservations, and no relations with Aguinaldo.

The four Philippine Commissioners are visiting General Otis, the U. S. General in command.

[Negros is a large island in the Visayas group south of Panay, opposite the town of Iloilo.—Ed.]

THE HOSTILITIES AT MANILA.

Hongkong, February 24th.

There have been heavy fires at Manila, fifteen hundred houses having been destroyed.

An attempted native rising has been quelled, and the insurgents have retreated towards Caloocan. The Americans are clearing the disorderly districts.

Mr. Curtis, a British subject, has been killed, and Mr. C. F. Simpson and Mr. J. Ellis wounded.

[These gentlemen were employed by Messrs. H. J. Andrews & Co., sole agents and managers of the Manila Trading Co., Ltd., Cotton Mill, Tutuban.—Ed.]

(FROM JAPANESE SOURCES.)

RUSSIAN WHALERS OFF KOREA.

Soul, March 1.

The treaty with regard to the whaling industry is yet in course of negotiation between Russia and Korea, but notwithstanding this, in the waters off Gensan, Russian whaling ships are still pursuing their operations. One has been captured, and an application was made to the Korean Government for its disposal.

A SCHOOL STRIKE.

Nagasaki, March 2.

Over 460 students of the Matsumoto Ordinary Middle School struck in a body, being dissatisfied with the management of the Princi-

pal. They are awaiting the Governor's judgment on the case.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION INTERRUPTED.

Osaka, March 2.

Telegraphic communication between Yokohama and Kusu station has been temporarily interrupted.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Mar. 6
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Oceanic	Tu. Mar. 7
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Mar. 20
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Rm. of China	Th. Mar. 23
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Th. Mar. 23
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Th. Mar. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Mar. 25
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Mar. 25
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Rm. of Japan	Th. Mar. 25
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Th. Mar. 25
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Mar. 28

1 Left Hongkong on the 16th ult.

2 Left Shanghai on the 2nd inst.

3 Left San Francisco on the 28th Feb.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rubilia	W. Mar. 8
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. Mar. 8
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W. Mar. 8
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Rm. of China	Th. Mar. 13
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Mar. 13
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Oceanic	W. Mar. 15
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W. Mar. 15
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Mar. 22
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Mar. 25
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Rm. of Japan	Th. Mar. 25
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Th. Mar. 25
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. Mar. 28

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 409.

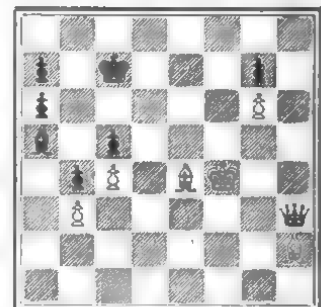
WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to Q B 4
2—Kt to K B 3 mate
2—Q to K 5 mate
2—Kt to Kt 5 mate
2—Q to R 7 mate
2—Q to K 4 mate
2—Q to K 3 mate
2—Q to B 5 mate
2—R to B 4 mate
2—Kt to Q B 2 mate
2—Q takes R (Q 6) mate
Correct solutions received from W. H. S., Villa, and S.S.
1—P takes R
1—P takes Kt
1—R to Q 2 or B 3
1—B to B 3
1—Kt (B 7) takes R or moves
1—Kt (Kt 7) takes P or moves
1—R to K 3
1—R to Q 4
1—P to Q 7
1—B to B 4, Kt 4 or R 4

PROBLEM No. 412.

By O. Nemo, Vienna.

First Prize Greenfield-Towney. From *British Chess Magazine*.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 483.

The following beautiful game was played after Löwenthal published Murphy's collection. It is certainly a magnificent specimen of the great player's style, and we believe it has been published recently in Max Lange's collection of Murphy's games:—

White—Murphy.		Black—De Riviere.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	18 P KK4	(d) R x KRP
2 K KB3	Kt QB3	19 K x KB	Pch K x Kt
3 B B4	B B3	20 Kt KK15	Q Q2
4 P QB3(a)	Q K2(b)	21 B x Kt	R KR5
5 P Q4	B QK3	22 P KB3	P x QP
6 Castles	P Q3	23 P x P	R KR3
7 P KR3	Kt KB3	24 K K2	Kt KB2
8 R Kq	P KR3	25 R KR q	K x Kt
9 PQR4	PQR4	26 R x R	Kt KR2
10 Kt QR3	Kt Q4	27 Q KR q	Kt B
11 Kt QB2	B K3	28 R KR8h	K K2
12 Kt K3	B x B	29 R x R	B x QP
13 Kt B	K Kt Q2	30 Q KR6	Q QB3
14 Kt K3	P Kt K3	31 R QB q	Q QK3
15 Kt Q5	Q K3	32 R x QB Pch	K K3
16 B x KR	P(c)	33 R K8ch	Resigns(e)
17 B KK17	R KR4		

NOTES.

- (a) This is the only game we know of where Murphy adopts the "Giuoco Piano."
 (b) Inferior to 4—Kt to B3.
 (c) Pretty, for if R takes B, 17—Kt to K Kt 5.
 (d) A beautiful move, and followed up in a style beyond the commendation of criticism.
 (e) Run if Kt takes R, 34—Q takes P ch and mates next move.—New Orleans paper.

GAME No. 484.

THE JANOWSKY-SHOWALTER MATCH.
ELEVENTH GAME.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Showalter.		Black—Janowsky.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	15 KR Q q	(d) B x Kt
2 P Q4	P R3	16 R x B(e)	B Q4
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	17 Kt K-q(f)	Castles
4 Kt B3	P x P	18 B Kt q	P B4
5 B K5(a)	P KR3	19 P B4(k)	Kt B3
6 B x Kt	Q x B	20 Q KB2	R Q2
7 P K4	P R3	21 P KR3(h)	Q R3
8 B x P	P QK4	22 P KK4	B K5
9 B Q3	P B4	23 B x B	P x B
10 R QB q	P B5	24 R K3(i)	K x QP
11 P K5(b)	Q Q q	25 K K2(k)	Q B3
12 B K4	R R2	26 R Q2(l)	P KK14
13 Castles	B K5	27 Resigns	
14 Q K2(c)	B K2		

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kenemy.

- (a) P to K4 would have led to a similar continuation. Black answers B to Kt 5, and White is obliged to move B to Kt 5, to which Black's reply is P to KR3.
 (b) Preferable was B to Kt q. White then had the chance to eventually continue P to K5 and Kt to K4. Even the latter play should be delayed, for it weakens the Q P.
 (c) Kt to K2, followed eventually by Q to B2 and K R to Q q was much safer.
 (d) White should have played B takes B. If Black answers R takes B, then Kt to K4 may follow. If, however, Black plays B takes K, then White moves B to K4.
 (e) Leaves the Q P weak. He should have played P takes B.
 (f) An inferior move, which badly displaces the Kt. He should have played B takes B. If Black answers P takes B, then P to K6 may be played. If, however, Q takes B, then White replies Kt to Q2.
 (g) P takes P x P, followed eventually by R to K Kt 3 and Q to B2 or Kt 3, was the proper continuation.
 (h) P to K Kt 4 at once gave better chance of escape. If Black captures the Pawn, then Q to Q B2 may be played, threatening Q to R7 ch. The text move causes loss of time.
 (i) White's game is hopeless, since the Q P as well as the K B P can not be guarded.
 (k) R takes P would have enabled Black to win the exchange with Kt to B6 ch or Kt to K7 ch, yet it would have given White better fighting chances than the text move.
 (l) Kt to B2 was perhaps better. Black, however, with K R to Q sq, maintains his advantage. Black wins the K B P with an overwhelming attack.
 The complete summary of the match is as follows:—
 1—Nov. 18...Queen's Gambit Dec. 32 Janowski
 2—Nov. 21...Double Ruy Lopez ...62 Janowski

3—Nov. 24...Queen's Gambit Dec. 46 Drawn
 4—Nov. 26...Ruy Lopez38 Janowski
 5—Nov. 30...Queen's Gambit Dec. 46 Drawn
 6—Dec. 2...Vienna47 Showalter
 7—Dec. 4...Queen's Gambit Dec. 39 Showalter
 8—Dec. 6&7...Ruy Lopez71 Drawn
 9—Dec. 10...Queen's Gambit Dec. 23 Janowski
 10—Jan. 6...Ruy Lopez40 Drawn
 11—Jan. 8...Queen's Gambit Dec. 26 Janowski
 12—Jan. 10...Queen's Gambit Dec. 36 Janowski
 13—Jan. 12...Queen's Gambit Dec. 79 Janowski
 Total: Janowski won 7, lost 2, drew 4. Showalter played the White pieces in the odd-numbered games, adopting the Queen's Gambit in each instance.
 Janowski played three Ruy Lopez, one double Ruy Lopez, one Vienna and one Queen's Gambit. Total number of moves made, 585.

Game No. 485

The following somewhat remarkable game was played in the tourney between Messrs. Burn and Schott:—

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—M. Burn.		Black—Mr. Schott.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	17 B K3	R R7(k)
2 P QB4	Kt KB3(a)	18 P x Kt	Q R R q!
3 P x P	Q x P	19 P B4	P K6
4 Kt QB3	Q OR4	20 B K4ch(h)	K x B
5 P K3	P B3	21 K B q	R R8ch(i)
6 Kt B3	B K5	22 K K2	R x Rch
7 B K2	Q K Q2(b)	23 R x R	Kt B
8 Castles	P K3	24 K x Kt	Q K3ch
9 B Q2	Q K3	25 K B3	B Kt q
10 Q B2	B Q3	26 R Q q	Q B2
11 Q R Q q(c)	Q B2 l	27 Q Q2	R Q q7
12 P KR3	P KR4	28 Q x Rch	Q x Q
13 P K4(d)	P K4(e)	29 R x Qch	R x R
14 P x B	R P x P	30 K R4	K K2
15 K x P	K x Kt	31 Kt K2	
16 KR K-q(f) Gls.	QR		And White won.

NOTES.

- (a) Inferior in P to K3, or P to Q B3.
 (b) 7..... B takes Kt, 8—B takes B, P to K4! had points.
 (c) We should have preferred 11—P to K4. P to K4; 12—B to K3. The text move gives Black an opportunity for an ingenious and extremely dangerous counter attack.
 (d) If 14—P takes B, P takes P; 15—Kt to K5, B takes Kt; 16—P takes B, Q takes P; 17—P to K Kt 3, Q to K R4; and wins.
 (e) He had better have captured the Kt first.
 (f) 16—P takes Kt would hardly do, as a brief examination of the position will easily demonstrate.
 (g) An extremely pretty move. If 18—K takes R, the reply would be Kt to B6 ch, and mate next move.
 (h) Nothing better. If 20—K to B sq, then R to R 3 ch; 21—B to Kt sq, R takes B ch, and wins.
 (i) His only chance now was 21..... Kt takes B ch; 22—R takes Kt, B takes P; but it is doubtful whether even that line of play would have amounted to much for Black in the end.—*Hereford Times*.

NOTES.

A match between Albin and Mieses is said to be on the tapis. It is to be played at Hanover.

The British Chess Club has cabled to the Brooklyn Chess Club accepting the dates of March 10 and 11 for the cable Chess-match between the United States and Great Britain for the Sir George Newnes trophy. The match this year will be with ten players a side and will occupy two days.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 25th Feb.,—Portland, Oregon, 4th Feb., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
 City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 25th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 2nd Feb., Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
 Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. C. Pantton, 25th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 22nd Feb., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
 Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 25th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 19th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Calédonien, French steamer, 2,093, Durande, 26th Feb.,—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 25th Feb., Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.
 Fudami Maru, Japanese steamer, —, Albert

Todd, 27th Feb.,—Southampton via ports, 3rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 27th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 26th Feb., Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
 Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 27th Feb.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 26th Feb., Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
 Nomia, German steamer, 1,925, Rowehe, 1st March,—Cardiff, 23rd Oct., Coal.—R. Isaacs & Bros.
 Menelaus, British steamer, 2,711, W. Towell, 1st March,—London via ports, Kobe 27th Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swire.
 Fiery Cross, British Bark, 1,399, Kain, 1st March, —Pisagua, Nova, Nitrate.—R. Isaacs & Bros.
 Haddon Hall, British Bark, 1,332, Pinchard, 1st March,—Port Royal, S. C., 17th Sept., Phosphate.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
 Sirene, German Ship, 1,410, Saueremich, 1st March, —Hamburg, 4th Oct., Salt.—Otto Keimeler.
 Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, R. N. R., 2nd March, —San Francisco via Honolulu, 11th Feb., Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 24th Feb.,—Vancouver, B. C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
 Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 25th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
 Baumhorr, British steamer, 1,935, Wallace, 25th February, —Kobe, Ballast.—Comes & Co.
 Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantton, 26th Feb.,—Victoria, B. C. and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
 City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 26th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
 Silesia, German steamer, 3,135, S. Belneus, 28th Feb., —Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.
 China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 28th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
 Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, J. Griffith, 1st March, —Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
 Calédonien, French steamer, 2,093, Durande, 1st March, —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.
 Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 2nd March, —Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 3rd March, —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Janeiro, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. L. Ferguson, Mr. Robert Dalziel, Mr. David Robertson, Mrs. Kalani, Mr. W. P. Meyer, and Mr. Ye Seung Kee, in cabin; and 52 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. Harry E. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Poole, Mrs. Eliza Conner, Mrs. W. C. Kaeling and child, Dr. H. E. Cull, Mr. Mr. E. H. Wedekind, Miss C. Douglas, Mrs. G. C. Smith, Mrs. E. Smith, Col. J. R. Mc Guinness, Mr. C. F. Davis, Dr. W. L. Adams, and Mr. M. Rawlinson, in cabin; 78 Chinese, in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer Kobe Maru, from Shanghai via ports:—Naval-Lieut. G. Nino, Mr. H. Bethell, and Mr. N. E. Richter, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. K. Ohkubo, Mr. S. Hayano, and Mr. A. Christiansen, in second class; 23 in steerage.
 Per American steamer Victoria, from Hongkong via ports, and for Tacoma, Wash.:—Mrs. Skinner, Mr. M. Ridley, and Mr. F. Woodinff, in cabin; 73 Chinese and 98 Japanese, in steerage.
 Per British steamer Rohilla, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Harrison, infant, and native servant, Mr. Scheibler, Mr. Veal, Mr. Clackworthy, Mr. L. E. Sansom, Mr. Lam Sang and child, Mr. Lung Ten, Mr. and Miss Scoones, Miss Serena, Mrs. Dadds, Mr. W. Dumenkeiff, Mr. G. Dumenkeiff, Mr. J. A. Glover, Capt. Thompson, Mr. Wing Chung, Mr. H. E. Reynell, Mr. Lum Lai Ham Mr. Yee Woo, Mr. Cheong Loong, Mr. Yui Poo, Mr. Fukuda, Mr. Wong Sick Su, Mr. Wong Kai Jun, Mr. Chung Wing Kwai, Mr. Le Chung, Master Chee Cock, Master Ak Key, Master Jun Cock, and Master Ah Sher, in cabin; 12 in steerage.
 Per American steamer China, from Hongkong via ports:—Count Wedel, Countess Wedel, daughter and 2 servants, Miss Morse, Mr. P. Buesania, Mr. C. B. Harris, Mr. A. S. M. West,

Mr. J. Briggs, Mr. H. B. Bhesania, Miss Copman, Mr. W. F. Gardiner, Mr. O. D. Jeraud, Mr. A. Cameron, and Mr. W. L. Crow, in cabin; two in European steerage, and one Asiatic in steerage. For Honolulu:—Mr. J. C. White, and Mr. G. H. Kentwell, in cabin; twenty two Asiatics in steerage. For San Francisco:—Lieut. H. Hilarovsky, Mr. B. Garcia, Mr. E. Appli, Mr. Chun Yuen Chi, Mr. M. Lusary, Mr. P. Corral, Mr. Y. Musita, Mr. W. Amendez, Mr. F. Gaillen, Dr. and Mrs. J. Sanger, Mr. D. Argueta, Mr. C. Fales, Mr. J. Cisneros, Mr. M. Martinez, Mr. E. Ortuosti, Mr. H. Sanchez, Mr. F. Mallagary, and Bishop A. W. Wilson, in cabin; thirteen in European steerage, and one hundred and five Asiatics in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. W. L. Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bailey, Miss Charlotte Ives, Mr. J. L. Cowen and family, Mr. A. Mackillop, Mrs. F. A. Underhill and family, Mr. Wm. Eichler, Mr. and Mrs. Baggett and child, Mr. H. F. Merrill and family, Mr. H. Houston, Mrs. L. L. Laughlin and maid, Mr. D. W. Dasher and servant, Mrs. M. D. Howard, Mr. R. S. Thom and family, Mr. A. M. Dell, Mr. H. H. Hulbert, and Mr. Geo. Fredericks, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. J. Sloat Fassett, Mr. Bryant Fassett, and Dr. W. E. Kaser, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hoover, Mr. C. C. Kalmberg, Dr. M. R. Faries and family, Mr. W. E. Bainbridge, Mrs. W. E. Bainbridge, Miss Elsie Adair, Dr. C. F. Johnson, Mrs. M. L. Lane, Mr. L. R. Tuttle, and Miss M. M. Farrant, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Rev. O. F. Wisner and family, Mr. M. R. Alexander, Mr. Su Chao Whio, Mr. Li Pok Hong, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. A. Ralston, Mrs. F. Palmer, Mrs. S. B. Blake, Mr. Li Yung Yaw, Mr. Li Kwang Heng, Mr. Clarence Carey, Miss F. E. Katch, Mr. F. Palmer, in cabin; Mr. Leo Preg, and Mr. Ernest Homilis, in European steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin, child and maid, Rev. C. H. Browne, Capt. Fraser and valet, Mr. and Mrs. S. Guggenheim, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hutchison, Master Hutchison, Mr. Wm. Lough, Mr. J. Martin, Miss Moir, Mr. F. Nabholz, Mrs. Norie, Mr. J. Norie, Mr. T. B. Pank, Mr. K. Sugawa, Mrs. Van Nierop, and Mr. E. P. Cadwell, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. D. E. Brown and servant, Mr. J. W. Copman and servant, Capt. U. Tokozawa, Mrs. Geo. E. Gelm, Mr. J. Thebaud and servant, Mr. H. E. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Poole, Mrs. E. Connor, Mrs. W. C. Kaeling, Mr. M. Robinson, Dr. H. R. Curt, Mr. E. H. Wedekind, Miss E. Douglass, Mrs. G. C. Smith, Miss E. Smith, Col. J. R. McGuiness, Mr. C. F. Davis, and Dr. W. L. Adams, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss A. Abenheim, Mr. F. B. Abenheim, Mr. E. Appli, Mr. D. Argueta, Mr. E. Amendez, Paymaster Edward Bellows, U.S.N., Mrs. Edward Bellows, Mr. Ed. Bashari, Mr. J. Cisneros, Mr. W. J. Corwin, U.S.N., Mr. P. Corral, Lieut. J. Defabre, I.R.N., Mr. T. R. Dewar, Mr. C. Fales, Mrs. A. R. Gnodall, Mr. B. Garcia, Mr. F. Gaillen, Lieut. Hilbrowsky, I.R.N., Mrs. Wm. Haywood, Mr. T. O. Jones, Mr. Geo. H. Kentwell, Mr. M. Lascary, Mr. F. Marajary, Mr. M. Martinez, Mr. Y. Musita, Mr. M. Noguchi, Mr. E. Ortuosti, Mr. J. Pester, Mr. H. Sanchez, Dr. and Mrs. J. Sanger, Mr. K. Tanaka, Bishop A. W. Wilson, Mr. J. C. White, Mr. F. H. Wood, and Mr. Chun Yuen Chu, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Caldonien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. F. Dauckwerts, Mr. H. E. Reynell, Mr. W. S. Stone, Mr. A. S. Garfit, Mr. Thibaudier, Mr. G. W. Rose, Mr. J. Gobet, Mr. J. Esjima, Mrs. J. Journeet, Mrs. B. E. Kellogg-Cravens, Mr. Ho Did Sang, Mr. Said Hashim, Mr. Young Fook Cho, Mr. T. Tahiham, Mr. F. Pessoomal, Mr. Veyre, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Jourdan, child and servant, Mr. Ah Sun, Mr. Ko Sou, Mr. Ting Lai San, Mr. Sing Un, and Mr. Wang Fik Sang, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Baron Y. Iwasaki, Mr. K. Nambu, Mr. C. J. Bagnel, Mr. K. Irimoto, Mr. K. Tanaka, Mr. G. Schepens, Mr. J. Makins, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Guberman and 3 children, in cabin; 5 Chinese, 2 Europeans, and 15 Japanese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. F. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Bainbridge, Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Faries and two children, Master Faries, Mr. M. H. Alexander, Mr. H. Roth, Mr. J. R. Tuttle, Dr. Kaser, Miss F. E. Katch, Mrs. A. B. Blake, Hon. and Mrs. A. E. Buck, Sir Chas. R. S. Payne, Lady Payne,

Mr. and Mrs. Van Wyck, Misses Van Wyck (2), Mr. Clarence Carey, Mrs. Tarrant, Mr. and Mrs. Ralston, Dr. and Mrs. Edwards, Mr. J. Briggs, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Bonhote, Mr. W. R. P. Freeland, Mr. S. Pokrowsky, Mr. Li Tung Yen, Mr. Wa Chai Wuen Rev. and Mrs. O. S. Wisner and two children, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hoover, Mr. and Mrs. Poole, Mr. Chas. B. Harris, Mrs. M. L. Lane, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer, Mr. Kalmberg, Mr. Hulbert, Mr. Li Kwang Heng, Mr. Li Pok Hong, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Key, and Miss D. Roth, in cabin.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *Victoria*, Captain J. Pantan, reports:—Left Hongkong on February 15th, Moji on the 19th, and Kobe on the 22nd at 6 a.m. Encountered fierce Easterly gale off Ohima, which blew with hurricane force until morning of the 25th February.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Capt. William Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco on the 2nd February at 2 p.m., had strong S.E. winds to Honolulu, arriving there on the 9th at 2 p.m. Left Honolulu at 11 a.m. on the 10th and experienced a succession of heavy gales from the Westward throughout the passage to Yokohama, arriving here on the 25th Feb. at 3 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is some, but very little, business in gassed yarns; but for grey shittings forward business has practically ceased and there is no demand for spot goods. There is no change in fancy cottons and woollens.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

Grey Shittings—H.B., 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.60 to 2.90
Grey Shittings—H.B., 38 yds, 45 inches	3.00 to 3.40
1 Cloth—7 yds, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.90 to 2.00
Indigo Shittings—12 yards, 44 inches	2.00 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 4.00
Cotton—Italian and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28

WOOLLENS.

Flannels	Per yard, 0.10 to 0.20
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.31 to 0.42
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards, 51 inches	0.16 to 0.28
Cloths—Pilots, 51 & 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 51 & 56 inches	0.75 to 0.85
Cloths—Union, 51 & 56 inches	0.55 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.65 to 0.75
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 44 inches	7.75 to 9.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.5 to 4.5 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.45 to 3.47

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$36.50 to 38.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38 to 42, Singles	41.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.50 to 45.50
Nos. 2 to 60, Plain	64.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2 to 60, Plain	79.00 to 110.00
Nos. 2 to 60, Gassed	76.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2 to 60, Gassed	90.00 to 93.00
Nos. 2 to 60, Gassed	115.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	Per picul, \$19.50 to 20.00
Indian Broach	18.50
Chinese	20.00

METALS.

In bar iron dealers have been paying attention to spot cargo and buying freely. Contract sales are reported in tin plate, galvanized wire, and wire nails.

Round and square 4 inch and upward	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 5.00
Sheet Iron	5.15 to 5.40
Galvanized iron sheets	9.75 to 11.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.25 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	6.50 to 6.60
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.08 to 2.10
Hoop Iron (1 to 14 inch)	3.25 to 3.50

RUBBERS.

The market remains firm.

American	Per picul, \$2.00 to 2.10
Russian	2.30
Langkat	0.95 to 1.00

SUGAR.

Prices have been 10 to 20 sen lower for most Browns, but the low grade Manillas have experienced a rise of 10 to 20 sen.

Brown Lakau	Per picul, \$4.75 to 4.80
Brown Manila	4.90 to 5.20
Brown Daitong	4.25 to 4.30
Itown Canton	4.90 to 5.75
White Java and Panang	6.70 to 7.00
White Refined	7.75 to 9.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The demand continues brisk, and prices of full-sized filatures have advanced to yen per picul, but the volume of business has not been large owing to the very reduced stock. The whole remaining stock of Kakedas has been bought up for native consumption.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Kata, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Kata, Coarse	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	\$10.15 to 10.25
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	10.20 to 10.30
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	9.80 to 10.00
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	9.80 to 9.90
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	Nominal
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 2	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakedas—Extra	9.50
Kakedas—No. 1	9.20
Kakedas—No. 1	9.20
Kakedas—No. 2	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 3	Nominal

WASTE SILK.

The market is quiet, but prices are very firm. The stock is 3,880 piculs only, of low qualities.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$110 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Best	110 to 125
Noshi—Oahu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	no stock
Noshi—Bushu, Best	115 to 125
Noshi—Bushu, Good	95 to 100
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 95
Kibiso—Filature, Seconda	80 to 85
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	30 to 30

TKA.

There has been practically no transactions, and stocks are reduced to about 900 piculs, chiefly of low grades. The total settlements for the season amount to 208,143 piculs, against 285,000 at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	no stock
Choice	no stock
Finest	no stock
Fine	no stock
Good Medium	—
Medium	33 to 24
Good Common	31 to 27
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 2nd.

Silver again $\frac{1}{2}$ higher from London, no alteration in sterling from China, and rates here are keeping steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0
— Rills on demand	2/0
— 4 months' sight	2/1
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— 6 months' sight	2/1
On Paris—Bank sight	260
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	264
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51
On Germany—Bank sight	203
— Private 4 months' sight	214
On Hongkong—Bank sight	5 1/2 dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	6 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	77 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	78 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Mitsui Bussan Kaisha's List.]

Yokohama, March 2nd.

China Mutual Ordinary £5 paid up changed hands to-day at £2.15.

Japan Brewery new shares, cum yen 50 paid up, have been dealt in at yen 140; and old shares can be had at yen 320. Iron Works are offering at yen 217.50. Grand Hotels can be had at yen 225. Club Hotels can be had at under yen 100. Oriental Hotels are now steady at yen 100. Offers are wanted for Founders' shares. Nagasaki Hotels are wanted at yen 40. Betts are strong at yen 9.50. North & Roes have buyers at yen 200. Y. U. Clubs are wanted at yen 102 ex accrued interest as usual. Hyogo Gas shares are obtainable at yen 170. Debentures stocks of all kinds are unchanged at quotations.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	217.50	S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., Old	320	Y.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50	240	Y.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	120	Y.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	120	Y.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	120	Y.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fires.)	120	Y.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd.	120	Y.
North and Kei. Ltd.	120	Y.
North & Co., Ltd.	120	Y.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	120	Y.
Shogo Tea Co., Ltd.	120	Y.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb.	120	Y.
Kobe Club 6 1/2 Deb.	120	Y.
Yokohama United Club 7 1/2 Deb.	120	Y.
North & Co., Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb.	120	Y.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb.	120	Y.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 1/2 Deb.	120	Y.
Reserve Fund.—1 yen 10,000; 2 yen 3,000 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property	1.7770-801 4.700 10,398 44.	
N.M.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady.		
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, A.—Enquiries		

Tokyo, March 2nd

Redemption Loan Bonds	94.50
War Loan Bonds	94.50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	94.50
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	94.50
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 30	94.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	94.50
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	94.50
First National Bank—paid up yen 30	94.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 30	94.50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	94.50
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	94.50
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 41	94.50
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 20	94.50
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45	94.50
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 30	94.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 25	94.50
Hokkaido Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Itoya Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Nano Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Hosoyama Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Iodo Railway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 34	94.50
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	94.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	94.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 30	94.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	94.50
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	94.50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 50	94.50
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 30	94.50
Daimyo Transport—paid up yen 50	94.50
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 50	94.50
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Mercantile Exchange—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	94.50
Shingawa Electric Light—paid up yen 35	94.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 10	94.50
Japan Beer—paid up yen 50	94.50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 10	94.50
Kanagawa Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	94.50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 50	94.50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	94.50
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	94.50

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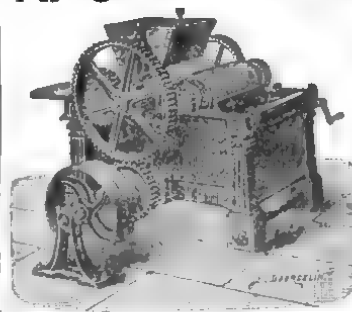
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CONTENTS.

Summary of News	181
Code of Criminal Procedure	182
Difficulties of the Progressists	182
The Land Lease Question	183
The Bank of Japan	184
The Policy of Privacy	185
Patents	185
Marquis Ito on the Election Bill	185
Japanese Emigration	186
Mr. Ito on the Election Bill	186
Wakamatsu and Hanyang	186
The Industrial Bank	186
State Purchase of Private Railways	187
The Tanbo Railway Company	187
Emoluments of Members of the Diet	187
Respect Paid to Scholarship	187
Hokkaido	187
Funeral Service for His Excellency the late M. Faure	188
Popular Representation in Japan	188
The Laws of Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs	189
Silk	189
Ofunado Harbour	189
Railway and Telegraph Rates	189
Mediation in the Philippines	189
Junber String Quartet Concert	189
Education	189
A Spark Extinguisher	189
Yokohama Recreation Ground	189
Leading Articles	189
The United States and Japan	189
Formosa	189
Imperial Diet	189
Asiatic Society of Japan	189
The Fighting at Manila	189
News of the Week	189
Chinese News	189
German and Britishers Abroad	189
Correspondence—The Recent Appeal	189
The Leopold Bankruptcy	189
H.M.M.'s Court for Japan	189
Death of the President of the French Republic	189
Telegrams	189
China	189
Latest Shipping	189
Latest Commercial	189

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIENCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB. 25TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

INFLUENZA seems to be rife in Tokyo. Count Matsukata is still suffering from it.

THE new President of the French Republic is M. Loubet, late President of the Senate.

THE new election law has been passed by the Lower House, after being almost entirely recast.

PRESIDENT FAURE died in Paris last Thursday, from apoplexy, after an illness lasting three hours.

VERY bad weather has prevailed along the coasts of Japan since Wednesday, detaining steamers very seriously.

THE Canadian *Panama*, which was three weeks overdue from New York, has been safely towed into the Azores.

THE inauguration of the new President of France was attended by some hostile demon-

strations in the capital, but details supplied later confirm the impression that they were the work of paid rowdies.

A VERY enjoyable concert was given at the Public Hall on Wednesday evening by the Junker Quartet Party.

A POLICEMAN named Hongo Saburo (29), stationed at Kojimachi, Tokyo, has been arrested on a charge of theft.

A LADY named Mura (22), niece of Mr. Ka Reishi, member of the House of Peers, has committed suicide by taking poison.

THE lead taken by the Mitsu Bank in reducing its rate of interest will be followed by the Third Bank and the Yasuda Bank within a few days.

RT. HON. SIR M. HICKS BEACH has submitted in the House of Commons a motion to vote £30,000 to purchase an annuity for Gen. Lord Kitchener.

THE Nippon Tea Trading Association has declared a dividend of 7 per cent. per annum. The association is said to have incurred heavy losses during last year.

A MAN named Hiraide Toyonji, of Kanagawa Satsuma Prefecture, was robbed of ¥4,960, the proceeds of a sale of barley, while travelling on a train recently.

THE Sultan of Muscat granted a small port in his territory to the French as a coaling station, but has had to withdraw the concession on the threat of the British Admiral.

THE Yokohama Customs authorities have made a claim of ¥800 against the Messageries Maritimes for damage done on the 15th inst. to the pier by the steamer *Sydney*.

MR. WAKAO, the wealthy Yokohama merchant, is promoting a bank with a capital of ¥400,000. He applied on the 20th for the sanction of the Financial Department.

THE new law of Criminal Procedure has passed the House of Peers as amended by the Government. The French system still prevails in regard to preliminary examinations.

AN amah in the employ of the ladies of the Ferris Seminary, Yokohama, committed suicide on Monday by jumping down a deep well. She had been greatly depressed of late.

THE funeral service at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Tokyo, in honour of the late President Faure, proved very impressive and was attended by representatives of all nations.

WEDNESDAY, February 23, George Washington's birthday, was quietly spent in Yokohama. In Kobe the American community gave a public ball to which a large number of guests were invited.

THE new special Customs Regulations increasing the duty on foreign spirits and tobacco, and exempting from duty foreign matches and match materials, are to be enforced from the 15th August.

THE Yokohama Telephone Exchange, after finishing the laying of pipes for underground telephone wires as far as the 3rd street of Honcho, will extend its work to Oamachi, Onoyecho, Nuge, &c.

THE Japanese man-of-war *Hiyei* is to make a voyage to Vancouver, Seattle, and Honolulu with 59 graduates from the Naval college. She is expected to return in August this year, and

will afterwards, it is stated, make a second cruise of the same nature.

THE Electric Railway between Seoul and the cemetery where the late Empress of Korea was interred, about 5 miles in length, has been completed, and will probably be opened for traffic on the 1st May.

THE Kanagafuchi Spinning Company, the Shanghai Spinning Company, the Miike Spinning Company, and two other companies are considering a project of amalgamation, the proposed capital being 10,000,000 yen.

THE dispute over the fire insurance on the Nippon Yarn Manufacturing Company's works in Osaka, has been arranged. The Meiji, Nitto, and Tokyo Fire Insurance Companies will pay ¥27,500 each and the Yokohama Fire Insurance Company ¥17,500.

ACCORDING to investigation instituted at the end of last year, the total number of Japanese in Singapore, Penang, and Malacca is 161 males and 477 females. If the number of Japanese in adjacent islands be taken into account, the total is over 1,000.

MR. YAMAKAWA, Vice-Manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank, has left for Hongkong and the Northern parts of China to investigate industrial and commercial conditions there. When he returns, he will be appointed manager of the Kobe branch of the Bank.

INTELLIGENCE from Washington states that a resolution has been adopted declaring the ratification of the Treaty of Peace. This does not imply the permanent annexation of the Philippines, but is intended to prepare the islands for self-government.

THE Kanagawa Kencho has offered for sale by tender the land formerly occupied by the jail. The highest tender was ¥6.10 per two yards square. This was declined, and the land will be tendered again. The authorities expect about ¥12 per two yards square.

MIYASHITA Kozuki (aged 27), a native of Kagoshima Prefecture, now living at Shibahama Kwan, Tokyo, has been arrested under a warrant issued by the Shiba Police on the 15th, on a charge of fraud. He is a relation of Count Matsukata, has been in America, and is a man of some education.

THE funeral of the late Mr. Hara Zensaburo, of Yokohama, took place at the Enshakuji, Ku boyama, Ota, on the 16th inst. In spite of the heavy snow storm, over 5,000 persons were present. Shaku Syugen, of the famous Buddhist temple Enshakuji, Kamakura, officiated.

THE first meeting of creditors of E. C. Leopold, a convict now serving a term of two years' imprisonment in the British gaol, was held on Monday, and the debtor was adjudged a bankrupt, an official trustee being appointed to take charge of the estate. The debts amount to 400,000 yen, the assets to about 75 yen.

NOMIDZU Satoru, aged 18, of Nakase-mura, Mishima gon, came up to Tokyo some six years ago, and became a pupil at the Myohoji, a Buddhist Temple, near Tokyo, but his dissolute conduct led to his having to leave. After wandering about the capital penniless and homeless, he broke into the temple where he served as a pupil, and stole ¥40, which he spent in the usual amusements of youth. He was arrested on the 14th.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

February 20.

It will be noticed from our report of the Proceedings of the House of Peers, that the very interesting question of amending the Code of Criminal Procedure came before the House on the 18th inst. The Government, some time ago, presented a Bill embodying certain changes, the chief of which was the abolition of the *mise au secret* (*nishitsu*), and the substitution of "separate confinement" (*betsui Hambo*). It was not a material change, for although the objectionably suggestive term "secret cell" disappeared from the Code, its place was taken by another kind of cell, where all the disagreeable and painful features and incidents of the *mise au secret* might be easily perpetuated. Moreover, the Government proposed that recourse to separate, or solitary, confinement should continue to be recognised as a means of eliciting facts: in other words, an accused person, before even a *prima facie* case had been made out against him, might be subjected to a rigorous system of treatment in order to induce—may we not say "compel?"—him to bear witness against himself. It really could not matter much whether he were put into a "secret cell" or a "separate cell?" The result in each case would be similar isolation from all human intercourse, and similar moral disturbance. The majority of the Special Committee of the Upper Chamber appointed to examine the Bill recommended the excision of the words "for the purpose of eliciting the facts," thereby eliminating, from the letter of the law at any rate, the principle that separate confinement may be resorted to as a device for extorting confession. That is something gained. But again we are confronted by the same inefficacy that disfigured the Government's amendment. For though the Judge is no longer informed textually that the *nishitsu*, or the *betsui hambo*, is regarded by his country's legislators as a useful and normal instrument for collecting evidence, he still remains invested with power to prescribe separate confinement "when he deems it necessary." When can it be "necessary" to resort to such a course in the case of a person against whom no offence has been proved? We fail to see that it can ever be "necessary" except for the purpose of employing moral pressure to elicit a confession. Thus the amendment proposed by the majority of the Committee seems to be quite impotent of useful results. They have recommended some other changes of a useful character, especially one which secures an accused person against being placed under arrest previously to examination, and another which requires judgments to be couched in fully explanatory terms. But they have left untouched the kernel of the problem, namely, the *proces verbal*, the denial of counsel to an accused person during the preliminary examination, and the competence of the Judge to resort to measures which can only be reconciled with the assumption of guilt before guilt has been proved.

The minority of the Committee assumed a very different attitude. They boldly advocated the Anglo-Saxon system, that is to say, total abolition of the *proces verbal*, together with the separate cell as an adjunct of preliminary examinations, and the permitting of an accused person to employ counsel from the very first. We

may note that this minority numbered ten members, and that it included two ex-Chief-Justices, Messrs. Miyoshi and Kodama.

The Peers have voted for the second reading of the Bill, and the Minister of Justice has asked them to "defer"—a significant way of putting it—endorsement of the proposals of the minority. His Excellency represents the Government as uncertain whether the employment of counsel for the accused at preliminary examinations might not prove a source of delay, thus inflicting needless suffering; and whether it might not lead also to the escape of guilty persons. The former apprehension seems to us, as Englishmen, quite chimerical; and the latter is the outcome of precisely the principle most inconsistent with the real interests of justice; the principle that innocent people should be placed in jeopardy rather than that the risk of a guilty person's escape should be incurred.

February 23.

From our report of the Proceedings in the House of Peers on the 21st instant, it will have been seen that the Government Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure was discussed with closed doors. We can not offer any explanation of this policy of secrecy, unless it be that some of the members wished to refer explicitly and at length to the opinions expressed by foreigners on the subject, and also to obtain an exact statement from the Minister of Foreign Affairs as to any communication that may have passed unofficially between himself and the Foreign Representatives. We doubt whether there have been any communications of the kind. Objectionable as Englishmen and Americans may deem the Japanese system, it is, after all, the system to which they would be obliged to submit if they visited, or resided in, several of the most highly civilized States of Europe, and they are therefore precluded from protesting, except as a matter of principle.

The House having conducted its proceedings in secret, we know nothing about the character of the debate, but the result is that the Bill was passed as amended by the majority of the Special Committee, and that the suggestions of the minority were rejected. We have already explained these points in detail, and need not do more here than state that the attempt to replace the French system by the Anglo-Saxon has failed; that the *proces verbal* is continued; that counsel is still denied to an accused person at the preliminary examination, and that the Judge is still competent to order the accused into separate and solitary confinement, before a *prima facie* case has been established against him, though the Code no longer textually recognises that the purpose of such confinement is to elicit the facts. The Government has spoiled its progressive record by its action in this matter. It has lost a golden opportunity of effecting a reform which would have brought it much credit, and would have raised Japan's judicial system to a much higher plane than that now occupied by it.

Kusane Tokuichi, aged 28, a coolie, was hanged in the Yokohama Chibo Saibansho on Wednesday morning, with stealing some wire, valued at 20 yen, from a godown rented by Mr. A. Weston at the Western Hotel. The accused was sentenced to 30 days' imprisonment.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE PROGRESSIVISTS.

The Progressivists do not appear to be able to compose their quarrel. Our readers remember, doubtless, that the bone of contention is whether or not the Party should adopt, as a platform for active operations, the principle of drastic financial economies by cutting down the expenditures on account of the Army. The section advocating that course laid down, at first, the rule that 140 million yen must be the limit of the State's outlays. We are not clear as to the precise meaning of that proposal. At first sight it seems to refer to the Ordinary and Extraordinary Expenditures combined, since the Ordinary Expenditures for next year already satisfy the prescribed condition, being only 140½ million yen, whereas the sum of the Ordinary and the Extraordinary is 226½ millions. On the other hand, the most extreme reformer can scarcely think of cutting down the expansion scheme for the Navy—it is too late, indeed, to attempt anything of the kind—and no retrenchments effected in the military budgets alone could produce the result desired by the malcontents, if they include the Extraordinary outlays. Looking at the Government's estimates for the next six years, however, we see that the Ordinary Expenditures alone will reach 147½ million yen when the *post bellum* programme is fully carried out (i.e. in 1905-6), and it would not be unreasonable to demand that the establishment of the Army be reduced so as to keep the Ordinary Expenditures within 140 millions; in other words, that 7½ millions be cut off. But just as we imagine that we have thus reached an intelligible explanation, we are thrown into new confusion by an announcement that the recalculators, after a great struggle with their convictions—"swallowing their tears," as the Japanese expression has it—declared their willingness to extend the limit of outlays to 170 millions, which concession, however, did not suffice to bridge the chasm as the rest of the Party stood out for 180 millions. Now, according to the official programme, the Ordinary and Extraordinary Expenditures will aggregate only 165 millions in 1903-4, and will sink to 160½ millions in 1905-6. So it would seem that the economical section of the Progressivists are actually willing to disburse 10 millions more than the Government itself contemplates ultimately spending, and the liberal section talk of adding 20 millions. We don't understand it at all. At any rate, one thing seems certain, namely, that the number of the probable seceders from the Party in consequence of this dispute is gradually dwindling. At first 40 were confidently spoken of. Then they fell to 20, and now there is talk of only 10. There will, therefore, be no very formidable convulsion. It is curious, however, to find that the brilliant men of the Party, like Mr. Ozaki Yukio, Dr. Hatoyama Kazuo and Mr. Inukai Ki—all original Progressivists, he it observed—decline to serve on the General Committee, and Baron Kusumoto now represents the whole Committee in his own solitary person. Can it be that the bonds binding the old *Shimpo-to* to their heterogeneous allies are beginning to loosen?

THE LAND-LEASE QUESTION.

We feel reluctance in again approaching the question of the Kobe land leases, first because the subject has ceased to be interesting, and secondly because our opponent's position no longer invites attack but only inspires compassion. However, a controversy sometimes becomes controversially curious, apart from the issue in dispute, and it is conceivable that our readers will share the amusement we have ourselves derived from the latest developments of this dispute. Our opponent, whom we shall designate the Kobe Quibbler for the sake of brief identification and because of the appropriateness of the term, is the victim of a habit which places him at a great disadvantage. The too freely indulged custom of equivocation has so impaired his discernment that he seems to have lost the capacity of distinguishing between artifice and candour, and thus complacently associates himself with the most singular distortions of truth and logic, just as sufferers from chronic physical infirmities often become unconscious of their unsightliness to other eyes. That phase of the discussion constitutes one of its claims upon sober attention, and we shall therefore briefly illustrate it.

Every one knows that it is unlawful for foreigners to rent land beyond the limits of the Settlements or other places specially designated for that purpose in Japan. Yet, according to the Kobe Quibbler, to say that such renting is forbidden is a *suggestio falsi*. Why, forsooth? Because "the leasing of land by aliens was never forbidden in Japan in the sense of an enactment to that effect any more than trade between Japanese and foreigners was forbidden." Is not that comical? We must not say that to lease land anywhere and everywhere throughout Japan is forbidden to foreigners, because there is no explicit enactment on the subject. "No explicit enactment!" Nothing but numerous laws, promulgated again and again in former years, promising condign punishment to any Japanese subject who entered into transactions of any kind with foreigners. Nothing but an absolute practical veto which has always effectually prevented the leasing of lands outside the Settlements, and which will continue to prevent it until the Revised Treaties go into force. Nothing but international covenants which by limiting such transactions to a few narrow areas, constructively forbid them everywhere else. Yet it is a *suggestio falsi* to say that the leasing of land by foreigners outside the Settlements is forbidden! To such sad subterfuges is the Kobe Quibbler driven.

That is illustration No. 1. We pass to No. 2. In May, 1867, the Japanese Government undertook to form at Hyogo a foreign Settlement, by raising portions of a certain area, constructing embankments, and carrying out other works. They further covenanted that "as soon as all the ground thus prepared was occupied and more space was required, the Settlement might be extended towards the hills at the back." Ten months later, they agreed that "foreigners and Japanese might in future make arrangements between themselves and at their own convenience for leasing lands or houses" in an additional area outside the Settlement. Ten months later, observe. Now the Kobe Quibbler asserts that this latter concession was merely the "carry-

ing out of the former arrangement." The preparation of the Settlement had been finished 3 months previously, and only a tiny fraction of it had been occupied, yet we are asked to believe that the time had come for implementing a promise which was explicitly conditional on the complete occupation of the Settlement and the consequent necessity for further space! To such sad subterfuges is the Kobe Quibbler driven. Moreover, the document conveying to foreigners this privilege of renting extra-settlement lands or houses, explicitly says:—"From this arrangement, however, must be excepted the Concession ground prepared under the Convention of May, 1867." Yet the Kobe Quibbler pretends that the arrangement was merely an extension of the Concession!

It is worth while to notice here a query which may occur to our readers, namely, if the Settlement area at Kobe had not been fully occupied, why were facilities granted for renting land outside its limits? The answer is supplied by reference to Tokyo's case. In 1867, the Japanese Government covenanted to provide a space for a foreign Settlement in Tokyo, and further agreed to make an extension, "whenever the original ground had been occupied by foreigners and more space was required for their use." In 1870, though no question whatever had arisen as to complete occupation or the need of further space, the Japanese Government agreed that within certain extra-Settlement limits foreigners might hire houses from Japanese. As in Kobe, so in Tokyo, an additional facility was granted. That is all.

Concerning the duration of leases in the extra-Settlement area in Tokyo, no doubt has ever arisen, because the Japanese Government, in granting the facility, expressly limited the term of such leases to 5 years. If anything were needed to differentiate the extra-Settlement areas from the Settlements themselves, this reservation would supply the want, for whereas leases within the Tokyo Settlement were to be in perpetuity, those without the Settlement were to be for five years only. That, it will be remembered, is the whole point of the controversy. Our contention is simply this, namely, that the Japanese Government, when it agreed that foreigners and Japanese might in future make agreements between themselves and at their own convenience for leasing lands or houses within a district outside the Settlement at Kobe, did not for one instant deprive itself of competence to legislate, either then or subsequently, for the regulation of such transactions. In 1870, it had taken the precaution of setting a five years' limit in the case of Tokyo. In 1884, it set a twenty-five years' limit in the case of Kobe. The Quibbler of the latter port performs some very diverting antics in climbing round these propositions. He tries to prove that we rested our case at one moment on the laws of the empire; at another on a local custom. We did nothing of the kind. We laid down, first, the general proposition that the transactions permitted to foreigners and Japanese at Kobe in 1868 were not, and could not be, exempted from the laws of the empire; and, secondly, we asserted the special fact that the local custom of the prefecture was embodied in a prefectural law in 1884, which law became thenceforth binding upon all Japan-

ese in their transactions with foreigners within the prefecture.

The final phase of this controversy has been the most curious of all. It was asserted by the Kobe Quibbler that, in deference to the strong protests urged by Her Majesty's Minister, the Japanese Government, recognising that the restriction imposed in 1884 was a violation of the rights secured to foreigners by treaty, had withdrawn the restriction. We thereupon published an official statement obtained from the Foreign Office, denying that anything of the kind had occurred, and explaining that the restriction was withdrawn because the operation of the new Civil Code rendered it unnecessary. In short, so far from admitting that to impose a legal restriction on the exercise of the privilege had been *ultra vires*, the Japanese Government had simply replaced one form of legal restriction by another. What was now left for the Kobe Quibbler? Nothing except the incredible course of denouncing the Foreign Office document to be a fraud!

We are wrong in saying that nothing was left except the miserable subterfuge of pretending not to believe a statement which stood beyond all range of query. We are wrong in saying that the shamelessness of an accusation tending merely to show the controversial depravity of which he is himself capable, could not deter the Kobe Quibbler. There was still another resource for him. Failing totally in argument, in reason, in logic, and in sincerity, he could yet appeal to the passion and the prejudice of his audience. That is what he does. He concludes by "commenting on the energy and persistency with which the *Japan Mail* seeks to make out that" the Kobe Quibbler "and the Kobe community generally are animated by an overmastering hostility to Japan and the Japanese Government," and he "supposes that the *Japan Mail* has made up its mind that it will serve its own personal interests best to misrepresent the Kobe community." That is the kind of device finally resorted to. The question of the land leases, whatever be its rights and wrongs, is confined strictly to an interpretation of treaty rights. It has nothing whatever to do with "overmastering hostility to Japan and the Japanese Government." It is a problem of the most limited practical interest; its discussion has no sentimental phase of any kind, and our part in the controversy has been simply to deny that a breach of the treaty can be justly charged against Japan. The Kobe Quibbler himself has some glimmering consciousness that, in carrying his appeal to the bar of prejudice, he must find some pretence unconnected with the real subject of discussion. He finds it in the *Japan Mail's* failure to comment editorially on the enthusiastic reception given by Kobe to the Emperor when His Majesty passed through the Settlement. Yet, even in advancing that ridiculous plea, he is incapable of the commonest consistency, for he declares that the reception was regarded by the foreigners, on their side, in the light of a "simple act of courtesy due to the Sovereign of the country in which they resided." Thus because the *Japan Mail* "refrained altogether from editorial comment" on a "simple act of courtesy," it is charged with "making out that the Kobe community is animated by an overmastering hostility to Japan and the

Japanese Government!" All very comical, surely, but, at the same time, very pitiable. It is not easy to understand the uses of every creature with which an all-wise providence has peopled our globe, but that particular species which turns and rends the hands upon which it fawned so long as they bestowed benefits, is one we have no desire to study closely.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

It will be observed from our report of the Proceedings in the Diet that the two Houses are now holding a conference with reference to the taxation of the Bank of Japan. The Government's Bill proposed to levy a tax on the Bank's net profits, and the estimated yield of such an impost was 1,200,000 yen. The House of Representatives changed the system, and decided that the tax should be levied on the Bank's note issues, after deducting its loan of 22 millions to the Treasury. The rate proposed by House was 1½ per cent., and the tax would have amounted to 1,400,000 yen. When the Bill came to the Peers, they endorsed the system recommended by the Representatives, but they changed the rate to 1 per cent., under which arrangement the maximum yield of the tax would be 980,000 yen. Unless the Houses can come to some agreement the Bill will fail altogether. We presume that a compromise may be anticipated—probably 1½ per cent.

The annual general meeting of the Bank of Japan was held on the 18th instant at the Bank buildings. Mr. Yamamoto, President of the Bank, addressed the assembled shareholders at some length. After referring to the facts that he had occupied the post since last October only and that this was the thirty-third general meeting, he went on to speak of the economic history of the year just expired. The year had opened amid very gloomy conditions, serious depression of trade existing and the money market being in a state of great stringency. Under the circumstances the Bank had considered it necessary to raise its rate of interest, and had done so twice, to the extent of 1 rin daily, in March and April. Things had continued in a bad state. Many industries had been suspended, and the market quotations for bonds and shares had steadily declined, so that considerable embarrassment was felt in banking circles, especially in Osaka. It was evident that unless some remedial measure were adopted, a crisis must ensue. Accordingly the Government had, on the one hand, devoted a portion of the money lying in the Treasury to the purchase of bonds, and, on the other, subscribed liberally for the shares of the Industrial Bank, thus placing it in a position to give accommodation to manufacturers. These steps having been commenced in May, had gradually exercised the desired effect, and the second half of the year had seen a gradual restoration of confidence and a partial revival of business, accompanied by a fall in the prices of commodities. With the approach of autumn these improved conditions were supplemented by the prospect of an exceptionally fine rice harvest, and the War between America and Spain having been brought to a close, a keen demand for Japanese silk sprang up in the United States, leading to a large increase of exports, with partial redress of the balance of trade. The Bank had

therefore felt that it might adopt a less conservative policy, and in October and November it reduced the daily rate of interest by 2 rin on each occasion. A clear idea of the improved economical conditions at the close of 1898, as compared with the corresponding period of 1897, might be gathered from the following figures:—

Accommodation given by the Bank	Yen.
at close of 1887	104,970,000
Accommodation given by the Bank	
at close of 1898	84,370,000
Difference	20,600,000
Volume of convertible notes in circulation at end of 1897	226,200,000
Volume of convertible notes in circulation at end of 1898	197,300,000
Difference	28,900,000

The year 1898 was further remarkable for the disappearance of the fever of industrial enterprise which became epidemic after the War with China. Statistics showed that whereas the amount of capital involved in new enterprises or added to the capital of old ones during the year had been only 9,349,000 yen, a figure remarkably small as compared with the record of the three or four preceding years, the capital of companies dissolved during the same interval had been 6,608,060 yen, so that the sum really taken had been only 2,741,000 yen. On the other hand, the Clearing House returns for Tokyo and Osaka showed that the credit system was steadily gaining vogue:—

Clearing House returns, Osaka and Tokyo, 1897	Yen.
Clearing House returns, Osaka and Tokyo, 1898	713,850,000
Difference	1,009,110,000
Difference	295,260,000

It might fairly be concluded that the country had now emerged from the temporarily unsound conditions which followed the war, and that the remedial measures adopted by the Government in the spring and summer of the year had been crowned with good results. Turning to the foreign trade of the country, it was found to have aggregated 442,600,000 yen, in round numbers; far the largest figure ever reached. Doubtless that was a cause for congratulation. But the satisfaction was not unalloyed: the increase had been chiefly on the side of imports, exports showing no appreciable change. That was partly due, no doubt, to the still remaining spirit of expenditure resulting from the war, but it was also due, in no small degree, to the failure of the rice crop in 1897 and the consequent importation of large quantities of grain, as well as to the fact that there had been a rush to import goods in anticipation of the new tariff which went into force from the beginning of this year. All these causes had combined to produce an excess of imports to the extent of 112,300,000 yen, and a consequent outflow of specie aggregating 44,400,000 yen. Under the exceptional circumstances of the time, the country might justly congratulate itself that a heavier drain of specie had not occurred. All arrangements with respect to the new currency system had been completed in July of last year. There had been some superfluous apprehensions about the possible shrinkage of the specie reserve, but they had not been realized in any sense, and the system now stood on a perfectly stable basis. The President then went on to explain changes that had been made in the organization and rules of the Bank, the building of new offices

for the Moji branch, and the transfer of the Tokyo Clearing House to the Bank's premises on December 1st. He referred very briefly to the measures now under debate in the Diet for imposing a tax on the Bank and increasing the nominal limit of note issue. These steps, he said, might have a great influence not only on the banking business of the Bank, but also on its functions as part of the mechanism of national finance, and he trusted that they would receive most careful consideration at the hands of the country's legislators. He then paid a glowing tribute to the former President, Baron Iwasaki, who, he said, had taken charge of the Bank's affairs at a most difficult financial crisis, had worked early and late with conspicuous ability, in its interests, and had steered it successfully amid conditions demanding the utmost judgment and singleness of purpose. He concluded by apologising for his own inferior capacities, and by promising that the shareholders might trust him to work earnestly at all events.

The accounts for the half-year were then passed as follows:—

Gross Earnings for the half-year ended December 31st, 1898	Yen.
Working Expenses, losses, &c.	4,786,088
Net Profit	2,703,476
Brought over from previous account	303,341
Total	3,006,817
To Regulation Dividend (6 per cent.)	900,000
To Reserve	700,000
Rewards to Officers and Entertainment Expenses	180,000
Supplementary Dividend (6 per cent.)	900,000
Carried over to next account	326,817
	3,006,817

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi is interesting himself very actively in the matter of taxing the Bank of Japan. He has compiled a statement, and circulated it among the members of the Diet, showing the profit realized by the Bank on its note issues and security reserves. The Bank lends 22 millions without interest to the Treasury, and 6 millions to the National Banks. Hence there remains 57 millions out of its legal issue of 85 millions. These 57 millions Mr. Taguchi accounts for thus, according to the system now actually in operation:—

Lent to Specie Bank, 20 millions at 2 per cent.	Yen.
Invested in Public Bonds, 31 millions at 5 per cent.	200,000
Lent to the public, 16 millions at 7 per cent.	1,550,000
Total	1,750,000
Total	2,870,000

Now, if the legal note issue be increased to 120 millions, as proposed by the Government, the Bank will have an additional 35 million yen to lend to the public, and since 35 millions at 7 per cent. produce 2,450,000 yen, the total profit of the Bank becomes 5,320,000 yen. The Upper House proposes to impose a tax of 1 per cent. on all the Bank's note issues, apart from the 28 millions which it is obliged to lend to the Government and the National Banks without interest; in other words, a tax of 1 per cent. on 92 million yen. Deducting that amount, there would still remain to the Bank 4,400,000 yen, which is certainly a handsome figure for an institution with only 30 millions of paid-up capital. It appears that the public share this view, for the prospect of the tax has not impaired the

market value of the Bank's 200 yen shares: they were quoted at 328 on the 16th January, and they are now selling at 355.

THE POLICY OF PRIVACY.

The *Fiji Shimpō* has devoted much of its space recently to a campaign in the interests of the decencies of life. It takes for theme the social evil as seen in Japan and extra-marital relations as sanctioned, or tolerated, by Japanese usages. There is no suggestion of radical reform. All that our contemporary hopes is to see some deference paid to *les convenances*. "If you must do these things," it says, in effect, to its countrymen, "do them at least in secret. Respect the dictates of fair fame. Banish your priestesses of humanity to places where they shall be beyond the ken of the general public, and keep your family and your friends ignorant of your lapses from matrimonial fidelity." That is subtly conceived counsel. If only the necessity, or the expediency, of concealment were recognised, public opinion would have made a long stride towards non-denying the thing concealed. We may add, here, another item to the score of debts owed by Japan to foreign intercourse. The *Fiji* pleads for a more respectable record *coram* the Occidental observers whom the inauguration of mixed residence will bring upon the scene. We ourselves doubt whether it will bring many—not at first, at any rate—but we have no desire to weaken the force of our contemporary's appeal. Morality in the West has certainly one advantage as compared with morality in Japan: its sense of shame is more highly developed. Some things may be excused on the ground that they are natural. A great deal has been made of that point by apologists for certain Japanese customs. But, after all, nature is absolutely immolent, and it were an ugly business to accept her teaching implicitly in that respect. The farther we can remove ourselves from nature in some things, the better.

PATENTS.

The new Law of Patents has now passed both Houses of the Diet. In the Lower House it received no amendments. We observe that Mr. Silver Hall, who appears to have made a special study of the subject, addressed to the *Japan Times* a letter containing some useful suggestions. Owing to delay in publishing his letter, it did not see the light until after the Bill had emerged from its committee stage in the Upper House, and apparently his suggestions have not attracted attention in the Lower. We allude to the subject for the sake of recommending that anyone interested in a Bill which has reached either House, might sometimes be acting wisely if he forwarded suggestions direct to the chairman, or to some member, of the Special Committee appointed to report upon the measure. As to the nature of the reception they would have, we can not say anything confidently, but Japanese officials or legislators generally adopt a very liberal attitude towards advice tendered in an earnest spirit and possessing some value.

MARQUIS ITO ON THE ELECTION BILL.

There is an association called the *Senkyō-hō kaisei kisei-Dōmei-kai*, or Society for Effecting Reforms of the Law of Elections, and there is another association called the *Zenkoku Kakushū-in Itō-Kōshō-kai*, or Society of Committee-men of the various towns throughout the country for conferring with Marquis Ito. These two formidably entitled bodies had a meeting on the 20th instant, and listened to a very interesting address from Marquis Ito—interesting chiefly because it shows the ideas by which the Marquis was guided in framing the present election system and the ideas which he thinks ought to guide the present Cabinet and the political parties in recasting it. At the time of framing the system, the Marquis said, there was no practical experience to refer to, and Japan's juriconsults could only follow their own estimate of what would be likely to prove suitable. Looking abroad, they saw different methods pursued in different countries, and it appeared to them that in the absence of any distinct clue, the best plan was to make the business of election and the system of the franchise as simple as possible. They did not anticipate, and could scarcely have anticipated, the abuses which practical experience has revealed—the lavish outlay of money, the appeals to physical force, and other defects. The tendency of the Japanese people to attach comparatively little value to life and property was, no doubt, partially responsible for the scenes witnessed at elections. Such a disposition might be very useful in a war with a foreign country, but it was rather out of place in domestic broils. The system, however, must be largely to blame, and its amendment was one of the pressing needs of the time. With regard to signed ballots, that rule had been adopted because the framers of the Constitution did not appreciate any necessity for secrecy in such a matter as the election of a member of parliament. They were mistaken. It would have been better to follow the example of England. John Stuart Mill, indeed, said in one of his books that no occasion whatever existed for making these things private, but another writer shrewdly remarked that Mill, in his excessive respect for the duties of a man towards the State, lost sight of his duties towards his wife and children. Experience has shown that Mill's critic was right. There could be no real liberty of opinion for the franchise-holder unless he was permitted to refrain from signing his ballot. The abuses of the Japanese system had almost become habitual, and since 1893 Marquis Ito had fully recognised the necessity of making some changes. Enumerating the points calling for reform, the first was the limited enjoyment of the franchise. Naturally caution had been the principle originally observed in framing the Law. The qualifications had been fixed at a high point, so as to have only 470,000 voters out of 40 millions of people. In the Bill submitted by the Ito cabinet to the last Diet, the number of franchise-holders had been quadrupled, becoming 1,700,000. That was still a small figure compared with other countries, but even in progress precipitancy was dangerous. The second point was that with only a few voters the election districts had naturally to be small, their size being further restricted by the imper-

fect machinery of communications then existing. With a comparatively numerous body of voters and greatly improved communications, the much more advantageous method of making each prefecture an electorate could be adopted. That brought them to the question of *scrutin individuel* and *scrutin de liste*. The latter had been more or less inevitable with small electorates, but so soon as the constituencies were extended, the system of *scrutin individuel* at once commended itself, as freeing electors from the despotism of political parties and conferring representation on minorities. Passing, then, to the representation of the industrial and mercantile classes, the Marquis said that society consisted of manufacturers and traders as well as of agriculturists. No one class should be set above the others in parliament. In that respect the present system was unjust. The Marquis frankly acknowledged that he had been mistaken originally. He had supposed that the urban population would be sufficiently represented by enfranchising the *Shi* (urban district containing at least 10,000 inhabitants), and he had combined the *Cho* (urban district containing 5,000 inhabitants or less) with the *Gun* (rural district). Experience had proved that a change was essential. The Diet was a place for discussing the interests of the whole nation, not those of any particular class. It would be most injurious to the country if the industrials and merchants were not fully represented in parliament, and indeed the comparative indifference shown by these two classes towards political affairs could not be too much regretted. The urban population of Japan aggregated to millions, and ought, therefore, to return twenty-five per cent. of the members of the Lower House. As an example of the ratio adopted in foreign countries, the case of Sweden might be quoted. There every ten thousand of the urban population returned one member, whereas every forty thousand of the rural population had only the same representation. According to the system now operative in Japan, 140,000 of the population elected one member, making a total of 300 members. The Ito bill of last year proposed to have 473 members, making one for 88,900 of the population; the Bill drafted by the present Cabinet contemplated 444 members, or one for 94,600 people; and the same bill as amended by the Lower House changed the number to 464, making a ratio of one for 90,500. So far as representation was concerned, any of these measures might be considered satisfactory, but there ought to be no sort of compromise about unsigned ballots. The principle of signed ballots was not put into practice in England, Germany, France, Switzerland, and twenty-one States of the American Republic.

The Marquis then proceeded to speak of constitutional government in general in Japan. He considered that excellent results had thus far been obtained when it was remembered how sudden had been the transition from feudalism to representative institutions. Nevertheless, if collisions between the Government and the Diet were to be perpetual, as they had hitherto been, the issue could only be injurious to the empire. In England, where the record of constitutional government extended back for 800 years, they could trace the transition from parliamentary government to Cabinet government, and from Cabinet government to

individual government, that is to say, to government by a majority thoroughly disciplined and working collectively under one head. The reputation of party government as a working system, had been saved by England. Another remarkable feature of English politics was the expansion that the horizon of a member of parliament had undergone in modern times. Parochial interests used to occupy the attention of the members, but they now considered national interests before everything. Japan was entering the era of cabinet government, but before she could take her next step, she seemed to have urgent need of leaders for her parties. The present chiefs of parties did not sit in the Diet; did not direct or control their followers for parliamentary purposes, and were simply an influence exercised *in camera*. They ought at least to attend in the House and be their parties' mouth-piece. Some people objected to rapid progress, and said that every advance, to be sound, must be regular and deliberate. That was true, to a certain extent, but too much deliberation might beget abuses more formidable than the dangers of haste. The Marquis hoped that the country would march quickly towards the admirable results of parliamentary government displayed by the English system.

JAPANESE EMIGRATION.

In one or two instances, such as those of Thursday Island, Hawaii, and the disastrous case of Peru, public attention has been directed to Japanese emigration. But for many years past there has been a steady and quiet outflow of population which has certainly not attracted the notice it deserves. The *Yimmia* publishes an interesting and instructive table showing the number of Japanese subjects actually residing in certain foreign countries at the end of 1897:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
San Francisco and neighbourhood	5,212	269	5,481
Tacoma and neighbourhood	79	3	82
Seattle, &c.	387	61	448
Portland, &c.	461	60	521
Idaho, &c.	385	27	412
Vancouver, &c.	402	21	423
Victoria	214	7	221
Union Coal Mines	291	7	298
Hongkong	122	125	247
Singapore	158	456	614
Thursday Island	993	53	1,044
Townsville	1,413	60	1,473
Vladivostok	890	717	1,607
Hawaii	21,470	5,884	27,354
Sail	1,077	790	18,667
Cebu	2,285	1,664	3,949
Gonsan	862	561	1,423
Fusan	3,397	2,670	6,067
Shanghai	492	331	823
Totals	40,608	13,766	54,374

MR. ISOBE YAIICHIRO.

Mr. Isobe Yaiichiro, editor of the *Chugai Yei Shimbu* and principal of the *Kokumin Yeiak-kai* (National English-scholastic Society) is about to pay a visit to Europe and America, for the purpose of studying the condition of things in the Occident. As one of his brother-members in the Association of Japanese and Foreign Journalists we wish him *bon voyage*, and trust that his investigations abroad may equip him still better for the very useful career he has hitherto been pursuing in Japan.

WAKAMATSU AND HANYANG.

There seems to be truth in the rumour that the Viceroy Chang, acting at the suggestion of Sheng Taotai, has proposed to Japan a kind of coöperative arrangement, by which China will furnish to Japan a supply of iron for the uses of the new foundry at Wakamatsu, in Chikuzen, and Japan, in return, will supply coke for use at the Viceroy's Hanyang works. It is not to be a direct exchange, of course, but the idea presumably is that the ships which carry the iron to Japan will return laden with coke. Hanyang is badly off for coke, but has abundance of excellent iron. Japan has coke, but her iron is a doubtful quantity. This latter statement must be made with all reserve, however, for it has been most confidently and publicly asserted on good authority that no difficulty need be anticipated about a supply of iron for the new Japanese foundry. The subject was naturally discussed in the Diet when a large appropriation for building and equipping the foundry appeared among the accounts of the *post-bellum* programme. The Special Committee appointed to report upon the project enquired whether credence should be placed in the generally entertained supposition that stores of suitable iron ore were not known to exist in Japan, and received an official reply in the sense that, not only were ample quantities of ore available, but also the quality of the metal had been proved by careful experiments. On that hypothesis the scheme obtained parliamentary approval, and doubtless this Hanyang modification will suggest a new query, namely, whether experts who announced the deficiency of Japan's supply and vouched for its quality are found to have been mistaken, or whether, in spite of having iron of her own, Japan will find it advantageous to go abroad for the metal. So far as the mere economy of the Wakamatsu foundry is concerned, this new departure will probably make no marked difference. In choosing a site for the foundry, the Authorities had to determine whether the vicinity of the coal or that of the iron was the more important, since unfortunately the ore and the fuel are not found in juxtaposition in Japan. The decision was in favour of carrying the ore to the fuel rather than the fuel to the ore, and we do not doubt that it was a wise decision in view of the disastrous experiences garnered at Kamaishi twenty-three years ago. The site, then, having been selected at Wakamatsu in Chikuzen, it would have been necessary to transport the ore thither from the mines in the north of Japan, and thus the new programme merely substitutes Hanyang-fu for Iwate Prefecture as the source of supply. It is a question merely of a voyage across the Eastern Sea and up the Yangtze, or a voyage on the Pacific along the eastern coast of Japan. That phase of the enterprise, however, does not touch the problem of going to a foreign country for an article which can be obtained at home, above all when the main purpose of the whole enterprise is to make Japan independent of alien assistance in everything relating to the iron-and-steel branch of her national needs. Perhaps the quality of the Hanyang iron constitutes a special consideration; possibly, also, politics are concerned. There is talk of a Japanese Syndicate's lending the Viceroy Chang a sum of two million dollars to develop

his Hanyang enterprise, the syndicate receiving in return, and by way of security, an iron mine in Hupeh. According to present indications, China's regeneration, if it comes at all—which we have always doubted and do still most strongly doubt—will come from the south, and the Viceroy Chang will be the chief regenerator. Chang has shown a strong disposition to be friendly with Japan, and, what is still more important, has evinced a genuine appreciation of Japan's new civilization. It is sound policy for this country to assist him, inasmuch as every success he achieves along the lines of Western progress will strengthen his hands and tend to popularize the systems he represents. Of course the possession of an iron mine in Hupeh would bring Japan most unequivocally into the Yangtze Valley, but the only European Power possessing any title to object to her presence there, is not in the least likely to enter a protest. Meanwhile it must be confessed that the romantic side of the iron-foundry enterprise is forcing itself very prominently into observation. The foundry and its correlated works—among the latter being included some rather extensive improvements of Wakamatsu harbour—now stands in the estimates for 20 million *yen*, in round figures, and two millions more must be provided if this Hanyang project is consummated. Putting Hanyang aside, however, it is evident that the products of the foundry will be saddled with a first charge of over a million *yen* annually, on account of capital invested. In other words, some ten per cent. must be added to cost of manufacture before the output of the foundry can be quoted in comparison with foreign goods. That is the romantic side of the project—the price that Japan is prepared to pay for being independent.

THE INDUSTRIAL BANK.

The Industrial Bank of Japan held its third general meeting on the 18th instant. The President, Mr. Kawashima, in addressing the shareholders, said that they could congratulate themselves on a record much more favourable than might have been expected. The Bank had passed through a most difficult phase of its career. Organized on a system made up of selecting parts from both the French and the German methods of *credit mobilier*, it might be described as an institution of an altogether special character, quite distinct from companies formed merely for purposes of gain or for conducting ordinary operations of trade. Its officers were, consequently, new to the work, and had no trustworthy precedents to guide them, while, on the other hand, any serious error at the outset might fatally discredit an institution which, however novel, seemed likely to play an important and useful part in the national economy. In addition to these difficulties, they had been obliged to face very bad times, so that they might be compared to men who, without any experience of navigation, were required to take charge of a ship, equip her fully, and steer her to port in stormy weather over rough seas. Happily they had reached their first haven safely and he was able to submit to them a favourable report. They had received numerous applications for loans, and had actually lent sums aggregating 7 million *yen*, which was a satisfactory figure,

all things considered. The dividend, 5 per cent., might have been made larger, but it had been deemed wise to carry considerable sums to the reserve, so as to place the Bank's affairs on a sound footing, and also to pay off, at once, the expenses incurred on account of starting and organizing the enterprise.

The account for the half year stood thus:—

Gross Earnings.....	Yen. 263,744
Government Subsidy	41,415
Total	305,159
Expenses and Losses	228,604
Net Profit	76,555
To Reserve against losses (75%) ..	Yen. 57,416
To Reserve for equalizing dividends (25%)	19,139
Dividend, 5 per cent.	76,555

One of the shareholders, Mr. Kuroda, objected to this account, first on the ground that the Bank had employed unfair discrimination in granting loans, and secondly because he considered that the Treasury should make a larger grant in aid. He moved that a committee be appointed to investigate the matter, but the meeting rejected his proposal and passed the accounts.

STATE PURCHASE OF PRIVATE RAILWAYS.

The Government, recognising the impossibility of ignoring the Representation voted by the Lower House with regard to the State purchase of the principal private railways, has presented to the House a supplementary budget, providing a sum of 11,182 yen, to cover the expenses of a committee for investigating the subject. The committee will be composed, it is said, of the principal officials whose Departments or Sections would be concerned in the scheme, and a number of members of both Houses of the Diet. That means, evidently, that no step in the sense of introducing a Bill will be taken during the present session of the Diet. The session closes on the 6th of March, presumably, so that there are just thirteen working days left. Even if the Bill were already drafted, its passage through the two Houses would be more than problematical. And who can tell how radically the conditions may not have changed by next December? There is no doubt that the four railways in question are worth a very large sum. Although the capital invested in them is less than a hundred million yen, they are yielding a net return of over seven millions, which will be considerably increased when the system is completely constructed and all the connexions made, and which might be still further increased if improvements were effected in the organization of the traffic. Foreign capitalists would very readily advance 140 or 150 million yen on the security of the four lines, provided that their earnings were hypothecated for a term of years, and their business management placed in competent hands. But their mere transfer to the State in return for interest-bearing domestic bonds is a transaction that has little to recommend it. Rumour now alleges that the principal shareholders of the Tanko Railway Company also are starting a propaganda to get their line included in the scheme of State purchase. It is not difficult to see why they desire such a

step. For though, at their last general meeting, a dividend of 15 per cent. was declared, their old 50 yen shares are selling for only 93 yen, and their new 28 yen debentures command only 68 yen. On a purchasing basis of 5 per cent., the State would have to pay 150 yen for the old shares, and shareholders would find themselves very comfortably situated.

A Council of 25 members, a President, and a Vice-President have been instituted by Imperial Ordinance, for the purpose of investigating the question of the State purchase of private railways. It is to be under the supervision of the Minister President of State; by him the President, Vice-President, and members will be appointed after obtaining the Emperor's sanction, and to him the results of its deliberations are to be reported. The members are to be high-class officials, civil and military, and persons having expert knowledge of railway matters or experience in their working. It is difficult to interpret the exact significance of this step. It may mean the shelving of the question, or it may indicate a practical resolve on the part of the Government. We doubt, however, whether any Japanese Cabinet will have a life long enough to carry out such a scheme, unless things alter considerably in the political arena.

THE TANKO RAILWAY COMPANY.

The principal shareholders of the Tanko Railway Company are:—

	SHARES.
The Imperial Estates Bureau.....	18,460
Mr. Amenomiya K.....	11,881
Mr. Tanaka Shinichi	9,319
Mr. Tanaka Heihachi	9,140
The Tanaka Bank	6,946
Mr. Amenomiya S	6,149

The market value of the Company's old 50-yen shares is now 93.13 yen, so our readers can calculate for themselves the monetary equivalent of the above holdings. There are several owners of from 5,000 to 6,000 shares, but we need not enumerate them.

EMOLUMENTS OF MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

Vernacular newspapers allege that the Bill, or Representation, for increasing the emoluments of members of the Diet has obtained 240 or 250 supporters in the Lower House. What a chance the Progressists have thrown away in this matter! If they had stood forth boldly as opponents of the measure, they would have risen enormously in public estimation. So far as folks in general can perceive, they are occupying themselves with disputes about the maximum limit that should be fixed for State expenditures—disputes of a purely academical character, for the Progressists are not in a position to give effect to their decision, whatever form it may take. But if they had grasped this question of increased emoluments, and constituted themselves implacable opponents of a step which they can not endorse without bringing ridicule on their professions of economical motives, the barometer of their political fortunes would have gone up to "set fair" right away. On the contrary, they are among the 240 or 250 supporters. Truly a fine opportunity thrown away.

RESPECT PAID TO SCHOLARSHIP.

The latest complaint journalistically ventilated is that too much respect is paid to learning. It is interesting to observe the various revolts caused in Japan by the supremacy of any particular class of public men. For many years, the cry was against "class influence." Political agitators talked all the time of *hambatsu*, until really it began to appear as though the men who had made modern Japan must be mysterious malefactors of the deepest dye because they happened to belong to one or other of the leading clans. Administrative power was then obtained by party politicians, and in an incredibly short space of time their preponderance also provoked rebellion. The columns of newspapers and the speeches of publicists became so eloquent with condemnations of *tōbatsu* that a reaction was nearly created in favour of the departed era of *hambatsu*. And now, finally, when neither *hambatsu* nor *tōbatsu* can be said to present noticeable dimensions, voices are raised against *gakubatsu*, or the sway of scholarship. He is nothing, we are told, who is not a graduate of the Imperial University, and to be a graduate is to have a passport to public respect, official appointments and business consideration. The result is that men are content to have graduated, and never care to climb higher than the pinnacle reached on the day when their *alma mater* dubs them *gakushi*. It does not sound very serious, that lamentation. We suspect that the philosopher who contributed it to the columns of the *Asahi* lives under the shadow of a Sourgrape Vine.

HOKKAIDO.

A curious apprehension is suggested about Hokkaido. It is called the "second problem of Hokkaido," and it is based upon the prosaic fact that the northern island lacks fertilizers. When the colonization of Hokkaido commenced in earnest a quarter of a century ago, under the auspices of the *Kaitakushi* and Count Kuroda, the immigrants from Japan proper found lands that had been lying fallow for centuries. Of course one had only to use a mattock and a handful of seed to get a fine crop. But this reserve of fertility was not inexhaustible. The yield steadily declined, until, by and by, the soil gave no adequate return for the labour of the cultivator. Then the latter turned to coal digging, or simply transferred his agricultural attention to districts still offering virgin soil. There would not have been anything particularly objectionable in the breaking of new ground, had not the old been left on the hands of the Agricultural and Industrial Banks which had given accommodation to the farmers. It is alleged that the Banks now find themselves minus their money and plus certain landed estates which are quite valueless as securities. There is probably some exaggeration in the statement, but it has its interest. Another source of uneasiness is the decline of the fishing industry. Hokkaido depends chiefly upon its fisheries, and their yield is said to be diminishing year by year in a marked degree. The fisheries, too, may be said to have been virgin soil twenty-five years ago, but since then they have been exploited ruthlessly if not recklessly.

**FUNERAL SERVICE FOR HIS
EXCELLENCY THE LATE
M. FAURE.**

High Mass was performed at the Tsukiji Cathedral in Tokyo on the 23rd instant at half-past ten in the forenoon, for the late President of the Republic of France. The Cathedral was impressively draped, and a profusion of beautiful flowers covered the catafalque. A great concourse of distinguished personages assembled. Among them were representatives of the Emperor and Empress, Imperial Princes, Ministers of State, the Members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, and almost all the principal Japanese and foreign residents of Tokyo, as well as several from Yokohama. There was also a large body of troops, who stood outside the Cathedral with reversed arms during the service. As a tribute of respect to the memory of a Chief Magistrate who deserved well of his country, and who died at his post in the discharge of duties rendered painfully arduous by the troublous circumstances of his time, this demonstration could scarcely have been more unanimous and impressive. We do not doubt that, together with prayers for the peace of the departed statesman's soul, many a supplication was sent up that the unrest from which his great country now suffers may soon be replaced by an era of profound calm, so that France may once more have leisure to lead the world along the path of artistic progress.

**POPULAR REPRESENTATION
IN JAPAN.**

We ventured recently to express the opinion that the Government's proposal to extend the franchise largely, and to introduce an election system in accordance with the most enlightened modern theories, would fall to the ground, for this session of the Diet at all events. The prediction seems likely to be fulfilled, but the causes are not exactly what we had anticipated. Our belief was that the Lower House would pass the Government's Bill with amendments such as could not be accepted by the Upper; or that, even if both Houses, after a conference, succeeded in elaborating an agreement, the measure would be so mutilated in the process as to defy the Government's endorsement. But that is not what has immediately happened. The curious, and, in Japanese parliamentary procedure, unprecedented, fact is that the Bill "stuck" temporarily in its passage through the Lower House. When the Special Committee presented its report, on the 22nd inst., the Representatives rejected the suggestion of the majority of the Committee as well as that of the minority, and refused to read the Bill a second time in either its original or its amended form. Under ordinary circumstances that would have meant the final demise of the measure. But the House did not want to kill it outright. They wanted merely to bury it in its official ceremonies, and resurrect it in garments of their own tailoring. Such, at least, is the inference suggested by their proceedings. For while refusing to vote the crucial clause in any of the proposed

forms, they voted that they wished to have it in some form or other; and, while refusing to read the Bill a second time as drafted by the Government or altered by the Committee, they voted that they wished to read it in a new hand-writing. Perhaps we ought at this point to explain exactly what constitutes the crux of the situation. There is, of course, a difference of opinion about the property qualification, and there is also a difference of opinion about the comparative representation of urban and rural populations. But these are minor points, capable of easy compromise. The really fundamental questions are whether ballots shall be signed or unsigned, and whether each voter shall write upon his ballot the name of one candidate only, or whether he shall write upon it the names of as many candidates as the district returns. Concerning the question of signed or unsigned ballots, the political parties are united against the Government. The latter advocates unsigned ballots, and will probably advise the Emperor to withhold his consent from any project of law which prescribes signature. The parties, however, being agreed on the subject, that particular problem did not constitute an obstruction to the passage of the Bill through the Lower House, though it is likely to constitute an obstruction to the final enactment of the measure. Thus the real difficulty centred upon *scrutin individuel* and *scrutin de liste*. Both the great political parties are unwilling to resort to the system of *scrutin individuel*, since, especially when supplemented by unsigned ballots, it practically frees voters from all the restraints of political organizations, and leaves them at liberty to exercise the franchise exactly as their conscience dictates. The Liberals, however, were not minded to maintain an inflexibly obdurate attitude towards this question. Their leaders advocated a compromise in the sense of limited *scrutin de liste*. They proposed that each voter should write on his ballot the names of one half of the number of members to be returned, when that number is even, and the names of the greater moiety when the number is odd. The Progressists, on the other hand, advocated, at the outset, *scrutin de liste* pure and simple, without any limitations; but, when they found the Liberals unyielding, they offered to compromise on the basis of a mutual advance and retreat, namely, the Liberal limit being raised from one-half to two-thirds, and the Progressist cipher being changed to one third. The compromise failed, and when the Special Committee presented its report, it was found that the Liberal majority of the Committee-men recommended the one-half limit, and the Progressist minority advocated *scrutin de liste* without restriction of any kind. It was then that the unexpected happened. Each of the parties had discussed the matter fully outside the Diet, and each had agreed, not only to treat it as a party question, every member being thus pledged to follow his party leaders; but also to vote in the sense explained above. The Progressists seem to have adhered to the programme, and probably the Liberals did so too. But apparently neither side had reckoned sufficiently on the attitude of the Independents. These latter, or, at any rate, a majority of them, have voted steadily with the Liberals throughout the present session, their principal political object, as sober men of affairs, being to compose the parliamentary strifes

which have so greatly hindered national progress during the past ten years. The election problem, however, touches them very closely. The Lower House, as at present constituted, contains an immense preponderance of agricultural representatives. There are 251 members returned by rural districts, and only 49 returned by urban districts. On the other hand, the urban population of the empire aggregates 10 millions, in round numbers, so that, from a merely arithmetical standpoint, to say nothing of superior education, intelligence, and wealth, the urban districts ought to return 75 members in a House of 300. The explanation of the inequality is that the framers of the Constitution took 100,000 as the minimum enfranchisable unit of urban population, thus excluding a large number of towns which may fairly claim the right of returning a member. The Government now proposes a system under which the urban and rural districts would be entirely independent, for election purposes, and each urban district would elect one member for the first fifty thousand of its population, with an additional member for every additional eighty thousand, or fraction of eighty thousand. The rural districts, on the other hand, would elect one member for the first 120,000 of population, and an additional member for every additional eighty thousand, or fraction thereof. That would raise the membership of the Lower House to 445, and would give 98 seats to the urban population, a reasonable ratio, though still low. The Liberals, on their side, while willing to make the urban districts independent, decline to endorse any numerical differentiations in their favour, and insist that each urban and each rural district should return one member for the first 100,000 of its population, with an additional member for each 80,000 additional inhabitants, or fraction of 80,000 not less than 50,000. That would raise the membership of the Lower House to 470 and would give 76 seats to the urban population. In other words, whereas the ratio ought to be 3 rural members for 1 urban, it would be more than 5 to 1, according to the Liberal plan. We may note that, in one respect, the Liberal programme seems better than the official, for whereas the latter sets no inferior limit to the "fraction of 80,000" returning an additional member, the former fixes a limit of 50,000. It is conceivable that, according to the Government's scheme, a difference of one person in the population of a district might entitle it to return an additional member. Apart from these details, however, the broad fact is that whereas the Government proposes to have a House containing one urban representative for every three rural, approximately, the Liberals plan a House containing one urban representative for five rural. In short, although the number of urban representatives in the House, according to the Liberals' project, would be raised from 49 to 76, the proportion of urban members to rural would remain virtually unaltered, as will be seen by comparing the ratios $\frac{49}{251}$ and $\frac{76}{294}$. Accordingly, the Liberals appear to have found themselves suddenly deserted by their Independent friends. These, being strong enough to turn the scale whether they voted with the Liberals or the Progressists, were able to defeat the amendments proposed by the Liberal majority of the Committee as well as those proposed by

the Progressist minority, but were not strong enough to carry the Government Bill which both Liberals and Progressists opposed. In the face of this difficulty the Liberals and Progressists came together, and the former having accepted the latter's proposal to compromise by limiting the *scrutin de liste* to two-thirds, the amended Bill was once more introduced in the Lower House on the 23rd, and rapidly passed, the Independents being, of course, quite powerless against the combined forces of the Liberals and Progressists. Thus the Bill goes up to the Peers, practically deprived of all the improvements it originally embodied. Its fate is sealed, too, in all probability. We do not see how it can be pushed through the two Houses this session, since only 7 working days remain. It looks as if this matter were likely to drift into a groove similar to that in which press-law revision stuck for so many years. Reform is urgently called for, but the majority in the Lower House can not bring itself to accept any measure of reform endurable by the other branch of the Legislature and the Government.

THE LAWS OF PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, AND DESIGNS.

The House of Representatives certainly made a record on the 17th instant when it passed three bills *en bloc* without a semblance of debate. The bills embodied projects of patent law, of trademark law, and of designs law, every one of them subjects concerning which more or less exhaustive discussion might have been expected from careful legislators. The session is drawing to its close, and the enactment of these laws is required to fulfil the engagements contracted by the country in the Revised Treaties. Possibly that reflection influenced the House, and induced it to accept without demur every provision of three long bills, and every amendment made in them by the Peers. We can well understand that if there is any genuine desire on the part of parliament to have a new code of laws put into operation, the members may shrink from amendments which, if once commenced, would probably prove unending. But that consideration scarcely applied to the three Bills in question. The House's attitude towards them goes to confirm the criticisms recently published by vernacular journals, namely, that the Representatives have become imbued with a spirit of perfunctoriness, and that the nation in beginning to regard their debates with indifference and even distrust. The Peers are making a much better record. In penning these comments, however, we must warn our readers that our own columns do not convey anything like an adequate idea of what actually takes place in the Houses. The exigencies of space, and also the limits of the editor's capacity—for he is obliged to prepare all these reports himself—compel us to give a mere outline of the business accomplished, emphasizing only the points that seem of special interest to foreigners. Readers of the *Official Gazette*, where everything is set down *verbatim*, receive a very different impression of the Diet's proceedings. Another point worth noting is that the committee system, though it conduces enormously to the discharge of business, tends greatly to discount debate. Before

a bill comes up for its first reading, every member has had a printed copy of it in his hands for several days, and to every bill there is appended an *exposé* of motives which clearly sets forth the purpose and reasons of the proposed legislation. Then, when the bill is read, a speech is delivered by its introducer—a Minister of State or Government Delegate in the case of an official bill; a representative of the signatories in the case of a private bill. At this stage questions are asked in elucidation, and finally the measure is handed to a special committee, which devotes days, many or few, to its investigation, collects information with regard to it from the Government and the proposers, and at last compiles a minute report which is printed, circulated among the members, and left in their hands for at least two days before being presented to the House in session. When the report does come up for presentation, the chairman of the special committee makes an explanatory statement, an interval of questioning follows, and then, at last the debate preparatory to the second reading is opened. If after the debate the second reading is voted, another period of two days is usually suffered to intervene before the reading, though it may be taken at once if the House so wills. Of course, by the time that the bill reaches its second reading, every member has pretty well made up his mind about it, and the need for debate is greatly diminished. In fact, the talking and questioning is done almost completely in the committee rooms, and as the members have full stenographic reports of the committees' proceedings, they probably find that there is little to add in the majority of instances. Still, even when all these facts have been taken into consideration, it does seem that the debates are unduly abbreviated. There is in the Lower House a highly respected and most practical gentleman, Mr. Tsunematsu Riukei, who goes by the name of *Shinko Gûm*, on the "Member for Progress." His chief function is to move "that the second reading be taken at once," or "that the third reading be dispensed with." Not a day passes that does not see Mr. Tsunematsu on his feet half a dozen times or more. He acts like a kind of machine, and the House, recognising his great usefulness, accepts his suggestions in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. Mr. Tsunematsu is a serviceable product of the Japanese parliamentary system, but the mechanically regular style of his methods seems to be hypnotising the House. A few days ago, when two long speeches had been delivered on an important measure—the Representation for nationalizing private railways—he stood up and said:—"One speech for and one against. That is the ordinary rule. I move the closure;" and the House voted the closure without attempting to query his peculiar codification of its procedure. Two speeches may often be quite enough. A little of that brevity might be introduced into other parliaments with advantage. But there is one thing to be remembered. It is the educating influence of a parliamentary debate. We do not believe that the interest of the British nation in politics could be sustained for a twelvemonth, or, indeed, that it would ever have been awakened, without the parliamentary debate, the effect of which is to present to the people the most abstruse subjects dressed in noble thoughts and adorned by

the best eloquence of the time. In Japan there is virtually nothing of the kind. The *Official Gazette* alone publishes verbatim reports of the debates, and the *Official Gazette* has no circulation among the people at large, while as for the debates, they are becoming so brief and so matter-of-fact that an ordinary reader can find nothing to invite his perusal of them. If even the debates held in the Committee rooms were published by the press, there would be a better idea of the legislature's work, but they are not published, and under the circumstances it appears very natural that the public begins to regard the Diet with little interest, if not with absolute weariness.

SILK.

The two Houses of the Diet have unanimously adopted Representations urging the Government to organize associations, or guilds, which shall inquire into sericultural methods, and seek to improve them. All details are left for official elaboration, but the spokesmen of the introducers of the Representations—Mr. Furuhata in the Lower Chamber and Prince Nijo in the Upper—were very explicit about the objects they desired to see accomplished. Evidently they had conferred together on the question, and had agreed, in common with the other signatories of the Bills, that, owing to faulty methods of sericulture and of reeling, Japanese silk is so defective from the manufacturer's point of view as to be in danger of rejection by Europe and America, except for the purpose of supplementing a deficient crop in France or Italy. These are exactly the points to which attention was drawn in our leading columns last month, on the strength of views expressed by a correspondent of long experience in the silk trade. We do not pretend, of course, that our article had anything to do with the drafting of the Representations, but we may fairly express great satisfaction at the useful course taken by the Diet, and may also note the virtual identity between the opinions advanced by our correspondents and those laid before the two Houses of the Diet. Beyond doubt this matter is of the most vital importance to Japan, and the course pursued by the Government with regard to these Representations will be closely observed. To us it seems, we need scarcely say, that what is essentially needed is the aid of a few experienced foreigners to indicate the defects in Japanese methods and to show how they can be corrected. The Government conferred an inestimable boon on the country twenty-five years ago by establishing the Tomioka filature, engaging a staff of Italian and French experts to give practical instruction there, and opening the doors of the filature to a number of Japanese sericulturists, who visited the place in succession, carrying away knowledge which has brought tens of millions of yen into Japan. Those were the days of really sensible progressive effort, when the Japanese, true to the liberal spirit that had animated their forefathers centuries previously, did not shrink from free recourse to foreign assistance, and did not forget the venerable Chinese adage that the wise man is never ashamed to ask a question. We can not pretend to think that the present generation is equally large-minded or far-seeing, but we may

be permitted to hope that in this matter of sericulture the Government will not hesitate to do what is right, in the interests of a staple which constitutes the back-bone of the country's export trade.

OFUNADO HARBOUR.

The latest project is to make Ofunado a port for foreign and domestic trade, and to connect it by railway with the Japan Railway Company's system. Ofunado is a place of which the majority of our readers probably know nothing. It is in the Kesen district of Iwate Prefecture; that is to say, on the north-east coast of Japan and within easy reach of the country's principal iron mines. But apparently the port has been selected, not on account of the iron mines, but with a view to the results of the opening of the Siberian Railway. The idea is that there must be some harbour in the north-east for the purposes of the trade which the railway will bring to Vladivostok. Hakodate has proved defective, and Matsu-shima could not be prepared without a heavy outlay, whereas Ofunado wants a pier only. A company has been formed to carry out the project. Its promoters appear to be all members of the House of Representatives—Messrs. Shimoiaki Gonzaburo, Sato Shozo, Kikuchi Kuro, Amenomiya Keijiro, and so on.

RAILWAY AND TELEGRAPH RATES.

The new rates which are to be charged on the Government Railways from April 1st, if not sooner, are said to be as follow, for third-class passengers:—

Up to 50 miles	1.5 sen per mile.
From 50 to 100 miles.....	1.3 " " "
From 100 to 200 miles.....	1.1 " " "
From 200 to 300 miles.....	0.9 " " "
Above 300 miles.....	0.7 " " "

With regard to telegrams, the charge will be 20 sen for a message of 15 Kana syllables, including the name of the sender but excluding the name and address of the recipient, and 5 sen for every additional 5 syllables, or part of 5 syllables. Within the limits of Tokyo, the rate will be 10 sen for 15 syllables, and 3 sen for every additional 5 syllables. According to official calculation these changes in telegraph rates signify an increase of 35 per cent. on the average.

MEDIATION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The suggestion is again put forward by the *Hochi Shimbun* that Japan should mediate between the Filipinos and the Americans. It is based on three considerations: first, that this country is on eminently friendly terms with both the people of the United States and the insurgents; secondly, that the effects of the war will be felt by Japan more than by any other Power; and thirdly, that this country would be acting wisely did it seize the opportunity to dispel the peace-disturbing reputation that attaches to it since the war with China. The idea seems highly commendable. The Filipinos, as the *Hochi* justly observes, do not aim at complete independence, and the Americans have no desire to conquer them entirely. Both sides would be content to take a *via media*, if one were found for them, and Japan is well qualified to do the finding.

JUNKER STRING QUARTET CONCERT.

The second Chamber Concert by the Junker String Quartet was given on Wednesday evening in the Vestibule of the Public Hall before a large audience. The performance does not call for any lengthy report: it was not up to the same high artistic level as the first concert given on 27th December, the absence of Professor von Koeber making a great difference in this respect. The *pièces de résistance* were two movements from Mozart's early String Quartet in E flat, and two movements from Beethoven's Piano Quartet in the same key. These lacked some cohesion, and the ensemble was not quite perfect. The remainder of the instrumental work consisted of sundry scraps, ancient and modern, arrangements and otherwise, which seemed to please the audience generally. Herr Junker displayed good tone and a *cantabile* style, in an uninteresting "Cavatina" by an obscure composer named Bohm; we would have preferred to hear him in some composition more worthy of his ability. Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Clarke, and Mr. Sulzer gave the necessary vocal relief by the solos put down for them—the first-named lady giving a fine rendering of a contralto solo by Brahms. Miss Poole made a charming first appearance at these concerts, and essayed the principal part in the Beethoven fragment. Altogether a very pleasant evening: and we hope for something better on the next occasion. Could we not be favoured with one complete work, either quartet or trio, before the series closes?

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

- 1—String Quartet in E flat Major.....MOZART.
Herr Junker, Messrs. Poole, F. Schmid, and R. Schmid.
- 2—Alto Solo....."Longing for rest".....BRANMS.
Mrs. W. T. Payne.
- 3—String Quartet—
(a) "Menuet".....HAYDN.
(b) "Erl'stact from "Mignon" THOMAS.
- 4—Tenor Solo....."Elegie".....MASSENET.
Mr. Sulzer.

PART II.

- 1—Quartet in E flat Major for Piano,
Violin, Viola, and Violoncello.....BEETHOVEN.
Miss Poole, Herr Junker, Mr. F. Schmid and Mr. R. Schmid.
- 2—Soprano Solo....."Ave Maria".....MASCAGNI.
Mrs. F. H. Clarke.
- 3—Violin Solo....."Cavatina".....BOHM.
Herr Junker.
- 4—String Quartet—
(a) "Song without words" Op. 17
MANDELSOHN.
(b) "Andante Cantabile" (by request)
TSCHAIKOWSKY.
(c) "Menuet".....BOCHERINI.

EDUCATION.

A very powerful movement is on foot to bring about an increase of State aid for education. The Representations presented to the Government by both Houses of the Diet have been already noticed in these columns, and we may add that the question is vigorously discussed by vernacular newspapers. The Tokyo journals show quite remarkable unanimity, and it is unlikely that the Government will neglect this wide-spread appeal. Indeed, there is every reason to suppose that the Government itself has the greatest desire to promote education, but its good intentions are effectually frustrated by want of funds. The Houses of the Diet, however, do not

trouble themselves greatly about the financial difficulties lying in the way of their various projects. They vote, with a light heart, Representations and Bills for granting State aid to one enterprise or abolishing the tax on another, as if the Treasury had some infallible recipe for making ends meet. The *Fiji Shimpō* observes that it would be a mistake to speak of Japan's expenditure on education as a petty sum. The outlays in connexion with public schools aggregate 18 million yen and the Treasury's disbursements amount to 3 millions, while the sums privately spent must make a very large total. But the *Fiji* does not adduce these facts for the purpose of opposing the increased effort urged by the Diet and the press. It is wholly in favour of that effort. It takes the opportunity, however, of vehemently denouncing the conservative, anti-foreign spirit imbuving educationists. Their conduct, it says, is radically opposed to the national policy, as enunciated by the Emperor himself, and is entirely at variance with the fine liberalism and wisdom of the Japanese nation in old times.

A SPARK EXTINGUISHER.

Several inventions have been talked of lately, but they belong, chiefly, to the domain of military science. We now read that Mr. Kobayashi Shokichi, an engineer on the staff of the Japan Railway Company, has devised what is called a *hwafunshiki*; that is say, an instrument for fastening to the chimneys of locomotive engines with the object of extinguishing the sparks that come from them. These sparks have been the cause of more than one conflagration in Japan, and their dangerous potentialities having been recognised in foreign countries attempts have been made to find some contrivance for rendering them innocuous as they emerge. It was reserved for Mr. Kobayashi to succeed—so, at least, we are told by a Tokyo contemporary—and he has patented his invention. No particulars are given.

YOKOHAMA RECREATION GROUND.

The question of the Yokohama Recreation Ground, or Public Garden,—part of which is used by the Y.C. & A.C.—is apparently again coming to the front. We translate the following paragraph from the *Yomiuri*:—

The Yokohama Park was opened mainly for the accommodation of foreigners at the beginning of the *Meiji* era, when the limits of the Settlement were fixed, and its use has been ever since almost confined to foreigners, Japanese visitors being considered more or less in the light of mere guests. When the new treaties came in force, however, the question will arise as to whether it is not a want of economy to maintain the Park. The land is valuable and the dimensions of the grounds are considerable. Some of the newly elected members of the City Assembly are in favour of transferring the Park to the municipality and of choosing another site elsewhere for the purposes of a recreation ground.

In the Admiralty Division, the owners of the *Cromartyshire* have been awarded the £6,000 damages claimed by them from the French Transatlantic Company. Mr. Justice Barnes and the Trinity Masters held that *La Bourgoigne* was alone to blame for the collision, and that she was travelling at an excessive speed considering the foggy weather. The captain of the *Cromartyshire* had done all he could to avoid the disaster.

THE UNITED STATES & JAPAN.

NOTES and paragraphs appearing from time to time in vernacular newspapers show that there is a great deal of uneasiness about the results of American rule being established in the Philippines and Hawaii. We can not wonder that such should be the case. The United States represents the closed door in its most obdurate form. What between tariffs for protection and tariffs for revenue, interdicts in the field of coasting trade and vetoes upon the immigration of Oriental labourers, America closes her portals most effectively in the face of all foreign comers. Japan has nearly thirty thousand of her people in Hawaii, where they earn an honest living by hard labour, assist materially in developing the resources of the island, send considerable sums every year to their friends and relatives at home, and create a growing market for Japanese commodities. Under American sway that healthy movement of immigration will be checked. Already there are signs of the usual agitation—the agitation fomented in selfish interests by that curse of the nineteenth century, the news-monger. In Hawaii's case there is a different kind of investigator. A certain Mr. RICE, who appears to have been appointed for the purpose of collecting information and conveying it to Washington, is represented as having reported that the Japanese Emigration Societies are pouring labourers by the thousand into Hawaii, in anticipation of the enforcement of restrictive laws a few months hence. If Mr. RICE has forwarded any such report, it must be based on mere hearsay, for had he made investigations *in loco* he would know that the Japanese labourers for whose emigration arrangements are now in progress do not total even one thousand. That point, however, is unimportant compared with the absolute veto which will be imposed on the importation of Japanese labour when American sway is finally exercised in Hawaii. It has always been possible to sympathise, more or less, with the disposition of the people of America to legislate against the invasion of the field of labour by races living on a lower scale and content to work for wages which would not keep body and soul together in a white man. But in Hawaii there is no question of such competition. Japanese labourers are wanted to do work which white men cannot do, and which, in default of Oriental labour, must be left undone. That America, in the face of such facts, should extend her restrictive legislation to Hawaii disturbs the Japanese, not merely on account of Hawaii itself, but because it suggests the inference that a similarly indiscriminating policy may be pursued with regard to the foreign trade of the Philippines. Japan's commerce with the Philippines grew from 210,000 *yen* in 1888 to 2,670,000 *yen* in 1897. It is not a very large sum, but the rate of development is remarkable, and the possible destruction of the business can not be viewed with equanimity.

FORMOSA.

WE observe that a plea is advanced on behalf of the officials administering Formosa. The public is admonished not to pass precipitate judgments. Great difficulties must have been encountered by any Power attempting to manage the affairs of an island so singularly circumstanced, and it was not to be expected that signal results could be achieved in a short time. There is justice in such a comment. No one can be blind to the fact that political agitators have sought to make capital out of Formosa, and have even gone the length of suggesting that foreign interference might be expected if things were not managed more adroitly. That is, of course, an extravagant apprehension. England is the power chiefly concerned in Formosan trade, and England is not in the least likely to embarrass Japan by importunate or arbitrary demands. Neither are Englishmen impatient. They knew from experience that the quality of a work must be judged by the finished result, not by the preliminary processes. But it must be confessed that, though Englishmen are quite content to wait, they would wait with much greater confidence if they saw that Japan was following in Formosa the routes which have crowned British rule with success in all parts of the world. There may be other routes, royal routes, leading to the same goal, and their discovery may be reserved to Japanese wit, but the well-trodden, well-proved ways ought to be good enough, and certainly the new paths do not appear as yet to be leading Japan to happy results. Financially, the island is a heavy drain on the empire's exchequer. The official returns show that the revenues collected from 1895 to the end of the fiscal year 1899-00 will total 33 million *yen*, in round numbers, and the expenditures 116 millions, the Imperial Exchequer being consequently obliged to disburse a sum of 83 million *yen*. That is a heavy outlay in five years. There has certainly been a great improvement on the revenue side of the accounts, but equilibrium seems to be still very distant. The actual figures for the five-year period, omitting details, are these:—

FORMOSAN ACCOUNTS IN YEN.			
	1895-6.	1896-7.	1897-8.
Expenditures	30,642,576	21,825,808	23,314,188
Revenue	935,679	6,736,110	8,121,504
Excess of Expenditures	29,706,887	15,089,698	15,192,684
	1898-9.	1899-00.	
Expenditures	18,961,525	21,188,841	
Revenue	8,121,504	9,067,244	
Excess of Expenditures	10,840,020	12,121,597	

We see from this table that the revenue is steadily growing. The expenditures, however, though they diminished perceptibly from 1895 to 1898, show an increase of over two millions in 1899. That is chiefly because the Government has

resolved to undertake the fortification of the island at the charges of the Treasury, and to make such additional military outlays as shall secure, it is hoped, the maintenance of tranquillity. The total military outlays for 1899-00, including the building of fortifications, appear in the accounts as 8,769,111 *yen* and the naval outlays as 352,485 *yen*, the aggregate of the two being 9,121,597 *yen*. It appears, therefore, that the military and naval expenditures alone exceed the gross revenue of the island. Indeed, if we consider the ordinary expenditures only, it appears that while the army in Japan proper cost 28½ million *yen* for yearly maintenance, the troops and gendarmes Formosa cost 8½ millions, the new dominion being thus responsible for a military outlay more than one-third of that required for the rest of the empire. The Government has evidently made up its mind that Formosa will be a heavy item in the accounts during a considerable period, for in the financial programme from 1,900 to 1906, the Treasury's appropriations to the island are set down at 12 million *yen* annually. Productive enterprises are to be carried on with funds obtained by a loan of 52 million *yen*, sanction for which is now being sought from the Diet. Of course we may reasonably look forward to a considerable increase of the revenue collected in the island three or four years hence, but just at present Japan has to put her hand pretty deeply into her pocket.

Two leading journals, the *Fimmin* and the *Kobumin*, simultaneously plead for patience in judging the results of Japanese administration in Formosa, and also invite public opinion to support the scheme of productive expenditures now contemplated by the Government of the island. It is not a very extensive scheme—30 millions *yen* for railways; 15 millions for land surveys and assessment; 2 millions for harbour improvement; 1 million for water-works and 4 millions for offices and official residences; namely, 52 million *yen* in all. These outlays are to be spread over ten years, the minimum amount, 3½ millions, being spent next year (1899-00), and the maximum, 16 millions, in the year 1903-4. There are, nevertheless, opponents of any positive policy of development; men who think that the best plan is to let the island develop itself—a very comfortable kind of system were there the remotest probability of its success. Whatever Japanese optimists may say, foreign observers are unanimous in thinking that unless Japan goes to work more vigorously, she must expect Formosa to remain a heavy charge on her hands for many years to come. The Treasury anticipates being obliged to disburse 11 million *yen* for several years, but 9 millions of that total go to defray military and naval expenditures, and the remaining 3 millions are needed

for expenditures which will not help materially to enrich the island or to develop its productive capacities. The Government, therefore, will have the approval of all foreigners in the resolute course it is now adopting. With regard to the method of obtaining the money, however, there may be differences of opinion. The first two installments of 3½ millions and 5 millions, respectively, will be provided by the Bank of Formosa in notes issued by that institution on the security of 4½ millions of silver *yen* lent to it without interest by the Treasury. But no provision is yet made for the succeeding installments, and we can only suppose that the Government hopes to find the domestic market capable of taking up Formosan loans from the year 1901-2 onwards, or that it intends to go on utilizing its remaining stocks of silver year by year in the manner planned for 1899-00 and 1900-01. To us the latter programme seems clever and sound, assuming that Formosa is to remain on a silver basis. But we observe with interest, and not without amusement, that Japanese financiers, though they acted with so much decision, not to say precipitancy, in committing their own country to gold monometallism, nevertheless appreciate the value of the silver standard for a nation exporting its products to the markets of gold-using States. It has often been suggested that fate has a special tenderness for Japan. This new dominion of hers, hitherto a white elephant, may now be made a dumping ground for her stocks of otherwise useless silver, to her relief and to Formosa's great advantage. The metal would otherwise have lain quite unserviceable in the Treasury's vaults, whereas it will henceforth discharge a wealth-producing function. The Government's forecast is that, after 15 million *yen* have been spent on the survey and re-assessment of the island, the yield of the land tax will be so greatly increased that 88 million *yen* may be appropriated from it during 45 years, from 1904 to 1948, for repaying a portion of the principal and interest of this 52 million *yen* loan. The aggregate disbursements on account of principal and interest will be 116½ million *yen*—supposing the amortization to be commenced in 1899 and finished in 1948—and if the land tax contributes 88 millions from 1904 onwards, the Customs will provide the remaining 28½ millions, during the forty-year period 1899—1940. We have here another example of the heroic methods so much affected by Japanese financiers. They work on the principle that loans must be paid off with the utmost possible celerity. In the case of Formosa, there is not to be even the usual brief period preparatory to amortization. Repayment is to commence from the very year when the loan begins to be contracted. Instead of waiting at least 5 years, until some of the objects on which the money is to

be spent become revenue-producing, the process of amortization is to commence in the fiscal year 1899-00. If the whole loan of 52 millions were raised at once, we could understand this programme of repayment, though we might not endorse it, but how are we to account for a scheme which contemplates the receipt of installments varying from 3½ millions to 5 millions during the first four years and the simultaneous amortization of the debt at the average rate of 680,000 *yen* annually? If appears to us that the Government has an idea of making Formosa lend money to itself, and that we are in the presence here, not of an ordinary loan, but of a plan for giving the island a paper currency—convertible, of course, not fiat. If the Customs lodge 680,000 *yen* annually in the vaults of the Bank of Formosa from 1899-00 onwards, and if the Land-Tax Bureau lodges about 2 million *yen* annually from 1904-5 onwards, the vaults receiving, at the same time, ten or fifteen millions in silver bullion from the Treasury, there is no apparent reason why the Bank should not finance the whole loan, without any recourse to outside aid. The long and short of the matter is that the Government appears to have resolved that all increases of revenue obtained by direct or indirect taxation in Formosa shall go to develop the resources of the island during the next half-century, and that the mother country shall defray all military and naval expenditures in the new dominion. It will be very interesting to see how the Diet views this courageous programme.

IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., and, having handed to the Budget Committee two Supplementary Budgets for 1898-9, with instructions to report on them by the 24th instant, accorded *post-facto* approval to eight extra-budget expenditures made in 1896-7.

NATIONALIZATION.

The Lower House's amendments of the Law of Nationalization were then considered. Mr. Hozumi, Government Delegate, strongly opposed the amendments, especially that which excluded marriage (as a *niufu*) from the catalogue of qualifications for obtaining Japanese nationality. Such legislation was contrary to the immemorial family system of Japan, and conflicted with Law No. 103 of 1873, which conferred on foreigners the privilege of becoming *niufu*, with the consent of the Home Minister. It would also conflict with the provisions of the Census Law. He begged the House to consider the question maturely, and to open a Conference with the Representatives even at the risk of deferring the passage of the Bill.

The House handed the Bill to a Special Committee, on the motion of Mr. Miyoshi Taizo.

BANKS, ETC.

The Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Agricultural, and Industrial Banks Law, in the sense of making the Banks depositories of Communal funds, was then passed, but the two private Bills (sent up from the Lower House) for extending the jurisdiction of the Administrative Court, were unanimously rejected.

ELECTION QUALIFICATIONS.

Mr. Miura Yasu introduced a Bill for amending the system of determining the qualifications of an elector or a candidate for election. According to the present method, which takes account of the Land Tax only, it is possible for a man to qualify merely by obtaining a nominal and temporary transfer of land, without being registered as its proprietor, and many abuses have arisen in consequence. The Bill proposes that only facts duly entered in the Local Registers (*tochi daicho*) shall be considered in determining election qualifications. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

SILK.

Prince Nijo introduced a Representation urging that Associations for investigating sericultural matters be organised. The Prince spoke in the sense of the speech delivered by the introducer of a similar Representation in the Lower House on the preceding day. He read statistics showing the immense development of the export of Japanese silk during the past twenty years; pointed out the great importance of the staple to the country's foreign trade and declared that, great as had been the increase of production, there had been virtually no improvements in the methods of sericulture, so that the chief manufacturing countries of the Occident were now disposed to turn their backs upon Japanese silk, owing to the marked defects that it showed from the weaver's point of view. In answer to a question, he said that the selection of silk-worms' eggs would naturally be one of the points calling for attention under the system he proposed.

The House adopted the Representation without debate.

MARINE PRODUCTS.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu introduced a Representation urging that steps be officially taken for the construction of boats—steam or sail—suitable for investigating and studying matters connected with marine products. The country already possessed places for giving instruction in things relating to marine products, as well as a law for encouraging deep-sea fishing; but there were no boats suitable for the employment of modern methods, and the consequence was not only that the nation failed to develop one of its chief sources of wealth, but also that foreigners were enabled to visit Japanese waters and carry away their products under the eyes of Japanese fishermen.

The Representation was adopted.

RULES OF DEBATE.

Baron Sayematsu Kencho moved that a Special Committee be appointed to investigate and report upon two questions; first, the rule observed by the House with regard to the Closure; secondly, the desirability of imposing some limit on the exercise of the right of querying the result of a division. As to the former, he explained that the practice adopted by the Peers had the effect of invalidating any motion duly made and seconded, though not yet put to the vote, prior to the application of the closure. Such was not the method pursued in the House of Representatives, and experience went to show that the latter's plan was preferable. As to the right of querying the result of a division by show of hands or even by roll-call, it was repeatedly exercised in a manner which might be called frivolous, which was scarcely ever justified by events, and which squandered much of the House's time.

The motion was passed, and, after adopting various petitions for presentation to the Government, the House rose at 2.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m.

THE POLICE.

The Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, replying to the Question presented on the 14th instant by Mr. Kagami Tsurematsu, with reference to abuse of power by the Fukagawa police, said that the matter had already been duly dealt with.

BANK OF JAPAN TAX.

The House then proceeded to discuss the Peers' amendments of the Bill for taxing the

Bank of Japan. A motion to accept the amendments was made by Mr. Tsunematsu, but Mr. Taguchi Ukichi opposed it strenuously. He recommended the House to be consistent. It had voted several measures for increased taxation, though the principles underlying them did not always command approval, and towards this one measure for taxing the Bank of Japan it could not properly adopt an exceptional attitude of opposition. He recommended that, whatever be the effect on the fate of the Bill, a conference be opened with the Upper House.

Mr. Shimada Saburo moved that the decision be taken by signed ballot, but the House rejected the motion, and, voting by unsigned ballot, declared in favour of a conference by 100 to 94.

OKINAWA.

The Government Bill (sent down from the Peers) for the better assessment of lands in Okinawa Prefecture was reported on favourably by the Special Committee, and the House voted for the Second Reading, but did not proceed to it as once.

On an urgency motion by Mr. Hoashi Toru, the Order was changed for the purpose of reading a Bill to amend the Local Government System in Cities, Prefectures, Towns, Districts, and Divisions. The Bill was handed to a special Committee of 18.

EXPEDITION EXTRAORDINARY.

The House then, without debate, passed the Law of Patents, the Law of Trade Marks, the Law of Designs, together with a Bill for amending the Registration Law so as to bring its provisions into accord with the above.

The Government Bill (sent down from the Peers), relating to the use of stamps by foreign litigants, and to succour in litigation where foreigners are concerned, was handed to a Special Committee; as was also a Government Bill embodying a long project of Customs Law, the Government Delegate explaining, with regard to the latter, that the Customs Regulations now in force were enacted many years ago, and stood in need of so much revision and alteration that the drafting of a new law seemed essential.

The House rose at 3.50 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.10 a.m., and agreed that the President should nominate 10 Managers to confer with the Lower House on the subject of the amendments of the Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan.

Viscount Tani, Chairman of Special Committee, then reported, on behalf of the majority of the Committee, in favour of the Government Bill for amending a portion of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and explained the further amendments recommended by the Committee. The Bill, thus changed, contained the following clauses:—

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

Art. 178.—It shall be competent for a Court to issue at any time a summons to appear, or a mandate of arrest, against any person accused of a crime punishable with imprisonment or a graver penalty.

In this Article the Committee elides the words *or a mandate of arrest*, thus securing all accused persons against arrest before their case has been actually investigated. The Committee adds, however, the following clause:—

After a Court has examined an accused person, it may at any time issue a mandate for his arrest provided that his crime be punishable with imprisonment or a graver penalty.

Art. 189.—The following clause is added:—In the undermentioned cases, the Court, at the instance of the Public Prosecutor or by its own initiative, may allot an advocate to defend the accused, even though the latter has not appointed one:—

1. When the accused is under 15 years of age.
2. When the accused is a female.
3. When the accused is deaf or dumb.
4. When the accused is insane or not in the possession of his full mental faculties.
5. When from the nature of the accusation

the Court considers that an advocate is necessary.

Provided that an advocate appointed under this Article shall be taken from those attached to the Court; and provided, further, that one advocate may undertake the defence of several accused persons simultaneously.

Art. 203.—The Committee amends this Article so as to read:—In pronouncing judgment, the facts constituting the offence, the proofs upon which the judgment is based, and the reasons for accepting them, shall be clearly expounded, and further, the law applicable to the case, with the reasons of its applicability, shall be set forth. Judgments of not guilty or of acquittal must also be accompanied by a statement of reasons.

Art. 85.—This Article is amended to read:—A person under mandate of a real may see visitors, in the presence of an official, and may receive from or convey to outsiders books and documents or other articles, after such books, documents, or articles have been inspected by a Judge of First Instance or by a Public Prosecutor. (N. B. The italicized portions are added by the Committee.)

When a Judge of first instance deems it necessary (for the purpose of eliciting the facts), he may order the accused to be placed in a separate cell and may forbid him to see visitors, or to receive from, or convey to, outsiders books, documents, or other articles. (N. B. the words in brackets are excised by the Committee.)

Viscount Niwa, on behalf of the minority (10) of the Committee, including ex-Chief Justice Miyoshi Taizo and ex Chief Justice Kodama, presented a report recommending the following amendments, in lieu of those proposed by the Government and advocated by the majority of the Committee:—

Art. 68.—(To have these clauses added). (1) During the preliminary examination, an accused person may at any time employ counsel. (2) The Public Prosecutor or the counsel for the defendant shall have the right, at any time during the preliminary examination, to inspect the records, on making application to the Judge for that purpose. Further, they shall have the right to make such application at other times on the ground of necessity.

Art. 85.—(The provision empowering the Judge to order an accused person into separate confinement is wholly rescinded, and the Article read:—An accused person who has been placed under arrest may see his counsel, or his relatives or his friends, in the presence of an official; and may receive from, or transmit to, outsiders books or documents after these have been examined by the Judge. The Judge of First Instance may, if he considers it necessary, order the seizure of such books or documents.)

Art. 91.—To have the word "counsel" introduced, in accordance with the changes made in Art. 68.

Art. 92.—(A clause is added enabling the Public Prosecutor or the counsel for the accused to be present at examinations of witnesses or experts and at inspections, which take place beyond the precincts of the Court.)

Mr. Kioura, Minister of Justice, said that the question of allowing an accused person to employ counsel at the preliminary examination called for careful consideration. It would necessitate a radical alteration of the present judicial system as followed in the first proceedings against accused persons. It might also prove a source of delay in determining guilt or innocence, and thus involve an accused person in needlessly protracted proceedings. The object of a preliminary examination under the present system was to collect information and to determine whether a *prima facie* case existed. If counsel were employed, the result might be that guilty persons would escape, and that obstacles might be placed in the way of discovering the truth. In short, it was a delicate question whether the amendments proposed by the minority of the Committee might not impair the rights of the individual which they were intended to protect. The Government had long been sensible that some reform of this section of the Code was necessary, and investigations were now being conducted. He therefore begged the House not to endorse, for the present at all events, the suggestions of the minority of the Committee.

After some questions, the House voted to carry the Bill in a Second Reading, but did not proceed with the reading at once.

TONNAGE DUES.

Count Yoshii, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported on the Tonnage Dues Bill. The Government Bill, as presented to the Lower House, proposed to levy Dues at the rate of 10 *sen* per ton (displacement), or per 10 *toku* of carrying capacity, and provided that a single payment of 30 *sen* per ton should exempt a vessel from further liability during the space of one year. The Lower House had amended this in the sense that the dues should be 5 *sen* per ton (registered), or per 10 *toku* of carrying capacity, and that a ship which had to enter two or more ports should be cleared by paying 10 *sen* per ton at the first port of entry. The Committee now recommended that the dues should be 10 *sen* per registered ton or per 10 *toku* of carrying capacity, but that a larger sum than 30 *sen* per ton should never be levied on one ship during a year. The revenue estimated to accrue under the Government's plan would be 475,000 *yen* annually; the revenue under the plan of the Lower House, 350,000 *yen*; and the revenue under the plan of the Committee of the Peers, 263,000 *yen*.

The House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill.

FISHERIES.

A Government Bill for the Regulation of the Fishing Industry was then read and handed to a Special Committee, and the House rose at 12.50 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.15 p.m.

Mr. Hanei Takusa presented a Question with regard to the settlement of the Shashi affair. The Government Bill relating to local boundaries in Oita Prefecture was passed.

LACQUER JUICE TAX.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported on the private Bill for imposing a duty of 50 per cent. on imported lacquer juice. The Committee had been equally divided in opinion, and the chairman, Mr. Taguchi, had given the casting vote against the measure, being persuaded that its effects upon lacquer manufacture would be injurious.

Mr. Mitamura supported the Bill, and claimed that by penalizing the use of inferior lacquer juice, the manufacture of Japanese lacquer ware would be improved and its export increased.

The House rejected the Bill.

FERTILIZERS.

The private bill for amending the Statutory Tariff was then passed. This Bill provides that No. 514 shall be supplemented by a clause exempting all fertilizers from the payment of import duty.

The House then passed the private Bill for including marine products in the list of subjects of technical education; and also the Representation to appoint a committee for investigating the question of constructing new buildings for the Diet.

Two private Bills relating to State Aid for Education were handed to a Special Committee; as were a Representation urging that Credit Associations be organized and a Bill relating to the pensions of *shishu* whose property had been confiscated for political offences.

The House rose at 2.40 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.10 a.m.

NEW BILLS.

The following Bills were read for the first time, and handed to Special Committees:—

Government Bill embodying a Law of Operation of the Commercial Code. This Law, which consists of 147 Articles, was briefly explained by the Government Delegate, who described it as a piece of legislation necessitated by the revision of the Commercial Code.

Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Registration Tax Law.

Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for Amending the Law of Registration,

so as to bring it into accord with the new Laws of Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs.

Private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) embodying a project of Agricultural Associations Law.

Private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Deep-Sea Fishing Encouragement Law.

The Special Committee reported favourably on the Government Bill relating to the Stamp Tax Law (sent up from the Lower House), but recommended certain amendments, which the House endorsed, despite the opposition of the Government Delegate, and the Bill was passed. The House rose at 11.35 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., and received the Special Committee's report on the Government Bill for Surveying and Assessing the Land in Okinawa Prefecture.

TANAKA SHOZO INTERPELLATES.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo, under the pretext of asking a question, denounced the "wolfish rapacity" of the Government; declared that "robbery and plunder" were rife with regard to the public forests in Okinawa; said that the system of local government there was most defective, and concluded by describing the islanders as insensible to anything but lust of the flesh and lust of gain.

Mr. Takagi understood that the forests on Ishigaki Island had been rented to Mr. Matsuo, when the latter was Vice-Minister of Home Affairs. He wished to know how these forests were disposed of at present.

The Government Delegate replied that the operation of the proposed measure would not be retrospective, and that he was not at the moment in a position to reply about Ishigaki. The Bill was passed.

NEW BILLS.

The following Bills were read for the first time and handed to Special Committees:—

Government Bill (sent down from the Peers) for regulating Strategic Zones in the vicinity of Fortifications.

Government Bill for amending the Registration Tax Law, so as to bring it into accord with the new Laws of Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs.

Government Bill for including in the system of Special Accounts the Public Works and Railway Loan of Formosa.

REPRESENTATIONS.

Representation for establishing a Central Industrial Experiment Station, for the purpose of employing expert scientific knowledge to test the quality of manufactured articles, and thus promote the country's industries.

A Representation for extending the sphere of operations of the Agricultural Main and Branch Experiment Stations, was passed at once, without being handed to a Committee. The *exposé* of motives attached to this measure explained that the yield of the land in Japan was very small as compared with the yield in Western countries. In Japan each square *ri* (6½ square miles) of cultivated land produces only 4,605 *yen* worth of crops, whereas the corresponding European figures are, for England 21,775 *yen*; for France, 34,597 *yen*; for Germany, 20,480 *yen*, and for Italy, 14,699 *yen*. The difference was doubtless to some extent a question of price, but it must also be attributed to defective methods of farming, and the framers of the Representation thought that some improvement could be effected through the medium of the Agricultural Experiment Stations.

Two Representations relating to Railways were read, and handed to a Special Committee. The first pointed out that among the seven railways included in the First Period programme of State lines, to be commenced in 1893 and finished in 1904, the only one likely to be built within the appointed time was the Hokuriku, and the signatories of the Representation called upon the Government to employ greater expedition, in the interest of means of communication and of the national economy. The Second Representation proposed extensive changes of the State-railway System, and large increases

of expenditure, with the object of effecting a junction between all the roads in the Empire.

FIFTH DOMESTIC EXHIBITION.

An animated debate now took place with regard to two Representations, one of which urged that the Fifth Domestic Exhibition, which is to be held in 1902, should be in Osaka, while the other advocated Tokyo. The supporters of the Osaka scheme contended that, of the four exhibitions hitherto organized, three had been in Tokyo and one in Kyoto, and that Osaka's turn had fairly come. They also claimed that Osaka was the central trading mart of Japan, and that it could boast a brisker movement of commerce and capital than any other city in the empire. The advocates of the Tokyo proposal, headed by Mr. Hoshi Toru, laid considerable stress on the fact that the exhibition of 1902 would be the first held after the opening of the country to mixed residence, and that it ought to be in the most populous and accessible place in the empire, qualifications which Tokyo possessed preeminently. They also contended that the Kyoto exhibition had been, in effect, an Osaka affair, and they denied that Osaka, with its narrow streets and limited accommodation, was suitable for such an enterprise.

A signed ballot was ultimately taken to determine whether the Representations should be handed to a Special Committee, when 127 voted in favour of a Committee and 99 against. The House rose at 4.10 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.10 a.m., and received the report of the Petitions Committee, to the effect that out of 41 petitions examined since the date of the last report, 30 were set aside for the House's consideration; one was rejected, and nine were considered unworthy of Parliamentary attention.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

A measure relating to amendments of the Peers' Regulations was then debated with closed doors, and, the open sitting being resumed at 1.45 p.m., a Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for changing local boundaries in Ota Prefecture was passed, as were also Supplementary Budget No. 7 of General Revenue and Expenditure for 1899-00, and Supplementary Budget No. 4 of Special Accounts for the same year. With reference to the former, Mr. Izawa drew attention to an item of 200,000 *yen*, to meet expenditures in connexion with the subjugation of the bandits. He asked what was the present state of affairs in the island; what results had been attained by the Government's new policy, and how far it was intended to carry the process of subjugation by force. The Government Delegate replied that tranquillity might reasonably be said to have been restored in the northern part of the island, but that the south and west were still disturbed, and that an outbreak which occurred last October had resulted in the assassination of a great many persons, whose names he read to the House. It was a matter of very great difficulty to deal thoroughly with the lawless section of the population, for, although a portion of a band of raiders might be exterminated or apprehended, the remnant could always escape to some district where the topographical conditions rendered it impossible for the military or police authorities to exercise complete, sometimes even partial, surveillance. The Government contemplated a policy of mingled clemency and force, and it was confidently believed that, although no immediately satisfactory results might be witnessed, peace and good order would gradually be established.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

Supplementary Budgets No 5 and 6 of General Revenue and Expenditure for 1899-00 were then passed without question or debate, and the House proceeded to the Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro moved that as this Bill had an important bearing on the country's for-

sign relations and the question of Treaty Revision, the House should discuss it with closed doors.

Ex-Chief Justice Miyoshi seconded the motion, and, the House having endorsed it, went into secret session at 2.30 p.m., from which it rose at 4.05 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., and received the Budget Committee's Report with regard to four supplementary Budgets for 1899-00.

Mr. Shimada Saburo strongly opposed the Government's proposal for a largely increased appropriation an account of the Iron Foundry, but the House passed all the Budgets.

A Government Bill with regard to changes of Districts in Kagawa Prefecture was passed, and the Second Readings of two Government Bills for amending the Local Government System were then taken. These Bills, of which one contains 147 articles, the other 129, are described as embodying changes which the practical working of the Local Government system has indicated to be essential. They were discussed Article by Article, and passed as amended by the Special Committee.

The following measures were passed without discussion:—

A private Bill for amending the Stud Horses Inspection Law.

A Representation urging the construction of vessels suitable for carrying out investigations connected with marine products, and for establishing new stations for giving instructions in matters relating to the same.

A Representation advocating that Iizaki (in Hiroshima) be opened to foreign trade.

A Representation urging that the work of riparian improvement set forth in the programme of State enterprises, be prosecuted with greater vigour.

The House rose at 3.40 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

AMENDING THE BOURSE LAW.

The House met at 10.15 a.m., and, having fixed a limit of 3 days for the Budget Committee to prepare its report on certain Supplementary Budgets for 1899-1900, and handed to a Special Committee the Government Bill for surveying and assessing the land in Okinawa Prefecture, proceeded to the First Reading of a Government Bill for amending the Bourse Law in the sense of allowing foreigners to become shareholders. The Government Delegate explained that this change was desirable in connexion with Treaty Revision, and the Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

THE SOY TAX.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported that the Committee had been equally divided with regard to the Bill for increasing the duty on Soy, and he, as Chairman, had given the casting vote against the Bill. He denounced the idea of taxing an article which constituted a daily necessary of the poor man's life, for the sake of raising a paltry revenue of 1,400,000 *yen*, and he took the opportunity to inveigh in bitter terms against the project which was understood to be on foot for increasing the emoluments of members of the Diet.

The Government Delegate, in answer to a question, having stated that the quantity of undiluted soy manufactured every year was estimated at 115,000 *roku*, Mr. Watanabe Hiro-moto supported the Bill, as a necessary and proper means for supplying the deficiency in the revenue, and Mr. Miura Yasu condemned it as a cruel hardship. Was there no way of obtaining funds, he asked, except by taxing the daily food of the poor? In his opinion a tax on sugar would be a wiser and more appropriate device. The House nevertheless passed the Bill by a large majority.

POSTAL RATES INCREASED.

The Bill for increasing Postal Rates then came up for its Second Reading. Marquis Kuroda reported that the Special Committee approved the Bill, but in his individual capacity

he condemned it *in toto*. Instead of the State's deriving a revenue from such things as posts and telegraph, it should be prepared to spend money for their improvement and efficiency. The Marquis, like Viscount Tani, alluded in scathing terms to the rumoured proposal for augmenting the emoluments of members of the Diet, and said he presumed that a further increase of taxation would soon be sought on that account.

Mr. Mizuno said that no one approved of high postal rates as a principle, but this seemed to be virtually a case of necessity. They had to choose the least objectionable of several evils.

Viscount Mishima opposed the measure. Its advocates pleaded that the postal rates in Japan were cheaper than those in western countries, but they seemed to forget that the standard of living and the degree of wealth must be taken into consideration before accepting such a comparison. As a matter of fact, even without making any allowances of that nature, it could be shown that letters were carried more cheaply in several foreign countries than in Japan. He quoted statistics in proof of that assertion.

Baron Kikkawa having spoken in favour of the Bill, an unsigned ballot was taken, when, 133 voted for it and 70 against. The Second and Third Readings were passed.

The House was counted out at 3.15 p.m., when the Special Committee on the Tonnage Dues Bill was about to present its report.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., and, having decided that a Conference should be opened with the Upper House in the matter of the latter's amendments of the Stamp Tax Law, proceeded to the Second Reading of the Copyright Law (sent down from the Peers), and passed it without debate or amendment.

THE PROPOSED FRANCHISE EXTENSION.

Mr. Hoshi Toru, on behalf of the Special Committee, then reported on the Government's Bill for amending the Law of Election for the Lower House. He stated that the majority of the Committee were in favour of making the following changes in the Government's proposals:—

1. That the property qualification, in the case of persons not paying Land Tax, should be the payment of annual direct taxes aggregating 5 *yen*, not 3 *yen*, as proposed by the Government.
2. That the system of voting be limited *scrutin de liste*, not *scrutin individuel*.
3. That ballots be signed.
4. That electors unable to sign their names might employ an amanuensis.
5. That whereas the Government proposed to allow officials to become members, provided their parliamentary duties did not interfere with their public duties, the Committee recommended that officials be forbidden to become members of the Diet unless permitted by Imperial Ordinance.

6. That the security lodged by a candidate appealing against the result of an election, be reduced from 500 *yen* to 100 *yen*.

7. That whereas the Government proposed to fix the number of representatives at 1 for each rural district containing not less than 120,000 of population, and 1 for every urban district containing not less than 50,000, with an additional member in either case for every additional 80,000, or fraction of 80,000 of population; the committee recommended that urban and rural districts alike return one member for the first 100,000 of their population, with an additional member for every additional 80,000 or fraction of 80,000, provided such fraction be not less than 50,000. The numerical result of these alterations would be that, whereas the Government's project gave a total of 445 members, namely, 98 representing the urban population and 347 the rural, the Committee's system would give a total of 470, namely, 76 for the urban population and 394 for the rural. The Committee further advised that Okinawa Prefecture return two representatives; that the new system include the districts which will become urban under the

amended Local Government Law (operative from April 1st), and that Sado and Iki be enfranchised.

Mr. Kudo Kokan addressed the House on behalf of the minority of the Committee. He opposed the principle of making the urban districts independent of the rural, and he advocated *scrutin de liste* without any limitations, his contention being that the effect of the Government's proposals, as well as of the amendments advocated by the majority of the Committee, would be to impair party organization, and thus postpone the practical consummation of the system of party cabinets.

The Government Delegate stated briefly that the Government could not give its consent to the changes recommended by the Committee.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi attempted to speak in favour of the Government's Bill, but could not obtain a hearing.

Mr. Koyama moved that the Second Reading be postponed for the usual interval of 2 days, but the House rejected the motion.

On the motion of Mr. Hoshi Toru, it was decided that discussion be at once directed to Article 36, that being the crucial question—namely, *scrutin individuel* or *scrutin de liste*, and signed or unsigned ballots.

Mr. Hiya-kawa attempted to speak in opposition to Mr. Kudo Kokan, but Mr. Hoshi Toru recommended him to let the question go to the vote at once, as there was no occasion for speech-making.

A signed ballot being taken with regard to the Minority's report (as presented by Mr. Kudo Kokan), it was rejected by 151 votes to 117.

A second signed ballot with regard to the majority's proposal of limited *scrutin de liste* resulted in 150 "noes" and 106 "ayes."

Finally, the House being asked to vote by show of hands with regard to the Article as proposed by the Government, rejected it.

Mr. Hoshi thereupon moved that the House decide by vote whether an Article providing for the matters referred to in Article 36 was essential, or whether it might be omitted, and the House voted that it was essential.

The President announced that a ballot would be taken to determine whether the Bill be read a second time. The result was 98 "ayes" and 140 "noes."

Mr. Hoshi Toru moved that the President nominate a Drafting Committee of 9 members to prepare a new measure, and the House passed the motion.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The private Bills for the Regulation of Fertilizers (in the sense of making them liable to police inspection), and for abolishing the Tax on Marine Products in Hokkaido—which produce a revenue of 360,000 *yen* annually—were read a second time, and passed without debate.

A private Bill with reference to the registration of certain lands was then read and handed to a Special Committee. The lands in question are those indicated by Law 39 of 1897, which provides that exchanges be effected between parcels of land which are separated from the main holdings of their owners, the object of such exchanges being to concentrate and thereby increase the efficacy of agricultural labour. These transactions may now be entered in the Great Register (*Tochi daicho*) without payment of fees, but do not enjoy the same immunity with regard to the Local Registers (*Tochi bo*), and the Bill proposes to correct the latter differentiation.

Another private Bill was then read and handed to a Committee. Its purport is to extend the scope of the revision provided by Law No. 30 of 1897, with regard to errors committed in assessing the computations of hereditary revenue at the time of the Restoration.

BARRISTERS AND THEIR DISCIPLINE.

The following measures were read for the first time and handed to Special Committees:—

A private Bill (introduced by Dr. Hatoyama) for amending the Barristers Law. According to the present Law, although the subjects of examination are the same for Judges, public

procurators, and barristers, it is provided that, in the case of the two former classes, to have passed the examination does not qualify them to practise at the Bar; they must first have served as probationers in a Law Court. Dr. Hatoyama proposes to abolish this discrimination. Further, the Law now in force empowers the Bench to impose restrictions upon a barrister when addressing the Court, and to enforce its vetoes by penalties. The Bill advocates the total removal of such restrictions, and the granting of complete liberty of speech provided that no expressions disrespectful to the Imperial Family be employed. A barrister would, however, be held responsible for any utterances made in a public address or printed and circulated.

TOKYO MUNICIPALITY.

A private Bill (introduced by Dr. Hatoyama) for amending the system of Local Government in Tokyo. The *exposé* of motives points out that Tokyo is a city of 1,400,000 inhabitants; that it has seventeen times the average population of the towns of Japan, and double the average population of the cities and prefectures; that it spends 2 millions annually on local objects, which sum is twenty-three times the average disbursements of Japanese towns, and twice the disbursements of cities and prefectures; that it further makes large outlays on account of city improvement and Water Works, and contemplates other large outlays on account of harbour improvements. In spite of these facts, which differentiate it so signally from other towns and cities, it has precisely the same system of Local Government. The Bill therefore proposes that the Minister of State for Home Affairs shall undertake the direct supervision of all public works in Tokyo; that the Governor and Councillors of the city shall regard the Minister as their chief in matters relating to the discharge of these municipal duties, and that the Mayor of the City shall obtain the approval of the Minister when acting on behalf of the Town Assembly or Town Council.

REPRESENTATIONS.

A Representation for appointing a Committee of Investigation of State Forests and Moors.

A Representation urging that a system be devised for obtaining good breeding cattle. Great benefits had been derived from the foreign breeding stock kept at the Shimosa Farm, and the abandonment of that enterprise had exercised an injurious effect, which, if not corrected, would have serious consequences.

A Representation urging that the method of compiling the sections of the Budget for the Army and the Navy be made more explicit, so that the objects of the various expenditures can be better understood. The system now pursued in those two sections is much briefer and more general than that followed in other Departments.

The House rose at 4.15 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

TONNAGE DUES AND PILOTS LAW.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., and, having agreed that Managers be appointed to confer with the Lower House on the subject of the amendments of the Tonnage Dues Bill, and that three days be allowed for the Budget Committee to report upon Supplementary Budget No. 9 for the year 1899-00, proceeded to read for the first time a Government Bill embodying a project of Pilots Law. The *exposé* of motives explains that the present law is imperfect, and that its defects will become specially inconvenient after the Revised Treaties go into operation. The Bill was handed to a Committee.

COMMITTEE WORK.

The following Bills were similarly treated.

Bill (Government) for amending the Law of Procedure in non litigious cases, so as to bring it into accord with the New Civil and Commercial Codes.

Bill for changing Local Boundaries in Nagano Prefecture.

Bill (Government, sent up from the Repre-

representatives) for changing Local Boundaries in Kagawa Prefecture.

Bill (Government, sent up from the Representatives) for amending the Law of State Aid to Technical Education, in the sense of including Marine Products.

Bill (private; sent up from the Representatives), for amending the Statutory Tariff in the sense of removing the import duty on fertilizers.

Bill (private; sent up from Lower House), for amending the Stud Horses Inspection Law.

NEW LEGISLATION.

The following Bills were passed:—
Government Bill relating to Security in Appeals from Judgments in Cases of Crime.

Government Bill for the regulation of Fisheries.

Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Registration Law.

Representation urging that a Hokkaido Colonization Bank be established, as the present Agricultural and Industrial Banks are not suited to carry on business in Hokkaido.

The Bill relating to Tonnage Dues was re-

presented to the Special Committee, the latter's number being increased by two, and the House, having considered and adopted 16 petitions, rose at 12.25 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m.

BANK OF JAPAN TAX.

Mr. Suzuki reported that, after some difficulty, the Conference of the two Houses had agreed to a compromise in the matter of the Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan, and had fixed the rate at 1.25 per cent. of the note issue.

The House endorsed the change, and having passed, without debate, the Government Bill relating to the use of stamps (*natsuin*) by foreigners on legal documents, and to succeed in litigation where foreign suitors are concerned, read the following Bills for the first time and handed them to Special Committees:—

MARITIME DISASTERS.

Government Bill relating to Aid in Maritime Disasters. The object of this Bill is to correct the defects and supplement the deficiencies in the present system, in view of the operation of the Revised Treaties, which will increase Japan's responsibilities in the matter.

PENSIONS.

Government Bill for dealing with Hereditary and Reward Pensions. This Bill proposes the issue of 10 million *yen* worth of pension bonds, to be handed to persons who have just cause of complaint with regard to the steps adopted in dealing with their pensions at the time of the Restoration. It is the result of Representations made by the Diet in previous sessions.

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

The Special Committee reported, with reference to two private Bills for granting increased State aid to Primary Education, that it recommended the adoption of the Bill which advocated the disbursement of a sum equal to the difference between the amount (3,360,600 *yen*) of school fees paid by the 67 per cent. of school-age children now attending Primary Schools, and the amount (4,073,300 *yen*) that would be paid if 100 per cent. attended. The House passed the Bill.

THE NEW ELECTION LAW.

Mr. Hoshi Toru announced that the Committee appointed on the preceding day to re-draft the 36th Article of the Law of Election had completed that task, and he moved that the Order of the Day be changed, in order to proceed with the Second Reading of the Bill.

The Order having been changed, Mr. Hoshi reported that the Committee had amended the 36th Article in the sense of imposing a limit of two-thirds on the system of *scrutin de liste*. The House approved the Articles as then amended, and then proceeded to read the whole remainder of the Bill a second time. After brief debate, all the Articles, with one trifling exception, were passed — amended by the original Committee, the system of signed ballots and of permitting the use of announcements being thus adopted, as well as the new numerical bases of representation.

PROPOSED MANUFACTURES BANK.

The Representation for granting aid to the

inventor of the *jinrikisha*, though recommended by the Special Committee, was rejected by the House, and a private Bill was then read for establishing a Manufactures Bank of Japan (*Nippon Kogyō Ginkō*). This Bill was presented by the leaders of the two political parties, the Liberals and the Progressists. The *exposé* of motives lays down the proposition that the development of a country's resources depends largely on the quality of its machinery for distributing capital and on the vigor of its manufacturing industry. The Bank of Japan discharges the function of capitalist for the mercantile community. The Agricultural and Industrial Bank plays the same part for agriculturists. But there is no institution which meets the needs of manufacturers, and the deficiency is seriously crippling Japan's development. The Bill proposes that a Manufactures Bank be established, with a capital of 10 million *yen*, payable in public loan bonds; that its shares be 100 *yen* face value; that its charter be for 50 years; that it be authorized to issue debentures to the extent of ten times its paid-up capital, their denominations varying from 20 *yen* to 200 *yen*; that in the event of the debentures being offered for sale abroad, the Government should consider that the state of the foreign market demands such a course, may guarantee the payment of the interest and principal of the debentures; that the Bank shall set aside every year a sum equal to 8 per cent. of its profits as a reserve against losses of capital, and a sum of 1 per cent. of its profits as a reserve for the equalization of dividends, and that the Bank be under the supervision of the Minister of State for Finance.

Baron Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, said that the Government approved of the project, but could not endorse the method proposed for carrying it out. The question was now under consideration, and it would be better to defer a final decision on this Bill. The House voted to hand the measure to a Special Committee.

THE DUTY ON IMPORTED PRINTING PAPER.

A private Bill was then read, for abolishing the import duty on paper used for printing purposes. Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, as introducer, urged the expediency of the measure. The quantity of such paper now annually imported was two million caties, and the duty, at 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, would be 90,000 *yen*; not a large sum, but calculated to make an immense difference to newspapers, and to publishers of books for school use. He denounced the idea of taxing the spread of intelligence and education for the sake of ten or eleven companies engaged in the manufacture of paper in Japan.

Mr. Komuchi opposed the Bill. He maintained that the paper-making industry ranked with cotton spinning as one of the flourishing enterprises of modern Japan, and that its interests deserved consideration. As to the newspapers, he alleged that the abolition of the import duty would not make a difference of more than 1.5 *sen* per month to the cost of them.

OTHER MATTERS.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee, as was also a private Bill empowering the Minister of State for Home Affairs to gradually abolish, at his own discretion, the liberty now enjoyed by provincial medical practitioners to act as compounders as well as prescribers of medicines.

The first reading of a private Bill for establishing a Colonial Bank in Hokkaido having been postponed by desire of its introducers, the House rose at 4.15 p.m.

Mr. Hagiwara, Governor of Saitama. Mr. Midzuno, Governor of Nara, and Mr. Yoshida, Governor of Miyagi, have been released from their posts; and Count Ogimachi, Mr. Terahara, and Mr. Yamada, Director of the Kumamoto Tax Controlling Bureau, were appointed to the vacancies. Mr. Rika, Governor of Miye, was appointed Governor of Tokushima; and Mr. Yamagata, Governor of Tokushima, is to fill the post of the former.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Parish Buildings, No. 54, Teukiji, on Wednesday, the 8th February, at 3 p.m., the President of the Society, Sir Ernest Satow, being in the Chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been taken as *read*, the Chairman called upon Dr. Florenz to read his paper on

ANCIENT JAPANESE RITUALS.

Dr. Florenz observed that the great length of his paper did not admit of its being read *in extenso*; moreover, a large portion of it consisted of critical notes which were not adapted for reading. He would, therefore, read only certain passages which he had selected for this purpose as being likely to have most interest for the meeting. The following is a brief abstract of what was read:—

Dr. Florenz explained that his paper was strictly speaking a continuation of papers on the same subject written many years ago by Sir Ernest Satow, and published in Vols. VII. and IX. of the Transactions of the Society. Sir Ernest Satow had translated 9 out of the 28 Rituals. The present paper dealt with Ritual No. 10, entitled "*Minadsuki Tsugomori no Oho-harake*," or "Great Purification celebrated on the last day of the sixth month." The literature he had consulted in the course of his studies included, in addition to the older commentaries of Mahuchi, Motowori Norinaga, and Fujimi, the "*Norito shiki-kōgi*," by Haruyama Tanomu, the "*Norito bemmo*," by Shikida Toshiharn, Notes of Lectures delivered by Motowori Toyokahi in the Imperial University, and an interesting paper on the *Oho-harake*, or Great Purification, contributed by Dr. H. Weipert to the Transactions of the German Asiatic Society.

The Great Purification was one of the most important and solemn ceremonies of the *Shinto* religion, its object being the purification of the whole nation, from Princes and Ministers down to the common people, from sins, pollutions and calamities. In early times it appeared to have been celebrated not at fixed intervals, but only when special reasons offered. The chief ceremony was performed in the Capital, near the South Gate of the Imperial Palace, and might be styled the Purification of the Court. But a similar ceremony was conducted at every important shrine throughout the country, whence the expression "Great Purification of the Provinces," in contradistinction to the Great Purification of the Court. The Great Purification consisted of certain ceremonial acts, chief of which was the throwing away into the water of the so-called *harake-tsumono*, or purification-offerings, and the reading of a ritual.

The Great Purification was to be distinguished from:—

1.—The simple *Harake*, or purification of an individual from the pollution contracted by some offence, in which case the guilty person himself had to provide certain offerings to the gods. This was originally a mere religious ceremony, the offerings provided by the offender being in the beginning probably only such articles of his personal property as were considered to have been polluted. These were thrown away into the water. But out of this developed in the course of time the idea of a penalty. It was interesting to notice for what reasons, in what way, and to what extent in ancient times penalties came to be exacted under the name of a *harake*. Both the *Kojiki* and *Nihongi* (passages from which were quoted by the lecturer), furnished much information on this point.

2.—Another kind of *Harake*, generally called "*Misogi*," or "Ablution," which was the purification of an individual or a place from pollution contracted by contact with something ceremonially impure, as, for instance, dead bodies.

3.—A third species of *Harake*, which preceded every important festival of a *Shinto* shrine, and by means of which the priests and others taking part in the festival were purified. This ceremony took place in a hall or open place specially prepared for the purpose, and consisted in the "*Kami oroshi*," or "bringing down

of the spirits of the purifying deities," the recitation of the purification-prayer, the performance of various symbolic acts, and the "Kamigae," or "Sending back of the gods." The festival could then begin.

4.—A kind of *private Harake*, mentioned by Fujii in his "Gogoshatsu," which, like the *Oho-Harake*, was performed on the last day of the sixth month.

The lecturer then dealt with the questions of the age of the Great Purification ceremony, and that of the Ritual itself, quoting extensively from Japanese authorities; dwelt on the recitation of the Ritual, and described the details of the ceremony as conducted both in ancient and modern times. He also explained the legendary origin of the ceremony, and read a translation of the Ritual now used.

In the course of the discussion which ensued Dr. Florens gave some further explanations in reply to questions which were put to him on various points connected with *Shintô* ceremonies.

The Chairman thanked Dr. Florens in the name of the Society for the valuable and learned paper which he had contributed to the Society's Transactions.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE FIGHTING AT MANILA.

The *Nagasaki Press* prints the following account of the recent fighting at Manila, having been allowed the courtesy of copying some extracts from a private letter, dated at Manila Feb. 1st:—

THE POSITION BEFORE FEB. 4.

"The conditions here are complicated and not easily understood, still less easily described. The facts are these. We hold Manila and its Bay. We have 20,000 men here and a powerful fleet. But that is all. The rest of Luzon, except a few ports, is absolutely in insurgent control, owing away and paying taxes to the Philippine Republic—a full fledged government with a president, a cabinet, national legislature, and an army. Round about Manila, in a semi-circle twelve miles long, are disposed anywhere from 15,000 to 30,000 Malays, some armed, some not, possessing at least 15,000 rifles, no artillery, and plenty of ammunition. Manila, therefore, is in a state of siege. Alarms are of almost daily occurrence. Threats are made of fire, assassination, rapine. Several lives have been lost by the over-bold, but so far no actual conflict has taken place. Our troops are doubled here, trebled there, in some places quadrupled. Our men are ready for instant action. Afloat it is the same. This has been going on for several weeks. What the issue will be no one dare foretell. Indeed, no one can. General Otis is strictly enjoined from Washington to do everything to avoid a conflict. We do not know whether the natives will attack or not. If they do, a fight must take place; but they will not stand. They cannot. They have no training, no military instinct, no knowledge of the gun. They will be scattered like sheep. But there they are. There they have been for months, drilling, gathering arms, strength, and confidence.

"They believe that we are afraid of them; that they can whip us; and, if reports representing their opinions are true (which I do not know), that they can take Manila in twenty-four hours and drive us into the sea. I hope they are not going to be undeceived on the field of battle; but it is there that they will receive education if they attempt to put their theories into practice.

"How has this incredible condition of things arisen? It is due, first, to the uncertainty as to the fate of the Philippines. We did not know in the U.S. till early in December or late in November what we were going to do about them. We could make no promises here. We could not even assure these people that Spain was not to retain the islands. So we sat still and waited. Then came the results of our inexperience, of our utter want of know-

ledge of the Ma'y character. They do not understand us; we do not understand them any better. With our natural sense of justice, we tried conciliation. They took it for weakness. We essayed kindness—to them it was an unknown thing. We dealt with them justly; and in return we are esteemed cowardly. In short, our virtues became faults. We treated them from an American, not from an Asiatic, standpoint. I do not see how we can blame them if they misunderstood us. They have never seen any foreigners but the Spaniards. Spanish aggression, greed, and blood thirstiness, they understood, and perhaps respected. They have no standard by which to gauge the qualities we have shown. We have prated about how nice it would all be when the natives came to understand and appreciate the good things America was to bring to them; never a word has been uttered about fitting our gifts to the characters of the recipients. What has been needed, and is now, is not to make the Filipinos understand the Americans, but to make the latter understand the former. Instead of commanding, we have requested; and when denied, we sat down quietly waiting for the Tagal to size up the U.S. of America and its citizens. He cannot. He will die in his ignorance. His son may have a glimmering of the good intentions of the great Republic; and that spark may grow, by judicious fanning, into intelligence. I am speaking, of course, of the millions, not the handful of Messiahs and educated Tagalos. The Filipinos, I should judge, are not a hard people to govern. They are children, having some excellent traits and some very vicious ones. They are famous for their hospitality, but equally infamous for stabbing in the back."

THE OUTBREAK.

Writing a few days later, the same correspondent gives the following account of the battle. "On Saturday night, February 4th, at about nine o'clock (night fighting is a favourite form of combat with the natives) the insurgents attacked our forces about Manila. The firing was heavy most of the night. The insurgents made several advances, but were driven back by our men. Our men did not advance, satisfied to hold their ground, but all night long the musketry fire continued, interspersed with shots from field-guns (a few of them the insurgents had), the volley-firing of our troops sounding like a hundred Gatlings. The *Charleston* and *Callao* were already in position north of our lines (on the left); the *Monadnock* was to the south, i.e., on our right. The *Concord* took up a position towards our left, and near the *Charleston* and the *Callao*. North of the city was Malabon, four or five miles off; and between it and opposite our left were the enemy's strongest entrenchments and earth-works, with natural defences in bays, creeks, and bayous. At dawn, when the ships got the positions, they opened fire with tremendous effect. The slaughter is described as terrific. The *Charleston*, farthest out, fired 8 and 6 inch shells; the *Concord*, nearer in, fired shrapnel; the *Callao*, the nearest to the enemy, used her rapid fire and machine guns. The forts and intrenchments were destroyed; and our army charged and drove the natives out pell-mell. All round the city it was the same story. The insurgents stood for a while and then broke. Our men are said to have behaved magnificently, fighting like a lot of old tigers. A battalion of the 14th Infantry charged across a paddyfield, and, though they suffered severely, they captured three Krupp field pieces and two Gatlings and the natives left. At night, not an insurgent was in sight. Our losses are said to be 150 to 200 killed, and the same number wounded. I do not dare say how many the enemy lost in killed. It is put as high as 4,000. We have 2,800 prisoners. To-day (Feb. 6th), our troops have been all day pursuing the fleeing natives. General Anderson is marching against Malolos, the insurgents' capital 25 miles north or Manila. It is expected he will take it tomorrow. Our victory is complete, and from all I can learn of native character, will be decisive. I trust we shall hear no more of the Filipino Republic."

THE FILIPINO STORY.

The *China Mail* of February 14th, says:—The Filipino junta in Hongkong have cabled to Great Britain and America their version of the outbreak of hostilities in the Philippines. They state that the American censored version of the occurrences is utterly false. The Americans treacherously commenced the hostilities simultaneously on land and sea. Aguinaldo having signed a guarantee with the American Commissioners not to commence hostilities, the Filipino troops were resting, and many Filipino officers who were at the theatre on the Saturday night were arrested shortly before the outbreak. The bombardment of the defenceless towns of Malate, Paco, Santa Anna, and Malabon had caused frightful slaughter of women and children. It is estimated that four thousand of those defenceless people were slaughtered. The Americans committed many outrages in the suburbs, compelling the inhabitants to leave their houses and then shooting them down regardless of sex. There was a regular reign of terror in Manila, and Filipinos were shot down in the streets unchallenged. The Iloilo Commissioners arrived at Manila on the invitation of the Americans, and were arrested when starting to return. The Americans were apparently determined on a war of extermination, and were violating the rights of mankind and civilized warfare. The action of Otis was a political move, and the firing was commenced on Sunday to prevent exposure of corruptions at Manila.

Such is the marvellous language of the telegrams despatched by the Filipinos!!

AMONG THE CAPTIVES.

The *China Mail* says:—These were some fifteen or twenty wounded savages in the hospital who wore headresses of roosters' feathers and had long hair hanging down their backs. There were a great many of these fellows amongst the killed.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank premises at Iloilo escaped destruction at the fire.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

H.E. H. Lisboa, late Brazilian Minister to Japan, has been appointed to St. Petersburg in a similar capacity.

A special despatch to the *Chungwai Shogyo* from Korea reports that the Korean Government has decided to open Gushang and two or three other places for foreign trade.

The P. & O. shroff at Hongkong has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour and fined \$1,000 for selling lottery tickets. \$2,000 found in the prisoner's safe were also confiscated.

At a meeting of Bishops of the Church of England, held at Lambeth Palace, it was resolved to submit to Convocation in February a Bill reforming the Ecclesiastical Courts on lines recommended by the Commission of 1883.

The body of one of the female servants at the Ferris Seminary, 178 Bluff, was found in a deep well on the compound, on Monday afternoon. There were no marks on the body suggesting foul play, and it is supposed to be a case of suicide.

Acting on the doctor's strongly urged advice, Bishop Burdon who is staying in Shanghai, has decided not to return to Pukhoi, but to retire from active missionary work and devote himself to helping to complete the revision of the New Testament and to assisting in any other work that is suitable. The Bishop has been connected with the C.M.S. for nearly fifty years, and is now seventy-two.

Professor Grassi is said to have discovered the bacillus of malaria fever. The professor has a bacteriological laboratory at the hospital of Saint Spirito, Rome, and has, therefore, good opportunities of studying the subject. The bacillus is thought to be the parasite of an insect belonging to the mosquito family. We

may add that the American surgeons, Geddings and Wasdin, have gone to Havana to study the yellow fever.

The Italian third-class cruiser *Elba*, which has come out to relieve the *Marco Polo* on this station, is of 2,730 tons and 7,471 horse-power, and four 5.9-in. q. f., six 4.7-in., one 2.9 in., eight 3.3-in., eight 1.4 in., and two M. guns. She was built at Castellammare in 1893.

A fatal accident occurred in Tokyo on the 16th. A man named Mita Ikuso was passing a level crossing at Yanaka by *jinrikisha* when a train came up, smashed the *jinrikisha*, and ran over and killed the rider. The *jinrikisha* coolie narrowly escaped. He had been running down a steep road which leads to the crossing, and, though the watchman warned him of the approach of the train, he was unable to stop his vehicle.

At a recent examination of school children in Oregon the subject discussed was the exports of the United States, and the question was put, "What do we send to Spain?" The answer came quickly from a little girl, "Soldiers." "And what," asked the astonished examiner, "do we get in return?" "Islands," was the answer. And then, of course, the teacher had to explain that what America really sent to Spain was the blessings of civilisation, progress, and enlightenment, and that all she got in return was the humble approval of her conscience. "And now," concluded the teacher, "we will take the next lesson."

Reports of the gale which swept over Great Britain about the middle of January show terrible and widespread results. The sea demolished a thick seawall and washed a breach of seventy yards in the North Western line, alongside Conway Bay, between Chester and Holyhead about midnight on the 12th ult. It was pitch dark, the tempest terrible, and a Manchester goods express, heavily laden, dashed out of a tunnel across a gap along unsupported rails, and was precipitated into the sea. The driver and fireman were lost, and the wreckage of eight trucks strewn the Bay; but the others remained suspended on the rails which are unbroken. The Liverpool express and the Irish mail, which were due shortly afterwards, were saved. The Channel traffic suffered terribly, vessels standing in the Downs all night.

There has just been constituted in Hungary a new sect, which has many adherents at Fogarás and Hermannstadt. It is called "The German Union of Seven Day Adventists," and it appears to have originated in the United States. The principal "agency" is at Hamburg, and the apostle is named J. Huenergardt. He is about 50 years of age, and is a man of commanding eloquence. The dogmas of this sect have much in common with those of the Jews, that is to say, there are liturgical chants, special preparation of food, and a strict observance of the Sabbath. The adherents occupy themselves a great deal in diffusing pamphlets bearing on religion and health. The new sect has strong followings in Germany, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Bulgaria, and Servia.

Mr. Henry De Morgan the American archaeologist, is responsible for the view that the ancient Egyptians had an Asiatic origin. Of late this hypothesis has been controverted by many eminent anthropologists, who claim that Egyptian civilisation comes directly from the New Stone Age people of that part of Africa, and has only been influenced by Asiatic culture. Among those who support this view are M. de Bising, in *L'anthropologie*, Dr. Fraas, of the German Anthropological Society, the Russian Professor Anontchine, and Schweinfurth the traveller. It is in accordance with Professor Sergi's hypothesis to the effect that the earliest Egyptians came from Somaliland or somewhere up the Nile in the region reconquered by the Sirdar. For aught we know, Khartoum may be the "cradle" of the North African and Southern European race; or certain elements of it, at least.

CHINESE NEWS.

A daring robbery recently took place at Ningpo, the house of a rich native being entered by an armed band of thirty or forty robbers who carried away property and money to the extent of four or five thousand taels, after wounding two of the owner's servants.

The death of the once famous Chinese General, Yeh Chi-chow, is announced from Peking, where he was imprisoned for his "masterly retreats" from Yashan and Pingyang in the Japan-China war. Poor old Yeh, says the *China Gazette*, was a typical Chinese hero, and was one of the first to bring disgrace and disaster upon China in the war by his astonishing cowardice and ignorance of every military virtue. He was at one time Li Hung-chang's great friend, but Li abandoned him when he fell into disgrace and shifted all the blame he could for China's defeats upon his fallen friend's shoulders.

Fully 20,000 Imperial troops have been ordered by the Empress Dowager from Chihli and Shantung to suppress the rebellion in Anhui, which is hardly consistent with the oft-repeated official declarations that the rebellion is finished and the rebels scattered. A telegram to the *Universal Gazette* records the arrival of some of these troops at Chinan-fu, (Shantung). General Sung Ching has sent 5,000 troops from Shanhaikwan, General Li 5,000 from Chenting-fu, General Liu 50,000 from Honan, and 5,000 more are en route from Shantung. A great deal will depend upon the attitude of these troops when they arrive at the scene of operations and meet the rebels who have inscribed on their banners that they are fighting for the Emperor against the Empress Dowager.

Five persons—a man and four women, all Chinese—were burnt to death in a fire that broke out in North Fokien Road, Shanghai, on Feb. 11th.

Mr. C. Reverud, mate of the British barque *Osaka*, while stepping into a sampan to go ashore at Shanghai, missed his footing and fell into the river. He was never seen again. The fatality occurred on Feb. 10th.

The health of the British Minister at Peking has so broken down that he has been compelled to take a change either home or to India.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says that according to a Tientsin dispatch robbery seems to be very rife there this winter, the daring gentry even robbing with impunity houses of wealthy people inside the City walls. The brigands disguise themselves, daubing their faces and putting on false beards, and, robbing in large gangs of thirty to forty, defy the interference of the night patrols sent by the City garrison commandant. It is also stated that a Japanese travelling in a mule cart on the great Taku highway between the Taku forts and Tientsin was stopped on the road, the other day, by a gang of a dozen robbers who drew their swords and threatened to cut down the first person who dared to resist. As no one did so, the robbers left their victims unharmed, but shivering on the roadside, having made a clean sweep of everything in the cart even to the warm winter clothes on the bodies of the victims. The Tientsin Magistrate now offers \$500 reward for the capture of any one of the gang.

Mr. John E. Hamlyn, Chief Examiner of the I.M.C. at Shanghai, died there of bronchitis on Feb. 11th. He had been in the service nearly 32 years.

The *Universal Gazette* publishes a telegram from Peking of the 9th inst. in which it is stated that a telegram reached the capital on the same day, reporting the safe arrival at Urumtsi (Tihua), the capital of Chinese Turkestan, of Chang Yin-huan, and that in obedience to recent Imperial orders he had been imprisoned there instead of being sent to work on the post roads as at first ordered.

GERMANS AND BRITISHERS ABROAD.

A German merchant long resident in Singapore, who has just returned to the Colony after a trip home, writes to the *Free Press*:—"I never omitted to point out to Britishers and Germans in Europe alike to go forth into the world and observe their respective countrymen in the Colonies, how they work and enjoy themselves together for the benefit of the Colony they live in. A mutual respect is the natural outcome of their continual close contact. A Britisher finds out that a German after all is not that lager-beer-swallowing sausage or sauerkraut-devouring, uncouth creature, as the papers insist upon ramming into every Britisher at home, and the Germans when out in the Colonies realize gradually that as little as they may have thought of Great Britain in Europe, Greater Britain is an enormous, well and liberally-governed world's Empire, strong in defence, and imposing, obtaining nay even extorting admiration from unwilling minds almost at first sight. It is only natural that in the old countries, with their different but firmly set traditions, some of their particular run of ideas and principles should produce divergencies of opinion now and then. These occasional little political frictions, however, are more like tiffs between husband and wife; if both have education and common sense it will not come to blows.

Our English cousins are quite aware by now that to every normal German the German Emperor is what his Queen is to every Britisher, viz., the symbol and personification of all those glorious traditions which are dear to everyone of us and around whose persons we would eagerly gather in time of danger. When at special occasions a Britisher sings "God save the Queen," he instinctively thinks of the Spanish Armada, of Trafalgar, the squares of Waterloo, and the Indian mutiny, and up comes his chest, and quite right too.

Of opportunities to criticise the Kaiser's actions and speeches there may be many, as he does not stay much at home. Nobody will at all object if such criticism is based on sound reasoning and is given in decent English. In that direction we London Germans have to stand one or two paragraphs a day in almost every paper, but I for one enjoy them heartily as long as there is intelligence in their line of argument and originality and humour in their construction, quite apart from the great advertising value for the young German Empire all over the world. If the English underrate the Kaiser they will be the losers in the long run, and I am glad to see that the best and most serious writers in England are beginning to take him not only very seriously but watch all his initiatives with a keen interest. A talent does not recognise out-trodden roads, he strikes out for himself, and original throughout, he confuses the enemy, and secures every chance to follow his own course. Talent and genius begins when nature has blended a number of good qualities with a grain of originality even eccentricity. The average observer says, "mad," (Bismarck was labelled so after his first speeches in the Prussian diet), and he continues to walk blindfolded but happy in his blissful superficiality.

Tempora mutantur. Every Britisher has long ago realised this with respect to the young German Empire, so that I, attached to Germans and Britishers alike, do not see the object of continuing a mining warfare when everybody knows that everybody else is a jolly good fellow with no intention whatever to offend. The battle axe should be buried at last.

I shall then again be able to point to the British Colonies as the training ground for mutual political tolerance, where Britishers and Germans work heartily together for general commercial expansion, the most efficient factor towards civilization, which again is the goal of Christian ethics and of religious teaching.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RECENT APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to acknowledge receipt of the following amounts for the Rev. R. P. Alexander's servant, who, risking her life to arouse the family, sustained severe injuries.

H. K.	1.00
R. Davidson	3.00
T. T. Alexander	1.00
Mrs. E. Leavitt	5.00
Kate U. Johnson	5.00
Sue Necks	10.00
Mrs. E. R. Miller	5.00
Koon Machi, Mita	2.50
14 Torizaka, Asabu	2.50
Miss Baucus and Miss Dickenson	10.00
F. Schroeder	2.00
W. F. Parshley	2.00
W. A. de Havilland	10.00
Miss McCully	2.00
M. N. Wyckoff	1.00
E. W. Clement	2.00
Madam Clement	1.00
N. W. W.	1.00
John Scott	1.00
Mr. Gemmell	1.00
A. Friend, Sendai	3.00
Miss Bull	2.00
Miss Case	1.00
Miss Colby	2.00
J. de Rijke	4.00
Miss Phelps	1.00
Miss Lewis	1.00
Hilton Pedley	2.00
Master H. Pedley ... ..	.35
D. W. Learned	2.00
H. Evington	5.00
R. Bailey	2.00
J. Soper	1.00
F. W. Playfair	5.00
F. Brinkley	5.00

Y. 100 25

The committee think that they will meet the wishes of the contributors by paying the sum received in monthly instalments.

The list will be kept open a little longer.

Yours truly, BENJ. CHAPPELL.

Aoyama, Tokyo, Feb. 21st, 1899.

THE LEOPOLD BANKRUPTCY.

FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS.

The first meeting of creditors in the bankruptcy of Charles Emil Leopold, a convict undergoing sentence of imprisonment in H.B.M.'s Jail, Yokohama, was held in H.B.M.'s Court for Japan on Monday morning. Mr. C. D. Moss, Official Receiver, occupied the chair; Mr. A. B. Walford appeared for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank; Mr. J. F. Lowder for the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, (the petitioning creditors) and also for Messrs. Ahrens and Co., Nachi; and the debtor was represented by Professor Terry, of Tokyo. On behalf of the creditors who had proved, there were present:—Messrs. B. M. Janion, Accountant of the Chartered Bank; E. Wismer, Messrs. Ahrens & Co.; L. Stornbrink, Sawada, and F. S. Mayer, of the Japan Herald.

The following is the list of debts that were proved:—F. S. Mayer, Manager of the Japan Herald, yen 40; Chartered Bank, yen 49,259.80; Peyre Freres, yen 141.55; Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, yen 8972.34; Messrs. Ahrens & Co., yen 308,704.70; John W. Hall, yen 486.72; L. Stornbrink yen 24; Uchiyama Rosetsu, yen 2000; Ishii Riye, yen 3,421.73; Sawada yen 450.

The headings of the debtor's statement read as follows:—Gross Liabilities; liabilities as stated and estimated by debtor; expected to rank; assets (as stated and estimated by debtor; expected to produce. This was virtually a nil return.

The list A of unsecured creditors comprised 24 names for sums varying from as little as yen 120 to yen 57,986. List B "Creditors fully secured" was nil. List C "Creditors partly secured" included: Ishii Riye, amount unknown, probably yen 3,000; holder of security of lease of Nos. 98 & 100 Bluff, and reversion of lease of Lot No. 125 Settlement, from A. D., 1910. List D. E.

F. G. and H. all nil. List I "Debts due to the estate: J. D. Mc. C. Gardiner, architect, Tokyo, yen 880.50, classed as bad; Weber, Lohmann & Co. of Sydney, N. S. W., yen 72 for doors, classed as good. List J. & K. are nil returns.

The Official Receiver first directed the attention of the creditors present to the advertisements calling the meeting and proceeded to say that the receiving order was dated the 27th January, but that some delay had occurred in obtaining possession of the debtor's books, as they were beyond the jurisdiction of the Court. He was consequently obliged to apply for an extension of time for filing a statement of the debtor's affairs. Proceeding the Official Receiver said:—On the 4th February I obtained possession of the debtor's books, now in Court; on the 10th I filed debtor's statement of affairs and notified all the creditors. The statement of affairs is here and is open to your inspection. That is the original copy, and here is another copy, my working copy. The creditors filed their proofs of debt as per list exhibited. I examined the debtor with reference to each proof, and in consequence of the statement of affairs being so extremely bald, I put to him the following 50 questions and took down his answers to each, which he duly signed. I will first of all tell you what I have done in reference to the proofs of debt.

Mr. Lowder—Are these the Board of Trade questions?

The Official Receiver—Yes, but first of all I will make a few remarks as to the proofs of debt. The Japan Herald is the first one, yen 40. The debtor says he does not owe so much as 40 dollars. He thinks 20 dollars is all he owes. He says he paid ten dollars on account, on the 1st July of theseabouts. But that will be gone into by myself afterwards. Next is the Chartered Bank. They claim yen 49,294 as a judgment debt. The judgment was before this Court in the month of June. The debtor says he has paid off various sums amounting to yen 21,000 and that the balance of that claim is only yen 28,000; but he admits he is further indebted to the Bank for yen 7,000 odd, and that his total liability is yen 55,851. The debtor admits the indebtedness, but claims that on the judgment which they claim to be only indebted to the amount of yen 28,125. That is a question which can be settled later on. Peyre Freres' claim of yen 141. There is a small error there, the debtor says, of two dollars. He admits owing yen 139. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank's claim appears to be correct. Ahrens & Co.'s is a large claim of yen 38,704, which the debtor says is not correct. He says he has frequently asked Ahrens & Co. for an account and sees it for the first time to-day. That was last week. The account requires investigation like some others. No. 6. This is a claim of John W. Hall. He is not here, but has proved the debt. The amount is reasonable and correct, but the debtor thinks he is not liable and that it should be claimed from the Japanese Yoshizo and Toda Gisaburo, who gave the order for the work. The 7th is the Ice Works claim, Mr. Stornbrink's, and that is correct. The 8th is a claim by Uchiyama Rosetsu, yen 200, and the debtor says it is reasonable and correct. The 9th claim is by Ishii Riye, yen 3,421.73. This account is correct and reasonable, but the creditor holds as security the leases of 98 and 100 Bluff and Lot 125 in the Settlement for 18 years more and it is impossible at this moment to place a value on these securities, but I have explained as well as I could to Ishii Riye that she cannot hold her claim and her security, and therefore that account stands in abeyance. The 10th claim is Sawada yen 45. That is correct. Then there are other claims by Messrs. Melchers and Co., for instance, but they have not been proved, so we have not to do with them at the present moment. And now in reference to the assets. In the debtor's statement of affairs you will see J. McDonald Gardiner, of Tokyo, is put down as owing yen 880.50 for timber supplied. This is entered as a bad debt because the debtor says Mr. Gardiner disputes the account and always has disputed it and the debtor says he is very unwell and also has no funds. That is the debtor's explanation of that. Weber, Lohmann & Co., Sydney, 72 dollars for doors sent to them. The debtor thinks that they will pay on application if they have not already paid Ahrens & Company. Then I have sundry explanations as to what has become of a lot of money, but a great deal of these explanations will be embodied in the answer to the Board of Trade questions which I will read to you, and if you want any further information afterwards I will give you that information. I will now read these questions and the answers which have been signed by the debtor. They are questions to the debtor supplying his statement of affairs.

The Official Receiver said he had put to the

prisoner the questions specified by the Board of Trade, and he would read the answers to the meeting. According to these accused said he had carried on business at Nos. 29 and 59b., Yokohama, and Cecil Court, Charing Cross-road, W.C. He commenced business as a clerk in 1884, and as a merchant in 1895. He had no capital in 1884. He had not been in partnership with any one; he would explain this further. He had kept no books of account, as far as he was aware, beyond those in the Official Receiver's possession; some had been lost in moving. From these books he could fully make up his accounts to date. They were posted to about April, 1898, and as to the Phoenix Saw Mills until they were sold last summer. He had no money at the date of the petition, and had delivered to the Official Receiver all property belonging to the estate and under his control. His assets were yen 72, and he was not aware of having any property in reversion or expectancy. His life was insured for £2,000; the policies were not in his possession; one was assigned to Ishii Riye for value received and the other to Adèle Leopold, debtor's mother, for value received. He had no other assets as far as he was aware beyond what he had already mentioned, unless something was recovered from Uyeda Yoshizo and Toda Gisaburo and Toda Yauakichi. He did not know the total amount of his indebtedness, but thought it was about yen 40,000. There was a judgment against him for about yen 49,000, less about yen 22,000 paid off. He had assigned the leases of No. 98 and 100 Bluff and No. 125 Settlement from A.D. 1910. He had not executed any bill of sale on his stock-in-trade, furniture, or personal effects, nor made any preferential payments to any creditors nor pledged any property in the way of pawn-broking. He had never suspended payment of his debts. He had not lodged any money or security with his solicitor for payment of costs incurred in respect to his failure. The causes of his insolvency were:—

Loss on Phoenix Saw Mills, loss of real estate, loss of building, loss of hunting vessels, loss of coal, furs and general merchandise, and losses through forced sale, by banks. He was uncertain when he first became aware of his insolvency but thought in Oct. to Dec., 1897. He had contracted debts since he became aware of his insolvency, but he had expectations of being able to pay them by the sale of his various properties and goods at reasonable profits. He had drawn accommodation bills, but only those for which he was now being punished. They were none now running. He could not say what had been his income and personal expenditure during the last three years. He had not made any marriage or post-nuptial settlement, or any other settlement, beyond that of leases and life assurance to Ishii Riye; those settlements were made for value received. He could not produce any copy of these; Ishii Riye had the originals. He had disclosed the whole of his estate and effects with the exception of property bought with his money but beyond his control, and which he was advised were no longer his. He could make no proposal to his creditors, as he had no assets under his control.

The Official Receiver, continuing—I now call the creditors' attention to the principal business of the meeting. At the first meeting they may

1. By special resolution resolve to entertain a proposal for a composition or scheme under section 18 of the Act, either with or without the intervention of a trustee.

2 By ordinary resolution resolve that the debtor be adjudged bankrupt, and in that case they may also, by ordinary resolution, if the estate exceeds £300, appoint a trustee.

3 By ordinary resolution fix the remuneration of the trustee, or resolve that the same be left to the committee of inspection.

4 By ordinary resolution appoint a committee of inspection from among the creditors qualified to vote, or the holders of general proxies or general powers of attorney for such creditors.

5 By ordinary resolution determine the remuneration to be paid to the special manager, if one has been appointed.

The debtor has promised me that he will answer any question that is put to him and will tell the whole truth. I have some notes of questions that I have put to him with reference to the cause of his failure and what has become of the money, which I will tell you if you think he has not sufficiently answered any of the questions.

Mr. Lowder—I think we had better hear them.

The Official Receiver—I have done it with the whole object of getting all the information I could for your benefit. The debtor says—"I sold the Phoenix Saw Mills to Ahrens & Co, that is retransferred the Mills to Mr. Kildoye, as per instruction of the late Mr. Keil, who was then acting for Ahrens & Co. This was done in the presence of

witnesses. The total sum which I should be credited for by Ahrens & Co. is yen 45,900. In reference to the Yoshida Shinden property it was sold by my *bantōs*, without my consent, for an amount not covering the mortgage thereon, yen 66,000. The godowns at Sugura and also at Nakamura were purchased with my money, but I can get no particulars. I now understand Uyeda and Tada have disposed of them, but I have really no details. They were let for yen 400 a month and I value them at yen 25,000. The paper factory at Hongo I had a mortgage on for yen 4,000, which has not been repaid. In Hokkaido there has been yen 20,000 of my money expended on a coal mine. That has been, I think, in Uyeda's name. The documents referring to these properties were taken from my safe while I was in hospital. The land in Kanagawa was bought with my money and cost, one lot 1,000 yen, and another 300 or 400 yen. I think that is in Uyeda's name. I can account for the various losses in trade and on lands purchased which have been lost to me, to probably the whole amount of my liability. That is all about his property. As to his income,—he has been in Japan for fifteen years. Formerly he got 50 yen a month and two years afterwards was raised to 150 yen, and two years later to 200 yen. That it still remains, but latterly he has had a commission of 20 per cent. on all profits from the North German Lloyd, and the same on the London Assurance and on the shipping business. That, gentlemen, is all I have been able to elicit. The debtor is prepared to make a statement and will have to submit to cross-examination. I would again call your attention to what the objects of this meeting are and would suggest that the debtor should make this statement, but it is for you to say who you require it.

Mr. Lowder—I think we should all like to hear what the debtor has to say.

The Debtor—Shall I read this (his statement) over, Mr. Moss?

The Official Receiver—I think you had better make the fullest statement possible. I think it is the best way in your present position.

The Debtor—Then I will read this:—

Shortly after my troubles commenced, which I date from the receipt of telegrams from Bremen, I asked Ahrens, or rather Hoffmann, to keep matters perfectly private, otherwise I would be unable to realize my assets, and that anything said against my credit and character would depreciate my holdings, this naturally would not be in their interest. Hoffmann promised to keep the affair between us and even objected to my resigning from the firm's employ; he pressed me to realise as quickly as possible and in fact begged me to do everything in my power to clear up the difficulties, the more so as the firm had such large outstandings with the Banks. The matter was talked over with regard to shipping the furs, but on account of my sickness it was ultimately decided to send certain telegrams off to Lampson and to await their reply; all these wires, which ended by the resale being agreed upon, were sent with full consent and knowledge of Ahrens and in fact they paid for them. Hoffmann promised to assist me, and £5,000 was the amount which I asked him to remit and he did so. He also agreed to send £1,500 to my London firm in order to assist me to tide over the bills drawn for goods actually shipped to my London firm; this was, however, not done, and I was therefore left in the lurch; the bills had to be protested. Wismer called upon me in the Hospital and asked me whether I had been able to raise any money so as to make the promised remittance to Lampson, i.e. the amount which should follow remittance of £5,000. I informed him that I had not been able to do so and in fact, could manage nothing until I got out of the Hospital and went round myself. I again pressed upon the fact of keeping my affairs perfectly secret, and told them that as I had managed their financial work for the last twelve years it would be greatly to their interest to say nothing outside, the more so on their account than on mine. This matter was fully talked over with Hoffmann and I also pointed out that the nature of my securities were such that any mention of my being insolvent would only make matters worse both for them and me. The minute I arrived from the Hospital I was overruled by Wismer, who wanted money; of course I was unable to give them any. Next morning I tendered my services to the firm but Wismer asked me to leave the office, thereupon tendered my resignation for the second time, and in writing. The next morning I heard from friends regarding rumours then in circulation about me and further that these rumours were given with the authority of Ahrens and Co. and also the late Mr. Keil. I immediately taxed Wismer with this and pointed out that circulating the statements would only do harm. I told

him that his action would simply prevent me doing anything with my securities and depress everything I owned. The firm insisted on even having a bill of sale on my furniture in No. 59-B, Yokohama. This certainly did not assist my credit; the amount was only \$1,700. As a matter of fact this was the result, and I found it impossible to either borrow money or securities or to sell anything I owned, the parties holding mortgages on land wished for immediate payments, and it was the utmost difficulty that I was able to prevent fire with closure. I was also unable to obtain any credit to carry out outstanding paying contracts and had in some instances to settle these by payment of liquidated damages. All this was followed by the constant demands of Ahrens and the Chartered Bank for cash. The Japanese Sheriff also took charge of the godown properties at Surugachō and Nakamura, and attached them on the demands of people holding mortgages on the Yoshida land. This was done on account of the Chartered Bank having commenced action against me, through my lawyer. I begged the Chartered Bank to keep the case back for a few days so as to enable me to get the securities which I pledged to them, in other hands or transferred to them; this they refused. In the meantime the Japanese papers got full information, so that my affairs were public property, thereby entirely ruining my credit; for the present I had to sit still. Towards July I was able to get some friends to interest themselves regarding the Yoshida Shinden land and I had all the articles drawn up to form a Limited Company (Japanese) to take over this asset. This asset would therefore have been saved for Ahrens, at least my share, besides the profits which would have accrued to my position. About this time I wrote to Ahrens representative, the late Mr. Keil, saying that I should be able to pay off within a year \$75,000. To this letter I received no reply, but shortly afterwards I was arrested on the charge for which I am now imprisoned. Naturally all my endeavours were again spoilt and everything stopped. Previous to this I had transferred shares and several amounts to Ahrens also transferred the Phoenix Saw Mills to them. I also paid off several sums against the judgment of the Chartered Bank. I did my best and could do no more. Ahrens all through acted without giving me a chance to get cash.

I next tried to sell the land at public auction, but the sale was frustrated though a combination from outside. From this moment I continued doing my best to sell and settle affairs privately, but without avail; nobody would have anything to do with me until the criminal proceedings were settled.

The firm would not even pay ground rents in the godowns occupied by them; the consequence was I could not keep anything and since I have been in prison all my assets, so far as I am aware, have been lost or sold at abnormally low sums.

Ahrens carried on the same style of ruining me in London, and according to information I received Moseley, their London manager, apparently spread my affairs round the City, the consequence was all my stocks there were fearfully depreciated, specially straw braid; nobody would advance on the goods, and buyers did not bid, as they expected to buy my goods as a bankrupt stock.

Such action on the part of a mercantile firm is incomprehensible, the more so as I had assigned to them all surplus of the London stock. The Chartered Bank refused my firm in London permission to draw samples of goods which had arrived; also they refused to allow my brother to take up drafts unless all presented ones were first paid off; their action made matters worse, preventing me delivering goods against contract, also to realise season goods.

Just before the trial came off I again made an offer to Ahrens, viz. to pay off within 12 months \$5,000 and to continue paying \$25,000 every six months until my debts were cleared off. I warned them that I feared I should be unable to control my Japanese assets if the case went to trial, no matter which way the result went. They refused this, and now I regret to say that everything is apparently lost.

I attribute my insolvency to the following causes, viz. 1. The action of H. Ahrens, Nachf's, partners Hoffmann and Wismer and their London Manager Moseley.

2. To the action of the Banks forcing sales of all my goods, this I estimate at \$30,000 made up as follows: Chartered Bank about \$28,000; Hongkong Bank, \$12,000, *vide* pass books and letters.

3. Losses on Phoenix Saw Mills and on kerosene. I accepted a contract from M. Raspe & Co. through their manager Mr. E. Oth, who intimated that he would give us the preference if we accepted at the same price as Fraser Farley

& Varnum, viz. 16 cents f.o.b. The cargo ex *Sakurishiro*, which had arrived in extremely bad condition was used up for this contract—a great loss. I was unable to obtain Japanese lumber to continue delivery at 16 cents; and I understand that Fraser Farley and Varnum would not accept under 22 cents.

4. Nagasaki Hotel. There was a large loss on the execution of this work. The people at the works were unable to calculate the cost price; it was therefore agreed that we would accept Mr. Conder's estimate for material and hand labour, the material calculated being red *suugi*, fies of knots and hard wood for sills. The contract was completed but it cost double. I remonstrated with Mr. Conder about the matter and showed him his original estimate. From information which I received from the works, Mr. Conder's Japanese says that the estimate which we worked upon was the original one and did not include the annex billiard room or third storey 3 kiln dries. This was destroyed by fire, also the building gutted which contained the hand saw. The kiln was at the time almost full of wood. No fire insurance. The above losses, together with starting expenses, amounted to yen 65,000 besides a debt for lumber of yen 15,000. There is also a loss on lumber bought, but still undelivered, in the meantime partly lost yen 7,000. Interest since books were closed and my portion of living expenses yen 2,000. Total yen 130,000.

5. Schooner *Pointer*. I owned half share in this schooner. She was totally lost at Shikotan Bay, and without insurance, yen 7,000.

6. Japanese properties. The following properties were paid for by me but I believe that they have been sold or otherwise disposed of without my consent.

	Yen.
Yoshida Shinden Estate	35,000
Kanagawa land	1,000
Godown at Surugachō	20,000
Godown at Nakamura	
Unpaid rents on ditto	2,000
Yoshihama-chō godown	700
Paper factory at Hongo	5,000
Reisha Co. shares	1,800
	65,500

7. Japanese house and godown loss on resale yen 1,000.

8. Nakajimaya Gosli Kaisha and loss on coal contracts and also on account of non-fulfilment of running contracts, as far as I know the losses amount to yen 35,000.

9. Japanese Consignments. Those are losses made on goods shipped and which sold for less than the advance I made against them, yen 5,000.

10. Japanese coal mine. Certain work has been done and I think the outlay will now probably also be lost, and must therefore be written off as a loss, viz. yen 20,000.

11. Furs. I experienced considerable loss on these goods owing to the excessive fluctuations of the London market. I cannot state the actual loss incurred until final accounts are received by me.

12. Goods in London. Through Ahrens & Co.'s action the goods in the hands of C. E. Leopold & Co. will also show considerable loss and I can only state amount on receipt of final accounts which are now being made up in London by chartered accountants. The losses on Nos. 11 & 12 will perhaps amount to yen 100,000, but I cannot say until accounts are closed. All the foregoing pages are to the best of my belief true. I however, made up everything from my head without any date, and there may be mistakes and discrepancies.

(Signed) C. E. LEOPOLD.

Yokohama, 20th Feb., 1899.

That is the statement, gentlemen.

Mr. Lowder—Before applying for the adjudication of the debtor a bankrupt I would state that in the proof tendered on behalf of the Chartered Bank for yen 49,000 odd, the judgment is returned there as a security and 30,000 yen has been assessed as the value of that security. Now, there may be a question as to whether the judgment is a security or not, but, dropping that question, under Rule 10 of the Bankruptcy Act of 1883, I now, on behalf of the Chartered Bank, surrender that security, if it be a security, to you, the Official Receiver, for the general benefit of the creditors, and apply to prove for the whole debt instead of the difference between the two.

Mr. Lowder read the Rule referred to, and continued—It is for this reason that I asked you not to fill in the amount just now.

The Official Receiver—Yes, Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder—That is the application I have to make.

The Official Receiver—That must be granted as a matter of course. It makes things very much simpler for me.

Mr. Lowder—I apply then on behalf of the Chartered Bank, for whom I appear, and also on behalf of Athens & Co., for whom I appear also. I propose a resolution that the debtor be adjudged a bankrupt.

There being no objection taken the resolution was adopted.

The Official Receiver—Then the debtor is declared a bankrupt.

Mr. Lowder—I would appear from the statement we have just listened to that the assets do not exceed £300 and I do not propose, under these circumstances, for the moment, to offer a resolution for the appointment of a trustee. I take it that the Official Receiver will act in that capacity.

The Official Receiver—That is so until another Trustee is appointed.

Mr. Lowder—Now, it is always useful for the Official Receiver to have assistance in these matters and therefore I would propose a resolution for the appointment of a Committee of Inspection from among the creditors qualified to vote. It is the more necessary, I think, in this case, because the statement which has been made by the debtor is extremely unsatisfactory. That is to say, the official statement, and the creditors have had no opportunity whatever of inspecting the books which are now produced. I think for these two reasons, it would be advisable that a Committee of Inspection be appointed.

The Official Receiver assenting, after some discussion, the following Committee was appointed: The Accountant, or Sub-Accountant of the Chartered Bank, and Messrs. Schmiedeknecht, of Messrs. Athens & Co., and Sawada.

Mr. Lowder—In one of the Board of Trade questions put to the debtor he was asked whether he was in partnership with anybody and I took the answer to be "no," but that he wished to add an explanation.

The Official Receiver—He said that he would explain further if the creditors wished him to give further information on that point, because "no" may be misleading as it only partially answers the question and if you wish that answer extended he is prepared to do so.

Mr. Lowder—I wish all the information that he is prepared to give.

The question and answer being read to the debtor the latter said: I was in partnership with no Europeans. That was the reason of my answer "no," and I believe a partnership with Japanese is not legal. Mr. Kidoyle was my partner in the Phoenix Sawmills and we dissolved partnership in the beginning of 1898. I think that business resulted in a heavy loss. There was no partnership deed drawn up; I simply held a mortgage on all the moveables of the whole of the Phoenix Sawmills which covered all buildings, machinery and material. Uyeda Yoshizo was also in a somewhat similar position. There was no deed—there was an agreement drawn up, but not a legal one as far as I am acquainted with the law. That is all I can reply to that, sir.

The Official Receiver—Is that satisfactory, Mr. Lowder?

Mr. Lowder—Without answering that question I should like to ask another one. The debtor has referred in his statement to his London firm and I wish to know the names of the partners in that firm.

The Debtor—There is no partnership deed drawn up for that firm either. The name was C. E. Leopold & Co., and my brother acted in London, but there was no actual partnership at all existing.

Mr. Lowder—Then I understand the firm to have consisted of the debtor? Is that so?

The Debtor—I have considered myself liable as I have admitted all liability in connection with that firm.

Mr. Lowder—That is not the question I asked, Mr. Official Receiver. The question was of whom did that firm consist and who was the partner, or who were the partners of that firm in London?

The Debtor—I was proprietor but I never figured in London myself.

The Official Receiver—Could we not get some information as to how the profits were divided?

The Debtor—There was no partnership drawn up, and I considered myself liable for all the liabilities of the firm.

Mr. Lowder—And the firm then consisted of the debtor?

The Debtor—Yes, under the circumstances I presume that was so, but my brother has assumed liability and has been sued for some of the debts.

Mr. Lowder—That is an evasive answer.

The Debtor—I do not want to give an evasive answer, but that there was no partnership drawn up, and that I consider myself liable.

The Official Receiver—He says the firm in London consisted of himself only.

Mr. Lowder—That is all I want to know.

The Debtor—But the banks have sued him for some of the liabilities.

The Official Receiver—We do not want that. The Debtor—But I wish it to be put on record. The Official Receiver—Has any other creditor any question to put? (Addressing the debtor) If you like to see the answers that were given to these questions I will hand them to you.

The Debtor declined.

Mr. Lowder—As far as I am concerned I will reserve any other question for the public examination. I simply want explanations to-day.

The Official Receiver—Then as to section 121, as the assets are not likely to exceed £300.

Mr. Lowder—I think Mr. Official Receiver, perhaps if I might say so, you are hardly in a position yet to report that the property is not likely to exceed £300.

The Official Receiver—I do not say so. I am not in a position to say so.

Mr. Lowder—And I am not in a position to say whether the creditors I represent will wish to proceed under section 121 because of the exceeding scant information we have as to the value of the assets. Probably it would be premature to form any decision upon that point for the moment.

Mr. Walford—I think, moreover, it would be very inadvisable to proceed under section 121, because it would result in the abolition of the committee of inspection.

The Official Receiver—I do not think so.

Mr. Walford—It says there shall be no committee of inspection under section 121.

The Official Receiver—Does it say there shall be no committee of inspection?

Mr. Walford—Certainly, sub section 2.

The Official Receiver—But the Official Receiver at this present moment is not in a position to say whether the assets are likely to be under £300. That disposes of that question. There is nothing more before the meeting so far as I know. I think you have had it explained to you, and probably know better than I what ought to be done. I think perhaps the first meeting may be closed or adjourned *sine die*.

Mr. Lowder said he would hardly be prepared for the public examination by the 28th February, as it would be necessary to go through the books.

After some discussion, the debtor undertaking to make as complete a statement as possible with the books at his disposal, the proceedings terminated.

The Official Receiver then announced that the first meeting was closed and that the parties be notified in case of an extension of time being granted, for which he would apply to the Court.

In H.B.M.'s Court for Japan on Wednesday afternoon, a motion was made for adjudicating Charles Emil Leopold a bankrupt.

George Kircher proved service of a copy of the notice produced on the debtor, who said he did not think it desirable that he should be in attendance.

His Honour Judge Wilkinson—Let the order be made.

H.B.M.'S. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before His Honour Judge WILKINSON.
TUESDAY, February 21st.

THE KOBE INSURANCE CLAIM.

ENRAMBOY PARANY v. CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AND CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

This was the adjourned hearing of a claim by the plaintiff, a firm of Indian traders at Kobe, against the Companies for indemnity for loss by fire. Mr. H. C. Litchfield appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. J. F. Lowder for the China Fire Insurance Company; and Mr. A. B. Walford for the China Traders' Insurance Company.

The case had been adjourned to have the name of the China Traders' Insurance Company added to the cause as defendants.

Mr. Walford (to the Judge)—May I ask whether we are joined on the title of the action?

His Honour—Yes, it is quite understood that you are joined as one of the defendants.

Mr. Walford said he would like the China Traders' Company specifically added to the title of the action, as it might otherwise be highly inconvenient if the case should go to appeal.

His Honour—Let the amendment be made.

Mr. Walford—I think I ought to state now the position we intend to assume in this action. We admit that so far as the goods lost were not covered by the China Fire policy, we come under a liability to pay the loss, and that liability now continues, and before the commencement of this action we paid the plaintiff the amount which would be due from us if the China Fire were liable under their policy. I think that is all I need state.

Mr. Lowder said it would save time if he said now with reference to the purely technical defences that had been raised in paragraphs 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the answer to the petition, that these would not be relied upon as defences *per se*, but only in so far as the facts might be necessary to support the main defence. Of course he did this under instructions. There was another point. There was certain salvage that had been disposed of. The disposal of that salvage would not enter into the case one way or the other; it was without prejudice.

Mr. Walford—I agree as regards the salvage.

Mr. Lowder—I may also state that it will be unnecessary for the Court to go into the question of value of cotton destroyed, as the value has, I think, been agreed upon. That is to say, the value per bale has been agreed upon—at 19 yam per picul.

His Honour (to Mr. Walford)—Are you concerned in this?

Mr. Walford—I don't know anything about it; I don't think it affects us.

His Honour—Suppose you are liable—

Mr. Walford—I don't think I can say anything of that; if we are liable we consider we are liable for the value only stated in our policy. I don't think we are concerned in the market values. I don't think there is any objection to this.

His Honour—You don't think it necessary to go into questions of account?

Mr. Walford—I don't think so at all.

Mr. Litchfield said, in view of the admissions made, the question was narrowed down to firstly, whether the risk under policy 4377 attached or not; secondly, if it attached at any time was it a continuing valid policy at the time of the fire, 3rd March; and thirdly, as to the question of evidence, whether evidence would be admissible to explain or vary the terms of the policy. In connection with the third point he would refer his Honour to a case of *McKenzie v. Colson* bearing on the question. Mr. Litchfield read the case *in extenso*.

His Honour—I would like to call your attention to the case of *Corie v. Patton*.

Mr. Litchfield said that was a case of concealment of facts material to the issue of a marine policy, and it was decided that a slip might be looked at when the slip was the conclusion of the terms of the contract. He read the judgment at length. In the case of *Corie v. Patton* the terms of the slip and those of the policy coincided, and he contended in the present case the application referred to in the 4th paragraph of the answer to the petition for the transfer of the risk of the policy showed the wish of the plaintiff in having the terms of the policy changed, and the terms of transfer on the policy itself coincided with the terms of the application. Consequently as a completed contract on the policy of the 7th of February was the contract before the Court for its decision, and did not vary from the terms of the application, he submitted that what transpired between the plaintiffs and the China Fire Insurance Company in negotiating that policy was immaterial and inadmissible. Again, the defendants in their answer sought to add a restrictive clause limiting the scope of the policy.

His Honour said that the question had to be decided, but would it be convenient to decide it now?

Mr. Lowder said he was prepared to argue the question now, but would prefer to do so when a better foundation had been laid for the argument.

Mr. Walford said in making the admission he had made at the beginning of the proceedings he said the liability of his clients still continued. Of course the liability was lessened by what they had paid to the plaintiff. He would like that put on record.

His Honour assented.

Mr. Walford proceeded to say that though he should wish to adopt the argument of his learned friend and, when the proper time came, to extend it still he thought it was unnecessary to raise any argument on the question of rectification when no rectification had been claimed, and it could only be claimed by means of a counter-claim. Therefore perhaps he might defer for a moment discussing the question of rectification, for he had a great deal to say about it when the time came. The case of *McKenzie v. Colson* was distinguishable from this action inasmuch as those who sought rectification had a written document to support their case. When there was no document *parole* evidence was inadmissible.

His Honour—Evidence would be admissible on the ground of misrepresentation.

Mr. Walford—That is not claimed for.

His Honour—There is something claimed. The question is what is the claim in the fifth paragraph. What is your reading of that paragraph?

Mr. Walford—I say it is a rambling statement of facts which lead to nothing at all. It is demurrable and no evidence can be admitted in support

of it, I consider that we are entitled to have the paragraph struck out as disclosing no defence whatever.

His Honour said there was no doubt whatever that it was an arguable point, and his only consideration was whether it was best in the interest of all parties that they should now decide it—in which case he might have to take time to consider it—or whether it was better to go on. He was quite prepared, having made that suggestion, to carry it out.

Mr. Walford said he considered he should be greatly prejudiced in having this point not decided, for he saw no defence whatever. There was no misrepresentation claimed, and he did not think his learned friend would suggest any misrepresentation. If any evidence were taken his friend would be using that Court as a means of collecting information on which he might mould a case for which they might be totally unprepared. It was a way of fishing out information to use in a way he (Mr. Walford) might not be prepared for.

His Honour—You apply to have it struck out.

Mr. Walford—Yes, on the ground that it shows no defence.

An application was made by Mr. Litchfield at the commencement of the proceedings, but was adjourned because Mr. Lowder was taken by surprise. Now he cannot be taken by surprise.

His Honour—There was no actual application made to me. It was mentioned, but Mr. Lowder intimated that it would be more convenient for him to argue it later.

Mr. Lowder said if it would help his learned friend he might say he should not ask for rectification.

Mr. Walford—It would help me very much if my learned friend would say what he does ask for.

Mr. Lowder—In reply to that I may say generally that Paragraph 5 ought not to be cut out, because it does disclose a defence. The whole argument resolves itself into this, whether the statements made there are admissible in evidence. I should be better prepared to argue it later.

His Honour—I think Mr. Walford is entitled to have the point decided now.

Mr. Lowder—I think he ought to convince your Honour that there is good reason for striking it out.

His Honour—I think Mr. Walford has said quite enough to call for an answer from you.

Mr. Lowder—I should have to go into the whole point now instead of doing so when I have elicited certain facts which I require for my argument.

His Honour said he thought the point should be argued now.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin.

On resuming Mr. Lowder proceeded to argue against the striking out of the paragraph. He said if it had been intended to raise this question it should have been raised by demurrer, and he thought the application from Mr. Litchfield came with a very bad grace after the withdrawal of the purely technical defences and after the admission that was elicited as to the intention of the parties, when he admitted that the intention of the parties was as stated in paragraph 5 of the answer. He might say the same of counsel for the China Traders. The China Traders' Company was in no better position than the plaintiff himself; the plaintiff's case was his case; he stood or fell by the plaintiff's case, and therefore he could be in no better position.

Mr. Lowder proceeded to argue the point. He said the facts set out in the paragraph alleged that there was a mutual understanding as to the written application of the plaintiff and of what was intended by the transfer of the policy to cover a similar risk from a godown to the open, when in the latter place there might have arisen a possibility, which might not have existed in the godown, of a competition being set up between a fire and a marine policy. The words "a similar risk" needed elucidation under the circumstances. To put it shortly, there could be two questions—what was the risk in the godown, and what was the meaning of a similar risk on the Pier Company's wharf? He submitted that it would be perfectly in order for him to ask whether in the original policy the insurers accepted a risk of possible competition with marine offices, and that if not evidence was admissible to show that in transferring their liability they did not intend to increase their risk by accepting that competition. In other words if the original policy did not include that risk the transfer was not intended to include it. Then again evidence, he submitted, was admissible to show the rate payable on the goods in the godown and whether it was the same on the Pier. Anything, in fact, to show that what was called a similar risk was not and could not be construed as the same risk. He should submit that to add to the original risk the risk of coming into competition with a marine

policy involving the possibility of litigation was making the risk a much more onerous one. By "coming into competition with a marine policy," he meant a position in which the goods might incur the possibility of being regarded as under two policies—one marine and one a land policy—concurrently, involving the possibility of litigation between the two companies, as had happened in this case.

His Honour—Then I understand you want to adduce evidence that there was a mutual understanding between the insurers and the China Fire Insurance Company that the latter's policy was not to cover any goods coming under a marine policy?

Mr. Lowder—Yes. I will go so far as to say that if these goods were not covered by a marine policy we are liable. I have noted the issues to be argued by and by as follows. First, the intention of my clients and the plaintiff was to cover only such risks as were not covered by marine policies; secondly, was the risk a question covered by the marine policies? Arising out of the first question is the point whether I am to be allowed to give this evidence as to the intention of the parties.

Mr. Lowder proceeded to argue the point in detail, quoting authorities and dealing with the arguments of the other side. The whole argument, and his Honour's frequent interpellations, were of a highly technical nature, and to reproduce them would not add to readers' information.

The Court at the conclusion of Mr. Lowder's speech adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22nd.

The hearing of this case was continued, counsel appearing as before.

Mr. Lowder continued his argument at some length, saying that he relied on an unintentional misrepresentation on the part of the plaintiff to the China Fire Insurance Company to the effect that there were no other policies on the goods insured.

Mr. Walford, in reply, pointed out that the China Fire agent asked the agent of Pabany if there were any other policies, and he replied that perhaps there were and perhaps there were not, he could not say. If the China Fire agent had required more particular information he should have obtained it.

Mr. Lowder—That is not in evidence.

His Honour pointed out to Mr. Lowder that he thought paragraph 5 of the answer to the petition was totally inconsistent with the defence just set up. He (the learned Judge) thought the two statements would not hang together at all. One statement was that the plaintiff represented that the cargo was not covered by a marine policy against fire, and paragraph 5 of the answer to the petition stated that plaintiff represented that some was and some was not.

Mr. Lowder said if necessary he would ask to amend paragraph 5 to allow that argument, for it was certainly intended to include the whole question.

A long legal argument ensued, at the end of which Mr. Walford said he understood that all question of the China Fire having been mist as to past facts was now cleared away.

His Honour assented, remarking that he could not let that be set up in face of the statements in paragraph 5.

Mr. Walford then applied for the paragraph to be struck out.

His Honour said he had decided first to hear evidence, and he would then hear Mr. Walford's argument as to its admissibility. He would take note of Mr. Walford's objection. He would hear evidence in reference to paragraph 5 and nothing else.

Mr. Walford said he thought his Honour must be convinced that paragraph 5 did not disclose any defence, and that it was not in accordance with any rules of pleading. He therefore thought the first thing was that paragraph 5 should be struck out.

His Honour said without deciding whether the paragraph should be struck out he would hear evidence in support of it, without any prejudice.

Mr. Walford asked if the defence could be amended so as to show the allegation of a collateral agreement which was now put forward.

Mr. Lowder said he thought it was already indicated in the paragraph.

His Honour dissented.

Mr. Lowder—Then I will alter it in order to meet your Honour's suggestion.

After further discussion it was decided to amend the paragraph so as to read: "The defendant company says that it was then and there agreed by the parties that the transfer of the policy as requested by the plaintiff should be construed to protect against fire only such goods on the Pier as might not be protected against fire

by a marine policy or policies or in respect of which the fire clause of the marine policy or policies might have expired."

Mr. Walford—Of course I am understood to demur to this, your Honour.

His Honour said he would now take evidence on the statements in the paragraph.

Mr. Lowder asked whether the witnesses were to be regarded as witnesses for the plaintiff or for the China Traders.

His Honour said the plaintiff was indifferent as to the result; it was no matter to him which defendant lost, since the defendants agreed that he should be indemnified in any case. He thought therefore the witness should be open to cross-examination on both sides.

Mr. Lowder said he had understood that the plaintiff's case was also the China Traders' Company's.

His Honour suggested that Mr. Walford might explain.

Mr. Walford said they contended that the China Fire policy attached to the goods, and they had a clause in their policy which, they contended, exempted them from all liability until the China Fire had discharged its liability.

Rohmtulla Vasey, agent for the plaintiff, was then called, and examined by Mr. Litchfield. On the 25th, February, 1898, witness received 500 bales of cotton *ex steamer Maria Valeris*. On the same day he received 500 bales from the *Idzumi Maru*. The whole of the former were landed before the fire, and 337 bales of the latter. He had not taken delivery at the time of the fire. After the fire he sent in a claim to the China Traders' Company, but received a letter repudiating all liability and referring him to the China Fire Company. On February 7th witness wrote to the China Fire asking them to transfer the risk on policy 4377, originally covering goods in a godown at Ono to the Pier Company's wharf at Kobe. He had then ceased to store goods at Ono.

Mr. Litchfield then put in a quantity of correspondence, which was admitted on both sides.

Witness, continuing his evidence, spoke of an interview he had with Mr. Teveson, a member of the staff of the agents of the China Fire Insurance Company. This was before the fire occurred. Mr. Teveson came to see him about transferring the risk. Teveson said he could not take the risk. Witness explained that the goods which were coming by the steamers were covered by a marine policy; he said some marine policies had no clause for fire, and others had a fire clause for a short period while the goods were remaining on the wharf. Mr. Teveson returned to his office to report the matter to the agents, and after that witness received a policy endorsed with the agents' names.

Mr. Lowder—Mr. Teveson before he returned consented to issue a policy on these terms.

Witness—No, he said he would report to the agents, and if they consented a policy would be issued.

The Court at this point adjourned.

On resuming, Mr. Lowder proceeded to cross-examine at length. Witness said he was not in the habit of insuring goods in two offices twice over. The letter produced was a press copy of one written by witness to the China Traders' Company. Mr. Lowder read the letter, which pointed out that the first and entire responsibility for the payment rested with the China Traders' Company, and whatever arrangement they might make as to the China Fire Company bearing a portion of the loss did not concern him (witness). He had corresponded with the China Fire as a matter of courtesy, but he could not continue the negotiations.

Witness said he wrote that under the impression that the China Traders' Company was liable, but he was afterwards informed that the other company was liable also. The letters produced were written to the China Fire Insurance Company at the request of the China Traders' Company. They were written by witness, from the draft of a legal gentleman. Up to the 7th March, 4 days after the fire, he had not made any claim on the China Fire Company. During that time he had sent in a claim to the China Traders' Company.

Mr. Lowder was about to put to witness a letter written on his behalf by Mr. C. N. Cross to the China Traders' Company, dated March 15th, when

Mr. Walford objected on the ground that the production of further correspondence between the parties was inadmissible.

His Honour said that every possible liberty should be given in cross-examination, and was inclined to overrule the objection, but after examining the letter he said he did not think it would be one that could be allowed to go before a jury.

Mr. Lowder said he intended to attempt to put in other correspondence, and this was a link. He

called for a letter of the 13th April, to the China Traders' Company, enclosing a claim for ¥24,700 55.

Mr. Walford again objected on the ground that the correspondence was irrelevant.

The Judge, after looking at the letter, said he thought the correspondence was of very little value to the case—extremely little value. It might perhaps be taken down that Mr. Crosse applied for the whole amount of the claim.

Mr. Walford—Probably he did. Yes, he did. I admit that.

This fact only was therefore noted.

Mr. Lowder called for a letter from Mr. Garfit, agent of the China Traders, of the 15th April.

Mr. Walford said he should be pleased to let His Honour see it, but he objected to its going in.

His Honour—As it is objected to, Mr. Lowder, I must take the objection and consider it.

Mr. Lowder—I must insist upon my right of putting this letter in.

Mr. Lowder argued at length in favour of the admission of the letter, and said he only desired to put it in as leading up to the next.

His Honour—Let me see the next.

The letter was handed in.

After examining it His Honour said Mr. Lowder might put any questions he wished as a foundation for the introduction of the letter, and after that he could argue the question of admissibility.

Witness, in reply to questions, said he received the letter (produced) from Mr. Garfit and after reading it instructed Mr. Crosse to reply. He did not see Mr. Crosse's reply.

His Honour said he would reserve the question of the admissibility of the letters.

Mr. Lowder called for other letters, and the same objection was taken.

Mr. Walford—I don't see why the China Fire correspondence should be made public in this manner.

Mr. Lowder—We are not addressing the public but this Court; I don't see why you should attribute such a motive to us.

Examination continued—Between the 3rd and 7th March witness had various conversations with the China Fire agents. He made a claim for some saffron flour. That was the only claim he made up to March 7th, and he should not have brought the present claim with regard to the cotton if he had not been advised that the China Traders were not liable. It was in consequence of advice that he brought that action.

Mr. Lowder—Now I am going to ask if the China Traders, when they paid part of the witness's claim, made it a condition that the witness should bring the present action.

Mr. Walford objected, but His Honour ruled that the question might be put.

The witness said it was paid on condition that the China Traders should be exempt from any action until the liability of the China Fire Company was determined. It was also a condition that the case should go to appeal if judgment were given adversely to the China Traders. He was also to be refunded taxed costs, and interest on the balance of the claim.

By Mr. Walford—He thought the position as to the insurance was that the China Traders must pay him, and then they must claim from the China Fire. Witness meant to leave all that to the China Traders. Before the arrangement was made by the China Traders witness had intended to sue both companies.

Mr. Litchfield—That closes the plaintiff's case. His Honour—Out of respect for the memory of the late President of the French Republic, I propose to adjourn over to-morrow, when the memorial service will be held, and will sit again on Friday morning. I am prepared to go on now.

Mr. Lowder then called Mr. Teverson, in the employ of the agents for the China Fire Insurance Company. He said he remembered application being made for policy 4377. He went to see the last witness, and told him he was afraid he could not make the transfer requested. If it was for one or two nights only witness might possibly oblige him. He replied that he wished the policy transferred to cover goods that were coming forward, or that might be coming forward. Witness enquired if his marine insurance policy did not cover these goods. Mr. Vasey replied "In most cases, but not all." Witness further enquired if there was not a stamped clause on the marine policy covering the risk of fire at the Haikuba. Mr. Vasey replied "Yes, in some cases, but not all; I can show you." Witness asked him not to trouble. He enquired if Mr. Vasey wished the policy transferred to cover goods which had not this clause stamped on or printed on, or if the allotted time allowed by the Marine Insurance policy had expired. Mr. Vasey replied "Yes." Wit-

ness then returned to the office and consulted his senior, after which the endorsement was made and the policy returned to Mr. Vasey. On the morning of the fire Mr. Vasey said he did not think he had any claim against the China Fire, but he was not quite sure. Witness called again in the afternoon, and Vasey said he would have a small claim to make for saffron flour. He said that his other goods were covered by marine policies. The witness was cross-examined by Mr. Walford, but nothing of much importance was elicited.

William Duran Stuart Edwards, in the employ of the agents of the China Fire Insurance Company, was next called, and only asked a few formal questions by Mr. Lowder.

In answer to Mr. Walford he said it would not be usual in insurance business to cover goods from places as far apart as Bombay and Kobe with one policy. Witness remembered having interviews with Mr. Crosse, but very little was said as to the details of the case, witness only telling him that he had referred the matter to Hongkong.

By Mr. Lowder—Witness remembered seeing Mr. Vasey after the fire, and he said he thought the cotton was covered by marine policies. He also brought a marine insurance policy issued by the North China Insurance Company to verify his claim for some saffron flour as showing that the fire risk at the wharf was not covered under that policy. Witness suggested that Mr. Teverson should go to the Wharf to inspect the saffron flour. He promised he should do all in his power to settle a claim very might have.

Mr. Lowder—That is the case for the defence, my lord.

The Court then rose.

DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKYO.)

Paris, 17th & 18th Feb.

M. Félix Faure, President of the French Republic, died suddenly on the evening of the 16th of February from a stroke of apoplexy. His Excellency was working in his study at 6 p.m. when he felt some symptoms of indisposition, and summoned assistance. M. Le Gall, Chief of his Private Cabinet, at once gave all possible succour, and physicians were speedily summoned. But in spite of all medical efforts the President became unconscious at about 8 o'clock, and expired two hours later, surrounded by his family and the Ministers of the Cabinet.

Profound emotion has been caused throughout the country by this sad event. Perfect quiet reigns, however, in Paris and the Provinces. Numerous telegrams of condolence are arriving from all foreign countries and sovereigns, notably from His Majesty the Emperor of Germany.

The State funeral will take place on the 23rd instant.

A Congress for the election of M. Faure's successor will be summoned at Versailles on the 19th instant.

NEW PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH.

Saigon, Feb. 19th, 1899.

M. Emile Loubet, President of the Senate, was elected, yesterday, President of the French Republic on the first ballot, the Congress sitting in Versailles, by 481 votes to 270 for M. Meline, who had declined to be a candidate.

The sitting of the Congress was without incident.

DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE PRESIDENT.

Saigon, Feb. 21.

Hostile demonstrations took place again yesterday evening in Paris, but were not of a very serious character. About 100 arrests were made. Everything is quiet to-day.

CONDOLENCES.

Telegrams of condolence have been received from all Sovereigns and Chiefs of States.

Mr. Balfour and Lord Salisbury in the English Parliament, and Prince Hohenlohe in the German, delivered eulogies on M. Felix Faure and expressed sympathy with France.

The Italian Chamber suspended their sitting in token of respect.

MOURNING.

The Cabinet has decided that French officials shall observe mourning for 30 days from the 17th February.

M. LOUBET'S CAREER.

M. Emile Loubet—born 1838. Doctor of Law. Maire of the city of Montelimar. Elected deputy 1876; reelected, 1877 and 1881. Senator 1885.

Minister of Public Works in the Tirard Cabinet, 1887.

Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, 1892.

President of the Senate from 1895; which office he has held up to the present time.

Elected President of the Republic 19th Feb., 1899.

THE INAUGURAL MESSAGE.

Saigon, Feb. 22.

The Message of President Loubet, read to the Chambers, says that the regularity with which power was transferred proves the fidelity of France to the Republican form of Government. At a moment when some thoughtless persons seek to disturb the confidence of the country in its institutions, the Message insists upon the necessary of sobriety and union on the part of the citizens, and on the necessity of respecting the essential organs of society, namely, Parliament, the Magistracy, the Government, and the National Army. The Message concludes by recalling the work of the Republic, which has secured liberty and peace; which has founded a great colonial empire, and which has attained for France an alliance and precious friendships. (The Message was received with applause.)

EUROPEAN DELEGATES TO M. FAURE'S FUNERAL.

Saigon, Feb. 23.

The Delegates of all the Sovereigns and Governments of Europe, to attend the obsequies of the late M. Faure, have arrived at Paris.

M. Loubet, the new President, will also attend the funeral rites.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND THE PRESS.

The majority of the press is satisfied with the President's Message to the National Congress.

CONDOLENCE FROM JAPAN.

H.I.M. the Emperor of Japan sent a telegram of condolence to the French Government on Monday.

The following appears in *Men of the Time*:—Faure, François Felix, President of the French Republic, was of Protestant descent, although personally he was a Catholic, and was born in Paris on January 30th, 1841. He was a self-made man, and began life as a journeyman tanner in Touraine, but eventually became a shipowner in Havre, where for some time he was President of the local Chamber of Commerce. During the Franco-German War he was at the head of a detachment of volunteers, and brought supplies from Havre

to Paris in aid of those burnt out by the Commune. At the election of August 2nd, 1881, he presented himself as a parliamentary candidate in the third *circonscription* of Havre, and was elected as a Republican by 5,876 votes as against 5,675 polled by M. Le Vaillant du Douët, his Monarchist opponent. In the cabinet formed by Gambetta on Nov. 14th, 1881, Felix Faure was Under Secretary of State to the new Ministry of Commerce and the Colonies. He went out of office with the other members of the Government in January, 1882, but was recalled to the same post in M. Jules Ferry's last cabinet, formed in September, 1883. He retired with his colleagues in March, 1885. Subsequently, as one of the chiefs of the group of the Republican Union, he often spoke on colonial questions, and was understood to be an authority on the Chinese, Japanese, and kindred questions. At the election of October, 1885, M. Felix Faure was returned as a Republican for the Seine-Inférieure, and for the third time occupied his old post at the Colonial Ministry in the Tirard Cabinet (January 5th, 1888, to the following February). At the elections of September, 1889, he was returned for the second division of Havre, beating his Monarchist opponent, M. Anselme, by a large majority. In the Deputy government he was Minister of Marine, and in this capacity showed a reforming spirit. On January 17th, 1895, he was elected, on a second ballot to the Presidency of the French Republic, rendered vacant by the sudden retirement of M. Casimir-Perier. At the first ballot M. Brisson was returned by an insufficient majority, and, when this was announced, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, another candidate for the Presidency, retired in favour of his fellow-moderate, M. Faure, who was elected by 430 votes, as against 361 given to M. Brisson. M. Faure was a Government, or moderate, republican of M. Perier's point of view, and he filled a difficult position with a great deal of tact.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")
SAMOA.

London, Feb. 17.
The Australian papers are advocating a protectorate over the Samoa Islands by Great Britain in order to secure the pacification of the islands.

DEATH OF JUSTICE CHITTY.

Lord Justice Chitty is dead.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

The Bill regarding the Nicaragua Canal is not to be discussed in the present session of Congress.

DEATH OF PRESIDENT FAURE.

London, Feb. 18.

M. Felix Faure, President of the French Republic, is dead.

BIG FIRE IN MELBOURNE.

A warehouse in Melbourne belonging to a tea trader named Henry has been burnt down. It contained 500,000 lbs. of tea.

THE LOST "PAVONIA" AND "BULGARIA."

The search for the steamer *Pavonia* and the German steamer *Bulgaria* has been unsuccessful.

CANADA AND THE U.S.

The International Committee on questions between the United States and Canada has come to a deadlock, and the sittings will probably be suspended.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

PEACE TREATY RATIFIED.

London, Feb. 16.

Intelligence from Washington states that a resolution has been adopted declar-

ing the ratification of the Treaty of Peace. This does not imply the permanent annexation of the Philippines, but is intended to prepare the islands for self-government.

LEAGUE "PARTIE FRANCAISE."

The *Partie Francaise* League has sent invitations to all the officers in the army to join the league.

THE CHINA QUESTION.

Mr. W. St. John Brodrick (Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office) has promised that a voluminous Blue-book will shortly be issued in connection with affairs in China.

ANGLO-AMERICAN CANADIAN CONFERENCE.

London, Feb. 17.

The collapse of the negotiations of the Anglo-American Commission concerning Canadian affairs is apprehended momentarily, owing to the unwillingness of the Americans to grant (commercial or tariff) reciprocity.

NEW PRESIDENT OF FRANCE.

London, Feb. 20.

M. Loubet, President of the Senate, has been elected President of France, obtaining 483 votes, while M. Meline, the only other candidate, obtained 270.

THE S.S. "PAVONIA" SAFE.

The *Pavonia* has been safely towed to the Azores islands.

SUPPORTERS OF THE NEW PRESIDENT OF FRANCE.

London, Feb. 20.

In the presidential election, M. Loubet was supported by the Radicals and Dreyfusites, and M. Meline by the Moderates and Anti-Dreyfusites.

BEAUREPAIRE ATTACKS M. LOUBET.

PANAMA SCANDAL REVIVED.

In a newspaper article of Saturday, ex-Judge Beaurepaire violently attacked M. Loubet accusing him, when Premier, of shielding Baron Reinach from the Panama prosecution.

DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE NEW PRESIDENT.

M. Loubet's return to Paris was marked by hostile demonstrations, in which were heard shouts of "Panama."

M. Deroulede harangued the mob, and invited a great demonstration against the present régime on the occasion of the funeral of the late President Faure. Disturbances continued until after midnight, resulting in 46 injured and 250 arrests.

ANTI-DREYFUSITE PAPERS ATTACK M. LOUBET.

Anti-Dreyfusite papers denounce the election as a public misfortune, charging M. Loubet with mediocrity and of being tainted with the Panama Scandal. Moderate journals and revisionists, on the other hand, eulogize M. Loubet's uprightness, preaching union and pacification.

ANNUITY FOR LORD KITCHENER.

Rt. Hon. Sir M. Hicks-Beach has submitted in the House of Commons a motion to vote £30,000 to purchase an annuity for Gen. Lord Kitchener.

RENEWED DEMONSTRATIONS IN PARIS.

London, February 21.

There were renewed demonstrations in Paris on Sunday evening. The mob smashed the windows of the Rothschild Bank and of several newspaper offices, a hundred arrests were made.

THE FRENCH NATION GENERALLY SATISFIED.

The English newspaper correspondents in Paris believe that the demonstrations are largely by paid rowdies, and that the country in general is satisfied with the presidential election.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Saigon, Feb. 21.

There has been a serious railway accident in Belgium. Thirty persons were killed and a hundred wounded.

THE KHEDIVE'S HEIR.

London, Feb. 22.

The Khedive's son has been proclaimed heir.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMISSION ADJOURNED.

The Anglo-American Commission has failed to arrive at an agreement, and has adjourned till midsummer.

NEW COMMANDER OF GARRISON AT SINGAPORE.

Colonel Dickson, commanding cavalry at Colchester, has been appointed Commander of the Garrison at Singapore.

BRITISH ARMY ESTIMATES.

The Army Estimates have been issued. They show an increase of 1,091,700 sterling and an increase of 7,493 men, exclusive of India.

A large scheme of the re-armament of defences at home and abroad has been prepared in concert with the naval authorities.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN MUSCAT.

London, Feb. 22.

The Sultan of Muscat, yielding to the British Admiral's threat of bombardment, has cancelled the grant of a coaling station to France. The French Consul has protested.

THE DISCOVERY OF ANDREE DISCREDITED.

Russian researches discredit the alleged discovery of Andree.

ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN ADOPTED.

The House of Commons has adopted the Address to the Queen without division.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Sir George Bowen.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. & O. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	F. Feb. 24
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Caledonia	F. Feb. 24
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	China	Sa. Feb. 26
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Kohila	M. Feb. 27
America	P. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Mar. 2
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Mar. 4
America	P. & O. Co.	America Maru	Sa. Mar. 27
Canada, Ac.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	Th. Mar. 23
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Mar. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Mar. 25
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	Th. Mar. 25

- 1 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.
- 2 Left Kobe on the 23rd inst.
- 3 Left Shanghai on the 2nd inst.
- 4 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
- 5 Left San Francisco on the 25th Feb.
- 6 Left San Francisco on the 2nd Feb.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Canada, Ac.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	F. Feb. 24
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Sa. Feb. 25
America	P. & O. Co.	China	Tu. Feb. 26
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Caledonia	W. Mar. 2
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	F. Mar. 3
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Mar. 3
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Kohila	W. Mar. 5
America	P. & O. Co.	Doric	W. Mar. 8
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Km. of China	M. Mar. 23
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	M. Mar. 23
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W. Mar. 25
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Mar. 27

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 408.

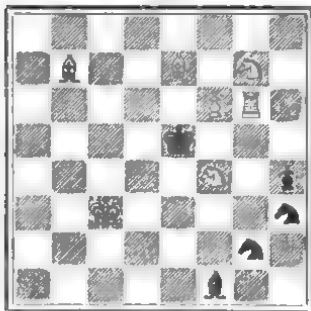
WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to Kt 4. 1—B takes Q
2—Q takes Q Kt P. 2—K takes R
3—B to Q 3 mate if 2—Any other
3—R to R 5 mate
2—R takes Q Kt P ch 1—K to Kt 2
3—R to Q 8 mate 2—K to Kt sq
3—R takes Q P mate if 2—K to B 2
etc., etc.

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., and Marco.

PROBLEM No. 411.

By B. G. LAWS.

(Has the reputation of being artistic.)
BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 481.

A specimen of Lasker's play in a simultaneous performance at Basingstoke.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—E. Lasker.		Black—F. C. Bird.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	20 R x P	Q B2
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	21 Kt B5	R KB3
3 B QKt5	Kt RB3	22 P KR3	Q B8ch(e)
4 Castles	K x P	23 K R2	Rt B4
5 P Q4	B K2	24 Q Ksq	Q x Q
6 Q K2	Kt Q3	25 R Q5	B Bsq
7 BxKt	Kt PxKt	26 N R4(f)	Kt Q2
8 P x P	Kt Kt2	27 R QR4	P QR3
9 Kt B3	Castles	28 Kt P	BxKt
10 Kt Q4	Q B4	29 R x B	R B7
11 B K3	Q Ksq	30 R x P	R x P
12 P B4(e)	P Q3	31 R x P	R x P
13 Kt Kt3	BxKt(h)	32 P QR4	R QB7
14 Q x B	P B3(c)	33 P R5	Kt K5
15 QR Ksq	BP x P	34 P R6	R x Kt
16 P x P	R x Rch	35 P R7	R R7
17 R x R	B Q2(d)	36 R B8.h	K B2
18 R K-q	P x P	37 P R8=Q	R resigns
19 Q Kt3	Kt Q3	38 R x R	

Notes by Mr. Hoffer.

(a) Lasker, in "Common Sense in Chess," says to this move—White has, to a certain extent, compromised himself with the advance of the K B P. Why does he advance it then himself? It should also be mentioned that White has a better variation at his disposal earlier with 10—R to K sq, as played by Pillsbury against Tarrach in the second game of the tie-match in Vienna.

(b) Black does not follow "Common Sense" any further, because 13—B to Kt 3 is given as correct.

(c) The utmost that Black can hope for now is a draw. Consequently, he might have played at once 14—P takes P, 15—P takes P, B to K3, leaving White an isolated Pawn to compensate somewhat for his own inferior Pawn position.

(d) Here, again, he could have simplified matters with 17—Q takes P; 18—Q takes Q, P takes Q; 19—R to K sq. B to Q 2; 20—R takes P, R to Q sq, &c.

(e) Even now there is not much harm done. He might play 22—B to B sq, and wait events.

(f) A strong move, the Rook being all powerful against the isolated Pawns on the Queen's side. The ending, beginning with the next move, is pretty and instructive.

Game No. 482.

TENTH GAME.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Janowsky.		Black—Showalter.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	23 P x B	P x P
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	24 R x KBP	R Kt-q(g)
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	25 K R-q	P OR4
4 Castles	K x P	26 K x KP	K B q
5 P Q4	Kt Q3(a)	27 R B7	R K-q(h)
6 P x P(h)	K x B	28 R4	Kt Q2
7 P QR4	P Q3	29 R x KR	R K4
8 P R6(c)	P x P	30 R Q4	Kt B4(i)
9 P x Kt	Kt Kt q	31 K x Kt	K x Kt
10 Kt Kt5	B K2	32 R Q-q	P R5(k)
11 Q R5ch	P KKt3	33 P K6	P x P
12 Q R6	B B-q	34 R KB q	R K-q
13 Q R3	Q Q2	35 R(B-q)	
14 Kt Q B3	B Kt2		R R3
15 B Q2	P K4(d)	36 R Q K7(f) P	R6(m)
16 Kt Q5	Q Q	37 R(K7) B7	
17 P x Q	R Q2(e)		ch K Q q
18 P KB4	P K5(f)	38 R Q7ch	K B-q
19 B B3	B x B	39 R(Q7) B7	
20 P x B	P K3		ch K Q q
21 P B5	B K2	40 R Q7ch	K Bsq
22 P B4	B Kt1	41 Drawn game	

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny.

(a) The usual play is B to K2, and if White moves Q to K2 then Kt to Q3. In recent contests, however, the text move is given preference.

(b) B takes Kt, followed by P takes P and Q takes Q ch, is perhaps the best continuation.

(c) The text move is a novelty. If Black answers B takes K P then P takes Kt, and eventually Kt to Q4 and P to KB4 R to K-q, etc., may follow, White obtaining a promising attack.

(d) P to Q B3 might have been played first, so as to prevent White from Kt to Q5. This, however, would have weakened Black's Q P.

(e) He could not otherwise guard against the threatening Kt takes P ch, winning the exchange.

(f) He could not play P takes P, for R takes P and eventually Q to K B sq follow, White threatening R to B7 ch, with a winning position. Nor could he move P to Q B3; White answers Kt to Kt 6 ch or P takes P and R to B7 ch. The latter play would have followed if Black had moved P to K R3. The text move was evidently Black's best play. His KB is now in no danger, since he may play B to Q5 ch.

(g) Better perhaps was P to Q R4 at once. The Rook was better placed at R-q than at Kt-q.

(h) More aggressive, perhaps, was P to R5.

(i) He could not play P to B5 on account of R to R8 ch, R takes R and R takes P ch.

(k) K to Kt2 was not any better. The move selected makes the Q R P quite dangerous. White, however, enforces a draw by a neat sacrifice of a Pawn.

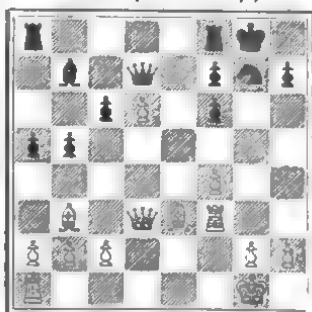
(l) To prevent Black from playing K to Kt sq and K to R sq.

(m) He could not escape the perpetual check.

END GAME.

Position in a simultaneous game played by Lasker at the Schiller Club, Manchester.

BLACK.—(Mr. Brodsky.)



WHITE.—(Mr. E. Lasker.)

The game concluded as follows.—

WHITE.	BLACK.
R to Kt3	P to R5
B to Q4	Q takes P
P to B3	P takes B
Q to B5	B to Bsq
R takes Kt ch	K takes R
Q to Kt5 ch, and wins.	

NOTES.

A Roman edict of 125 B. C. condemning games of chance exempted chess. Chess is mentioned in Homer's *Odyssey*—

At chess they vie to captivate the Queen.

Here is a verse from the ancient poet, Iun ul Mutaz:—

"O thou, whose cynic sneers express
The censure of our favourite chess
Know that its skill is science self,
Its play distraction from distress;
It soothes the anxious lover's care;
It weans the drunkards from excess
It counsels warriors in their art,
When dangers threat and perils press:
And yields us, when we need them most,
Companions in our loneliness."

Mr. Bird, in his "Chess History and Reminiscences," gives a diagram showing the position of placing the pieces in Chiaranga 3,000 B.C. This is taken from an old manuscript, written about 2,000 years before the period of Alexander the Great, which states that King Pandu's eldest son asked a wise counsellor of his father's to explain to him the game "that is played on the eight times eight square board." Vyasa, the counsellor, then explained to him the game and the position of the pieces; from which Mr. Bird has made his diagram.

The question of the standard number of moves for a perfect Chess Problem, notwithstanding the popularity of the three-mover, is still an open one, and the four-move tourney instituted by the *British Chess Magazine* will be watched with interest by all lovers of problems of the deeper kind. Lloyd, the well-known American composer, looks upon three moves as the standard, and says he has seldom seen a theme which could not be expressed better in three than in more moves. There are many, however, who consider that a first-rate four-mover approximates more closely to perfection, whilst it is scarcely open to doubt that a whole bookful of problems in that number of moves could be compiled, anyone of which would be utterly spoiled by the amputation of a move. In still longer stratagems the difficulty of achieving striking excellence on the basis of a genuine theme is very great and, if effected, is likely to cost too much time and labour both in composition and solution.

To show how far reaching is chessic fame:—Buckle once, on a visit in Italy, went to a café, where chess was played, and was immediately challenged to a game. "For a lira?" asked the Italian. "As you like," responded Buckle. "For two, three, or you might prefer five?" insisted the other. "Oh, a hundred, if you like," was Buckle's reply. Then, after a pause, his antagonist asked, "Please, what is your name?" The answer came "Buckle," to which the Italian exclaimed, "You are Signor Buckle? In that case I will not play you at all."

Chess Tactics.—If at the end of a game you have a slight inferiority of force, such as Knight, Bishop, and two Pawns, against Rook, Bishop, and two Pawns, you have generally, said the late George Walker, "a better chance of drawing by exchanging as much as possible than by the contrary mode of play, remembering to keep, however, one piece to sacrifice for Pawn or Pawns. The more pieces there are on the board the greater chance of winning is there for him who has the superior force. Therefore, when left with a surplus Pawn, or some other trifling advantage, do not be too eager to change off the pieces."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,048, F. D. Saunders, 17th Feb.,—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 15th Feb., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 17th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 11th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Autenor, British steamer, 3,327, M. H. T. Jackson, 18th February, —Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 17th Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. E. Filmer, 18th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 17th Feb., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, Nishimura, 19th Feb.,—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 18th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Wallace, 20th February, —London via ports, Kobe, 18th Feb., General.—Corney & Co.
Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 20th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 19th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Trieste, Austrian steamer, 3,203, A. Moiss, 21st Feb.,—Trieste via ports, Hongkong, 15th Feb., General.—Brown & Co.

Serbia, German steamer, 2,377, Ostermann, 22nd Feb.,—New York via ports, Shanghai, 17th Feb., General.—C. Illies & Co.
Silesia, German steamer, 3,138, S. Behrens, 22nd Feb.,—Hamburg via ports, Shanghai, 18th Feb., General.—C. Illies & Co.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 22nd Feb.,—B. Min Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 23rd Feb.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe 22nd Feb., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Woltersdorff, 17th Feb.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachf.
Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, J. Barber, 19th Feb.,—London via ports and Marseilles, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. E. Palmer, 19th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Robert Richmers, German 4-masted barque, 2,211, Rubarth, 21st February, —Bangkok, Ballast.—Captain.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, Watkins, 22nd Feb.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Antenor, British steamer, 3,327, M. H. T. Jackson, 22nd February, —London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Manila, British steamer, 2,711, R. L. Haddock, 22nd Feb.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 22nd Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 22nd Feb.,—Seattle, Wash., via Honolulu and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Serbia, German steamer, 2,377, Ostermann, 22nd Feb.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Trieste, Austrian steamer, 3,203, A. Mitts, 23rd Feb.,—Trieste via ports, General.—Browne & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer **Bombay**, from Bombay via ports:—Mr. A. W. G. McMillan, in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer **Saiko Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. C. R. Joy, Mr. W. Cwan, Mr. Geo. P. Corday, Mr. and Mrs. R. Yezoye, Masters R. and S. Yezoye, Misses K. and Y. Yezoye, Mrs. Saunders, and Mr. W. P. Mitchell, in cabin; Lieut. C. Yokochi, I.J.A., Mrs. K. Yokochi, and Mr. S. Anderson, in second class; 12 in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer **Hongkong Maru**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. B. E. Strasser, Mr. G. Pieter, and Mr. Dibrall, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. K. Yendo, Mr. S. Kawasaki, Miss J. A. Bunn, Mr. L. R. Sargent, U.S.N., Mr. G. H. Holden, Miss Ella Montgomery, Rev. F. P. Gilman, wife and family, and Rev. F. W. Houston, wife and family, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Beckman, and Sergt. K. J. Carey, U.S.N., in second class.
 Per Japanese steamer **Kinshiu Maru**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. O. Fishcer, in cabin; one Japanese, in steerage.
 Per British steamer **Empress of India** from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. T. Richardson, Mr. L. Block, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Benjamin, child and nurse, Mrs. Van Nierop, Mr. C. Rhodes, Mr. T. J. Kimmell, Mr. J. Reid, Capt. Fraser and valet, Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams and child, Mr. de Rutich, Mr. T. Grosser, Mr. W. Velling, Mr. S. Komar, and Mr. Abenheim, in cabin; 2 intermediate, and 159 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer **Hohensollern**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. L. Gardiner, Dr. Davies, Rev. T. T. Alexander, Rev. E. R. Wordman, Rev. C. E. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Schurr, Mr. Hayashikawa, Mr. N. Toriyama, Mr. E. Grosser, Mr. E. B. Abenheim, Mr. H. Bethell, Mr. H. Geslin, Mr. R. Seal, Mr. S. Argun, and Mr. A. S. Joosup, in cabin; 6 Chinese, on deck.
 Per Japanese steamer **Hongkong Maru**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Z. A. Bunn, Mr. Camillo Cerenti, Mr. T. R. Dewar, Mr. S. Frierich, Mr. S. Fujita, Rev. and Mrs. F. P. Gilman and family, Rev. and Mrs. T. H. Houston and family, Mr. G. H. Holden, Mr. K. S. Ishikawa, Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Imamoto, Mr. K. Inouye, Mr. G. Katada, Mr. S. Kawasaki, Miss Ella Montgomery, Mr. Ragene Nicelles, Mr. L. R. Sargent, Mr. L. K. G. Smith, Mr. H. K. Tetsuka, Mr. K. Takahashi, and Mr. K. Yendo, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Rosetta**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. E. E. P. Baker, Mr. R. A. Eddie, Mr. Angus Macdonald, Mr. A. W. G. Macmillan, Mrs. Woolley, child and nurse, Mr. J. M. Wheeler and Chinese servant, Mr. Kwong Sang Woh, and Mr. Ak Shoy, in cabin; 1 European, and 9 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer **Manila**, for London via ports:—Mr. Anderson, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Saiko Maru**, for Shanghai via ports:—General N. Yanjoul, Mr. K. Kondo, Mr. K. Kato, Mr. and Mrs. V. Nakano, Mr. and Miss Y. Nakano, Mr. K. Yoshisuye, Miss L. J. Wirick, Mr. W. Cowan, and Mr. Jo Kun To, in cabin; 1 European, 10 Chinese, and 17 Japanese, in steerage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market is still inactive, and prices show little or no advance. In nearly all lines the demand is very small.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

Grey Shillings—No. 1, 38 1/2 yds., 31 inches \$3.60 to 3.90
 Grey Shillings—No. 2, 38 1/2 yds., 31 inches 3.00 to 3.40
 I. Cloth—No. 1, 24 yards, 31 inches 1.90 to 2.00
 Indigo Shillings—12 yards, 31 inches 2.00 to 2.50
 Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 31 inches 1.50 to 1.40
 Cottons—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches 0.18 to 0.18

WOOLLENS.

Flannels 40 yards 0.50 to 0.60
 Italian Cloth, 30 yards 0.35 to 0.45
 Mouseline de laine—Cloys, 24 yards, 11 inches 0.40 to 0.52
 Cloths—Pilotas, 51 1/2 inches 0.50 to 0.65
 Cloths—Presidentas, 51 1/2 inches 0.75 to 0.85
 Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 inches 0.35 to 0.55
 Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 5 to 5 1/2, per lb 0.65 to 0.75
 Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches 7.75 to 9.25
 Victoria Lawns, 20 yards, 22 inches 0.70 to 1.10
 Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0 lb, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches 1.90 to 2.20
 Turkey Reds—3.5 to 4 lb, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches 2.45 to 3.45

COTTON YARNS.

No. 16 24, Singles 33.50 to 38.50
 Nos. 20 32, Singles 40.00 to 45.00
 Nos. 30 42, Singles 42.00 to 44.00
 Nos. 35, Doubles 41.00 to 41.50
 Nos. 40, Doubles 41.50 to 45.50
 Nos. 50, Plain 64.00 to 65.00
 Nos. 70, Plain 79.00 to 80.00
 Nos. 2 100, Plain 99.00 to 107.00
 Nos. 3 60, Gassed 75.00 to 77.00
 Nos. 2 80, Gassed 90.00 to 95.00
 Nos. 2 100, Gassed 115.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling 19.50 to 20.00
 Indian Broach 18.00 to 18.50
 Chinese 19.50

METALS.

There has been comparatively little doing in view of high home prices. Quotations nominally at last week's level.

Round and square 4 inch. and upward 4.40 to 4.80
 Iron Plates, assorted 4.50 to 4.90
 Sheet Iron 5.15 to 5.40
 Galvanized iron sheets 9.75 to 11.50
 Wire Nails, assorted 6.25 to 6.50
 Tin Plates, per box 6.50 to 6.60
 Pig Iron, No. 1 2.08 to 2.10
 Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch) 5.25 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

The market is firm at last week's quotations.
 American 22.50 to 23.25
 Russian 2.25 to 2.30
 Langkat 2.25

SUGAR.

There has been the usual steady trade. Last week's quotations are on the whole maintained.

Brown Takan 5.50 to 6.25
 Brown Manila 4.25 to 4.50
 Brown Canton 4.90 to 5.75
 White Java and Penang 6.70 to 6.80
 White Refined 7.75 to 9.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market continues fairly active, at a general advance of about 1.50 per picul on last week's rates.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine 100 to 1050
 Filatures—Extra, Coarse 100 to 1050
 Filatures—No. 1, Fine 100 to 1050
 Filatures—No. 1, Coarse 100 to 1050
 Filatures—No. 1 1/2, Fine 100 to 1050
 Filatures—No. 1 1/2, Coarse 100 to 1050
 Filatures—No. 2, Fine 100 to 1050
 Filatures—No. 2, Coarse 100 to 1050
 Filatures—No. 3, Fine 100 to 1050
 Filatures—No. 3, Coarse 100 to 1050
 Re-reels—Extra 100 to 1050

Re-reels—No. 1 940 to 950
 Re-reels—No. 1 1/2 970 to 990
 Re-reels—No. 2 930
 Kakedas—No. 1 900
 Kakedas—No. 1 1/2 850 to 870
 Kakedas—No. 2 850 to 870

WASTE SILK.

Little is doing in waste silk at the prices holders demand.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best 110 to 125
 Noshi—Filature, Good 110 to 125
 Noshi—Oshu, Best 110 to 125
 Noshi—Oshu, Good 110 to 125
 Noshi—Oshu, Medium 110 to 125
 Noshi—Shimizu, Best 110 to 125
 Noshi—Shimizu, Good 110 to 125
 Noshi—Bushi, Best 110 to 125
 Noshi—Bushi, Good 110 to 125
 Noshi—Bushi, Medium 110 to 125
 Noshi—Joshi, Good 110 to 125
 Noshi—Joshi, Fair 110 to 125
 Kibiso—Filature, Best 110 to 125
 Kibiso—Filature, Second 110 to 125
 Kibiso—Joshi, Good 110 to 125
 Kibiso—Bushi, Fair 110 to 125

IRA.

Very little business is doing, the stock being now extremely small.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest 100 to 125
 Choice 100 to 125
 Finest 100 to 125
 Fine 100 to 125
 Good Medium 100 to 125
 Medium 100 to 125
 Good Common 100 to 125
 Common 100 to 125

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 23rd.
 Silver 1/2 lower from London, no change in sterling quotations from China and rates all closing steady for the mail per S.S. *Empress of India*, leaving to-morrow.

Shilling—Bank 1/2 2/0 1/2
 — 1/2 on demand 2/0 1/2
 — 1/2 4 months' sight 2/1
 — Private 4 months' sight 2/1 1/2
 — 6 months' sight 2/1 1/2
 On Paris—Bank sight 260
 On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight 264 1/2
 On America—Bank 1/2 on demand 49 1/2 to 50
 — Private 4 months' sight 51 1/2 to 52
 On Germany—Bank sight 2.10 1/2
 — Private 4 months' sight 2.14 1/2
 On Hongkong—Bank sight 44 1/2 to 45
 — Private to date sight 54 1/2 to 55
 On Shanghai—Bank sight 77 to 78
 — Private 10 days' sight 77 to 78
 On India—Bank sight 153
 — Private 30 days' sight 156
 Bar Silver (London) 47 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[MARKS, BISSAT & URA'S LIST.]

Yokohama, February 23rd.
 Hongkong wires are the following quotations to-day:—Sales of H. S. Banks at 273 per cent. premium ex dividend, Sales of National Banks at \$20, Sellers of China Fines at \$90, Buyers of Hongkong Fines at \$325, Buyers of H. & W. Docks at 327 per cent. premium, Sales of H. & K. Wharfs at \$30, Sales of Douglasses at \$58, Sellers of Indo-Chinas at \$63, Sellers of Paujom Mines at \$6, Buyers of Raub Mines at \$62 50, Sellers of Hongkong Lands at \$79, Sellers of Union Insurance at \$230, Sellers of China Traders at \$64, Sellers of Straits Insurance at \$7, and Sales of H. C. & M. Steamboats at \$28.

H. & S. Banks were purchased locally from Hongkong to-day at 293 per cent. premium cum dividend of 30/- and bonus of £1 paid on the 20th instant for the half-year ending 31st December last. Raub Mines have been purchased to-day from the same point at \$62 50.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Bretts have again been sold at yen 9.50; the market is now firm at this rate. Iron Works can be had at yen 225. Japan Brewery old shares are offering at yen 320, and new shares cum yen 40 each paid up at yen 130. Grand Hotels continue steady at yen 225. Club Hotels can be had under yen 100. Oriental Hotels are wanted at yen 100. Offers for Founders' shares are wanted. Nagasaki Hotels fetched yen 40 to-day. North & Raes have buyers at yen 200. Langfeldts can be had at yen 175. Y. U. Club Debentures are wanted at yen 102 ex accrued interest. Other Debenture stocks are unchanged at quotations which are purely nominal.

Yokohama Kugasaki & Iron Works, Ltd. \$50	200 5.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. \$500, Old	200 5.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50 (yen 4 paid up)	150 5.
Grand Hotel, Ltd. \$500	200 5.
Club Hotel, Ltd. \$500	200 5.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. \$500	200 5.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Yokohama) \$500	200 5.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd. yen 100	40 5.
North and Roe, Ltd. \$500	200 5.
Scott & Co., Ltd. \$500	200 5.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd. \$500	200 5.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd. \$500	200 5.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 1/2 Deb. \$500	200 5.
Kobe Club 5/8 Deb. \$50	50 5.
Yokohama United Club 5/8 Deb. \$500	200 5.
Scott & Co., Ltd. 1/2 Deb. \$500	200 5.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 1/2 Deb. \$500	200 5.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 1/2 Deb. \$500	200 5.
Reserve Fund.—1, yen 10,000; 2, yen 3,000 equaliza-	
tion of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property	
1, yen 17,770-80; 4, yen 10,200 44.	
N.—S. Sellers, H.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—steady,	
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Equilibrium.	

Tokyo, February 23rd.

Redemption Loan Bonds	95.5
War Loan Bonds	91.5
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	96.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 500	116.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	48.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 200	125.0
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	100.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	58.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	58.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 500	91.0
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 50	56.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	74.50
Japan Railway, 5th issue—paid up yen 41	50.5
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 20 30	57.50
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 45	106.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 50	57.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	53.50
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	49.50
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 50	44.50
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	100.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, new—paid up yen 50	75.50
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	94.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	113.50
Hono Railway—paid up yen 50	54.50
Toyoake Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Nanto Railway—paid up yen 50	18.50
Honshu Railway—paid up yen 50	18.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 50	10.50
Chubu Railway—paid up yen 50	11.00
Toku Railway—paid up yen 50	59.5
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	125.0
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 50	125.0
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	64.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	57.50
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 50	53
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	54.50
Nippon Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	56.50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 50	41.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 50	39.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 50	39.00
Japan Warehousing—paid up yen 50	50.00
Bank Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	95.50
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	99.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	115.00
Tokyo Mercantile Exchange—paid up yen 50	59.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 50	50.00
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	50.50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 50	51.50
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 50	64.50
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 50	50.50
Japan Beer—paid up yen 50	50.50
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 50	50.50
Kanagatuchi Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 50	44.50
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 50	57.00
Yokohama Dock Yard—paid up yen 50	58.00
Yokohama Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 50	49.50

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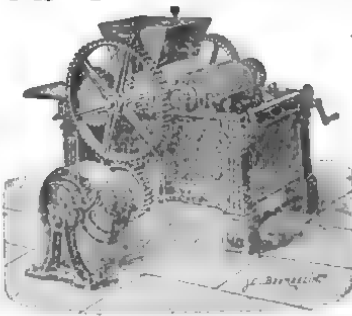
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No. 7.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
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YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 18TH, 1899.

月三十五年十二
西曆一千九百零九年

[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	157
The Foreign Loan	158
Salaries of Members of the Diet	158
Count Okuma	158
The Rule of the Road	159
The Railway Scheme	159
The Progressists	159
The War in the Philippines	159
Destructive Fire in Tokyo	159
Constitution Day in Tokyo	160
Kobe's Progress	160
Spinning Industry in Japan	160
The House Tax Withdrawal	161
Educational Effort by Japanese in Sool	161
New Book on Japan	161
Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society	162
The Import Tariff	162
New London Journal	162
Marquis Ito on the Progress of Constitutional Government in Japan	162
Salt Monopoly in Formosa	162
Leading Article I—England and Japan	163
The Snow Storm	163
Monthly Summary of the Religious Press	164
Imperial Diet	167
Correspondence—	
A New Way to Pay Humanity's Old Debt	173
Mr. Piousness Protests	173
The Police at the Gates	173
News of the Week	173
Weekly Statement of the Bank of Japan	174
The Book-shelf	174
Interport Football Match	174
The Berrick Bait Case	175
Telegrams	175
Obituary	176
Latest Shipping	177
Latest Commercial	178

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DRIE: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB. 18TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

On December 17th, at Clifton-street, Cliftonville, Brooks Barr, Manchester, the wife of L. T. CORKE, E. Q., of a daughter.

DEATH.

At 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 13th February, at Kobe, ANNIE, the wife of Capt. H. J. Carrow, of Kobe, aged 46 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY has signed the Treaty of Peace.

A MAN was killed by a landslide at Nakamura, Yokohama, on Monday.

YOKOHAMA won the Interport football match by seven goals to two.

THE Dreyfus bill has been handed over to a Committee of the French Senate.

THE Diet has had a very busy but quiet week, several new legislative acts being placed on the statute book.

THE house of the Second Secretary of the Russian Legation, Tokyo, was entirely destroyed by fire on Saturday.

At the general meeting of the Nippon Ginko on the 18th a dividend of 12 per cent. per annum will be declared.

THE funeral of Mr. Hara Zenshiro, a wealthy banker of Yokohama, took place in a blinding snow storm on Thursday.

TERIBLE storms have been raging in the

North Atlantic and over Great Britain. A Cunard liner is missing, and many wrecks have occurred.

THE Okayama Agricultural School is to receive a Treasury subsidy of yen 2,000 per annum for five years from April this year.

THE Government has decided to grant a subsidy of yen 10,000 a year for 5 years to the Tokyo Athletic Association.

THE Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society gave their second performance on Wednesday evening before an enthusiastic house.

THE 15th anniversary of the Kaikoshu, Kuden, Tokyo, was held on the 15th inst. Wrestling matches on a grand scale took place.

THE faculty of the Imperial University intend placing a bust of Dr. Divers in the Chemistry Hall, upon his retirement this spring.

IN Mtsuki locality, Sagami province, rabies is prevalent, and 54 mad dogs have lately been killed. The schools have been closed.

MR. MORIKAWA, Japanese Consul in Singapore, states that the Japanese silver yen will not be legal tender there later than the 13th April.

AT the extraordinary meeting of the Nippon Ginko to be held on the 18th proximo, Mr. Tsuruhara will probably be elected director.

AT the Universal Peace Conference Japan will be represented by the Japanese Minister at St. Petersburg and by two military and naval officers.

MR. OSCAR HAYNEMANN, acting Peruvian Consul, is leaving Yokohama for some time, and Mr. George Peterson will act as his substitute.

TWO small steam tugs belonging to Y. Kinchi, anchored at the foot of Hanazono bridge, Yokohama, were sunk about 1 a.m. on Sunday.

THE Tokyo Chamber of Commerce will hold its general meeting on the 18th, and confer as to the site of the fifth National Industrial Exhibition.

ON the 9th, Hori Ichisaburo (23), servant of a farmer named Nakagawa, living at Aso gori, Tochigi Prefecture, murdered his employer's wife with a sword.

EIGHT hundred emigrants will leave for Peru via San Francisco by the steamer *China* on the 27th. They are engaged for work on the sugar plantations at Lima.

ON the 9th, thirty-two employees of the Nippon Marine Insurance Company resigned, being dissatisfied with the management of Mr. Kawashima, the Vice Manager.

A CHIEF clerk named Kikuta (28), of the Yokohama Fortification Bureau, forged a receipt for yen 500 and embezzled the money. He was arrested on the 7th inst. at Tokyo.

ON Tuesday a large quantity of gun-powder exploded at a fireworks manufactory at Hongo, Tokyo, and a female worker named Yamada Sen (32) sustained serious injuries.

THE Standing Squadron consisting of the *Fuji*, *Naniwa*, *Akitsu*, *Hashidate*, and *Takasago*, will engage in manoeuvres on a small scale at Kuwa bay, Hiroshima Prefecture.

A FIRE broke out in a wood at Komazawa-mura, Ebara-gori, Tokyo, about 2 p.m. on the 9th, and burnt down about half an acre of timber. It is supposed to have originated from tobacco sparks. The house of Mr. Y. Okami,

Osaki-mura, Ebara-gori, Tokyo, was burned down on the night of the 12th inst.

MR. HIRAYAMA, President of the Tokyo Commercial Navigation School, intends to enlarge the scope of the institution and to place it on a higher footing.

A WASHINGTON report states that the Commission of Enquiry into the conduct of the late war censures General Miles for charging the commissariat with supplying bad beef.

H.I.H. PRINCE KUNINOMIYA, attached to the 3rd Army Division, and H.I.H. Prince Nashinomiya, attached to the 5th Army Division, were on the 11th raised to the rank of Lieutenant.

A SINGER named Tanaka Ito, of the Shintamaya, Isumochi, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo, made a donation of yen 300 to the Poor Asylum, Tokyo, to mark the 13th anniversary of the death of her mother.

A VERY heavy fall of snow was experienced in Yokohama and Tokyo on Thursday—perhaps the heaviest in years. Telegraphic communication was temporarily suspended, but otherwise little damage was done.

THE new law as to the dimensions of mail matter was issued on Tuesday, and will come into operation in April. The maximum length is now 1 shaku 3 sun instead of 1 shaku 2 sun; and the new breadth, 8 sun 5 bu instead of 8 sun. The maximum amount for money orders is altered from 30 yen to 50 yen.

AN apparently semi-official note from Paris states that agreements between Great Britain and France are imminent, granting France a commercial outlet on the Nile and settling broad outlines of delimitation respecting the spheres of the regions of Bahr el Ghazal and Ubanghi.

A TELEGRAM from Mr. Uchida, Japanese Consul in New York, states that the U.S. Finance Department has intimated that Article 8 of the Customs Tariff Regulation promulgated on the 24 July, 1897, regarding shipping marks, and notification of places of origin of imported goods, is to be enforced on the 1st March.

A KOREAN despatch dated the 1st inst. reports that the Chinese Ambassador had an audience of the Korean Emperor on the 31st ultimo and presented the letter of the Empress Dowager, which recognises the independence of Korea and requests the maintenance of intimate relations between the two Powers. The Korean Emperor was dressed in a military uniform of European style.

AT 10 a.m. on Sunday fire broke out at Sogamachi, Chiba-gori, Chiba Prefecture, resulting in the burning of 55 houses, and the partial destruction of eight. In the afternoon of the same day, a fire occurred in the Kyoto Post Office, Sanjo, the whole building being reduced to ashes. The mail matter was saved. Telephonic communication between Kyoto and Osaka has been interrupted.

THE projectors of the Sôul Fusan Railway are in negotiation with foreign capitalists as to the provision of funds for the construction of the line. The latter have proposed to provide 15,000,000 yen at 4.5 per cent. interest for a term of ten years, the work to be finished in three years. The Japanese projectors are said to regard such an arrangement with favour. Experts of the Communications Department are to be despatched to make a survey of the line.

THE FOREIGN LOAN.

February 14.

It is asserted in all quarters that the preliminary arrangements for a foreign loan have been completed. The negotiations were opened by Count Inouye and had nearly been carried to maturity when he went out of office. If the story told by the vernacular press be correct, Mr. Alexander A. Shand, formerly adviser to the Finance Department, has been chiefly instrumental in placing the loan, and has worked in concert with Mr. Kato, the Japanese Representative in London. We can not speak with certainty on the subject, but the persistence of this rumour suggests that it is not entirely baseless. The rate of interest is said to be 3½ or 4, the selling price of the bonds 98, and the amount of the loan, 100 million yen.

February 16.

An official contradiction is published of the statement that negotiations for a loan of 100 million yen have been concluded with London capitalists. The vernacular press maintains, however, that the difference between the original rumour and the Finance Department's version is one of degree only and that the negotiations are really within sight of completion. We imagine, for our own part, that our vernacular contemporaries lose sight of an important point, namely, the distinction between working through a bank like Parr's and going direct to the Bank of England. What the Finance Department desires to deny, doubtless, is not the fact that a loan is on the *tapis*, but the idea that recourse has been had to any secondary channel instead of making direct application to the fountain-head. It is generally agreed that Japan injured her credit greatly by the plan she pursued last spring with regard to a loan of four millions sterling. Of course, people familiar with the exact circumstances know that the Finance Department's intention was to provide a channel for the sale of Japanese bonds in London. What Count Matsukata had in mind was not a loan, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, but merely the opening of the London market to Japanese public securities. When the project came to be realized, however, it proved impossible to induce foreign capitalists to buy the bonds without a special agreement providing for the payment of the interest and principal in gold, and the introduction of such a condition changed the character of the transaction radically. Indeed, so far from opening the London market to Japanese bonds, the procedure of the Tokyo financiers tended to close it, for they established a precedent which could not be followed by ordinary folk and was not likely to be dispensed with by future lenders. To the eyes of the general public Japan presented the spectacle of a State so impecunious as to need foreign accommodation to the extent of a trifling sum of four millions sterling, and moving in such an outside sphere of financial credit that she had to work through comparatively insignificant agencies. It is important that she should not repeat that mistake. The time has not come for placing her bonds on the London market side by side with British securities. Her best plan is come forward frankly as a borrower, and to work through the Bank of England. Recognising those facts, the Finance Department has doubtless considered

it wise to contradict the rumours about Parr's Bank. As to the origin of the rumours, it may be traced, we presume, to the circumstance that Mr. A. A. Shand, now Manager of that institution and formerly adviser to the Finance Department in Tokyo, had communications with Mr. Kato, Japanese Representative in London, after the placing of the four millions' loan last spring, and subsequently addressed himself to official circles in Tokyo for information. Japanese journals have connected the British Legation with the negotiations for the loan which is now on the *tapis*, and have even gone so far as to say that Her Majesty's Minister employed his good offices to recommend the services of Parr's Bank. It should not be necessary to point out that British Representatives never meddle in such matters, nor ever stand sponsor for private firms. Any part taken by Her Majesty's Legation in this affair must have been strictly limited to furnishing information, when applied for, in the ordinary routine of official duties.

SALARIES OF MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

There are some subtle distinctions in Japan, and occasionally they appear to be due to accidents of nomenclature. For example, the charge levied by the Postal Authorities for transmitting a letter is essentially in the nature of compensation for services rendered, and ought therefore, according to the Constitution, to be fixed by the Government without reference to the Diet. Some of our readers probably remember a keen dispute which occurred between the Cabinet and the House of Representatives six years ago about the levying of fees for shooting licenses. The Cabinet claimed that these fees were compensation for administrative services (*tesuriyo*), not a tax, and the House asserted that they were a tax. Whatever may have been the rights and wrongs of that discussion, it clearly established the fact that money levied in consideration of administrative services is determinable by the Government without the Diet's consent. Postal rates ought seemingly to belong to that category, if any payments do. But long before any Constitutional power of granting or withholding administrative supplies was rested in the people, postal charges received the name of *yubin-sei*, and since *sei* is the official term for tax, we find the Cabinet carefully consulting the Diet before venturing to meddle with postal charges. So, again, the right to fix the salaries of officials is explicitly reserved to the Sovereign by the Constitution, and at first sight it seems that the pay of members of the Diet should belong to the category of official salaries and consequently be under His Majesty's independent control. But that is not the Government's view. The remuneration of the members of the Diet is called *saihi*, whereas the pay of officials is known as *kuryo*, and the law recognises a practical distinction. For whereas only a portion of an official's salary can be impounded for debt, the whole of a Parliamentary member's remuneration is liable. The rule as to an official's pay is that his creditors may not impound more than one half of the difference between his whole annual salary and 300 yen. Thus, up to 300 yen his stipend is absolutely secure, and he is further

safe with regard to one half of the excess over that sum. But a member of the Diet is, in that respect, entirely at the mercy of those to whom he owes money. Hence the Government does not regard the members as officials, or attempt to change their remuneration without recourse to the regular process of a Bill. Tokyo newspapers are unanimous in asserting that the present Cabinet had decided to increase the *saihi* from 800 yen to 2,500 for each member, and from 2,000 and 4,000 in the case of the Vice-President and President, respectively, to 4,000 and 6,000. The Liberals, however, have stipulated that the figure for the members shall not exceed 1,500 and the figures for the President and Vice-President 5,000 and 3,000, respectively. There is a good deal of amusement at the notion that the Cabinet's generous intentions are restricted by the moderation of the members. Critics are inclined to attribute the initiative in this "reform" to the men who will benefit by it, and to detect a mere "face-saving" arrangement in the coyness that the latter display. At all events, it is alleged that a Bill embodying the proposed changes will be submitted in a few days. We shall believe it when we see it. The measure would involve an additional expenditure of nearly three quarters of a million yen—supposing that the new Law of Election passes—, and there is no surplus revenue to cover such an outlay. Besides, other considerations seem to render the step very unlikely.

COUNT OKUMA.

In one of our Tokyo contemporaries we read that the Emperor of Austria-Hungary has conferred the Order of Leopold upon Count Okuma, in connexion with the conclusion of the Revised Treaty, and that the Austro-Hungarian *Chargé d'Affaires* proceeded to Waseda on the 13th instant, for the purpose of presenting the decoration to the Count. In another journal (the *Asahi*) we find a report of an interview with the ex-Prime Minister. Count Okuma spoke with his usual frankness. Discussing first the new project of Election Law, he strongly approved the change in the method of voting, and the increased representation that will be secured to the urban population. The Count is a firm believer in the industrial future of Japan. She will become, by-and-by, a manufacturing country, he thinks, and in this context he alluded to the success achieved by Japanese watch-makers, and to the fact—of which we were not aware—that Japanese bicycles are beginning to find a market abroad. Thence the recognition given to the urban population by the framers of the revised Law of Election is wise and proper. Passing on to speak of the general condition of the country, the Count affirmed that the talk now heard about commercial, manufacturing, and general depression emanated chiefly from speculators in shares. For such folk the time is very unfavourable, but the great bulk of the people are pursuing their business industriously and successfully, and the condition of the nation as a whole is eminently prosperous. Count Okuma's enemies will find here a text for a sermon against him. Why, they will ask with some show of justice, why did he base his opposition to the Land Tax on the supposed inability of the people to bear a

heavier burthen if he thinks that they are so well-to-do?

In connexion with foreign politics the Count spoke without any diplomatic reserve. Since the war with China, he said, Japan has been regarded by some nations as a dangerous rival, as a disturber of the peace, as a foe to Christianity, and as a possible enemy to Europe. The best way to correct such an injurious view is to cement an alliance with a Western Power—an Anglo-Japanese alliance, or an Anglo-American-Japanese alliance, or an Anglo-American-German-Japanese alliance. Any one of these combinations would do, but some one of them ought to be effected as soon as possible. The Count also condemned the action of the Diet in excising the appropriations for a Consulate at Odessa.

THE RULE OF THE ROAD.

Any one passing through the Sakurada Gates in Tokyo will observe that policemen are stationed in each gate and also in the avenue leading to it, and that they devote their time to assiduously directing the streams of foot-passengers and vehicles to the left side of the street. Notice boards are also erected, and it is evident that the police have very explicit orders to enforce the rule of the road. The same precautions are now adopted at various other important points in the city, and doubtless after a time the educatory effects of the measure will become generally perceptible. It is noticeable, however, that the police pay not the slightest attention to passing foreigners. They allow them to take whichever side of the street they please. They understand evidently what we have often remarked—that they have no power to enforce the rule of the road where foreigners are concerned, and that they had better not make the attempt. As a matter of fact it does not occur to foreigners when walking along a street (without a foot-path) that they ought to keep to the left side. In London, on great festive occasions when the crowds of foot-passengers flow over the *trottoirs* and occupy the streets, the police do take care to divide them into two currents, each keeping to its own left of the road. The same precaution is evidently useful in Tokyo as a general rule, for there are no side-walks except in Ginza.

Speaking of the police we may mention that the idea of increasing the number of the force in Tokyo from next July is suggested, not by any anticipation of the advent of lawless foreigners, but by a desire to provide more efficacious means of protection to strangers visiting the city. Whether the Chief of Police expects any large advent of foreigners under the new system, or whether he simply deems it his duty to be prepared for all possible contingencies, we do not know, but it is as well that the motive of his procedure should not be misinterpreted.

THE RAILWAY SCHEME.

The Representation for nationalizing the private railways receives no journalistic support. It is regarded as a kind of comedy, planned by speculators in shares who, for some time, have been busily going in and out among the members of the Constitutional Party. Of course, the holders of shares would benefit substantially were the measure carried. Readers who have taken note of Mr. Kuribara's speech in the House of Representatives,

know that, according to the most moderate estimate suggested by him as a basis of negotiation with the companies, they would receive Government bonds of a total face value of 140 million *yen* for property on which they have expended only 98 millions. If, again, we calculate the value of a fifty-*yen* share of each line at the market rates now ruling, and place the results side by side with Mr. Kuribara's figures under the scheme of State purchase, we have these results:—

	Present market price of 50 <i>yen</i> share.	Price of a 50 <i>yen</i> share under the scheme of State purchase.
Japan Railway Company...	70.30	84
Sanyo R.	63.00	93
Kanshin R.	68.00	83
Kobe R.	107.25	123

It would evidently be a sweet transaction for the shareholders and for speculators in shares, if such figures were adopted. Critics say that the project is born entirely of the general depression which marks the time. In 1891 and 1892, the commercial and industrial horizon was similarly over-clouded, and people talked a great deal about the theoretical advantages of State ownership. Then in the sunshine of prosperity immediately after the war with China, nothing was heard but demonstrations of the superiority of private ownership. Now, the shadow of adversity having again crept over the face of the land, everybody has gone back to the doctrine of State ownership. By and by, when the light breaks out once more, the creed of private ownership will be revived. Such is the forecast of journals like the *Fuji Shimpō*. We ourselves find it impossible to regard the matter seriously. As a means of obtaining money from abroad and thus releasing some of the capital that has been fixed in such large quantities during the past 20 years, State purchase might be a good step, but, in the form advocated by the Representation, no special advantages are discernible. At all events, the fortnight that remains of the Diet's session can not possibly suffice for framing a Bill and passing it through both Houses. The introducers of the Representation must be well aware of that fact.

THE PROGRESSIVISTS.

It is stated in well-informed circles that the real motive of the agitation recently fomented in the ranks of the Progressivists is to get rid of the General Business Committee, who are not regarded as men of sufficient light and leading. Unwilling to give offence to these gentlemen, the agitators inscribed an independent legend on their banner, intending to manoeuvre for their genuine purpose when the inevitable hour of compromise came. Viscount Miura, of Korean celebrity, is believed to have stepped into the breach, and effected an arrangement by which the control of the Party affairs and the moulding of its policy will be undertaken by Count Okuma in person, having associated with him a Vice-President whom he will nominate or the Party will elect. We do not know how much truth there may be in that account of the situation, but it appears scarcely credible that the revolt can have been chiefly against the Committee on the ground of ineptitude, for the Committee includes some of the very cleverest men possessed by the Party.

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A few telegrams have reached Tokyo with regard to the progress of events in Manila. It is pretty evident that the Filipinos lost patience, and made a concerted attack upon the city, imagining that their immensely superior numbers and their exceptionally good equipment would ensure a victory. They altogether mistook the quality of the men they had to face. The source of the city's water supply, which the Filipinos are said to have destroyed, is about 8 miles from Manila. When the news of the outbreak of hostilities first reached us, we interpreted the forward move of the Americans as having for its object the securing of the water supply. Apparently, however, they were too late to prevent its partial destruction. Malolos, the seat of the Filipino Government, is some 25 miles from Manila. The two places are joined by railway, but the American forces, in the attack upon Malolos which they are said to have undertaken, were probably unable to use the line, or at any rate could not use more than the first section of it: the remote section would certainly be broken by the Filipinos. Of course the resolute measures adopted by General Otis in this emergency were virtually unavoidable. He could not sit quietly in Manila and suffer the Filipinos to mature fresh plans of assault or harassment at their leisure. But he will probably be content with the capture of Malolos and perhaps also of Iloilo. There is not the remotest chance, we imagine, that America will undertake a campaign having for its object the complete subjection of the Filipinos to her rule. They will get a lesson sufficiently drastic to render them amenable to reason, and they will then be granted a modified form of the autonomy they desire.

The *Nippon* publishes the following telegram, said to have been despatched from Hongkong at 6 p.m. on the 12th instant:—"The American troops unexpectedly attacked the Filipino quarter of Manila, slaughtered men and women, old people and children without discrimination. Their violence was so extreme that the Filipinos have resolved to fight to the death." Our contemporary says that this intelligence comes from a thoroughly trustworthy source, and proceeds to infer that the 1,800 Filipinos whom the Americans are reported to have slain, probably include the women, children, and old folks mentioned in the telegram. The ex-correspondent of the *World* has not yet reached Manila, otherwise we should be justified in dismissing the above as a "Creelman." But at all events it emanates from a Filipino source, and we are astonished at the credulity displayed by the *Nippon*. As for the Filipinos, they will merely injure themselves and alienate all sympathy by spreading such monstrous and clumsy falsehoods. No ordinary intelligent person can attach the slightest credence to stories of the kind now, will they tend to improve the terms ultimately granted by America.

A telegram received in Tokyo from official sources confirms a private message to the effect that Iloilo has been taken by the United States forces. No particulars are given, but it will be remembered that the Government in Washington was reported to have determined on the capture of Iloilo, and the presumption is that, im-

mediately on receipt of a cablegram in that sense from the State Department, General Otis organized an expedition against the place. These operations were, of course, independent of the advance against Malolos. It is somewhat surprising that we have not yet heard anything of the fate of the latter place.

Private telegrams received in Yokohama state that the Filipinos, true to their threats, set fire to Iloilo and the British, American, and German Consulates were burnt down.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN TOKYO.

A fire, which might have had serious consequences, took place in Tokyo on the afternoon of the 11th. Mr. Andrieff, Second Secretary of the Russian Legation, had invited a large number of young people to spend the afternoon. Private theatricals took place downstairs, and were to have been followed by dancing in the second storey. Just after the conclusion of the theatricals, and happily before the ladies and children had gone up-stairs, a kerosene lamp exploded, and the burning oil poured down upon the screens and hangings at one side of the stage. Of course a fierce flame leaped up instantly, and in an incredibly short space of time the staircase was so badly involved that escape from the upper storey would have been a matter of the greatest difficulty had the whole party, of about twenty little children and nearly as many ladies, been above stairs when the fire broke out. Indeed, it is not apparent that a terrible catastrophe could have been averted under such circumstances. But at the first alarm the little ones were quietly and speedily placed in carriages and *fin-rikisha* and sent to their homes. Scarcely anything could be saved. The fact is that Mr. Andrieff, though his furniture was not insured, seemed to take no thought whatever for his own losses but to be solicitous solely for the safety and comfort of his guests. The adjoining building is the residence of the Portuguese Minister and Madame de Freitas. At first it did not seem possible that their house could escape, and indeed at one moment a part of it was actually in flames. The firemen succeeded, however, in arresting the conflagration at that stage. Meanwhile, all the furniture and effects had been carried out by zealous hands, to the considerable detriment of chairs, carpets, and so forth. Happily the contents of the house were of comparatively small value. Still the loss from breakages and damage must be annoying, for there was no insurance. It is stated, also, that the Legation archives were more or less injured. The burned house belonged to Mr. Okura, and was doubtless insured.

CONSTITUTION DAY IN TOKYO.

The Emperor received the Foreign Representatives, the Ministers of State, and the Presidents of the two Houses of the Diet in the Home-den of the Palace on the 11th instant (*Kigen-setsu*) at 11.40 a.m. His Majesty addressed a few words to the guests, expressing the pleasure that their presence gave him, and Baron d'Anethan replied on behalf of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, His Excellency Marquis Yamagata performing the same function on behalf of the Ministers of State. The Emperor withdrew at noon, and refreshments were then served. At 3 o'clock

in the afternoon the nobles and high officials proceeded to the Palace and were entertained, His Majesty, however, not making his appearance. There was a function also in each House of the Diet, whither luncheon for the members was sent from the Palace, and lusty cheers, led by the Vice-Presidents, were given for the Emperor. In the evening Marquis Ito gave a large dinner at the Imperial Hotel to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the promulgation of the Constitution, and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Viscountess Aoki marked the occasion in a similar manner in the official residence at the Foreign Office.

KOBE'S PROGRESS.

Kobe is getting on, materially and morally. Its tradal record promises to top the list of figures for Japan's open ports, and it may already be congratulated on possessing the "boss" journalistic quibbler of the Far East. What lends special brilliancy to the nimbus of prevarication which encircles the head of Kobe's quibbler is that he is perpetually accusing others of stealing his thunder. In his eyes no one is truthful, no one is straightforward, no one sticks to the point. He lays down some wonderful proposition and supports it by some even more wonderful statement, and when the statement is shown to be monstrous, he cries out that the ground has been shifted since the proposition, not the statement, was in question. Speaking on the authority of information supplied to us by Japanese Judges and officials, we asserted, some time ago, that failure to take advantage of the privilege of bail in Japan is often due to the ignorance of the accused. To that the Kobe Quibbler replied that "according to the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure there is no necessity whatever for an application for bail from the prisoner or his advocate, it being the duty of the judge to grant bail of his own initiative, if satisfied that the accused is entitled to have this privilege extended to him." Exception was of course taken to that ridiculous assertion, whereupon the Kobe Quibbler calmly announced that "the Code of Criminal Procedure of course presumes that application for bail will, in the first place, come from the prisoner." That is tolerably good twisting, is it not? First we are told that "according to the Japanese Code there is no necessity whatever for an application for bail from the prisoner, it being the duty of the judge to grant bail of his own initiative," and then we are told that the same Code "presumes of course that application for bail will, in the first place, come from the prisoner." "Oh, what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive." The Kobe Quibbler seemed to have tied himself up pretty tightly in his criminal-procedure web before he had spun many threads of it, but his subsequent entanglement was even more pitiful. For the next twist he took was to support his original proposition about "there being no necessity whatever," by quoting an article of the Code which does not refer to bail at all but to releasing a prisoner under a process called *sekiyu*. The whole procedure with regard to bail (*hoshaku*) is laid down in one part of the Code, and then in another part is found this arrangement called "entrusting," where no monetary sureties are required and neither the accused person nor his friends forfeit anything if he fails to appear

when subsequently summoned. That one special case, which can not properly be called "bail" and is carefully distinguished from "bail" by the framers of the Code, that one special case is quoted by the Kobe Quibbler as proving that "there is no necessity whatever for an application for bail from the prisoner or his advocate, it being the duty of the judge to grant bail of his own initiative." Again the ridiculous extravagance of such an argument is exposed, and now what happens? The poor Quibbler, writhing in his web, spins his last tenuous thread and cries out that there has been a *volte face*, inasmuch as "the argument was not as to the procedure in applications for bail, but as to where the responsibility lay for refusals or omissions to grant bail." In other words, the Kobe Quibbler begins by denying that the responsibility of failing to be released on bail can ever be with the prisoner, since the procedure as to bail is quite independent of the prisoner's initiative, and then, when the procedure is shown to be nothing of the kind, spins round and cries that there was no talk about the procedure but only about the responsibility. We think that Kobe is to be congratulated. Its Quibbler "takes the cake." We have not in Yokohama any article that can be warranted to squirm and twist so nimbly.

SPINNING INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

From recently published statistics, we learn that the number of cotton-spinning mills in Japan last November was 77, and the number of spindles 919,074. The quantity of raw cotton worked up during the year totalled 3,302,321 *kwamme*, and the output of yarn was 2,834,198 *kwamme*. Full returns of the various companies' profits and losses during the second half of the year are not yet available, but a few figures are to hand. We set them down, and for the sake of a comparison we add the corresponding figures for the second half of 1897:—

Name of Company.	Dividend second half of 1897.	Dividend first half of 1898.	Dividend second half of 1898.
Otsuka	15	7	4
Settsu	20	20	20
Hirano	40	30	20
Senshu	15	7	0
Fukushima	0	Loss	0
Kishiwada	20	20	15
Sakai	18	5	5
Meiji	8	0	0
Nippon	3	8	8
Kashu	0	0	0
Kasanka	15	0	0
Kanegafuchi	12	10	0
Tokyo	16	10	5
Owari	16	10	8
Tsushima	14	8.5	0
Miye	20	0	12
Kiwana	0	0	4
Fukuyama	20	8	8
Matsuyama	15	10	7
Shimotsuke	10	7	10
Averages.....	15.4	8.5	6.6

This is a very poor record; only three out of the 18 companies show an improvement as compared with the first half of the year 1898, and only two have maintained or bettered the dividends paid by them in the second half of 1897. Moreover, eight out of the eighteen, or 44 per cent., paid no dividend at all. It must be rather a miserable reflection for the shareholders that, if they had their money in Government bonds, it would be giving them a return of 5.37 per cent. at present market rates, and that if they had it deposited in the banks it would be producing 7 per

cent., whereas in the case of 8 mills it gives no return at all, and in 4 produces only 5 per cent. or less. It is interesting to note that the adoption of gold monometallism is frankly blamed for these bad results. The *Fiji* says that the step was taken without due reflection and that the eyes of the nation are now becoming opened. China, which is the chief customer for Japan's yarns, has become a constantly falling market, from the point of view of a gold-using nation, and it is for that reason that the mill-owners are so anxious to see a China-Japan bank established, working on a silver basis. We must confess that such an analysis of the situation seems very partial. Assuredly exporters of goods from a gold-monometallic country have considerable difficulties to contend against when their markets are among silver-using peoples, so long as the appreciation of gold continues. There never was the least uncertainty on that head among foreign observers of Japan's currency arrangements. In these columns, for example, the fact was strongly emphasized when the gold-standard question came upon the tapis in 1897. Since Japan became gold monometallic, however, there have been no fluctuations of exchange at all comparable in severity to those of past years, yet British manufacturers managed to find their account in supplying silver-using nations throughout the whole period of the sharpest appreciation of gold. How can it be pretended that the same obstacle in a greatly reduced form is responsible for the recent failure of Japanese mills, especially when Japan's home market is of far more importance to her cotton-spinners than the Chinese market, the latter taking what may be called her surplus produce only? The cause is to be sought in some conditions independent of exchange. Defective organization, unskillful methods in laying in raw material, increased cost of labour, and want of cheap working capital—these are the reasons assigned by foreign critics who should be competent to give an intelligent opinion.

THE HOUSE TAX WITHDRAWN.

In announcing the withdrawal of the Bill for imposing a tax on houses, Count Matsukata informed the Special Committee that other means of obtaining revenue had been found. The deficiency resulting from the House's reduction of the proposed rate of Land Tax was 7,400,000 *yen*, in round numbers. On the other hand, the House cut down the Budgetary expenditures by 1,600,000 *yen*, so that the sum to be provided became 5,800,000 *yen* only. The Government's original idea was to obtain that amount by a tax on houses, and by increasing the tax on soy as well as the postal rates. The House Tax would have yielded 2,600,000 *yen*. But when the Representatives came to consider the proposed amendments of the Tobacco Monopoly, they made certain changes in the sense of a more rigid system and of levying a license tax from dealers in manufactured tobacco. These changes give an additional revenue of 2 million *yen*, and, by postponing the abolition of export duties until July, a further sum of 600,000 *yen* will be obtained, so that the House Tax ceases to be required.

EDUCATIONAL EFFORT BY JAPAN ESE IN SOUL.

Some two years have passed, we believe, since a prominent Christian of Sendai, Mr. Oshikawa Masayoshi, who appears to be a second Nishima, began to interest himself actively in the question of education for the Koreans. He and several others formed a society for the purpose of establishing educational institutions in foreign lands. They started one school in Seoul, which is now in a tolerably flourishing condition, and they now think of extending the work to other parts of the peninsula, with which object a meeting was held in the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, on the 13th instant, under the auspices of Marquis Ito, Count Okuma, Mr. Shibusawa, and Mr. Oshikawa. Among those present were Count Itagaki, Mr. Kioura, Minister of Justice, Viscount Aoki, Baron Mitsui, Mr. Asano, and others, to the number of some sixty-four. Marquis Ito delivered an address, in which, warmly applauding the work, he remarked that Korean students of the Japanese language were not entirely free from the reproach of having disturbed the peace of their country, and that it would be well to include in their course of study some means of educating a more law-abiding spirit. Count Okuma also spoke, confining himself to the commercial aspect of the question, and showing that the study of Japanese by the Koreans tends to promote trade between the two empires. This meeting has a special interest as showing that while men like Counts Okuma and Itagaki stand strongly opposed to each other in the political field, they can join hands to promote a humanitarian object.

A NEW BOOK ON JAPAN.

We are promised a new book on Japan. It is to be called "Japan in Transition." The writer is Mr. J. Stafford Ransome, who has been a great traveller during the past twenty years. Mr. Ransome recently spent a considerable time in Japan, having been sent here by *The Engineer* and the *Morning Post* to study the political, social, and industrial progress of the country. He will therefore write from the specialist's point of view. The subjects dealt with in his work are to be "Popular Misconceptions of Japan; The Standing of the Foreigner; the Effect of the War; Present Day Education; Relations with Foreign Powers; Strategic Geography of Japan; Modern Industrial Japan; The Commercial Integrity of the Japanese; Japan as a Colonising Power; The Position and Prospects of Christianity; Politics in the Past and Present; A Forecast of the Working of the New Treaties; Japan as an Ally, etc., etc."

He tells us in a prospectus that "in drawing his comparisons between the Japanese of to-day and the people of other nations, the author has endeavoured to contrast them, not with an impossible ideal containing all that is theoretically good, noble, and high-minded in the western character, which has been the line too often adopted by the anti-Japanese writers on the subject; but with the average man with whom one meets in real life in other countries. Nor has he assumed that, in all cases where the Japanese differ in their methods from western people, such difference must of necessity be a defect in their character."

TOKYO DRAMATIC & MUSICAL SOCIETY.

"WOODCOCK'S LITTLE GAME."

The Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society gave its second performance for this season on the 14th instant in the Hall of Shoreikai, the proceeds being, as usual, devoted to charity. The piece chosen was Maddison Morton's amusing farce "Woodcock's Little Game," a play capitally suited to amateurs, as it abounds in amusing situations, and is full of action throughout. Most of our readers are probably familiar with the plot of "Woodcock's Little Game," for the comedy made its theatrical *début* 35 years ago. There are two "Woodcock" brothers, one a mild, innocent youth; the other a tired *roué*. There is also a "Mrs. Colonel Carver," a widow. This lady's husband, whom she married hoping to lead a gay life, had sown such a large crop of wild oats before he led her to the altar, that he devoted himself thenceforth to reaping weary reminiscences, and died after 20 years, leaving a widow who still longed to plunge into the social vortex from which his *ennui* had held her back. The widow "Carver" plans to enjoy, through the medium of a son-in-law, the gaieties that were denied to her as a wife. She therefore seeks for her child a husband innocent of fast life and ready to give himself up to it. But she hits upon the wrong "Woodcock," the worn-out rake instead of the gentle innocent. That is the whole scheme of the farce. "Woodcock" marries to vegetate quietly in the country; his mother-in-law is resolved that he shall "do" London in the most thorough manner. "Mrs. Colonel Carver" and "Mr. Woodcock" are the principal characters. They are *en evidence* from first to last, with little intermission. Miss Hayes made her *début* in the former role and played it excellently. Maddison Morton's conception of "Mrs. Colonel Carver" was probably different from the interpretation given to the character by Miss Hayes. Doubtless to him "Mrs. Carver" presented herself as a dame of primary colours, flaring easily into wrath and asserting her tastes with some stridency of determination. But the "Mrs. Carver" of the Shoreikai was limned with subdued tints which scarcely made a picture of womanhood calculated to terrorize a *roué* of twenty years' hardening. This rendering had the merit, however, of being natural and pretty, as well as of forming a good background for "Woodcock's" strong outlines. Mr. Pattison, as the retired rake, must be unequivocally applauded. He passed far beyond any standard suggested by his previous acting, and showed a versatility of mood and a play of feature such as are not often seen on an amateur stage. Miss Nishigawa's "Mrs. Larkings" was a gem at the outset, but lost something of its quality in the second act. Maddison Morton neglected all the congruities when he assigned such a part to a bride of twenty-two. No woman who has not herself seen life at pretty close range, could make comedy and capital out of the union of a grizzled *roué* with an innocent young girl still in her teens, and could then play the heart-broken *ingenue* over her own husband's escapades. It is not comfortable to be asked to do violence to one's imagination so far as to conceive an impossibility of that kind, nor could the character be acted with entire success.

Miss Nishigawa made the most of it, and certainly showed that she has even greater capacity than her first performance suggested. The other roles are essentially subordinate. We know something already of Miss Aoki's ability, but as "Mrs. Woodcock" she had nothing to do except to look charming and behave sweetly, achievements which came very easily to her. Mr. Gardiner, as "Mr. Adolphus Swansdown," needed to display only two moods, sleepiness and fury, and was good in both. If we dismiss Mr. Polianovsky's "Mr. Christopher Larkings" with an equally curt notice, the play-wright is responsible, not the acting. Concerning Mr. Van der Polder as "David," we have already had occasion to express the opinion that a servant's role does not suit him. He can not act down to it. There is an error of values in the picture, and an object which ought to remain in the background is forced into the front plane. A Tokyo audience always wants to see Mr. Van der Polder on the stage, but not as a "David" or a "Thomas." Miss Hall very kindly took a "walking on" part as Susan, and Miss D. Shaw and Miss H. Gardiner made delightful little bridesmaids. A marked feature of the performance was the staging, for which—as well as for the greater part of the arrangements in general—Baroness Sannomiya has to be thanked. The second scene—an entrance hall decorated for a dance,—was a very beautiful monochromatic study which must have cost great thought and trouble. The thankless and difficult, but, on this occasion, thoroughly well performed duty of stage management fell to Mr. Pattison, and much assistance in many ways was rendered by Mrs. Bonsted. Madame la Viscomtesse de Bondy had promised to sing, but unfortunately indisposition prevented her, and the only vocal music was a song by Monsieur Andrée, the accompaniment played by Miss Von Fallot. This was vociferously encored. The Imperial Band played between the acts, and Viscount and Viscountess Tanaka entertained the actors and actresses at supper after the performance.

THE IMPORT TARIFF.

The changes made in the Statutory Tariff at the instance of the Government have now been published in the *Official Gazette*, the Bill embodying them having passed the Diet. The date for making them operative will be fixed by Imperial Ordinance. These changes are:—

No.	Old Rate.	New Rate.
65—Alcohol.....	0.096 yen per catty	100 do
370—Cigars.....	0.772 do	100 do
380—Cigarettes.....	2.153 yen per 1,000	100 do
381—Opium.....	40 per cent. ad valorem	100 do
382—Cut Tobacco.....	0.444 yen per catty	100 do
384—Other prepared tobacco.....	40 per cent. ad valorem	100 do
385—Chinese Alcoholic liquor, distilled.....	40 do	100 do
—Chinese Alcoholic liquor, brewed.....	40 do	80 do
389—Sake, resembling the home brewage.....	40 do	80 do
398—Spirits or distilled liquors of all other kinds.....	40 do	100 do
395—Sheet Zinc (except No. 2).....	1.903 yen per 100 catt. etc.	10 do

No. 129, 135, 136, 345 (1), 348 (1), 358 (2), 358 (3), 358 (4), 365 (No. 2 plates)—all these duties are recinded.

According to the Treaties, Japan has to give six months notice before making any of the above changes operative. The effect of that provision will be to flood the country with a two or three years' supply of alcohol, cigars, cigarettes, and tobacco, to say nothing of Chinese *samshu*, before a *sen* of the new rates can be levied.

The Japanese negotiators of the Revised Treaties could not be expected to be omniscient, but they might at least have inserted a saving clause to the effect that where the protection of revenue was in question, the six months' notice could be dispensed with.

A NEW LONDON JOURNAL.

A new journal is about to appear. It is to be called *The London Letter*; the editor is Mr. Algeron Locker, formerly editor of the *Globe* and the *Morning Post*, and the Assistant Editor will be Mr. J. Stafford Ransome, whose acquaintance many of our readers made when he visited Japan a year ago as a Special Correspondent for the *Far East*. *The London Letter* will be a weekly, costing sixpence. Its conception seems excellent. It is to summarize all events that concern the British empire, without imparting to the account the slightest tinge of party politics, bias, or fad of any kind, and to make the summary not only sufficiently short to command readers among the busiest men, but also sufficiently exhaustive to afford full information on every important topic, and thus correct the habit of limited reading into which people are now-a-days apt to drift owing to the impossibility of wading through the masses of detail furnished by the great dailies and periodicals. We do not see any reason why *The London Letter* should not prove a marked success. The idea of its projectors is certainly excellent.

MARQUIS ITO ON THE PROGRESS OF CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN JAPAN.

Marquis Ito, as we have already reported, entertained a distinguished company at dinner in the Imperial Hotel on the 11th instant, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the promulgation of the constitution. We take from the *Japan Times* the following *résumé* of the speech made by the Marquis:—

After expressing his extreme gratification at having the honor of the presence of Prince Arima and of celebrating the occasion conjointly with all the distinguished personages who had the closest connexion with the advent of the Constitution, His Excellency proceeded to state that it was Marquis Yamagata who undertook the office of the Premiership after the promulgation of the Constitution, and when the first session of the Imperial Diet was summoned. Some animated discussions arose between the Legislature and the Executive, but ultimately amicable compromises were effected. By a strange coincidence the Marquis again occupied the same exalted position at this tenth anniversary, and to carry the parallel a little further, the two departments of the State were again involved in a similar animated discussion but once more they succeeded in arriving at an amicable conclusion.

The period intervening between the beginning of the Restoration and the 10th year of the era was one of completing of the grand work of the Restoration, and may fitly be regarded as a decade of political rearrangement. Everything was enveloped in darkness and uncertainty, and the nation was solely occupied in discovering materials available for remodelling its domestic and foreign affairs. It was in pursuance of this great aim that to the 4th year (1877) the late Prince Iwakura, Kido, Okuma, with the host of the evening and others, were despatched abroad charged with the mission of investigating the institutions and state affairs in the constitutional countries in the Occident, with the ultimate purpose of adopting in Japan the national policy of progress and enlightenment. On the occasion of dispatching that memorable embassy the Emperor had especially issued an Imperial Rescript intimating that the step had been prompted by the farsighted policy, the host said, of

His Majesty of ultimately introducing a constitutional regime in the Imperial realm, and specifying about twenty-six points to be inquired into with especial attention. The trip concluded and the Embassy returned home, and the late respected Kido confidentially stated his opinion to the host as to the necessity of adopting a constitutional form of Government in Japan, and this opinion which was shared by the equally respected and lamented Okuma. The letters from the two distinguished statesmen bearing on the subject were carefully preserved by the host, and they supply indelible evidence how all the statesmen playing conspicuous part in the affairs of the State were earnest advocates for the advent of a constitutional regime in Japan.

The next twelve years, extending from the 10th (1877) and the 22nd year (1889), may be regarded as a period of preliminary arrangement for the ushering in of a constitutional government. For instance, the institutions of the Occidental countries having received thorough investigation from the late Prince Iwakura and others since the Embassy's return in 1873, further inquiries into the same field were deemed advisable, and in 1881 others were again dispatched abroad on a similar mission.

After this the Committee returned home in 1883 the work of enacting an Imperial Constitution advanced apace and a draft was placed before the Privy Council for deliberation. What ought to be gratefully remembered by the nation in this context was that, while the Privy Council was deliberating over the draft the Emperor personally attended it without absenting himself a single day during more than six months.

The decade that has elapsed since 1889 may be considered as an experimental period of the operation of the Constitution and it admitted of no doubt that data for testing the practical efficiency of the Constitution were sufficiently forthcoming. Indeed, on the whole, the results were so far satisfactory. The mere fact that the administrative expenses that formerly stood at between 70 and 80 million yen have subsequently expanded with the consent of the people to above 200 million yen, must primarily be attributed to a result of working of the Constitution. The future may be regarded as the time for completing the development of the Constitutional Government and as one when the fruits of this system should be more fully reaped. To attain this desirable consummation the Legislative and Executive Departments should be pushed to greater improvement, as also the Diet and political parties. The Legislature can be worked by the system of majorities, but this method cannot be followed by the Executive. The improvement and better working of the latter must be attained through the agency of able men of integrity. At the same time the Diet must be warned against neglecting to take in consideration the great aim and mission of the country and against blindly striving for the retrenchment of administrative expenses. An expansion of national resources is invariably followed by an expansion of expenses. Again, the House of the Diet ought to be reminded of the importance of appointing men of ability and experience on Committees, irrespective of party consideration. Nor was the improvement less needed in the party system. The speaker doubted the existence of a political party competent to undertake the task of forming a cabinet. Under such circumstances, it would not be advisable for political parties merely to aim at securing administrative power.

SALT MONOPOLY IN FORMOSA.

It appears to be certain that the Government will inaugurate a salt monopoly in Formosa. A Bureau of Salt Business (*Yemmu Kyoku*) will be organized, with twenty offices throughout the island. The *Fiji Shimpō* gives this news, which may therefore be relied on.

Actions for libel are really undertaken on the most trivial of grounds. At Edinburgh, two individuals, who had been charged with house breaking, but had been acquitted, sued a Glasgow paper for libel on the ground that in its report of the trial the language of the paragraph proceeded on the assumption of the guilt of the prisoners, and gave the impression that they were guilty of the charge of which they were acquitted. The jury at once found for the defendants.

ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

MANY views are entertained in Japan about the much-talked-of Anglo-Japanese alliance. Among them not the least interesting and carefully reasoned out are those of Mr. TAKENOKOSHI YOSABURO, expressed in the *Sekai-no-Nippon* for this month. The *Sekai-no-Nippon*, we may observe *en passant*, has just made its re-appearance. It suffered, as our readers doubtless remember, a temporary eclipse in connexion with the celebrated OZAKI affair. Assuming that Mr. OZAKI's resignation of the Educational portfolio had been directly due to Palace interference, the Tokyo periodical published a powerful and singularly outspoken essay about Court intrigues and Imperial meddling in politics. We have nothing to do now with the wisdom or unwisdom, justice or injustice, of Mr. TAKENOKOSHI'S utterances on that occasion. That they involved him in trouble with the Authorities, that he suspended the publication of his magazine, and that it has now again made its appearance, are the only points we have to notice, and very glad we are to see the *Sekai-no-Nippon* again, for we look upon its talented editor as one of the most brilliant publicists and cleverest essayists in Japan. The subject which it treats in the fore-front of its re-born pages is the Anglo-Saxon alliance. Broadly speaking, Mr. TAKENOKOSHI welcomes the idea of such an alliance. He is not Oriental but cosmopolitan. The frequently advocated union of the yellow races does not appeal to him at all, and, if alliances become the order of the day, he wishes for nothing better than an Anglo-Japanese alliance. But he thinks that the time is not ripe. Lord CHARLES BRESFORD came here and "bedewed the heads of the Japanese with a rain of praise," carrying his hobby of a quadruple alliance almost into the sphere of practical politics, and, at any rate, so focussing public attention on it that many people began to regard it as the problem of the hour. The members of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce were foolish enough to memorialize the Government on the subject, just as if there was question of a new project of law. It will be understood, of course, that we are epitomizing Mr. TAKENOKOSHI'S utterances, not expressing our own views. We do not agree with him at all about the "foolishness" of the Kyoto Chamber. On the contrary we think that if the merchants of Japan took a leaf out of the book of the merchants of England, and busied themselves more actively in politics, it would be a very good thing for their country. However, the editor of the *Sekai-no-Nippon* appears to be of a different mind, though we are not clear whether his objection is to commercial interference generally, or whether he is influenced merely by the special conclusion that the present period should

be one of conferences not alliances. He believes that the order in which England views her over-sea interests is, first Africa, second India, third China, and fourth, Japan and Korea. The "open door" is a very pretty programme, but the goal of England's policy in China is the Yangtze Valley, and when it comes to her seating herself in that fine district, she will be found to be in collusion, not collision, with Russia. In short, Mr. TAKENOKOSHI doesn't believe that England and Russia will fight about China. They will agree to divide it according to their taste, and where will Japan find her account in such an arrangement? As for the notion of including Germany in the union, Mr. TAKENOKOSHI derides it. He says some bitter things about Germany; repeats, in effect, the accusation preferred against her by an Austrian publicist, that she is altogether untrustworthy, being equally ready to raise her hand against the friend of yesterday or to extend it to the enemy of to-day. In this criticism no note is taken of the extraordinarily difficult position that Germany occupies in the middle of Europe, or of the fact that she has shown herself a staunch and valiant ally when her interests—the sole motive power with all nations—are concerned. The editor of the *Sekai-no-Nippon* is satisfied that she has no business to a place in the arena of Far-Eastern politics, and that she ought to be left out of the account, an additional reason being furnished by her extraordinary action in seizing Kiaochow, which action is primarily responsible for all the present trouble, as it was the proximate cause of Russia's appropriation of Liaotung. Turning then to England, the question arises, is she a desirable ally at present; in other words, would an alliance with her make for Japan's interests? England's attitude in the East is influenced by African considerations. It is largely because she finds France and Russia in her way in Africa that she shows in the Far East activity calculated to divert their attention. She evinces no disposition whatever to espouse Japan's cause in the beginning of the latter's war with China, but she now sees in Japan a Power whose co-operation may be of use to her directly in China and indirectly in Africa and India. It is certain that if Japan definitely entered the British camp, Russia would not face the alliance, but would make terms with England, and the terms would be most unlikely to include anything for Japan. Thus Mr. TAKENOKOSHI concludes that Japan's wisest plan is to stand aloof from alliances, and to establish an *entente* with England on the subject of China, and with Russia on the subject of Korea. Concerning America no mention is made in the essay.

We shall not pause to discuss here this policy of dalliance, but we desire to say a word about a theory which seems to have found support in some quarters and was recently enunciated in so many words by

a Japanese-English contemporary, the theory that England could not hold her own in China without an ally. Have any of the propounders of that theory attempted to clothe it in the language of facts? It used to be an article of universal faith that for the purposes of a campaign in a distant land Great Britain was incomparably the best equipped country in the world. In what respect have things changed since men held that belief? The question is not one of fighting against China but of fighting against some European Power in China. In a contest of that nature the prime basis of supply would be in Europe, and the line of communications would be maritime. Such a line could not be maintained for an instant in the presence of the English fleet. In fact, it might be cut forthwith at Suez. What European State could send troops to China and support them there with Great Britain for an enemy? Russia, will perhaps be the reply. But Russia's potentialities in that respect are still quite immature. She certainly could not make Liaotung a basis of operations, because, until it is connected by rail with Europe, she would have to carry supplies and reinforcements thither by sea, an impossible task with England at Wei-hai-wei. In the course of seven or eight years, if Russia has finished her trans-Asian road; established large depots along the route; massed a strong force in Southern Manchuria and organized a powerful Tartar army, she might strike a mighty blow at Chih-li and Peking without depending on over-sea communications. But that time is not yet, and no one knows it better than Russia. Of the value of Japan's fine army for preserving the integrity of the Chinese Empire or beating back any invader of the neighbouring Continent, there can be no doubt. But any Japanese publicist is vastly mistaken who imagines that an alliance with his country is necessary to England for the purpose of holding her own in the Far East to-day. England was never stronger than she is now, and it will be many a year before she goes, cap in hand, to court a foreign alliance.

THE SNOW STORM.

The fall in Yokohama on Thursday was one of the heaviest for many years. The biting wind made matters most uncomfortable, and the cowardly male who tried to evade the elements in a *jinrikisha* was in worse case, if anything, than those who adopted the heroic method of crunching boldly through the snow. No reports of serious damage directly due to the snow are to hand, but a landslide occurred about noon at the Hachiman Yato cliff, Nakamura, killing one man and resulting in injuries to five others.

The snowfall in Tokyo was very heavy, the storm raging the whole day, while a full gale blew. Nearly a foot of snow fell altogether, and the telegraph wires between Tokyo and the west were blocked.

Owing to the gale and snow since Wednesday telegraph lines in the Western Provinces sustained some damage and communication has been suspended.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

As already stated in these columns, Dr. Katō Hiroyuki, who represents Occidental advanced scientific and philosophic thought, and Dr. Inoue Yenyō, who is a conscientious defender of Oriental religion and philosophy and an earnest Buddhist propagandist, have been crossing swords on the subject of materialism in Japan. Some time ago Dr. Inoue published a little pamphlet entitled *Hai-butsumon*, "The Refutation of Materialism," in which Dr. Katō and Mr. Fukuzawa were specially named as having been responsible for the spread of materialism and, in Dr. Inoue's view, the many evils consequent thereon. In No. 13 of the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* is published Dr. Katō's reply to his opponent. The controversy will prove interesting to the readers of this summary in so far as it tends only as showing the trend of current thought in Japan on religion and its many opposing influences. It is not as the utterances of individual thinkers that the two essays are to be regarded, but as representative of two antagonistic schools of thought. As such we think a few of the chief arguments of the two champions worth stating in an epitomised form. Dr. Katō quotes Dr. Inoue's *ipsissima verba* on the various points at issue and then replies to them. In this form we reproduce a short part of the discussion as a specimen of the whole.

DR. INOUE.—The malodorous wind of materialistic thought has blown across the ocean and has entered the nostrils of our leading men even, and as a consequence the influence of Shintō, Confucianism, and Buddhism has steadily declined and the destiny of a State second to none on the face of the earth has become clouded with uncertainty.

DR. KATŌ.—This statement is most illogical. The systems referred to are either systems of philosophy or they are religions. They surely stand on their own merits, and, if founded on truth, cannot possibly be affected by materialism. If Buddhism and Confucianism are erroneous and defective, it makes little matter who points this out. If it should happen that a materialistic philosopher does so, it is illogical to say that such a philosopher is the cause of the decline of faith in these systems. Dr. Inoue seems to think that because Buddhism, Shintō, and Confucianism are Oriental they should be defended against all attacks. This surely is most unscientific.

DR. INOUE.—Though I say, for the sake of brevity, that materialism is the chief enemy of Buddhism, Confucianism, and Shintō, I include in this term a number of elements; such as evolution, experimentation, the theory of consciousness, egoism, and the like, and also money-worship, carnal lusts, and superstition, which are all in the employ of materialism. All these influences have come from the West and are used by the pro-foreign section of the nation to the injury of our minds. Materialism may be called the General of these hostile forces and the other things named his soldiers.

DR. KATŌ.—What more unscientific can be imagined than this statement? What connection have money worship and carnal lusts with materialistic philosophy? Mr. Fukuzawa and myself are denounced as leaders in the materialistic movement. It is said that Mr.

Fukuzawa champions money-worship, a charge that is incapable of proof, and that he and I work together to undermine the influence of Oriental religion and philosophy. In reality there is no connection whatever between us.

DR. INOUE.—If there is one belief that more than any other gives peace of mind and removes the fear of death it is that of the immortality of the soul. Thanks to our three Oriental creeds, this belief has been implanted in the Japanese mind. But Occidental materialism destroys this belief and teaches that the mind is the slave of the body, and that they are both destroyed together. As a consequence of this, even when the State is in danger, all that men think of is their own personal safety.

DR. KATŌ.—This argument is most un-scholarly. The immortality of the soul believed in by Dr. Inoue rests on *a priori* grounds. There is no attempt to prove it scientifically. It is founded on imagination and dissatisfaction with the present life, and to say that it is a belief capable of being destroyed by materialism is to acknowledge the weakness of its foundation. Dr. Inoue's use of the doctrine of the immortality of the soul ranks with the references to hell's cauldron or the cutting out of the tongues of liars by the devil, with which many priests terrify their followers. No attempt is made to prove the doctrine of the immortality of the soul, but, whether true or false, it must, according to Dr. Inoue, be retained, for the sake of its effect on the minds of men.

A small, but useful little work entitled *Risō no Seinen*, "The Adolescence of Thought," has been published by L'Abbé Francois Ligneul. The *Fukui Shimpō* reviews the book favourably, and says that M. Ligneul does not write like an ordinary foreigner, but reveals minute knowledge of the Japanese character. The *Risō no Seinen* condemns the flippancy and general want of balance displayed by so many young writers and speakers in Japan, and applauds modesty and deference to the opinions of others as graces which need to be more cultivated in this country.

Mr. Hirai Kinzō is the author of a book called *Shūkyō to Seiji*, "Religion and Government," which is published by the Kendō Shoin, Abura Kōji, Kyōto, and sells at 22 sen per copy. Mr. Hirai was present at the Chicago Religious Fair and took a prominent part in some of the discussions held there. The tone of the *Shūkyō to Seiji* is very earnest, and the whole question of the extent to which it is desirable that priests and Ministers should endeavour to influence the Government is discussed. Mr. Hirai in some parts of the work advocates more interference with politics than would be approved of in the West. He condemns the Buddhist priests for their laxity in the public discussion of political questions, and thinks they should be better informed on such topics than ordinary citizens. This view the *Fukui Shimpō* traverses, contending that less, and not more, meddling with politics is the desideratum in Buddhist circles.

We read in the *Fukui Shimpō* that Mr. Fukuchi Genichirō has published for private circulation an essay entitled 孔夫子 Kōfūshi (Concerning Confucius), in which the author gives the impressions which he has received from a study of the

sayings of the great Chinese sage and the characteristics of the age in which he lived. Mr. Fukuchi comes to the conclusion that Confucius' intellect developed very slowly. He was 60 years of age before he reached the superior state of intelligence called 大悟, *daigo*. Mr. Fukuchi compares the teaching of Confucius with that of other Oriental and Occidental philosophers, ancient and report to suit foreign taste must involve an enormous amount of compromise and trimming on the part of Japanese who wish to be faithful to their own country and institutions. The Japanese Christian supported by foreign money is in a false position. But the compromising has been going on for a series of years until at last things have come to a head in the Dōshisha affair. For a very long time what that institution aimed at doing was to please the foreign supporters and to please Japanese supporters at the same time. A system of double reporting was adopted, and thus for a while both parties remained satisfied. But naturally this state of things could not last for ever. The incongruous elements were bound to reveal themselves, and a split was inevitable. This has come about. President Yokoi agreed to remove the name of "Christian" from the institution and make it wholly national. The foreigners then threatened legal steps to maintain their rights, and in the face of this Mr. Yokoi and his fellow-trustees have all resigned in a body and have left Mr. Kozaki and his fellow-thinkers to patch up the affair as best they can. The help of the Board will again be asked, and, as a result of the restoration of the rules to which the Mombushō objected, the Department may refuse to allow Dōshisha students to be exempt from conscription. One result of the episode, says the *Nippon*, has been to teach foreigners that Japanese are not to be trusted to use mission money and to superintend without interference evangelistic work.

We think it important to give a short epitome of opinions expressed in two other organs on the rupture between the native and foreign supporters of the Dōshisha. The *Kirisuto kyō Shimbun* rejoices over the resignation of the trustees in a body, and thinks that their action has rendered a final satisfactory settlement possible. Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki published an article in the *Rikugō Zasshi* in December, which was translated by the *Japan Times*; and called forth a long letter from Mr. Davis, in which he maintained that no one now contends that the Dōshisha is a proselytising institution. This chapter of the history of the controversy is referred to at some length by the *Kirisuto-kyō Shimbun*. The *Taiyō* argues that the disturbance was caused by the American Board treating the Japanese too much after the fashion of semi-civilized nations. The missionaries insist on establishing their Western customs and forms here, says the *Taiyō*. They are slaves to the letter of the Bible and allow Japanese converts little liberty of thought. The early teaching in the Dōshisha was of this type, and sooner or later it was bound to come into conflict with Japanese sentiment. The *Taiyō* has a great deal more in the same strain, which it is not necessary to quote, as the same thing has often been said before. The *Taiyō* concludes by observing that the whole Dōshisha dispute is only one phase of a great

question, namely the right of foreign missionaries to dictate to Japanese in matters of belief. The conflict between orthodoxy and heterodoxy is going on all over Japan, and upon the issue of the dispute will depend the form which Japanese Christianity will take in the future.

* * *
The latest number of the *Rikugō Zasshi* to hand discusses "The Essence of Unitarianism;" "The real source of the Dōshisha problem;" "A Curious Social phenomenon in Tōkyō," "Tolstoi's Views on Art;" "Prophecies Concerning the Second Coming of Christ;" and several other subjects.

We read in the *Shinri* that the German Evangelical Protestant Missionary Society, which in a former summary we inadvertently referred to as a Lutheran Society, though Mr. Peery contends it has no right to be so named, has strengthened its Japan Mission by the despatch of two new missionaries, one lady and one gentleman, both of whom are said to be very highly educated. They reached Japan, it seems, in November last.

* * *
The *Shinseiki*, under the title of *Kirisuto Kyōka Daimondai*, discusses the attitude of certain Kumiai and Nihon Kirisuto-Kyōkai Churches to foreign Missionaries. It seems that the movement to which we referred in a former summary in favour of native evangelists working quite separately from foreign missionaries has gained strength, and that there are numerous cases in which there is actual estrangement between fellow-Christians of different nationalities. This, the *Shinseiki* points out, is a most unbecoming state of things. This organ recommends native pastors, while maintaining their independence, to keep in touch with the foreign missionaries, to meet them as often as possible, and to consult them about evangelistic work. The isolation of the native churches, which is advocated in some quarters, is narrow-minded bigotry of the worst kind, says the *Shinseiki*. Nothing could be more unfortunate than a division of Christians based on race prejudices. Divisions among Christians there always have been, and they will still continue. But to split up on small issues would be culpable folly. Let the pro-gospel and the anti-gospel parties confront each other and contend for power, but as for perpetuating any of those doctrinal differences even which have separated and kept separate from each other the various sects of Western Christendom, nothing could be more undesirable. The state of Christianity in Japan to-day is sad enough without placing more obstacles in the way of progress. Divinity schools are very poorly attended (*ima isure no Shingakko mo sukoburu sabi-shi*), and it is a serious question as to where the requisite number of pastors and evangelists are to be found. In order to increase the number of Divinity students it is necessary that evangelists and pastors should receive better treatment than they now enjoy. They ought to find adequate support and be respected and honoured as they are in other countries, modern. According to the *Fukun Shimpō*, Mr. Fukuchi's monologue is quite an exceptional production, displaying rare insight into the real character and peculiarities of the philosopher and tracing with great minuteness the changes which his mind underwent at different parts of his life. His political morality is

shown to be of a very high order, and the *Fukun Shimpō* thinks that modern Japanese politicians would derive much benefit from a study of Mr. Fukuchi's treatise.

* * *
The following note taken from the *Koye*, the Roman Catholic organ, will be of considerable interest to many readers. The note is headed "The Conversion of Three Noted Men." "Joy shall be in Heaven over one sinner that repenteth more than over ninety and nine just persons which need no repentance." We have an illustration of this in the recent conversion of three well known men—Mr. R. W. Irwin, Ex-Hawaiian Minister and Consul-General, Professor B. H. Chamberlain, and Professor Nagai Nagayoshi (of the Imperial University). Mr. Irwin was publicly received into the Church in Tsukiji Cathedral on December 4th last. Professors Chamberlain and Nagai formally confessed their new faith on Christmas Day.

* * *
The *Koye* has an article on "Christianity and the Japanese State," the gist of which is that Protestant Christianity may come into conflict with the State, because it is not true Christianity. Under the name of Christianity Protestants preach total abstinence and forbid tobacco, says the *Koye*. This is craft and deceit. The real doctrines of Christianity are put away on a shelf. It is because they seek to introduce into Japan European and American customs that they stir up opposition in the Japanese mind and give the impression that Christianity is hostile to State interests. The Protestants are lacking in reverence for men and for things. They encourage disrespect to monarchs. They represent the holy rule of the Pope to be despotism. They distort the order of society and prepare the way for the spread of socialism and other evils. In true Christianity (that is Roman Catholic Christianity) there is none of this. It encourages Japanese patriotism and loyalty, and so on.

* * *
Under the heading of "Japan as Seen by Foreign Eyes," the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, at the commencement of the year, published some interesting facts. We extract a few that bear on religion. Dr. Revon, Professor of Law at the Imperial University, writing on religion in Japan, says that in the ancient civilisation of Japan the lack of the influence of religion was certainly a defect. Shintō was not religion, and the success of Buddhism in Japan was very limited. Although the Buddhists are fond of explaining what charity is, how much real charity was there in ancient Japan? asks Dr. Revon. From whatever point of view regarded, the influence of religion in Japan is in no way worthy of comparison with the influence of Christianity in the West. There was no department of life but felt the influence of Christianity in the middle ages. Christianity had its charitable institutions by the hundred. It raised the rank of women. The godliness that it taught was the centre of all domestic morality. At no time in the history of Buddhism can it be said that it exercised such a powerful control over the hearts of men as did Christianity in Europe. But nevertheless, proceeds Dr. Revon, I am not in favour of forcing Christianity on Japan. Christianity consists of two elements: one doctrinal and

dogmatic, the other moral. Even in the West it is not the dogma that exercises much influence, but the moral part of Christianity. Belief is not a thing that can be pressed on people, and no attempt should be made to force the Japanese to accept Christian doctrines. But the superiority of the ethical side of Christianity should be explained to the Japanese. An appeal to them on this subject would be very likely to meet with a response.

Speaking of Japanese family life, Dr. Revon says there is a tendency to undermine Japanese traditional ideas in reference to the love and respect with which the old should be treated by the introduction of Western civilisation, but this is most undesirable. Though Shintō is not a religion, to it belongs the credit of having kept alive the worship of ancestors, which worship has been of decided benefit to the nation.

A correspondent, signing himself "Ai Shinshi," maintains that Dr. Revon is led astray by his ignorance of Japanese history. The prose and poetry of the Nara and Heian eras, says this writer, are full of ideas that were derived from Buddhism. The view of nature and the world expressed by the writers of those days was distinctively Buddhist. When we come to the Kamakura age, this was still more the case, continues "Aishinshi." Are not the work and success of Nichiren and Shinran sufficient proof of the influence of the creed? At the commencement of the Tokugawa era reliance was placed on Buddhism as the only power in the country capable of withstanding Christianity. In order to enable it to fulfil this function, the Tokugawa Shōguns made it a state religion, with a rich endowment. The worldly prosperity that the priests of that time enjoyed corrupted their hearts. The popularity of Confucianism, the study of foreign science, the revival of Shintō, all combined to neutralise the influence that Buddhism had wielded in former days, just as the revival of learning in Europe undermined the power of the Pope and the Church of Rome, where it did not destroy faith altogether. Dr. Revon refers, says "Aishinshi," in a triumphant manner to the influence of Christianity over the minds of men in the middle ages, but he says nothing about the thralldom, superstition, and servility that were involved in subjection to the Christianity of that time. Who is there that thinks that the state of Christian Society in Europe in the middle ages was an ideal state? Dr. Revon draws a distinction between Christian ethics and Christian dogma. Does any such distinction actually exist? What morality can any religion claim as its own that is not derived from its doctrines? Is there any such thing as the teaching of Christian ethics by persons who reject its dogmas? Dr. Revon, says the correspondent we are quoting, entirely disregards history in his observations on religion. His assertions are arbitrary and savour of that narrow-minded Christian bigotry which leads Occidentals to brand all other religions as false. It is hard to believe that a writer who considers himself the Buckle of the East should be unable to rid himself of prejudice when discoursing on religion. (*Misukara Tōyō no Buckle nari to shite oru Revon shi ni arite, kono hempeki wo manukare atawasanu wa, jitsu ni imuka-shiki koto nari.*)

* * *
Mr. Tokutomi Ichiirō, whose name as

a writer is known all over Japan, has published in the *Kokumin Shinbun*, of which he is, we believe, still editor, his reasons for resigning the Trusteeship of the Dōshisha. The following is the gist of what Mr. Tokutomi has to say on his own personal belief and on the Dōshisha question:—My original connection with the Dōshisha ceased in 1881. I was appointed trustee in 1890. The position I have occupied in reference to Christianity has not changed during 20 years. In 1881 I told Mr. Nijima that I was unable to accept certain articles of the Christian Creed and asked him to strike my name off the roll of members of the church. My belief had not altered in 1890 when I was asked to become a trustee of the Dōshisha. This fact was known to Mr. Nijima. (*Kono koto wa Nijima akiraka ni shireru ni hahawarazu, &c.*) After Mr. Nijima's death I was in favour of developing the school as much as possible and advocated its removal to Tōkyō or at any rate the starting of a branch in the capital. But my advice was not acted on, and from that time onward my influence on the destinies of the institution was very slight. Last June, on my return from Europe, I found that, as a consequence of the policy of rendering the Institution independent of foreigners, inaugurated by Mr. Kosaki prior to his resignation, the situation was very grave. Offended by the action of the Trustees, the Board missionaries, who had hitherto given their services to the institution free of charge, withdrew, and it was decided that the annual grants of money made by the Board must cease. Thinking it to be most important that the Japanese connected with the Dōshisha should show a united front, I succeeded in getting a meeting called, which was attended by Messrs. Kosaki, Yokoi, Yuasa, Yebina, and others, but nothing came of it. Situated as we then were, two courses only were open to us. Either we had to satisfy the demands of the American Board and go on receiving their support as heretofore, or we had to make the institution more distinctively national in character, and thus ensure the sympathy and support of the Japanese people as a whole. The latter course was chosen, and in adopting this line we felt that we were carrying out the wishes of the late Mr. Nijima, who never intended the institution to be a Divinity School for training evangelists, but a means of developing the intelligence and the moral faculties of the Japanese people. It was quite clear to us that the Christian influence of the Dōshisha Schools must be of a thoroughly Japanese type and that there must be no such thing as the shadow of a disagreement between the underlying principles of these schools and the principles of the Imperial Rescript on education; in a word the Dōshisha must work hand and glove with the Department of Education, in order to remove all doubts as to its loyalty from the minds of the people at large. Hence it came about that an institution which previously had been a "wandering star" began to revolve around one centre—the Mombushō—and form a part of the national solar system. Even during Mr. Nijima's time various fruitless attempts were made to obtain from the Mombushō the privilege of exemption from conscription for the Dōshisha pupils. But even a Minister so liberal-minded as Viscount Mori refused to grant it. The alteration of the Association so as to satisfy the requirements of the Depart-

ments of Education was a measure of which I approved, and on which there is much that I could say, but it is not called for on this occasion. At the meeting held in January I stated that, as the affairs of the Association had been placed on a permanent footing, I purposed to resign my membership on the Committee of Trustees. Opinion was so divided in the committee that agreement seemed hopeless. My resignation did not actually take place till December 26th. The reason of this delay was simply my desire to give what assistance I could to Mr. Yokoi, who has in a most generous way undertaken a responsibility which he might easily have shelved on to other shoulders. It seemed to me that it would be mean of me to leave him unsupported, and so I stayed on till, as is known to the public, the trustees resigned in a body. Now Mr. Yokoi alone remains, and he only holds office temporarily, till his successor is appointed.

* *

We are not surprised to find that the whole of the Dōshisha episode has been watched very closely by a large number of outsiders, who see in the turn that events have taken clear indications of the attitude of the national mind to the forms of Christianity taught by foreign missionaries. In an article that appeared in the *Nippon Shinbun* a short time ago the following comments occur: There are two kinds of Christians in Japan. There are those who show their colours on every occasion, and there are those who conceal their real convictions in the hopes of gaining greater popularity thereby. Both parties aim at spreading Christianity. They differ only as to the best way of doing it. Where they are at one is in their dependence on foreign support. There are some who advocate entire independence of foreigners, but this is mere idle talk. How many Churches are there in Japan that are receiving no foreign money whatever? We hear a good deal about Christianity of a Japanese type. But it amounts to this, Christianity which has been altered to suit Japanese notions is not Christianity at all, and the Nipponism that finds no insurmountable obstacles in Christianity is not the real article. Missions that are in receipt of foreign money are naturally obliged to report results to foreign Missionary Societies, and these reports must represent things to suit Western ideas. There must be no dragging in Japanese customs and according to them the authority of the original imported forms. It is quite sure that the preparation of a While there are so many serious issues at stake, it is no time for disunion based on race differences. Christians of the same mind should unite in a common cause, argues the *Shinseiki*.

* *

In the columns of the *Fiji Shimpō* Dr. Inoue Enryō writes in a very outspoken manner in reference to the prospects of Buddhism and its present state. Religion, says Dr. Inoue, is only concerned with the morality of the lower orders. The upper classes need no instruction, and all sects alike seem to have agreed to let them alone. Coming to the class which practises religion, how is it that persons of this class appear so different from ordinary men and women of the world? They are twenty or thirty years behind the age.* Whereas the mass of the Japanese people began to move in the direction of

* We presume that this remark is intended to apply to Buddhists only. (Writer of the Summary).

reform and progress at the beginning of the Meiji era, religious devotees are only just opening their eyes now. In education the Buddhists are for the most part quite behind the times. There is little attempt among the priests to impart to their adherents a general education. The want of energy and enterprise in Buddhist priests generally is to be traced back to the amount of patronage they received in the Tokugawa era. The most advanced sect of the present day, the Shinshū, owes its superiority to the fact that it was not in favour with the Tokugawa Shōguns and hence was solely dependent on its own efforts. Dr. Inoue proposes three methods of reform, which we give below:—
I.—The Government should decide that in order to raise the character of the priesthood only graduates of duly authorised schools shall be allowed to take charge of temples. For the smaller temples (*Matsufi*) graduates of the Ordinary Middle Schools should be eligible, for what are called 中本山, *Chū-honsan*, (Head Temples of the Middle Class), graduates of one of the Higher Schools; and for the 大本山, *Dai-honsan*, graduates of the University alone should be eligible. In the matter of faith and religious earnestness, the sects would not be interfered with according to this plan. All that would be insisted on would be a certain standard of education. II.—Another method of reform which might be adopted would be for the parishioners to take the lead in securing for the temples they attend priests of education and enlightenment, who are qualified to mix in society generally and exercise a beneficial influence. There is no reason whatever why parishioners should not have a voice in the choice of priests. III.—A third way of securing a better class of priests which may be said to be practicable is the amalgamation of several branch temples (*末寺*, *Matsufi*) into one; thus insuring a sufficient stipend for a well-educated priest. The poverty of many of the small temples makes it impossible for them to provide anything like an adequate salary for the priest in charge.

As for dressing priests in foreign clothes or building churches in imitation of Christians, these Dr. Inoue thinks quite unnecessary. But there is, says Dr. Inoue, one other question of importance to be considered in connection with the reform proposed, and that is, should the system of hereditary priesthood be continued or should vacancies be filled by election? Both methods have been abused. Idle, ignorant, and wicked men have inherited charges as they might inherit land, and have only cared for the proceeds derived therefrom. On the other hand, men that have been placed in charge of temples have not scrupled to take advantage of their temporary power to sell heirlooms, and in other ways to rob the parishioners of their property. If the plans I have sketched above could be made to work together, concludes Dr. Inoue, all the abuses that have grown out of the systems hitherto in vogue would become impossible.

The thief who entered the office of Messrs. Herb & Co., No. 76, Yokohama, on the 30th ult., stole a collection of samples, and left a letter signed "Shinko-Kozo," was arrested on the 13th at Nishinohashi-Dori, where he was riding in a jinrikisha. His name is Yano Gichi, and his age 22. An accomplice, named Noguchi Bunkichi (27), has been arrested at Katsuyama Awa province.

IMPERIAL DIET.

THURSDAY, 9TH FEBRUARY.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WITHDRAWING THE HOUSE TAX BILL.

The House met at 1.17 p.m., and the President announced that the Government had withdrawn the House Tax Bill.

RAILWAYS.

Mr. Fukuda Hismatsu presented a Question seeking information as to the Government's policy about railways. Official views had changed repeatedly, and the public did not know what opinion was really entertained. It had been abundantly proved in the War with China that the Government's management of the railways was very bad, and the important point seemed to be better organization and improvement of the lines, especially by changing the gauge, a problem which had been repeatedly mooted without ever receiving definite treatment at the hands of the Cabinet.

The Special Committee reported favourably upon Supplementary Budget No. 5 for the year 1899-00. This Budget provides that the sums originally estimated for the construction of certain railways be increased from 6,825,044 yen to 9,312,874 yen; that bonds be issued for the amount, and that it be included in the general account for next fiscal year. The railways in question are the following:—

- 1.—Fukuoka to Awamori.
- 2.—Tanruga to Toyama.
- 3.—Hachioji to Nagoya.
- 4.—Shimonoseki to Shinjiri.
- 5.—Yatsushiro to Kagoshima.

The Committee approved the project in the case of the first three lines, but recommended that the period for the last two be extended, and the House voted in that sense.

FORMOSA AFFAIRS.

Supplementary Budget No. 6 for 1899-00, was then passed as submitted by the Government. It provides that the Treasury shall lend two millions to the Bank of Formosa, and further shall purchase one million yen worth of the Bank's shares, agreeing not to receive any dividend on them for 5 years. The first instalment of the purchase money, namely, 250,000 yen, is to be paid in 1899-00.

The Bill authorizing the Bank of Formosa to issue notes of 1-yen denomination instead of the 5 yen sight bills now issued, was passed without debate.

FERTILIZERS.

The Special Committee's report on the private Bill for establishing stations to investigate sources of super-phosphate manure supplies was then presented. The Committee did not think it necessary to establish special stations, since the necessary researches could be undertaken by the Government Geological Investigation Bureau, and the Bill had consequently been amended in the sense of merely making an annual allowance of 19,984 yen for 5 years to cover the expenses incurred by the Bureau. It was explained that super-phosphates for fertilizing purposes were of the greatest importance to Japan, but that they had to be imported at heavy cost. The Government's calculation was that if a full supply were obtained from abroad, it would cost 10 million yen annually. Fortunately good sources of home production had been found in Miyazaki, Yamagata, and Akita Prefectures, and there was reason to think that 10 other prefectures also would furnish supplies. The effect of this fertilizer was estimated to be an addition of 20 per cent. to the productive power of the soil. But, even assuming that its use gave an additional crop of only 2 to per tan, that would mean an increase of 10 million koku of rice for the whole country (12½ million acres), or a money value of about 100 million yen. It was evidently worth while to spend a sum of a hundred thousand yen upon investigations which might assist in bringing about such a result.

The House passed the Bill thus amended.

OKINAWA.

A Government Bill was then read for the first time, providing that steps be taken to survey and assess the land in Okinawa prefecture so as to bring it under the same fiscal system as the rest of the empire. The method of taxation now practised was fixed nearly 300 years ago, and the taxes are paid partly in money, partly in rice, and partly in other commodities. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

THE STATE OWNERSHIP OF RAILWAYS.

A Representation urging the advisability of State ownership of the principal private railways was then read. It was a brief statement of the view that all the main vehicles of communications should be nationalized, and it called upon the Government to devise and present for the Diet's approval a suitable scheme for applying that principle to the chief private railways.

Mr. Otsu Junichiro expressed surprise that the Ministers of State were not in their places when such an important measure came before the House, seeing that some definite expression of their views was desirable. The promoters and the opponents of the Representation would be equally anxious to ascertain the Cabinet's attitude towards it, yet the only Minister present was the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, even the Chief of the Communications Department, within whose direct province the measure lay, not deeming it worth while to put in an appearance. It was to be hoped, at all events, that the one Minister in attendance would make a clear statement of the Government's opinions.

Several members objected that as the Representation was not a Government measure, there was no reason to expect the attendance of Ministers, nor had the House any right to seek an *ex post* official view before its own attitude towards the measure was declared. The speech of Mr. Otsu consequently produced no result.

Mr. Kuribara Ryoichi then ascended the rostrum and introduced the Representation in a speech lasting an hour and a half. He commenced by deprecating the notion that the advocates of the measure suggested in the Representation were actuated by any opportunist motive. There was no idea of simply imparting new vigour to the financial market or relieving the present commercial and industrial depression. The project was based on a firm conviction that all the principal machinery of communications should be in the hands of the State, not merely for the sake of uniformity of system, but also because instruments essential to the material progress of the nation at large must not be left in the hands of private speculators. Another strong argument in favour of the proposal was derived from strategical considerations. Japan was now devoting much of her strength to the expansion of her armaments and the organization of a powerful army, but it was obvious to the most ordinary intelligence that without means of transportation an army is practically useless. The first consideration presenting itself in this context was that every part of the empire must be brought within the net work of railways. It was true that railway construction already attracted a good deal of capital and constituted a favourite field of enterprise, but naturally private companies did not take any account of strategical questions. They thought only of pecuniary profit, and the inevitable result was that all lines likely to give large returns were quickly built by private enterprise, and it fell to the lot of the State to construct the roads which, though strategically necessary, were economically unprofitable. The result of that unequal division of advantages was that the public were taxed for the maintenance of the lines left in the hands of the State, while the gains realized on the other roads went into the pockets of private individuals. The second consideration with regard to the employment of railways for military purposes was that no reliance could be placed on the arrangements provided by private lines, or on the certainty of being able to command them at a moment's notice. It was possible, of course, to issue

official requisitions, but it was not possible to reckon on the result of such a proceeding. In Occidental countries 48 trains a day were run on most of the principal lines; in Japan the number was only 12. Now, in order to transport an Army Division, 96 trains were required, which meant that whereas in the West, where strategical preparations were under official control, a *corps d'armée* could be moved by rail in two days, the time required for the same operation in Japan would be 8 days. The war with China had clearly illustrated these defects. As patriotic people, the Japanese railway-owners had placed every available facility at the service of the Authorities, but the result had nevertheless been far from satisfactory. It was, in fact, quite hopeless to expect that private railways should be equipped in such a manner as to fully meet the requirements of a national emergency. That fact had been fully recognised in the Occident, and it was significant that with the exception of England and America—to which countries special considerations applied—all the States of the Occident had adopted the principle of public ownership. Some people argued, indeed, that private ownership offered a kind of guarantee. In the event of a hostile invasion, they said, railways belonging to the State would be at once seized by the enemy, whereas railways belonging to private persons would be respected as, in a certain sense, neutral property. An argument of that kind seemed scarcely worth considering. Invading armies were not accustomed to make such nice distinctions. Turning now to the economical side of the problem, it was to be noted that many persons doubted the capacity of officialdom to manage any great business concern, and argued that waste and incompetence always disfigured any attempts of the kind. The easiest way to meet that objection was to refer to actual experience. Here, for example, was a table showing the comparative working expenses of State-owned and privately-owned lines in Europe:—

WORKING EXPENSES.		
	State Railways.	Private Railways.
Germany	94	131
Austria	65	847
Belgium	505	1013
Italy	649	876
Russia	927	1371
France	1616	958

It would be seen from these figures that France was the only country where official management did not contrast favourably with private, and in her case special circumstances were chiefly responsible for the difference. With regard to Japan, the following were the statistics:—

WORKING EXPENSES.			
	1895.	1896.	1897.
Government Lines	369	461	492
Japan Railway Company	4004	418	447
Kobe Railway Company	366	383	429
Sanyo Railway Company	416	341	402
Kinshu Railway Company	344	358	426

It was unnecessary to take the minor lines into account as these four private companies were amply illustrative. The table showed that the advantage rested with the private lines, but several points had to be considered before arriving at that final conclusion. One patent fact was that the working expenses of the Government lines included the cost of the Railway Bureau, which might justly be called an Administrative outlay, and that they also included the expense of superintending the affairs of the private railways. Other points would present themselves by-and-by. Meanwhile, it must be quite evident as a result of ordinarily intelligent reflection, that the running expenses of a number of separate concerns could not fail to be reduced by amalgamating them all into one large firm. Reductions of staff, improvements of organization and saving of labour would ensue from their combination. If the profits derived from passenger traffic were compared, it appeared that the Sanyo Railway headed the list, but, for the rest, the figures for the State lines and the private were about the same. Here, again, was a table showing the gross earnings and working expenses per mile.

	Gross Earnings per mile. Yen.	Working Expenses per mile. Yen.
Government Lines.....	1.81	0.89
Japan R. Company	1.35	0.60
Sanyo R. Company	1.23	0.44
Kinshiu R. Company.....	1.06	0.64

Referring again to the fact that the working expenses on the State lines were comparatively large, it was necessary to observe that the Government kept its lines in an exceptionally high state of repair, and spent correspondingly large sums for that purpose. Then the returns for 1897 were:—

	OUTLAY AN ACCOUNT OF REPAIRS PER MILE. Sen.
Government Lines.....	44
Japan R. Company	25
Sanyo R. Company	8
Kinshiu R. Company	14

The experience gained by Japan during the past few years, and, indeed, the experience furnished by all countries was that the union of small companies into one large concern conferred great economic advantages, and the fact had special force in the case of railways, for it was only proper that the gains derived from profitable roads should go to meet the losses on unprofitable. Otherwise they were confronted with the anomaly that because a district was not yet sufficiently developed to support a railway of its own, it must remain without one of the greatest factors of development. Passing now to the question of capital, it appeared that the capital actually paid out of the Treasury for State Railways, when all necessary deductions were made, totalled 61,271,827 yen, to which had to be added a sum of 4,332,165 yen taken from the earnings of the lines and used as capital. Thus the total funds involved were 65,603,992 yen. Of that amount, the sum now actually earning a return was 48,567,417 yen, and the sum not yet profitably employed, 17,036,575 yen. Since the State had commenced railway operations, the total profits derived from the lines and paid into the Treasury had been 36,765,423 yen. They might say, therefore, that the capital paid out had been reduced by that amount, and that the sum still sunk in the lines was only 24,506,403 yen. Again, the average dividend on the whole capital since the beginning of the enterprise had been 5.4 per cent., or 7 per cent. of the capital actually earning a return; and that too in spite of the fact that the first road, namely the Yokohama-Tokyo, had been built with money obtained abroad at 6 per cent., and that the original Industrial Bonds floated for railway purposes had carried 6 per cent. interest. Observing that the profits paid into the Treasury for the year 1898 totalled 5,860,000 yen in round figures, and noting that nearly 37 millions had been paid in the past, it was evident that these railways—and the same might be said of the lines which the Government was now building—would soon have paid for themselves, and would be a valuable asset of the country, enriching it not merely by their actual profits, but also by the benefits they conferred upon commerce, industry, and agriculture. Some publicists, while admitting the general advantages of state-owned lines, were disposed to hold that the time had not arrived for carrying out the project suggested by the Representation. The speaker considered, on the contrary, that everything pointed to the present as the right time. It was essential to the successful conduct of such a negotiation that the sellers should not occupy too commanding a position. A few years hence, the shareholders of the principal lines would assuredly be much more difficult to deal with than they were likely to show themselves now. In England or America, for example, it would be scarcely possible to induce the shareholders to part with the lines on reasonable terms, though they would have been sufficiently amenable 40 or 50 years ago. Then there was the question of mixed residence. From July next the country would be thrown completely open to foreigners. Now they were ready to welcome foreigners heartily. They would be glad to see them engage in commerce and manufactures, and specially glad to see them employ their capital and experience for the

development of Japan's resources. But what would be the effect upon this particular question of State ownership if foreigners invested largely in railway shares? Would they be content with terms such as Japanese shareholders might accept? It must not be forgotten that these railways of which he was speaking were the very vertebrae and marrow of the country's system of communications. Their control constituted a vital problem. Already it was reported currently that large purchases of shares in a certain well-known railway had been made by foreigners. Let that go on a little longer and such representations as that now before the House would be idle. They had the experience of other countries to guide them. When France set about nationalizing her railways, she found that most of them were in the possession of English capitalists, and she was obliged to pay off one-third of the price, and make over the profits of the roads for 90 years. Austria, in the same way, had found French capitalists in possession, and had been obliged to pay three times the cost price of the lines. With such precedents to warn them, would it be wise to deter the settlement of this question indefinitely? As a matter of fact, the railway system of Japan was established on a basis of State ownership, for the Railway Law contained a provision to the effect that, after the lapse of 25 years, the Government should have the right to buy up the lines at a price assessed with reference to the average market value of their shares during the preceding five years. It was, then, simply a question whether to put this principle into operation now or to wait until the expiration of the period indicated by law. That brought the speaker to the last phase of his subject, namely, the manner of effecting the purchase. He had shown that the acquisition of the lines by the State would be desirable from an economical and a strategical point of view, and that the longer the matter was deferred the more difficult it would be to accomplish. He had now to consider a point which many persons found the most perplexing of all, namely, the method to be followed in carrying out the scheme. The law, as he had said, indicated the average market price of the shares as a basis of value, but it did not appear that such a manner of assessment would work well in practice. The share market could easily be influenced by speculators. The House probably knew that since this project of State purchase had come upon the tapis, the quotation for the shares of the Tanko Railway had gone up from 18 to 30. A little well-organized "bulling" might make a difference of many millions in the purchase price of a railway if the market quotation of the shares were taken as a basis of assessment. A much better method seemed to be that adopted in Europe, namely, to take the net average profit of the line for three years as a unit of value and to multiply it by some fixed number, say 20 or 25. Of course such a rule could not be applied in the case of lines which were in course of construction, or which paid no dividend. They belonged to a special category, and would have to be assessed with regard to the capital actually sunk in them. For example, suppose that a railway whose shares were 50 yen face value was making a net profit of 10 per cent. Then, if 20 were the constant multiplier, the purchase price of the shares would be 100 yen; if 25 were the multiplier, the price would be 125 yen. It was difficult to determine exactly the proper multiplier, but some figure between the limits of 20 and 25 seemed suitable. He did not pretend to lay down any hard and fast rule, but only to furnish some indications of a theory such as might be applicable to the circumstances. With regard, now, to the method of payment, some people talked of a foreign loan, and predicted that the sudden influx of so large an amount of capital would greatly disturb economic affairs. But it did not appear that there would be any occasion for a transaction of that nature. His view was that the State should merely change places with the present shareholders, and that public bonds should be given for the shares. There was no apparent reason to apprehend serious economic disturbance as the consequence of that procedure. To come down to

arithmetic. The average net earnings of the four principal railways in the second half of 1897 to the first half of 1898, had been:—

Japan R. Company.....	8.491 per cent.
Kinshiu R. "	9.148 " "
Sanyo R. "	8.281 " "
Kobu R. "	10.200 " "

There were other lines, of course, that must be included in the scheme, but for the purposes of the argument these four only need be considered. Their capitals and net profits for the three years under consideration, had been:—

	Capital. Yen.	Average net Profits. Yen.
Japan R. Company	42,000,200	3,596,787
Sanyo R. "	35,840,000	1,331,868
Kinshiu R. "	21,128,132	1,932,801
Kobu R. "	1,710,000	211,988
Total	98,678,332	7,053,444

If the multiplier were taken as 20, in other words, if the rate of interest were 5 per cent., the purchase price would be 140 million yen in round numbers; if the multiplier were 25, or interest at 4 per cent., the price would be 176 millions, and if the multiplier were calculated on a basis of 3½ per cent., the price would be 185 millions. The multiplier of 20, supposing the face value of the shares to be 50 yen, would give the following purchase prices for the shares:—

Japan R. Company.....	84
Kinshiu R. "	91
Sanyo R. "	82
Kobu R. "	123

There was nothing extravagant in these figures, nor should there be any serious difficulty in coming to an understanding with the shareholders on such a basis. As to the effect that the transaction might exercise on the market for bonds, it was to be noted that under any circumstances additional bonds, to the extent of from 200 to 300 million yen, would have to be issued for the purposes of the post bellum programme and for railway construction, so that an addition of 140 or 150 millions ought not to create any great apprehensions. Besides, the transaction could not properly be called an inflation of the volume of securities. It would only be an exchange of one kind of securities for another; a substitution of public bonds for railway shares. The element of hard cash would not enter into the transaction to any appreciable extent. Possibly the shareholders might desire some part of the purchase price in money. If so, there could be no difficulty in obtaining what was necessary from foreign capitalists, the railways being unimpeachable security. The War Bonds were now quoted at a premium in the London market, though they stood at a considerable discount in Japan. With proper management, there could not be much difficulty in selling whatever quantity was desired to British capitalists. A hundred million or two hundred million yen worth of bonds would be a mere drop in the ocean of London finance, and as for the payment of the interest, which operation was regarded by some people with apprehension and considered likely to deplete the country of specie, there should not be much anxiety on that point in view of the rapid development shown by the country's foreign commerce. At all events, the amount of bonds added to the country's floating capital would not suffice to cause appreciation of commodities or other economic disturbance.

Mr. Takagi Maotoshi did not think that the method of comparison adopted by the introducer of the Representation was fair. As a matter of fact, the Government lines traversed the very best routes in Japan. They joined the two capitals and passed through highly populated, prosperous districts. It was misleading to set up any contrast between the earnings of such railways and the earnings of private railways *en bloc*. He had the utmost respect for Mr. Kuribara's judgment as well as for his financial ability, but he could not see that the conclusions just submitted to the House were reconcilable with actual facts. Such a valuable property were the State roads considered that during several years the business men had agitated to obtain

possession of them by purchase. Another incomprehensible point made by Mr. Kuribara was that only 12 trains a day could be run on Japanese private lines. How was such a limit fixed? He failed to follow Mr. Kuribara's reasoning, especially where the transport of troops was concerned. Besides, the Government's profits were swelled by the high prices that it charged for tolling stock hired to the private lines, while, at the same time, the salaries of the chief officials were not charged to the railway accounts; only the pay of the people actually engaged in the traffic business appeared.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio was not a thorough-paced opponent of the principle of State ownership of railways. Under some circumstances such a system might be most desirable. But he had listened with considerable astonishment to the speech of Mr. Kuribara, because in one important respect it seemed to be vitiated by a serious misapprehension. Mr. Kuribara had proceeded on the assumption that the method of State ownership was practically endorsed by Occidental countries, and that, with the exceptions of England and America, all Western nations had converted their railways into public property. But, in point of fact, that statement applied to only two countries, Egypt and Nicaragua. These petty States excepted—and one of them, as they knew, could not properly be included in the account at all—these two excepted, the practice of the whole Western world was directly at variance with Mr. Kuribara's assertion. In truth there was not one single Great Power in the Occident which had carried out the system advocated by Mr. Kuribara. Some of them had tried the experiment and gone back to private control as the better method. In Italy, for example, the Government owned the lines but they were worked by private companies. The system of mixed ownership that existed in Japan might be said to prevail everywhere. Stating the matter arithmetically, there were 17 countries with the same system as that of Japan, and 9 where the lines were wholly in the possession of private companies. In Germany State ownership had been originally tried; then the private system was adopted, and then, 30 years ago, some important strategical routes had been brought under official control. In France, the Government held only a fraction of the lines. Then, as a rule, all State-owned railways showed bad financial records. That was the case even in Belgium, and as for Russia, the routes worked by the State invariably showed losses. The truth was that in the matter of nationalization of the railways Japan's case was exceptional, not because the State held a small proportion of lines, but because it held a very large one. As a point of general theory monster organizations of all kinds were to be deprecated. They offered great facilities for abuses and they wielded a power that could not safely be trusted to any body of individuals. It was not pleasant to call attention to Japan's political record, but there could be no denial that her Cabinets' tenure of office was most unstable. If the railways were entirely the property of the State, every change of Ministry might be the occasion for changes in their management and in the personnel of their principal officials. It was necessary also to consider the topography of a country when discussing a question of this kind. Countries like Germany, France, Austria, and Russia might be said to without any means of transport except their railways. But Japan consisted of a series of islands stretched out in a long narrow line. Access to almost every part of her territory might be obtained by sea. To apply to her case a system which suited Germany or France was like using a boot for a hat. Nature had conferred on her an immense advantage; a blessing which seemed to escape the attention of the advocates of State ownership of railways, who argued as if the troops must be carried by land and by land only. In very truth, the railways, apart from their function in carrying an army to a port of embarkation, would never be required for purposes of military transport in Japan unless the fleet had been exterminated.

Mr. Kuribara and his fellow-thinkers appeared to be uniformly basing their forecasts on the assumption that the fleet would be driven from the seas. They proposed to provide for the contingency of defeat only. If the public had to consider the state of affairs following the destruction of the fleet, the question whether the railways happened to be in the possession of the State or of private persons would not receive much attention, or have any practical value: every mile of road would then be at the Government's absolute disposal. If even in France, where a strong purpose of military action animates the nation, and where the railways are absolutely necessary for military transport, nationalization of the lines had been only very partially effected, and if in Germany, where constant precautions have to be adopted against attack, the empire did not own any lines, but left them in the hands of the various States or of private persons, how could it be reasonably contended that the system of nationalization was necessary in Japan, where an assault by land need never be apprehended until after the destruction of the fleet, and where an offensive movement of concentration might be made at any chosen point? As to the economic aspect of the proposition, they were told that the addition of 140 or 150 million yen worth of bonds to the volume in circulation would not produce any disturbance of value. Surely such a proposition could not be maintained for an instant in the face of recent experience. Last year, the withdrawal of 40 millions by the Bank of Japan's purchases had exercised a very perceptible effect on the market value of public securities, pushing them up from 93 to 96. Could it be doubted that if 150 millions were thrown suddenly on the market great disturbance would arise? The raising of a foreign loan was talked of as a probable means of reducing the volume of bonds at home. No doubt a foreign loan could be raised, but what about the payment of the interest? With regard to that they were vaguely directed to remember the growth of the country's foreign commerce, but he suggested that they should also remember that at present the country's foreign commerce did not serve to bring specie into the country but rather to drive it out. It was not reassuring to hear this airy talk, this light expression of hope that everything would be sure to come right somehow or other, when they were dealing with a financial problem of large dimensions. The House had better consider, too, whether the Government's success hitherto as a railway manager justified the nation in placing all the lines under official control. It was notorious that the business capacities of officials proved everywhere defective in practice, and certainly the history of Japanese officialdom did not suggest that it could be expected to upset the rule. Had the Japanese *samurai* been a man of affairs at any time in his history? Had the *shogun* of to-day inherited any commercial or industrial faculties from their ancestors? Was it not true, on the contrary, that in this very matter of railways the Government's management was notoriously defective, and that in the war of 1894-5 the private lines had been found much more efficient than the official?

At this point the closure was put, and carried by a small majority (138 to 133), the method of voting being by roll call; but Dr. Hatoyama having challenged the President's count, an unsigned ballot was taken, when 143 voted for the closure, and 130 against. The President then announced that an unsigned ballot would be taken to decide the fate of the Representation. Dr. Hatoyama moved that the ballot be signed. Mr. Hoshi Toru said that the responsibility of delaying the proceedings rested on the Progressists, whereupon Dr. Hatoyama withdrew his motion, and an unsigned ballot was taken, when 145 cast their votes for the Representation, 127 opposing it.

THE NEW TAX ON SOY.

Mr. Kuribara, in his capacity as Chairman of Special Committee, inquired whether the Report of the Committee on the Bills for in-

creasing the Tax on Soy and the Postal Rates had been circulated among the members, and, being answered in the affirmative, asked permission to present the Report at once as a matter of urgency. This proposal evoked numerous protests, several members contending that such procedure was precipitate and unjust, the Report of the Committee having only just come into their hands, and no time having been available for its consideration. Mr. Kudo Kokan insisted that no precedent existed for such unseemly haste, and Mr. Shimada Saburo pointed out that the copies of the Report which had been circulated were not even printed, but only impressions taken from the original; that they were difficult to decipher, and that they did not bear any name.

An unsigned ballot being taken, 138 voted for the urgency motion and 133 against it.

AN INTERESTING DEBATE.

Mr. Kuribara then presented his Report. The deficit of revenue which the Bills were intended to cover aggregated 5,950,000 yen. Of that amount, the increased tax on soy was estimated to yield 1,420,000 yen, but as the change could not become operative until March, namely, a month later than the original intention, the yield would be only 1,260,000 yen. The augmented postal rates were expected to yield 1,980,000 yen, but the Committee had decided that the changes proposed in the case of periodicals were not advisable. This involved a reduction of the estimated revenue by 310,000 yen, the final result being that the two Bills would bring to the Treasury an income of 2,930,000 yen. The Government had also introduced a Bill for taxing houses, which would have given a revenue of 2,600,000 yen, but in consideration of the fact that amendments of the Tobacco Monopoly system and the institution of a license fee for dealers in manufactured tobacco, would produce additional revenue to the extent of over two millions, the House Tax Bill had been withdrawn. The Government had further decided to obtain 600,000 yen by postponing the abolition of export duties until July 1st. The Committee had further amended the Soy Tax Bill so as to permit the manufacture of *tsu* of soy for domestic use, free of tax. Mr. Kuribara finally explained that, in view of the shortness of the Report and the simplicity of the subject, it had not been thought necessary to distribute printed copies.

Mr. Momma opposed the Bill for increasing the Tax on Soy. He contended that the poorest classes, to whom soy was almost a necessary of life, were not in a position to manufacture the article at home, but had to buy it from time to time in small quantities, whereas the middle and upper classes resorted to domestic manufacture. Thus the practical result of the Bill would be to levy an impost from the poorest among the people in respect of an article of daily use.

Mr. Shimada Saburo vehemently denounced the method of procedure adopted with regard to this measure. It was undoubtedly a Bill of great importance, yet the majority, relying on the force of numbers, were rushing it through the House in a manner which virtually reduced the discussion to a farce. After the regular hour for closing the session had come, a half-illegible copy of a Special Committee's report had been distributed among the members. It was not even a printed document, and it bore no signature. The invariable practice previously had been to circulate printed copies signed by the President, and to allow an interval of two days before inviting the House to the discussion report. But they were now asked to make this illegible, unsigned document the basis of immediate discussion, and their protests against such precipitancy were silenced by the voice of an arbitrary majority. It was impossible not to feel poignant regret that the House should thus belittle itself and establish a pernicious precedent. Passing to the Tax itself, he condemned it as opposed to the elementary principles of taxation, since it was imposed on an article of necessary consumption; since its burden would fall almost entirely on the poorest classes, and since its collection

would involve vexatious scrutiny into the domestic affairs of the people.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro replied. He traversed Mr. Shimada's criticism as vague, and pointed out that while the *Sake* Tax had been increased from 4 *yen* per *koku* to 12, the tax upon soy was raised from 1 *yen* to 2 *yen* only.

After some further debate, the closure was applied, and, an unsigned ballot being taken, 150 voted for the measure and 125 against it. The Third Reading was dispensed with, and the Bill was passed at once.

INCREASING POSTAL RATES.

The House then proceeded to discuss the Bill for increasing the Postal Rates.

Mr. Minoura Katsudo (formerly Vice-Minister of State for Communications) declared that the measure was uncivilized and calculated to check national progress. It would greatly impair the reputation of the Government, and, if the House of Representatives passed it, the nation also would be discredited. Japan's postage rates were certainly cheap. But this was not a mere question of *yen* and *sen*. It was a question of wide economical import. One of the first aims of a progressive people should be to provide themselves with the most complete machinery for communications, yet they were now asked to deliberately injure the facilities of postal communication for the sake of obtaining a petty fraction of revenue. It was beyond doubt that the effect of raising the rates would be to reduce the bulk of the correspondence, which meant simply that progress would be checked. From another point of view the Bill was utterly to be condemned. It was in direct contradiction of the principles avowed by the Cabinet. They had been assured again and again that the Government's purpose in increasing the taxes was to place the national finances on a sound footing. But the inference inevitably suggested by this measure was that the country had fallen into extreme financial straits and did not know whither to turn for sources of revenue. That was the conclusion at which the foreign public would certainly arrive. Instead of contributing to financial soundness, the imposition of this tax would effectually injure the national credit. There might be some excuse for the measure if the proceeds of the tax were to be applied to improving the postal service, which certainly stood in need of improvement. But there was no suggestion of any such purpose. The revenue accruing from the increased rates was to go into the Treasury and be used for several purposes. Already the Treasury was obtaining 2½ million *yen* from the posts. Not a *sen* of that ought to be employed for defraying the general expenditures of the State until all just causes of complaint against the postal service had been removed. The measure would disgrace the nation if it became law, and he conjured the House to interfere in the best interests of civilized progress.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo did not propose to occupy the attention of the House by any lengthy speech. But there were a few points calling for comment. They must remember that the present postal rates had been fixed seventeen years ago, when the purchasing power of the *yen* and its sterling value had been very different from what they are now. The adoption of the single gold standard in 1897 permanently fixed the sterling value of the *yen* at one half of its original figure. Yet the postal rates had remained all the while unchanged. They had been told by the last speaker that this measure would be a disgrace to the country. Were they to conclude that all the nations belonging to the International Union were disgraced because they took care to fix their rates in gold irrespective of the apparent increase thus entailed on silver-using countries, and because they exacted payment in gold for services mutually rendered, so that the nominal cost of such services increased constantly in terms of silver tokens of exchange? What really disgraced a country was that its postal service should be badly managed, slow, and imperfect. This talk about the duties imposed by civilized progress, and the obligation of an enlightened Govern-

ment not to charge an additional *sen* for work which had become more and more expensive, and for which the rate of remuneration originally fixed had ceased to have its original purchasing power, was the indiscriminating platitudes of school primers. For his part, he thought that the Government showed a great want of courage in not raising the charge at once to 4 *sen*, so as to make it consistent with the new currency system. As to the argument that the revenue thus obtained was not to be applied to improving the service, it rested on a palpable misconception. The particular *yen* and *sen* derived from the post office work might not be so applied, but if they looked at the appropriations for the Department of Communications, they would see an item of some twelve million *yen* under the heading of "outlays for the improvement of posts and telegraphs." That was one of the special expenditures which contributed to disturb the equilibrium between the outgoings and the incomings in the Budget, and, since the increase of postal rates was one of the means of restoring equilibrium, it might fairly be regarded as revenue raised for works of improvement. They had been explicitly informed that the Government appreciated the necessity of greatly bettering the postal service, but for that purpose funds were absolutely necessary. The want of funds had obstructed progress, and produced a state of affairs which constituted a real disgrace. Cheapness should not be the first aim of legislators and administrators. What they had to strive for was excellence.

Mr. Tannematsu moved the closure, and it was voted without division.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi wished to ask a question. The Treasury had bought in about 50 million *yen* worth of Bonds during the current year. He could not trace the interest on these Bonds in the accounts and he desired information on the subject.

The President, having consulted the Minister of State for Finance, informed Mr. Taguchi that His Excellency declined to answer at the moment, as the question was foreign to the matter under discussion.

An unsigned ball showed 148 for the second Reading of the Bill and 124 against. On the motion of Mr. Tannematsu, the Second Reading was taken at once, and the Bill was passed as amended by the Special Committee.

The House rose at 8.55 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 10TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS:

The House met at 10.10 a.m.

EDUCATION.

Mr. Iwawa called attention to the fact that although the House had passed a Representation, more than a year ago, urging the advisability of appropriating a portion of the Indemnity to educational purposes, and although Questions had subsequently been asked on the subject, no reply was yet forthcoming. He begged the President to press for an answer.

THE BUDGET.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported, in a few words, that the Committee had decided in favour of the Budget as amended by the Lower House, and added that the Heads of Sections would furnish information, if required, on the subjects which had fallen within their respective spheres.

Viscount Soga asked for an explanation as to the methods resorted to for making up the deficiency of Revenue resulting from the reduction of the proposed rate of Land Tax, and received from Mr. Sakatani, Government Delegate, the following statement:—

Deficiency of Revenue caused by reducing the proposed rate of Land Tax	Yen. 7,450,000
Reductions made by the Lower House in the general Expenditures	1,500,000
Net deficiency of Revenue ..	5,950,000
Yield of increased Tax on Soy	1,420,000
Yield of increased Postal Rates	1,980,000
Increased Revenue resulting from changes in the Tobacco Monopoly ..	

System	1,950,000
Revenue derived by postponing for 3 months the abolition of Export Duties ..	600,000

Total

In reply to a further question, Mr. Sakatani said that, although it was not yet possible for him to speak with absolute accuracy, the total increased taxation next year would be 34 million *yen* in round numbers.

Viscount Soga introduced an urgency motion that the discussion of the Budget be deferred until the whole of the Government's scheme was before the House, and until the members had had more leisure to examine the Committee's Report.

The House rejected the motion.

THE POST-BELLUM PROGRAMME.

Viscount Soga said that a certain *post-bellum* programme had been elaborated, and endorsed by the Diet in its 9th session, ever since which time Cabinet after Cabinet had succumbed to the difficulty of finding means to carry out the programme. The perpetual sequel to the elaboration of that programme had been increased taxation. Each Cabinet had appeared to consider it a sacred duty to abide by the programme, and no Cabinet had succeeded. They were now asked to vote a further increase of taxation on the ground that the programme had to be put through; had to be completed. It was time that they should ask what was this thing to which the country was pledged; what did the programme mean; what were its real dimensions. At the outset, certain definite figures had been set forth and the Diet had voted them. Then, in the following session, it was asked to vote an increase of 10,670,000 *yen* for converting four protected cruisers into armoured cruisers, and then a further sum of 27,800,000 *yen* for the building of two additional cruisers. Here was a departure from the so-called "programme" to the extent of 37,950,050 *yen*. Next they were asked to vote another additional sum of from 14 to 15 millions on account of military equipment and fortifications. Could it be asserted that finally had now been reached? All the above additions had been in the section of Extraordinary Expenditures. The case was little better when they turned to the Ordinary Expenditures. The cost of maintaining the Army and Navy had been put at 39,000 *yen*, in the original estimate for 1899-00. But in the estimates now before them the figure for that same year stood at 43,930,000 *yen*. He did not wish to be interpreted as attacking the principle of military expansion. That was not his purpose. The purpose of his remarks was to ascertain whether the nation had not plunged into a kind of bottomless pit of expenditures, and whether they could discover any limit within range of reasonable calculation. It was one thing to talk of carrying out or completing a programme. It was another thing to add to it and supplement it. Were he building a house, he should consider that to provide mats and doors belonged to the category of "completing" or carrying out the architect's plan, but he should not regard the erection of out-houses and stables in the same light, and it appeared to him that the Government's so called "mats and doors" were really a new expansion of the original scheme of expansion. In the next place they had to consider whether some additional outlays must not be anticipated. When the *post bellum* programme was first enunciated, he had pointed out that a fifth Admiralty station would probably be required; that the Seventh Division of the Army would surely have to be organized at considerable outlay, and that other naval ports would be among the needs of the near future. His forecast had proved correct with reference to the Seventh Division, and he desired to know whether the Government did not now expect to have to provide for the other matters also. In Formosa, again, it seemed inevitable that large expenditures would be incurred. The troops were now quartered, he understood, in buildings which had formerly served as shrines for the Deity of War and in hired houses. It would surely be necessary to build barracks for them sooner or later.

Again, he did not, for his own part, entertain any doubt that they would be asked, by-and-by, to vote further supplies for purchasing improved weapons, and for other objects which, although they presented themselves plainly enough to his conception, he should refrain from enumerating. Finally he wanted to know what sources of additional revenue the Government had in sight. The expenditures were visible enough. Where were the funds to cover them? Was the Ministry's policy summed up in the familiar refuge of improvidence "Oh, things will come right somehow," or did they see clearly ahead?

The Minister of State for the Navy said that he was prepared to answer Viscount Sogō's questions so far as they referred to the Department under his charge, but he wished to give his replies in secret session.

SECRET SESSION.

The House went into secret session at 11.36 a.m., and resumed its sitting with open doors at 1.14 p.m.

RENEWED DEBATE.

Mr. Kato Hiroyuki condemned the reductions made by the Lower House in the section of Education. If the Peers endorsed such reductions, they would be stultifying themselves, since they had just unanimously adopted a Representation in favour of a fuller measure of State aid for education.

Viscount Tani opposed the Budget generally. He failed to discover any elasticity of revenue such as would justify the strain put upon it. Six years hence the increased rate of Land Tax would cease to be operative. Was it imaginable that the expenditures of the State six years hence would be less than they are now? The experience of the past few years did not warrant such a supposition. There was no evidence that the nation's resources were growing in proportion to the growth of the outlays to which its statesmen were committing it. It appeared to him that they were behaving as one who should put armour on a skeleton. By-and-by, when they had completed their grand schemes of armament, there would be no strength to utilize them. He concluded by denouncing the action of the Lower House in passing the Bills for increased Taxation and making no radical amendments in the Budget.

Mr. Kato Hiroyuki moved that the discussion be postponed, but the House voted against the motion.

The sections of the Home Department, the Foreign Department, and the Department of Justice were then passed as amended by the Lower House.

On coming to the Department of War, Mr. Takashima denied that the scheme of military expansion was excessive, and insisted that smaller measures would be inconsistent with the position the empire had acquired.

Viscount Tani asked what he thought of sending an army into the field without provisions; to which Mr. Takashima replied that he had no ears to listen to Viscount Tani. Mr. Izawa invited him to withdraw the expression as wanting in courtesy, but he declined to do so.

Viscount Tani moved that the outlays on account of the Army be reduced by two million yen.

The President pointed out the impossibility of putting such a motion to the House. They were considering the Budget clause by clause, and it would be necessary for Viscount Tani to indicate clearly the reductions he contemplated.

Viscount Tani replied that he wished to take the sense of the House, after which he would make explicit indications. But he did not press the matter to a division.

The Sections of War and the Navy were passed as sent up from the Representatives, and the House rose at 4.06 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.30 p.m.

PUBLIC PARKS.

Mr. Tannematsu presented a Question as to the Government's policy with regard to public parks in Tokyo. He considered that the condition of Tokyo, as the capital of Japan, was very unworthy. The progress of a nation might

be judged from the state of its chief cities. There were only two parks in Tokyo at present, Ueno and Shiba; and they had been made by the Tokugawa rulers. These parks were now the city's great lions. Everyone visited them on coming to Japan. But in Tokugawa days they had been incomparably better cared for than they are to-day. The mausolea and shrines they contained had been preserved with infinite solicitude, whereas now these grand examples of Japanese art were falling to decay. Stated briefly, the policy of the present Government seemed to be that some small measure of State aid should be given to the relics of remote antiquity, objects dating from the Nara and Heian epochs, but the treasures bequeathed from the Kamakura and Tokugawa eras were quite uncared for. If a more liberal policy in general were beyond the Treasury's financial strength, Tokyo at least should receive some attention.

NATIONALIZATION.

Mr. Abe Iwane presented the Report of the Special Committee on the Nationalization Bill. The only change recommended was that the office of Minister Plenipotentiary should be added to the list of posts, in Art. 16, for which aliens naturalized in Japan would not be eligible.

Professor Hozumi, Government Delegate, strongly opposed the Committee's amendment. This very question had been fully considered by the Committee for Revising the Codes, and after careful research and debate they had unanimously decided against imposing such a restriction. Moreover, the House of Peers had endorsed the view of the Codes Committee. An intimate knowledge of foreign countries was among the most valuable qualifications of a diplomatic officer, and when it was supplemented by sufficient knowledge of the country he served, his competence might be considered exceptional. It would be unwise to deprive the public service of the advantage of possessing such members. The only State in the world which imposed this restriction was Venezuela. The principle adopted by the drafters of the Nationalization Law had been that naturalized foreigners should be declared ineligible for all offices whose occupants were competent to take independent action. That principle at once indicated Ministers of State, the President and members of the Privy Council, judicial officials, and members of the Diet. The list given in the Bill contained also *Chokunin* officers of the Household Department and General officers of the Army and Navy. It was true that these two last classes could not take independent action: they were all under the control of superiors. But special considerations applied to them. Diplomatic officers, however, were always under the orders of the Foreign Department, and when plenary power was vested in them for the purpose of concluding a treaty or convention, their work had to be endorsed by ratification. There was no reasonable argument for closing these posts to naturalized aliens. He desired, also, to call the attention of the House to the fact that the term "Minister Plenipotentiary" did not include "Minister Resident" or "Chargé d'Affaires." Was there any consistency in excluding the first from a category which included the two last? Further, "Minister Plenipotentiary" did not include the much higher and more important post of "Ambassador." Apparently the Special Committee thought that a naturalized foreigner might safely be appointed Ambassador, but could not be trusted as a Minister Plenipotentiary. The fact was that already this Nationalization Bill contained a list of restrictions much longer than those usually imposed by Occidental countries. The latter limited to two or three the offices which they closed to naturalized aliens, but the project of law now before the House contained a list of no less than ten. This Nationalization Law would be closely scrutinized by foreign nations, and would be taken as furnishing a clear index of Japan's mood towards strangers.

The House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill, but postponed the discussion.

NEW BILLS, ETC.

The private Bill for amending the Statutory

Tariff in the sense of abolishing the import duty on salt fish coming from Saghalien, was then passed.

The following Bills, &c., were handed to special Committees:—

Government Bill relating to Patents (sent down from Upper House).

Government Bill relating to Trade-marks (sent down from Upper House).

Government Bill relating to Designs (sent down from Upper House).

Government Bill (sent down from Peers) for amending the Registration Law so as to bring it into harmony with the new Laws of Patents, Trade-marks and Designs.

Government Bills relating to local boundaries in Okayama, Kagawa, and Oita Prefectures.

Representation for establishing stations for investigating and studying questions relating to marine products, and giving training in fishery, &c.

REPRESENTATION FOR GRANTING SUCCEUR TO THE INVENTORS OF THE JINRIKISHA.

According to this Representation, the idea of the *jinrikisha* occurred to Izumi Yosuke in 1868, and he was assisted to carry it out by Takayama Kosuke and Suzuki Tokujiro, the actual work of construction being done by a carpenter named Nishida Torajiro. Had it been possible for these men to obtain a patent, they would have made large profits. But there were no patents in those days. Kosuke and Torajiro are both dead. Each has left a son who is now barely able to eke out a painful existence. Suzuki Tokujiro is a vagrant, without assured shelter or food, and Izumi Yosuke is living with some relatives in a state of extreme penury. The fact that State aid was given to Minamoto no Tsunanori, who adopted stenography to the Japanese language, is cited as a precedent by the framers of the Representation.

PERMANENT PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

Representation for appointing a Parliamentary Committee to investigate the question of constructing permanent buildings for the Diet, the present structure, which was only intended for temporary purposes, being quite inadequate.

MONDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.15 a.m.

BUDGETS.

Two Supplementary Budgets for 1899-00, Nos. 5 and 6, were handed to a Special Committee, with instructions to report on them within a week, and the discussion of the General Budget and correlated Budgets for 1899-00 was then resumed. A resolute effort was made by Professor Toyama, Dr. Kato, Viscount Tani, Mr. Izawa, and Mr. Kubota to induce the House to restore the appropriations rejected by the Representatives, namely, those for a Committee of Scientists (*Gakushi-in*), a Meteorological Committee (*Sokuchi gaku-in*), and a National Language Investigation Society (*Kokugo Chosakai*). These members contended that the House would stultify itself, on the very morrow of passing a Representation in favour of extended State aid to education, if it endorsed the reductions made by the Representatives in the appropriations for the Department of Education. Several questions were addressed to Count Kabayama, Minister of State for Education, and Mr. Izawa charged the Minister with inconsistency because he declared, in one breath, that the Government was resolutely bent upon advancing the cause of education, and, in the next, announced the Cabinet's consent to the reductions made by the Lower House. The Minister replied that, while the Cabinet was willing to accept the verdict of the two Houses of the Diet, it reserved to itself the resource of bringing in a supplementary budget to cover any expenditures which might seem absolutely essential to the progress of education.

The House, by a vote of 118 to 48, refused to restore the items expunged by the Representatives, and passed all the Budgets as amended by the Lower House.

NEW BILLS.

The following Bills were then read for the first time and handed to Special Committees:—

Stamp Tax Law (sent up from Lower House).

With reference to this Bill, the Government Delegate, replying to a question, explained that applications for insurance did not fall under the category of agreements and would not require a stamp.

Bill for amending the Business Tax Law (sent up from Lower House).

Bill for amending the Agricultural and Industrial Banks Law (sent up from Lower House).

Bill for amending the Formosa Bank Law (sent up from Lower House).

Bill for amending the Soy Tax Law (sent up from Lower House).

Bill for amending the Postal Regulations (sent up from Lower House).

Bill for rendering assistance in arresting and detaining members of the crews of Foreign men-of-war (*Gaikoku Awansen norikumi-in no taiho riuchi ni kwanansuru yonjo-ho-an*). This Bill was introduced in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Treaties.

The House rose at 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 14TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.15 a.m., and passed the following Bills:—

Government Bill (sent up from the Representatives) for amending the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly Law in the sense of extending its provisions to imported tobacco.

Government Bill for the regulation of Strategic Zones at Fortified Places. A slight discussion took place with reference to this bill. Viscount Soga, presenting the Special Committee's Report, stated that the Committee, with the assent of the Government Delegate, recommended an amendment of the 9th Article, namely, the substitution of *senpaku* (vessel) for *kwanan* (ship), as the latter term would include foreign men-of-war. The Government Delegate, Capt. Saito, I.N., denied that he had given any such assent, upon which Viscount Soga became greatly excited, and asked whether Captain Saito intended to charge him with untruth. The House finally rejected the Committee's amendment of this Article, but adopted its other suggestions.

Government Bill (sent up from the Representatives) empowering the Treasury to have recourse to the foreign market, if convenient, for funds which, according to the Law now in operation, should be obtained by a domestic loan.

Government Bill (sent up from the Representatives) for the better protection of the aborigines of Hokkaido.

Government Bill for dispensing with the use of stamps (*natsuin*) by foreigners in civil cases, and for extending succour to foreign litigants.

Government Bill (sent up from the Representatives) for amending the Law of Registration of Immoveables.

Private Bill (sent up from the Representatives) for changing local boundaries in Ehime Prefecture.

The following Bills were handed to Special Committees:—

Private Bill (sent up from the Representatives) providing that lands on which the increased rate of national tax is levied shall be exempt, during the six-years' period of the levy, from communal taxation.

Private Bill for granting state aid to Urban and Prefectural Agricultural Experimental Stations. With regard to this Bill the Government Delegate said that, although its principle was not disapproved, the state of the finances forbade its operation until the fiscal year 1900-1.

The House rose at 1 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1 p.m.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

Mr. Hayakawa Rinsuke presented a Question on the subject of the control of religions. He spoke for half an hour, and his speech was

evidently dictated by a conviction that, after the inauguration of mixed residence next July, some official machinery for the regulation of religious affairs will be necessary, as the attitude of Christianity towards the state is not in harmony with the principles of Japanese nationalism. What he desired to ascertain was the Government's practical interpretation of the limits set by the Constitution to freedom of conscience, namely, that its exercise must not be opposed to the discharge of a Japanese subject's duties or to the maintenance of peace and order.

THE POWERS OF THE POLICE.

A Question was also presented by Mr. Kagami Tsurumatsu with reference to the powers of the police. The title of the Question was "abuse of power by the police and trampling upon the rights of the people," and the incident on which he founded his query was that he had been summoned by the Fukagawa Police to attend at the station on the 10th instant, carrying with him a photograph of one Kikusawa, he himself being in the position of a third party in the case under examination, and being required only to give evidence. He desired to know whether such action fell within the legitimate competence of the police.

ELECTION CONTROL.

The House then received the Special Committee's Report on the Government's application for *post facto* approval of the Imperial Urgency Ordinance issued last year for the better control of elections. The Committee recommended that approval be withheld, not because the Ordinance was unnecessary at the time of its promulgation, but because its continued operation would be superfluous after the passage of the new Election Law now before the House. The Government Delegate opposed the Committee's decision, but the House endorsed it.

NATIONALIZATION.

The Second Reading of the Nationalization Law was then taken. Mr. Mochizuki moved that the 5th Article be amended, in the sense of eliding the provision which entitles a foreigner to obtain Japanese nationality by marriage with a woman registered as the head of a house. No such rule existed in any foreign country, and, in his opinion, its operation might lead to abuses. There was no obstacle to setting up an independent household in Japan. Parents need only to make a declaration that a daughter had left the paternal family and established a house of her own. Registration then made her a *Koshu* (head of a house), and in that capacity she could take to herself a foreigner as husband who would forthwith obtain Japanese nationality. An arrangement of that kind could always be effected in the interests of a foreigner provided that he were willing to pay for it, and the speaker judged that nationality thus obtained would not always be justified by the qualifications usually considered necessary. The better plan would be to provide that, as a general rule, the wife followed the husband's nationality, but, since special conditions existed in Japan, he suggested that a clause be added to Art. 18, empowering the wife to retain her family name and nationality if she so pleased. Under no circumstances, however, should the mere fact of marrying a Japanese woman entitle a foreigner to obtain Japanese nationality.

The Government Delegate opposed this amendment on the ground that it was a violation of the immemorial custom which attached special importance to the family in Japan. The absence of corresponding sanction in the laws of foreign countries meant simply that their customs were different.

The House nevertheless adopted the amendment, and also endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee that the office of Minister Plenipotentiary be closed to foreigners who have obtained Japanese nationality.

COPYRIGHT.

The Government Bill (sent down from the Peers) embodying a project of Copyright Law, was then read and handed to a Special Com-

mittee, as was also a Government Bill providing for a Formosa Public Undertakings Loan of 40 million yen, for the building of railways, the improvement of harbours, the erection of offices, and the making of water-works.

DISCARDING THE RIN.

The House next passed the private Bill providing that, in making up taxation accounts, all fractions of a *sen* be omitted, any fraction equal to or greater than 5 *rin* being entered as 1 *sen*, and any fraction less than 5 *rin* being discarded. This rule is not to apply, however, to cases where the total payment is less than 5 *rin*, since, in such instances, to discard the amount altogether would be to deprive the tax-payer of his public rights.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The following two Bills were read and handed to Special Committees:—A private Bill for amending the Statutory Tariff in the sense of abolishing the duties on superphosphates for fertilizing purposes; and a private Bill for amending the Law of Technical Education in the sense of extending its provisions to marine products.

AN ANCIENT SHRINE.

A Representation was then adopted urging that State aid be given to the Aikiu Association in connexion with the Shrine of Take in Hiroshima. The Emperor Jimmu had his headquarters in the Aki District of Hiroshima for a space of seven years, while carrying on military operations against the eastern regions, and the shrine of Take, though dedicated to him, is only a prefectural, not a national, shrine. The Representation suggests that it be placed on the list of National Shrines.

The House rose at 3.45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.15 p.m.

KOREAN TROUBLES.

Mr. Tominaga Hayata presented a Question with reference to the murder of 15 Japanese fishermen and the wounding of 8 others on the north-east coast of Korea in March, 1896. He described the incident, showing that the assassination had been deliberately planned by the Koreans, and that they had afterwards attempted to destroy the evidence of their deed by pouring kerosene over the corpses and burning them. The families of some of the sufferers had been left in a state of destitution. What steps had the Government taken to obtain redress or to succour the wives and children of the murdered men?

BUDGETARY MATTERS.

Two Supplementary Budgets for the fiscal year 1898-9; four budgets of expenditures already incurred in 1896-7, and four similar budgets for 1897-8, were then approved. The first of these measures contained an item of 300,000 yen for the suppression of bandits in Formosa, and Mr. Takagi Masatoshi animadverted in strong terms on the failure of the Government to establish order in the new dominion. He thought that the granting of the appropriation ought to be accompanied by some expression of the House's dissatisfaction, but his proposal found no support. Some discussion was also provoked in connexion with one of the extra budgets for 1897-8. It appeared that when the Government invited tenders for the construction of militia barracks in Hokkaido, no offers had been made, and the contractor to whom the work had been entrusted absconded without completing it, so that the War Department had to take it in hand and finish it without the aid of contract labour. A member moved the rejection of the budget on the ground that there must have been gross mismanagement, but the House rejected the motion.

HOKKAIDO ABORIGINES.

At the instance of Mr. Hoshi Toru, the House gave its consent to the amendments made by the Peers in the Bill for the better

protection of the aborigines of Hokkaido, and then proceeded with the second Reading of the Amended Registration Law, which was passed with some changes suggested by Mr. Hoshi Toru.

PRIVATE BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS.

The following two (private) Bills were then passed:—

Bill for officially recognising Agricultural Associations, and granting an annual sum of 150,000 yen to aid them.

Bill for amending the Deep-sea Fishing Encouragement Law, in the sense of reducing the tonnage limit of vessels eligible for aid and increasing the scale of allowances.

The Special Committee reported favourably on the Representation for dispensing with students' fees in the case of Primary Schools, the Treasury to disburse the sum deducted from the income of the Schools.

Mr. Kudo Kokan, while approving of the Representation, pointed out that the amount involved was over 3 million yen, and that no source to provide the money was immediately available. He moved, therefore, that the Representation be amended so as to suggest, not the immediate, but the gradual, adoption of the desired step.

The House rejected the motion by a vote of 111 to 60, and adopted the Representation.

SERICULTURE.

A Representation was then read, and adopted, for establishing Sericultural Stations. Mr. Furuhata Momotaro introduced it in a speech the gist of which was that despite the leading place held by silk in the list of Japanese exports, the methods of sericulture left so much to be desired that the silk of France and Italy was far ahead of the Japanese article, and even China seemed likely to distance Japan. The plain truth was that American and French manufacturers now turned to Japanese silk as a *pis-aller* only. It was therefore of vital importance that resolute steps should be taken to effect some improvement of methods.

FERTILIZERS.

The following two Bills were then handed to Special Committee:—Bill providing for the Regulation of Fertilizers, which, owing to their greatly increased price, had become liable to adulteration, so that some system of inspection was necessary.

Bill for amending the Law relating to Stud Horses.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 10.15 a.m., but a quorum was not obtained until 10.45.

The following measures were passed:—

Two Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House) for granting State Aid to the Bank of Formosa, and allowing it to issue 1-yen notes.

Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for the regulation of Arms and Explosives. This Bill was passed as amended by the Representatives.

Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Business Tax Law, in the sense of dividing the capital of companies doing business abroad as well as in Japan, and imposing the tax on the capital involved in the Japan business only.

Private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for abolishing the import duty on salt fish brought from Saghalien.

Private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) relating to responsibility for damage caused by conflagration.

These Bills having been passed, the Report of the Petitions Committee should have been considered, but the House was counted out at 12.15 p.m.

The House of Representatives did not meet.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A NEW WAY TO PAY HUMANITY'S OLD DEBTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the country where I was born at a time when the government was still administered as that of a republic, the march of progress is so rapid that the lessons of its past history are forgotten in a day. To the present generation the Civil War of forty years ago is scarcely more than a dream. That the stupendous conflict resulted in the enfranchisement of millions of slaves, and their investiture with the rights of citizenship, is a fact unheeded by the community which complacently tolerates the lawless barbarities now inflicted upon the race to which the boon of freedom was ostentatiously granted. The earlier war of independence has become so remote a tradition that a brief reference to what actually happened, and what might have happened, in the latter part of the last century, may perhaps supply wholesome food for reflection.

Inspired by generous sympathy with a noble principle, a few enthusiastic Frenchmen threw themselves, body and soul, into the American struggle for liberty. The Government of France also rendered substantial service from motives of practical policy,—recognizing that to support the rebellious colonists was to strike heavily at the enemy against whom it had long contended. A French naval armament was sent across the ocean, by whose co-operation the English were defeated and expelled, and the insurgents enabled to establish themselves as a self-ruling nation. That is what actually happened.

What might have happened is this. After contributing to the overthrow of the British arms, the Government of France might have composed its quarrel with England, and, impelled by lust and greed, enacted a treaty securing the cession of King George's nominal authority over the American territories to His Majesty Louis XVI. Then, repudiating every obligation of justice and honour, France might have dispatched forces too powerful for the enfeebled colonists to resist, and acquired, at least temporarily, a fine province in the Western hemisphere, together with a heritage of infamy that would have endured to all eternity.

If history had really taken this turn, it may be believed that the Americans, though stunned and bewildered by the unexpected blow, would have girded themselves anew for battle, and fought to the death for the liberty of which they had been robbed. And the heart of many an honest Frenchman would have gone out to them, charged with pity for their misfortune, and hopeful that the conscience of France might be aroused in time to save that country from irretrievable disgrace and shame.

E. H. HOUSE.

Tokio, February 11th, 1899.

MR. PFOUNDEN'S PROTESTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I beg leave to claim space to protest against the statements in a paragraph, appearing in your issue of the 26th ultimo referring to me, and my efforts to organize a fitting reception for a gallant and distinguished visitor.

I have only just returned from a trip to the South Island on important urgent business; and my attention was called to the matter to-day.

I have already written to you, more than once, sending copies of extracts of correspondence with the noble officer, showing that I was merely assisting the Japanese, prior to the reception, &c., being taken up officially.

I most decidedly resent the repetition of the misrepresentation of yourself and your contemporaries, for I in no way presumed to act on behalf of any other foreign residents, nor have I represented myself as a "leader" amongst the alien community.

I was asked to serve on the Committee appointed at the public meeting of foreign residents convened by the Chamber of Commerce here, to arrange for the visit of His Imperial Majesty

the Emperor of Japan; and I at first was diffident, but consented, when urged to assist with my experience, also acting as one of the special Sub-committees to draft the address to the Mikado. I was active, and prominent, especially in certain episodes connected therewith; and subsequently, when the Japanese wished to testify their spontaneous appreciation of the courtesy and enthusiasm of the foreign community, I had occasion to confer with many of the leading Japanese.

My action in Kobe, Osaka, and Kyoto, had no connection whatever with the foreigners, after I discovered, upon canvassing for support, that I would meet with opposition, in my attempt to have a wider circle interested in the gallant statesman's reception.

My letters already printed in your contemporaries, and the expresses I issued—copies of which I sent you—fully explain my position.

Your gratuitous and unsolicited advice needs no reply. I have been before the American and European higher class public ever since I contributed to your paper a quarter of century ago, lecturing, writing, &c., and it is not for you or your contemporaries to dictate to me in any way.

I am, &c.,

C. PFOUNDEN.

Kobe, February 9th, 1899.

THE POLICE AT THE GATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to your editorial on "The Rule of the Road" the policeman made an exception with me, as, when entering the gate, though I was in the centre, he pointed for me to go to the left. I was on a bicycle and hence perhaps his extra care where I was concerned.

The rule is certainly an excellent one, as it is a wonder many serious accidents have not occurred there before.

Yours truly,

BICYCLE.

N.B.—The notice boards seen by me were only in Japanese.

Tokyo, Feb. 14th.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

In the Yokohama Chibo Saibansho, on Tuesday, Ah Poy, employed by Mr. A. Weston, was sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment on a charge of embezzlement.

Over 30 employees of the gas works, Shiba Tokyo, have a struck work for an increase of wages in view of the increased cost of living. Their proposals have been rejected.

A rice dealer named Matsura Matsusaburo (19), living at Sonexaki, Osaka, was arrested on the 15th charged with violating and afterwards murdering a girl named Fusa (12), living in the same street. He is now under examination at the Court.

In the Yokohama Chibo Saibansho on Wednesday morning, Sekiya Chojiro, an interpreter, was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment and 6 months' police surveillance on a charge of forging a promissory note and attempting to obtain money on false pretences.

On Tuesday, at 4 p.m., a man named Daigo Yoneki (38), living at Iizabashi, attempted to murder his wife Tokuo (19), inflicting serious wounds on her head and face with a knife. The offender escaped, but was arrested the same night. The victim was quite unconscious when found, but has been restored under medical treatment. The cause of the crime appears to be jealousy.

At a certain bookbinding exhibition in London, two prizes were awarded to work sent in by a Miss Matthews. It was not for several weeks that it transpired that the prize winner really was the Princess Victoria of Wales, the fact having been carefully kept secret, not only from the judges at the exhibition, but also from the family of the prize-winner herself.

About 3 p.m. on the 15th, a thief stole a pair of *gis* from a house in Fukutomonicho Ichikawa,

Yokohama, and was seen leaving by a man Tokutaro who happened to be passing. Tokutaro, pursued the thief, missed him, but a short time after met him again. He attempted to seize the man when the latter stabbed him with a dagger, and made good his escape. The victim was taken to the Isazakicho Police Station, and thence to the Yokohama Hospital. His injuries were very serious. The thief was brought to book the same night.

The *Nagasaki Press* says that the retrial of the prisoner Kelly for the murder of Gannon in Nagasaki, last year, has resulted in a verdict of manslaughter being returned, and the prisoner has been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. At the original trial a verdict of wilful murder was given, the prisoner being sentenced to imprisonment for life.

Correspondents in a German newspaper have been discussing the meaning of the word "Chit." The consensus of opinion seemed to be that a chit in English was first used for children, a chit book was, therefore, a child's book. One correspondent differed, and the Editor seemed inclined to favour his views. They were that chit came from the Hindustani chitree—a letter—and that, therefore, a chit book was a letter book—that is, a book in which to copy letters.

The *Daily Telegraph* quotes a few examples of odd composition which reached the editor of a Vienna newspaper during 1893. The following sentences will show what that editor suffered:—

"Death trod with rough hand this tender blossom."

"The laurel wreath upon the head of Mr. Reimers has hit the right nail upon the head."

"The happy moment is not always seized to grasp the wheel of Time by the forelock."

"Grünenthal was born at Schladen in 1833, and up to this time had been unknown to the police."

The following appears in a Canadian paper:—There is a rumour that the Canadian Pacific Railway is to have opposition on the Coast; that another line of steamers is to be placed on the route between Vancouver and China, Japan, and Australia. The Peninsula and Oriental Steamship Company is named as the Company to compete with the Canadian Pacific for Pacific business. That Company, it is said, will place boats on within a year. It has already steamers running to China, Japan, and Australia, but not Pacific Coast points. The officials of the Canadian Pacific in Toronto have heard nothing of any such intention. Nor have the agencies out East.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* gives a diverting account of a visit he has just paid to Commandant Esterhazy in a small Dutch hotel. He spends most of the day smoking a pipe which the Dreyfusards have rendered historical, while under his window gathers a crowd of angry Hollanders hurling insulting epithets at the placid smoker. His seclusion is relieved by abusive letters and postcards which reach him from people who do not appreciate his services to the cause of Truth, and which he quoted to his interviewer with infinite gusto. Apparently he is undisturbed by threats of his foes, and continues to assert that the Jews are the greatest enemies of European progress.

The U.S. Naval Board of promotion is reported to have decided on a partial list of officers to be rewarded for their work during the war. Ensigns H. H. Ward and W. W. Buck, who served as spies, are to be favoured, as are the following officers of Admiral Dewey's fleet: Lieut.-Com. C. P. Rees and Chief Engineer James Entwistle of the *Olympia*; Lieutenant W. P. Elliot and Chief Engineer J. D. Ford of the *Baltimore*; Lieutenant-Commander J. A. Norris and Chief Engineer Richard Luch of the *Boston*; Lieutenant-Commander G. P. Colvocaresse and Chief Engineer G. B. Ransom of the *Concord*; Lieutenant E. M. Hughes and Passed Assistant Engineer R. T. Hall of the *Petrel*; Lieutenant-Commander Frederic Singer and Chief Engineer F. H. Bailey of the *Raleigh*.

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, February 10th:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid-up	...	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	...	15,996,343
Amount of convertible notes issued	...	188,513,397
Government deposits	...	36,073,637
General deposits	...	2,140,393
Exchange liability	...	1,044,917
Total	...	273,768,598

	Cr.	Yen.
Discount notes	...	30,421,144
Foreign discount notes	...	16,807,456
Loan to Government	...	22,000,000
General loans	...	65,509,888
Exchange liability	...	1,434,675
Government bonds	...	40,449,921
Property	...	1,760,626
Bullion and Specie	...	95,404,885
Total	...	273,768,598

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes issued	189,683,782
Including excess-issues	12,690,325

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	...	93,050,367
Silver	...	—
Total	...	93,050,367

Securities:—

Government bonds	...	31,364,280
Government certificates	...	22,000,000
Government Bills	...	15,000,000
Commercial notes	...	28,260,135
Total	...	96,633,415

Total reserves	...	189,683,782
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The preceding accounts compared with those of the previous week exhibit:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Excess issue	602,405	—

Specie Reserve:—

Gold	...	334,196
Silver	...	—
General loans	...	45,094
Government deposits	...	243,162
General deposits	...	561,658

—*Japan Times*.

THE BOOKSHELF.

A Fleet in Being, by RUDYARD KIPLING; London, Macmillan & Co.; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

Every Britisher who has any interest in the Fleet—and who among the residents in the Far East has not?—will be grateful to Messrs. Macmillan for reprinting in a cheap and handy form the articles contributed by Mr. Rudyard Kipling to the *Morning Post* in the autumn of 1898. In a few masterly pen pictures Kipling brings vividly home to his readers how life is spent on board one of Her Majesty's ships of war. Dwellers in these lands afar have many opportunities of seeing and visiting the British China and Japan Squadron and many can recall pleasant nights and days spent aboard as honoured guests of the wardroom, and eke the gun-room, of these serviceable craft. To them, therefore, even more than to the greater public at home, will the fidelity of the writing appeal. What can be truer to life than the following story, which is headed

DISCONTENTED AND IMPENITENT THIEVES.

Our cruiser was about to visit some Dockyard or other in a few days, and I gathered that it would be no fault of the Captain, the Wardroom, or the Warrant Officers if she did not arrive with a list of alterations and improvements as long as her mainmast. So it is with every new ship.

She never gets more than half what she wants, and so is careful to apply for thrice her needs.

To her first and picturesque demands the Yard opposes the suspicion of Centuries, saying, unoffi-

cially, "You are all a set of discontented and impenitent thieves. Go away." The ship, considering her own comfort and well-being for the rest of the commission, replies, also unofficially: "Ah, you're thinking of the Soudan-so. She was a nest of pirates if you like; but we're good. We're the most upright ship you ever clapped eyes on, and you're the finest Yard in the kingdom. You're up to all the ropes. There's no getting round you—and you'll pass our indents. We won't give you any trouble. Just a few minor repairs, and our own people will carry them out. Don't disturb yourself in the least. Send the stuff alongside and we'll attend to it."

And when the stuff comes alongside in charge of a slow-minded under-strapper they do attend to it. They talk the man blind and dumb, sack his cargoes, and turn him adrift to study vouchers at his leisure. Then the first Lieutenant grins like a Cheshire cat; the carpenter, so-called because he very rarely deals with wood, the armourer and the first-class artificers sweat with joy, and the workshop lathes buzz and hum.

But the understrapper gets particular beans because a great part of his stuff was meant for another ship and she is very angry about it.

Late in the afternoon the defrauded vessel sends a boat over to the *Early Bird* and wants to know if she has seen or heard anything of some oak baulks, a new gangway grating, some brass-work, and a few drums of white paint.

"Why, was that yours?" says the first Lieutenant. "We thought it was ours."

"Well, it isn't; it's ours. Where is it?"

"I'm awfully sorry, but—I say, won't you come and have a drink?"

They come—just in time to see the brass rods in position. Then they call the first Lieutenant a pirate, and he, poor lamb, says that he was misled by the chuckle-headed understrapper who brought the stuff alongside. Words cannot express the first Lieutenant's contention. It is too bad, too bad; but "you know what asses these Dockyard chaps can be."

With soft words and occasional gins-and-bitters he coaxes the visitors into their boat again, for he has studied diplomacy under West African Kings. They return to their own place, being young and guileless, and their reception is not cordial. Their Captain says openly that he has not an adequate thief in the ship, and that they had better go into the Church. They should have captured the understrapper early in the day. He will speak to the other Captain. And he does, like a brother, next time he meets him, galley passing galley, going to call on the Admiral.

We hope Messrs. Kelly and Walsh have a large stock of this most interesting volume: we feel sure they will need them to meet the demand that must spring up. The page is the same size as the well-known Colonial library book; the type is fine and clear; the cover, however, might have been stouter with advantage.

INTERPORT FOOTBALL MATCH.

YOKOHAMA V. KOBE.

Yokohama had an easy victory over Kobe on Saturday afternoon. The visitors had brought up a very fair team, but were somewhat weak in their forward combination, though smart pieces of individual play were seen. The Yokohama team worked together capitally, and in the first half had things entirely their own way, scoring no fewer than five goals. But for the smartness of the Kobe custodian, Meek, who kept goal extremely well, the score would have been even larger. In the second half, Kobe played up better, though one of their two goals was gained in rather an unsatisfactory manner. Of the home forwards, Drummond, Moss, and Kilby perhaps showed up best; and Lias was good at full back. Gillingham, Wilkinson, Braess, and Page did good work for Kobe.

There was a pretty large attendance at the commencement of the play, many ladies being present, tempted, no doubt, by the genial sunshine. The teams lined up as follows:—

K.R. & A.C.	Goal.	Y.C. & A.C.
R. W. Meek.		A Kingdom.
J. R. Gillingham.	Backs.	P. J. Lias.
W. Braess.		G. C. Alcock.
S. Revell.		D. Weed.
M. Gillingham.	Half-backs.	J. S. Forest.
J. Thompson.		E. Freckley.
W. N. Page (outside).	Right-wing.	K. Van R. Smith.
L. S. Hudson (inside).		J. Drummond.
C. H. Lightfoot (C. & T.)	Centre.	H. R. Meir.
F. E. Wilkinson (outside).	Left wing.	J. E. Moss.
E. T. Bethel (inside).		E. W. Kilby.

The Referee was Mr. P. Gillett, and the linesmen Messrs. F. J. Hall and H. S. Goddard.

Kobe won the toss, and elected to take the pavilion end, Yokohama thus having the disadvantage of the sun in their eyes during the first half. The

light breeze was across the ground. From the kick-off play quickly settled down into the visitors' territory, and within five minutes of the start Forrest, getting possession, made a rush up the field, and passed to Moss, who put the ball through, scoring the first goal. From the kick-off the ball was again forced into the Kobe territory; Fradgely getting possession, and passing to Smith, who, however, failed to take advantage. Lightfoot kicked behind, and a corner was conceded to Yokohama. Fradgely taking the kick shortly after Kilby got possession, made a neat pass to Drummond, who sent the ball into the net, scoring the second point for the home team. Shortly after restarting Lightfoot kicked the ball behind, and from the kick Forrest made a shot at goal, but Meek saved brilliantly. Another penalty kick for Yokohama resulted shortly afterwards, but no advantage came from it, but the home-keepers were all the while swarming round the Kobe ciadel, and Meek had to save again and again. At length, from a corner, Mair put on a wain shot, which Meek returned, but the ball rebounded to Mair, who this time put it through, making the third goal for Yokohama. The home team again pressed, but the Kobe forwards broke away, and for a short time the ball was in the Yokohama territory, but play was soon transferred once more to their end, and Fradgely passed to Moss, who sent in a short which missed its mark. Wilkinson, on the left wing, then got away, but Kilby and Moss, by some clever passing, got the leather one again into Kobe's half, and the latter shot at goal, but Meek repulsed the attack. Lightfoot soon after secured possession, and passed to Wilkinson, and the play was transferred to the home end, Wilkinson making a fine attempt at goal, but Kingdon, who had been a long time idle, saved. A return was once more made to the visitors' quarters, and from a centre by Smith Moss headed into goal—but Meek was not caught napping. Immediately after Drummond put in another shot, but the ball went outside the post, and a fine long shot by Kilby just afterwards was saved by the Kobe goal keeper. Hudson secured and made a rush for the home goal, but Lias got the ball away from him and returned it to Kilby, who made two successive shots at goal. Forrest had no easy chance from a pass by Drummond, but missed his shot. Another rush by Kobe was stopped, and Kilby then got hold of the leather, and passed to Drummond, who shot wide. Kilby, however, got hold of the leather again, and sent in a hot shot, which beat Meek, this being the fourth goal. From the kick-off the visitors went away, but the ball was soon once more Kobe's territory, and several shots were made at goal, Mair at last making the ball in. The visitors' goal was bombarded constantly the remaining few minutes of the first half, and several close shots were made, but further point was added, and the whistle blew with the score:—

Yokohama 5 goals
Kobe none.

On resuming Yokohama again pressed, but shortly after Page, Lightfoot, and Bethell, working together, got the ball into the home quarter, and the latter made a shot at goal, which, however, failed. The Kobe end was again visited, but from a corner kick Page and Hudson secured for Kobe, and went away for the home half, passing to Bethell, who shot for goal. The ball would probably have gone wide, but it touched Forrest, and landed into the net, giving Kobe their first point. Yokohama pressed on the ball being once more set in motion, Moss, Forrest, Kilby, and Smith all doing good work. Forrest was charged by Lightfoot, and placed *hors de combat* for a moment, but went on playing after a minute or two's rest. At length, Hudson, Page, and Lightfoot got possession for the visitors, and ran the ball up to the home end, where Lightfoot beat Kingdon. Some give and take play followed. Moss and Drummond made two long shots for goal, and the latter soon after put in a third, which Meek saved. Both Moss and Mair, however, were close on the ball, and between them they scrambled it through, scoring Yokohama's sixth goal. Kobe were on their mettle, and played up well, making several attempts, to invade the home goal, but they were frustrated and no further point was scored on either side till twelve minutes before time, when Lias by a fine kick took the ball from Page, and Drummond, securing it, passed to Mair, who scored. Nothing further resulted and the game ended:—

Yokohama 7 goals.
Kobe 2.

Three cheers were given for the Kobe eleven, who returned the salute. The Town Band played selections of music during the afternoon.

THE DINNER.

In the evening the two teams and supporters of

the Club dined together at the Club Hotel, where a most excellent repast was placed on the tables by Mr. Sioen. Mr. J. P. Mollison, the amiable president of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, was in the chair, and was supported by Messrs. F. J. Lias, F. E. White, C. H. Lightfoot (Captain of the Kobe team), C. H. Blake, and F. E. Wilkinson.

After the dinner the usual loyal toasts were submitted by the CHAIRMAN, who afterwards proposed "Our Kobe Visitors." He said he need hardly say that it gave him the greatest gratification to preside once more at the interport football dinner and to find himself supported by so many supporters of that glorious game. He was very grateful to have that opportunity to extend a hand of welcome to their Kobe friends, and to express the great pleasure it had given them to see them playing up with that pluck and determination that was characteristic of them. (Hear hear.) Without these interport matches he was afraid the interest in the game would languish—"No";—at any rate there was a falling off of those who attended practice matches until the interport match was within sight, and then the interest revived. He hoped these matches would long continue to be annual fixtures bringing the two ports together in mutual sympathy. He desired to pay a tribute to the energy and enthusiasm of the younger players for Yokohama, which he thought were deserving of all praise. Without them Yokohama to-day would have had a very poor showing. They were the backbone of the Club, they were what the Club had to look forward to in the future, and he (the Chairman) was glad to see so many of them finding a place in the team that day.—(Applause.) For Yokohama it was a very interesting game.—(Laughter and applause.) It only remained for him to congratulate the winners, and to offer his sympathy to the losers, at the same time recognising the pluck with which they played what he saw from the first was an up-hill game. He had no doubt they would do their best to reverse the verdict next year.

Mr. LIGHTFOOT, whose name was coupled with the toast, said one of the pleasures of coming to Yokohama, whether for football, cricket, baseball, or anything else, was to see the face of Mr. Mollison at the head of the table at dinner afterwards.—(Applause.) With regard to the game that day he was not going to have anything to say about it.—(Laughter)—except to congratulate Mr. Lias on having been successful in putting such a formidable eleven in the field. It was an eleven it would be difficult to beat anywhere in the East—in every part of the game. He did not know, however, about the goal-keeper; Mr. Kingdon did not have the chance of showing himself.—(a voice: "What about Meek?"). Oh, he was all right.—(Laughter). He expressed the thanks of Kobe to Mr. Gillett for his kindness in umpiring and for the admirable way in which he fulfilled his duties. In conclusion the speaker proposed "The Health and Prosperity of the Y. C. and C." coupled with the name of Mr. Lias, the Captain.

Mr. Lias, responding said it had given them the greatest possible pleasure to beat Kobe so handsomely as they had done.—(A voice: "Don't rub it in.") They were fighting against heavy odds. Several of their players were laid up, and two of their players were seriously unwell as the result of other games.—(Laughter.) He was sure those players had their hearty sympathy.—(Laughter.)

The other toasts were "The Referees, Linesmen, and all who have kindly assisted," proposed by Mr. T. S. FORREST, and responded to by Mr. HALL, in the absence of Mr. Gillett; "The Ladies," proposed by Mr. C. M. DUFF and championed by Mr. E. W. KILBY; and "The Press," proposed by Mr. B. H. PEARSON, and acknowledged by Mr. R. HAY.

Songs were given by the Chairman, Messrs. E. T. Bethell, H. Sharp, G. Middleton, H. E. Hayward, Hudson, etc.

THE BERRICK BANTO CASE.

JUDGMENT IN THE SAIBANSUO.

The Chiba Saibansho on Wednesday resumed the hearing of the charge against Narumo Kenjiro, formerly head banto of Messrs. Berrick Bros., No. 75, Settlement, of forging the name and stamp of the firm.

Kimura Noboru, of the Kimura Shoten, was called, and deposed to having business relations with Messrs. Berrick Bros. The latter made frequent failures in executing orders, and witness thought this was due to some financial trouble experienced by the London office of the firm. Finally witness was compelled to make an agreement with Berrick Bros. in the presence of Mr. L. Berrick, Mr. George Rice, Manager of the firm, and Narumo Kenjiro, the accused, for the reduction of a

quantity of goods ordered to a half for the convenience of Berrick Bros. Simultaneously with the conclusion of the new agreement he proposed that the sum of yen 2,000 should be paid by the firm in case of another failure to execute orders. The proposal was agreed to by the firm. It was on June 9th that the agreement was concluded between both parties. But no cargo was to be delivered even after the conclusion of the new agreement. It was stated by Narumo, but not to Berrick, that the quantity ordered should be halved for the sake of the firm, orders for another half being placed with the London shippers direct. Witness was acting as the sole agent for Berrick Bros., London, through the Yokohama Branch, but at present he was carrying on the business direct with Berrick Bros. of London. It was from June last that witness had to place orders direct with the London shippers. Some time last year, when he was in Osaka, he received a telegram from Narumo asking him to come back to Yokohama, but he could not do so. Narumo came to Osaka himself and asked witness to apply to a bank on behalf of the firm in order to induce the bank to issue a letter of credit, as Berrick Bros. were unable to obtain it from either the Foreign or Japanese banks. Witness told him (Narumo) that it would cause him great trouble, but he would try his best after coming back to Tokyo. He had a consultation with a bank which consented to issue the letter of credit, and so was ready to do so if wanted. But in the meantime, he heard various rumours about the credit of Berrick Bros. and accordingly did not do so. The bank referred to was the Tooh Bank, Berrick Bros. were unable to comply with the agreement, though the quantity ordered was reduced one half.

L. Berrick, sworn, said he was a British subject, and came to Japan in May last. He denied that the firm was in financial straits at the time of the alleged commission to Narumo, though the firm felt some trouble caused by the non-delivery of the goods which were coming in excess and lying in accumulation in different godowns in Yokohama, so much so that witness made up his mind to diminish their import business. This was because delivery had not taken place in proportion to the arrival of the goods, and not on account of financial difficulties. They were not short of money, but were simply importing too much. He had never heard of a letter despatched by witness to the Ofi Paper Mill asking for the transfer of orders to the Toyo Shokwai after May 2nd last. With regard to a letter sent by Mr. George Rice, former Manager of Berrick Bros., reporting the transfer of business to the Toyo Shokwai, witness explained that the Mill referred to was not working for many months, and could not take delivery of the goods as promised, when the Toyo Shokwai proposed to take delivery of the goods ordered by the Mill on Berrick Brothers' behalf—in order to relieve the latter from the difficulty. The Toyo Shokwai had to pay for the goods instead of the Mill on a small commission. Witness did not know if they could make any profit or not.

Barrister Yano—Were you compelled to transfer the sole agency for W. D. and H. O. Wills, to the hands of the Kimura Shoten owing to the difficulty experienced in executing orders placed by Kimura Noboru?—I only told Mr. Kimura that he should place orders direct with any tobacco company.

Various office books of Messrs. Berrick Bros. were produced.

The Procurator submitted that there was a lack of evidence against the accused, and the Judges, after a few minutes' retirement, returned with a verdict of acquittal.

TELEGRAMS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE DREYFUS CASE.

THE CHARGES AGAINST JUDGES.

London, Feb. 9.

It is understood that the report of the supplementary inquiry completely exonerates the Judges of the Court of Cassation from the charges made by M. Beaurepaire, which are said to have been based on exaggerated inferences of excited witnesses and the gossip of underlings.

London, Feb. 10.

Yesterday's version of the Committee's report with reference to M. Beaurepaire's charges against the Judges of the Criminal Section of the Court of Cassation is con-

firmly; nevertheless the Government insists on the passing of the Dreyfus Bill to transfer the decision from the Criminal Section to the full Court of Cassation.

London, Feb. 13.

Despite the Committee's rejection, the Chamber of Deputies has adopted the Dreyfus Bill by 332 against 316.

London, Feb. 14.

The French Senate has referred the Dreyfus Bill to a Committee.

THE CHINA QUESTION.

SPEECHES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, Feb. 9.

In the debate on the Address in the House of Commons, Mr. St. John Brodrick (Secretary to the War Office) said he anticipated great results from the opening of Nanning-fu on the West River, and deprecated the exhibition of hostility and jealousy towards other Powers.

Sir Edward Grey (Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the last Liberal Administration) welcomed the declaration by the Government of its desire to avoid territorial expansion in China, and advocated a candid understanding with Russia as obviating difficulties which have occurred in the past.

THE RITUALISTIC CONTROVERSY IN ENGLAND.

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ADDRESS.

London, Feb. 10.

An amendment to the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech has been moved by Mr. Samuel Smith (Liberal member for Flintshire), demanding legislation to secure the obedience of the Ritualists to the law, has been rejected by the Commons by a majority of 221 to 89 votes.

The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour (First Lord of the Treasury and Leader of the House of Commons) admitted that there were certain excesses committed by the Ritualists, but urged the House to leave the matter in the hands of the Bishops until the impotence of the latter was proved.

MCKINLEY SIGNS PEACE TREATY.

London, Feb. 13.

President McKinley has signed the Treaty of Peace.

SAMOA.

AMERICA PROTESTS AGAINST GERMANY.

The American Ambassador at Berlin has protested strongly against the conduct of the Germans over the Samoan affair.

GERMANY AND THE PHILIPPINES.

Herr von Bulow, Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the Reichstag, has repudiated any designs over the Philippines attributed to Germany, and said that the Filipinos were receiving no kind of German support. He believed that German and American interests would clash nowhere in future.

THE ANDRE EXPEDITION.

EXPLORERS' REMAINS REPORTED FOUND.

A circumstantial report states that the remains of Prof. André and his comrades have been found besides the balloon in Northern Siberia.

ANGLO-FRENCH AGREEMENTS.

FRANCE TO HAVE OUTLET ON THE NILE.

London, Feb. 14.

Apparently a semi-official note from Paris states that agreements between Great Britain and France are imminent, granting France a commercial outlet on the Nile and settling broad outlines of delimitation respecting the spheres of the regions of Bahr el Ghazal and Ubanghi.

GEN. MILES CENSURED.

A Washington report states that the Commission of Enquiry into the conduct of the late war censures General Miles for charging the commissariat with supplying bad beef.

TERRIBLE WEATHER.

GALES IN NORTH AMERICA AND ENGLAND.

A CUNARD LINER TWO WEEKS OVERDUE.

London, Feb. 14.

Continual gales have swept over Great Britain, and many wrecks are reported. A tidal wave has been experienced, and floods have occurred.

The Cunard steamer *Pavonia* is now a fortnight overdue. She was last reported helpless and drifting.

A blizzard and unprecedented cold have been experienced in America, and the usual weekly steamers from Europe have not arrived.

[The gross tonnage of the *Pavonia* is 5,587, and her horse-power 4,000. She was built in 1882.]

THE DEFENCE OF WEI-HAI-WEI.

STATEMENT BY MR. GOSCHEN.

London, Feb. 14.

The Rt. Hon. G. J. Goschen (First Lord of the Admiralty) has stated that the question of the defence of Wei-hai-wei is far advanced towards a settlement, and the proposals relating thereto will be submitted to Parliament.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.")

THE SITUATION AT MANILA: AN IMPORTANT CAPTURE.

Manila, February 8.

Aguinaldo's captain-general and private secretary have been taken prisoners.

THE WATERWORKS TAKEN.

The Americans have captured the Manila waterworks.

PROPOSED NEGOTIATIONS.

Aguinaldo proposed a cessation of hostilities with a view to opening negotiations, but General Otis refused to entertain the proposition.

THE FIGHTING CONTINUES.

Desultory firing continues, but the Filipinos avoid an encounter. A large number of Filipinos have been taken prisoners.

THE RISING THAT FAILED.

The arrangements for the Filipino rising in the town of Manila have entirely collapsed.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	T. E. K.	H'kong Maru	F. Feb. 17
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. Feb. 22
Hongkong	M. N. Co.	—	Th. Feb. 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. Feb. 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. Feb. 26
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Robilla	M. Feb. 26
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Mar. 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Mar. 6
America	T. E. K.	America Maru	Sa. Mar. 12
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 13
Europe	N. H. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Mar. 13

1 Left Nagasaki on the 18th inst.

2 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.

3 Left San Francisco on the 18th Feb.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. H. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Feb. 17
America	T. E. K.	Hongkong Maru	Sa. Feb. 22
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rosetta	W. Feb. 23
Shanghai	N. V. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Feb. 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Feb. 26
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Feb. 22
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu. Feb. 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	F. Mar. 2
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W. Mar. 6
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 13
Hongkong	T. E. K.	America Maru	M. Mar. 13

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 407.

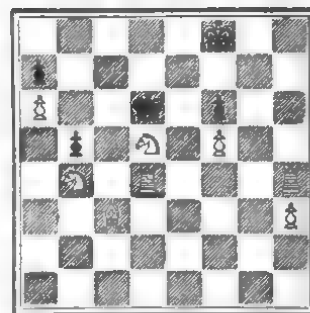
WHITE. BLACK.
1—P to Kt 8=B 1—K to R 3
2—B to Kt 4 2—B moves (must)
3—R to K R 5 mate 1—P to R 3
2—B to K 5 2—B to B 3 or B 5
3—B takes B mate if 2—B any other
3—B to B 4 or B 6 mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Masco, and M.I.

PROBLEM No. 410.

By W. PAULS, Bucharest.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mates in three moves.

Game No. 478.

THE JANOWSKY-SHOWALTER MATCH.

JANOWSKY WINS.

The thirteenth game was played on Jan. 13th, and the match ended by Janowsky's winning his seventh game. Showalter has not played up to his usual standard in this match, as he won only two games out of the thirteen. The score is:—Janowsky, 7; Showalter, 2; Draws 4

EIGHTH GAME.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Janowsky.

Black—Showalter.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	36 R (Kt4) Q	Q K2
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	37 Kt Q2	B Kt5
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	38 K QB4	Q K4
4 P Q3	B B4(a)	39 Kt B3	BxKt(g)
5 P QB3	Q K2	40 QxR	Q B4
6 Castles	Castles	41 Q K4	QxQ
7 P Q4	B Kt3	42 R K4	R R4
8 B Kt5	P Q3	43 R (K4) B4	R R7
9 P Q5(b)	Kt Kt4	44 K B4	R K7
10 B Q3	P KR3	45 Kt K6	R R4
11 B R4	Q Kt Q2	46 R R4	R P
12 P QR4	P QB3	47 R B8(h)	K B2
13 P R5	B B2	48 R B7ch	W R3
14 P B4	Kt QB4	49 Kt Q8	K B4(h)
15 P QK4	Kt B4	50 P B3	R Kt8ch
16 Q Kt4	PxP	51 K K2	R Kt7ch
17 BPxP	B Kt5	52 K Q3	RxP
18 QKt Q2	KKt QB4	53 R B7ch	K K4
19 Kt B4	R Q4	54 Kt K6ch	K R5
20 Kt K3	B Q2	55 KxP	R Kt8(i)
21 Kt Q2	Q B4	56 Kt K2	R Q8ch
22 B Kt3(c)	Kt R4	57 K K4	BxP
23 KR B4	Kt B5	58 P B4	R K8
24 BxKt	PxB	59 K B3	R Q8
25 Kt B5	P KKt3(i)	60 R B6(h)	K R4
26 Kt Q4	B KB3	61 RxQP	P KKt4
27 R (Rsq)	Kt Q Kt2(e)	62 R Q8	P Kt5ch
	B K2	63 K K4	K R5
	K (R4) Kt4	64 P Q6	P K6
	P KB4	65 P Q7	P R4
	PxKtP	66 P B5	P K7
	PxP	67 R KK3	RxP
	B B4	68 RxP	B B2
	B B3	69 P B6	R B2
	B K4	70 R K7	RxP
		71 RxB	Drawn game

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny.

(a) In the fourth game of the match Showalter played P to Q3. The text move is much superior, and leads to a better development.

(b) B takes Q Kt, followed by P takes P, would have weakened the adverse Pawns, but Black, by playing B to R3 and eventually R to Q sq. ob.

tains a splendid development. The move adopted is better.

(c) Necessary, since Black threatened Kt takes Q P, followed eventually by B takes B.

(d) Better than B takes Kt.

(e) P to Q R 3 would have stopped the adverse Kt from entering at Kt 5. It would, however, have enabled White to play Kt to B 4.

(f) The text play gives good attacking chances on the King's side.

(g) More promising was R to Kt 4 or B to Q 5. Black should have endeavoured to win the adverse Q P.

(h) B takes Kt would have been rather risky. White answers R takes B ch, R to K 4 and R to Q 6, winning the Q P.

(i) An ingenious move. Black can not well answer R takes P, for White continues R takes Kt P, threatening R takes P ch, as well as R to Kt 2, winning the Bishop.

GAME No. 479.

NINTH GAME.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.			
White—Showalter.		Black—Janowsky.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q 4	P Q 4	13 Q R B-q	B x P
2 P Q B 4	P K 3	14 P K R 3	Q R B-q
3 Kt Q B 3	Kt K B 3	15 P R 3	R R Q a 8
4 Kt B 3	P x P	16 B R 2(d)	Kt K 4
5 P K 3	P Q R 3	17 Kt K 5(q)	Q K 2
6 B x P	P Q Kt 4	18 Kt K 5(q)	Kt K 5
7 B Kt 3(b)	B Kt 2	19 B R 5(f)	R x R
8 Castles	B K 2	20 R x R	Q R 5
9 Q K 2	Castles	21 Kt K B 3(g)	Q R 4
10 R Q-q(c)	P B 4	22 Kt Q 4(h)	Q Kt 3
11 P x P	Q B 2	23 K R 2(i)	Kt Q B 6
12 B Q 3	Q Kt Q 3	24 Resigns.	

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny.

(h) Better, perhaps, was B to Q 3. By moving the Bishop to Kt 3 White somewhat blocks the Queen's wing.

(c) He could not play P to K 4 on account of P to Kt 5, followed by winning of a Pawn.

(d) White had no time for a preparatory move like B to R 2. He should have played P to K 4, in order to shut out the adverse Q B, as well as to give his own Q B some development.

(e) P to K 4 was still in order. The move selected compromises White's game.

(f) B to B 3 followed eventually by B takes Kt was more likely to free White's game.

(g) Better was Kt to Q B 3. The Kt at K 5 was well placed for defensive purposes.

(h) Pretty nearly forced, since Kt takes Kt ch, Q takes Q, Kt to Kt 4, followed by Kt takes P ch, was threatening.

(i) A serious oversight, which loses at once. White should have played Q to B sq, guarding the K Kt P. His game was badly compromised, yet it was not a hopeless one.

THE STRONGEST TEN PLAYERS.

(By G. Reichel in the *American Chess Magazine*.)

Who are the strongest ten players of to-day, and in what order of strength should they be placed? The query will here be answered by figures, which, they say, "never lie."

For this purpose the latest epoch of play, starting with the Hastings Congress of 1895, and following with the St. Petersburg, Nürnberg, Buda Pesth, Berlin, Vienna, and Cologne tournaments, can alone be pertinently reviewed, and taking the seven events as a whole, I find that the best ten percentages of wins to be in the following order:—

	Tour- neys.	Wins.	Losses.	Per cent.
E. Lasker	III.	40½	16½	71.05
S. Tarrasch	IV.	63	29	68.47
H. N. Pillsbury	V.	74	36	67.27
R. Charousek	IV.	43	25	63.23
W. Steinitz	V.	67½	41½	61.92
D. Janowski	VI.	74½	47½	61.06
M. Tchigorin	VII.	86	58	59.72
A. Burn	IV.	54	38	58.69
C. Schlechter	VI.	71½	50½	58.60
G. Maroczy	III.	38	29	56.71

On the restricted basis of the ten players between themselves the order is:—

	Wins.	Losses.	Per cent.
S. Tarrasch	24½	14½	62.82
E. Lasker	20½	12½	62.12
D. Janowski	22½	21½	51.13
H. N. Pillsbury	29	28	50.87
C. Schlechter	22	22	50.00
R. Charousek	13	14	48.14
W. Steinitz	24½	27½	47.11
M. Tchigorin	29½	36½	44.69
G. Maroczy	12½	15½	44.64
A. Burn	12	18	40.00

These figures have at least the merit of presenting the subject of chess strength in a new light.

GAME No. 480.

LASKER'S CHESS.

Considerable curiosity is manifested in Chess-circles as to what kind of Chess the Champion will play after his long self-enforced recess. From the recent games that have appeared, it is quite evident that he has not lost any of his skill and cunning. They all reveal the "Master-hand," the wonderful nicety of position-play, and the subtlety of combination in which, probably, he excels all living masters. The following game in one of a number played simultaneously:—

CENTEN GAMBIT.

White—Lasker.		Black—Amateur.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K 4	P K 4	14 P B 4	Kt x Q P
2 P Q 4	P x P	15 P B 5	Kt x Kt
3 Kt K B 3	Kt Q B 3	16 P x Kt	K K-q
4 B Q B 4	P Q 3	17 Kt x Pch	W Q-q
5 P B 3	B K 3	18 Q R 5	Kt K 5
6 B x B	P x B	19 B R 4	P K R 3
7 P x P	Q Q 3	20 Castles	B x B
8 P Q 5	P x P	21 Q x Bch	Kt K 4
9 P x P	Q Kt K 2	22 R B 7	Q B 3
10 Kt B 3	Kt K B 3	23 Kt K 6ch	K K-q
11 B K 5	Kt K 3	24 R K 5q	Q K 3ch
12 Kt Q 4	B K 2	25 K R 5q	K x R
13 Kt K 6	K B 3	26 P x Kt	K x P

And White announced mate in six moves as follows:—

27—Kt to Q 5 ch, Q R takes Kt; 28—Q to K 7 ch, K to Kt 3; 29—R to K 6 ch, K to R 4; 30—Q to B 7 ch, K to Kt 4; 31—Q to Kt 6 ch, K to B 5; 32—R to K 4 mate.

THE MODERN SCHOOL.

The following amusing verses are from the pen of Mr. Black, the champion of the Glasgow Chess Club. They appear in the *British Chess Magazine*.

I sing the praises of the Modern School,
The pond'rous reign of routine, rote, and rule,
The "French Defence," and if she wants con-art,
The "Ruy Lopez," "Queen's," and "Zukertort."
The Alphanumeric Automatic game
For arts mechanical wide spread the fame;
Content to win by letting others love,
And innocent of stratagem or ruse,
Of elegance or beauty, art or grace,
Annihilating every sign and trace,
Timorous and slow, dull, gross, and leaden,
Alert alone to petty and deaden.

Crush out all poetry, imagination,
Above all things to damn, a "Combination."
Stuffed with book lore and sham vitality,
Swollen with others' originality,
Well suited for degenerate sordid days,
When everything is gauged by how it pays,
For pot hunters and petty money grabs,
For dry-as-dust, wood shiflers, mental drabs!

Peace to all such! but let it still be ours,
To woo our Goddess in Arcadian bowers,
Her brow adorn with chaplets of choice flowers,
Or scale for her Olympian heights and towers,
For her weave garlands of poetic fire,
To higher flights advance, and still aspire;
No prize we need our ardour to inflame,
"We fight for honour and we fight for fame."

NOTES.

Janowski has challenged Pillsbury, the chess champion of the United States, for a match for \$1,500 a side.

Lasker has visited Bristol, Cheltenham, Birmingham, Manchester, Ealing, &c. His system is to engage a large hall and charge for admission, taking 25 or more opponents at once. But according to reports, from Birmingham in particular and Bristol, many games were left unfinished. The object seems to be to give a display of steady chess, rather than to bring the games to a definite conclusion, even after four hours' play.

The Philadelphia Times is responsible for the story that comes from Germany, that two young artists were infatuated by the charms of the same maiden, and neither was given more ground for hope than his rival. The spoil clearly would fall to the lot of one or the other; and as each was a skilful Chess player, they decided to put their fates to the test of Pawns and Castles. The fateful game was played without a spectator at the Kaiserhoff Restaurant, and after a long and exciting struggle one rival succeeded in checkmating the other. The defeated player rose from the table and betook himself to France, where news reached him that the man who had "mated" him was himself more happily mated in Berlin.

By the resignation of its Secretary the Singapore Chess Club loses a valuable officer in Mr. J. B. Elcum, who is about to proceed to Europe on leave. Mr. Elcum says the *Singapore Free Press*, has proved a zealous, untiring and popular official, has done much to advance the interests of the Club, and it will not be an easy matter to supply his place.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Fau Sang, British steamer, 1,410, Moncur, 10th Feb.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 8th Feb., General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, N. Ohno, 10th Feb.—Shanghai via ports, 4th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 10th Feb.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 6th Feb., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Manila, British steamer, 3,711, R. L. Hadlock, 11th Feb.—London via ports, Kobe, 10th Feb., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Boynston, British steamer, 1,630, J. Griffith, 12th Feb.—Batoum via Singapore, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, E. P. Bishop, 12th Feb.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 11th Feb., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 13th Feb.—Vancouver, B.C., 31st Jan, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, F. R. Evans, 25th Feb.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 25th Jan., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,827, C. H. Hillcoat, 14th Feb.—Nagasaki, 11th February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kenmore, British steamer, 2,412, Ellis, 14th Feb.—Uruga (Docks), 14th Feb., Ballast.—C. Illies & Co.
Hohenollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Woltersdorff, 15th Feb.—Hongkong, 6th Feb., Mails and General.—H. Alvens & Co., Nachf.
Oppack, British steamer, 2,517, J. Barber, 27th Feb.—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 15th Feb., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 11th Feb.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Fau Sang, British steamer, 1,410, Moncur, 11th Feb.—Portland, Oregon via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 13th Feb.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, F. R. Evans, 15th Feb.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Kenmore, British steamer, 2,412, Ellis, 15th Feb.—New York via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Aubert, 15th Feb.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, J. B. Murray, 15th February.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, C. Ohno, 15th Feb.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
L. Schepp, American ship, 1,663, Chas. S. Kendall, 15th Feb.—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon Evers & Co.
Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,886, J. B. MacMillan, 13th Feb.—Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F. W. Houston, 14th Feb.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, M. J. Currow, 13th Feb.—Osaka via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Camille Cerruto, Mr. Eugene Nichols, and Mr. T. Iijima, in cabin; 32 Japanese, in steerage.
Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss E. Pender, Mr. W. G. Peter, Mr. H. Gesslen, Mr. E. Kellman, Mr. B. Hyde Pearson, Mrs. F. J. Abbott, Mr. L. Hudson, Mr. Wm. Lough, Dr. Divers, Mr. C. H. Lightfoot,

Mr. J. R. Gillingham, Mr. W. N. Page, Mr. W. B. Mack, Mr. E. T. Bethell, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. Tsan Kock Yee, Mr. H. P. Wadman, Mr. M. M. Shoemaker, Mr. Leigh Hunt, Mr. Pak Yong Ho, Mrs. Monroes, Miss Monroes, Mr. R. Finch, and Baron A. d'Aethian, in cabin, for Honolulu—Dr. Karl Putterer, in cabin, for San Francisco—Miss R. Macdonald, Mr. I. J. Lackey, Mr. E. Albert, Mr. G. T. Suhr, Mr. H. S. Wheeler, and Mr. F. H. Ziegfeld, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Manila*, from London via ports:—Mr. R. A. Eddie, Mr. L. Hirsch, and Mr. Woolfall, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Gutierrez, Pay-lupst, Ed. Bellows, U.S.N., and Mr. W. J. Corcoran, in cabin; 4 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Bonilla, Miss Bonilla, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. J. M. Butterworth, Mr. P. L. Foster, Mr. B. M. Foster, Mr. Gauchett, Lieut.-Col. Andrew Haggard, Mr. T. S. Horiye, Miss Helen de Harvon, Mr. R. Ichii, Miss Jones, Mr. F. B. Lake, Mr. Arthur Morton, Mr. A. E. Mueller, Mr. A. H. Meyers, Mr. H. Yamaji, Mr. L. P. Pepperman, Major J. E. Sawyes, Mr. Sieffert, Mrs. Sieffert and child, Prof. T. G. Schurmann, Mr. R. H. Tahaudin, Rev. T. S. Tyng, Prof. D. C. Worcester, Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Waite, in cabin; 6 intermediate, and 75 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss L. Oldham, Mr. W. L. Keen, Mr. F. A. Stecher, Rev. A. E. Funk, Mr. and Mrs. Benholt, Mr. Henry L. Van Wyck and wife, Miss Gertrude Van Wyck, Miss Edna Van Wyck, Sir Charles and Lady Payne, Mr. L. D. Benjamin, Mr. C. Townsley, and Mr. M. Koidzumi, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Budd and family, Dr. Mikutsu Tanakadate, and Mr. C. H. Bell, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Keyser, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Davidson, Mr. A. Fiachi, Mrs. Okitsu and child, and 3 Chinese, in second class; 9 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gastik*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss R. Macdonald, Mr. E. K. Adams, Mr. C. L. Collins, Mr. F. H. Ziegfeld, Mr. I. J. Lackey, Mr. C. D. McGrath, D. K. Fetterer, Mr. H. S. Wheeler, Mr. G. T. Suter, Mr. E. Albert, Mr. Y. Nakamura, Mr. M. M. Shoemaker, and Mr. Y. Yoshii, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. H. Bruce, Mr. H. Kennedy, Mr. T. Kershaw, Mr. P. G. Fidler, Mr. R. H. Woolfall, Mr. H. Warks, Mr. L. Hunter, U.S.A., Mr. D. L. Fleming, U.S.A., Mr. H. W. Coulter, U.S.A., Mr. R. S. Laird, U.S.A., Mr. W. W. G. Ross, Mr. Irwin Laughlin, Mr. Ch. D. Jones, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. E. Keelman, Mr. Terverson, Mr. R. Gillingham, Mrs. F. J. Abbott, Mr. L. S. Hudson, Mr. E. L. Sanson, Mr. W. G. Peters, and Mr. E. J. Moss, in cabin; Mr. T. Koan, intermediate.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Marseilles via ports:—General Yanjoul, Colonel K. Idilli, Mr. Oustinoff, Mr. C. Gencaulves Pereira, Mrs. and Miss Yanjoul and 2 servants, Mrs. Oustinoff and 2 children, Mrs. Alexandrine Popoff, Mr. Yanjoul, Mr. V. Blad, Mr. Felix Chaine, Mr. P. Dourille, Mr. J. Kuhn, Dr. Mewer, Mr. E. Boule, Mr. A. G. Mosle, Mr. F. H. Wenduff, Mr. H. D. Palmer, Mr. J. Dammberg, Mr. A. da Rosa, Mr. S. Peyre, Rev. Archmandrite Serge, Mr. Voisin, Mr. S. Fukuchi, Mr. Kwong Yue Pong, and Mr. F. Yen, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Following were silk shippers per British steamer *Rehilla*, for Europe, Feb. 7:—

	Bales.
Siber, Brenwald & Co.	125
Sieber & Co.	31
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	9
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	69
R. D. Robinson & Co.	12
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.	73
China and Japan Trading Co.	14
Gysin and Schoeninger	65
Herbert Dent & Co.	50
Otto Reimers & Co.	83
Vareine & Co.	15

Total 546
Following were silk shippers per British steamer *Carlisle City*, for San Diego, Feb. 8:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	125
Per French steamer <i>Sydney</i> , for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 274 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 173 bales.	

Following were silk shippers per British steamer *Gastik*, for San Francisco, Feb. 11:—

	Bales.
Siber, Brenwald & Co.	251
Vivanti Bros.	50
Olivier, de Langenhagen & Co.	25
Herbert Dent & Co.	20
Kito Shokwai	235
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	112
Doshisha	71

Total 754
Per British steamer *Fau Sang*, for Portland, Oregon:—

	TEA.	CRICAO NEW YORK	AND AFRICAN PACIFIC	MONS. TOTAL.
	CANADA.	WEST. COAST.	COAST.	COAST.
Amoy	505	3,231	—	3,826
Shanghai	5,596	738	—	6,334
Kobe	257	—	—	257
Yokohama	—	—	20	20
Total	6,448	3,959	20	10,427

	NEW YORK.	BARTHOLOMEW.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	—	—
Shanghai	105	—	105
Yokohama	—	—	—
Total	105	—	105

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market generally is still in an unsatisfactory state of inactivity. Forward sales of grey shirtings made some time ago are now in evidence, but there is no demand for spot goods. There is slightly more demand for fancy cottons and woollens, but prices show no advance. Small sales of woollens, and cotton Italians have taken place at low prices.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirtings—24 in, 32 yds, 30 inches	\$0.60 to \$0.60
Grey Shirtings—24 in, 32 yds, 30 inches	\$0.60 to \$0.60
1 Cloth—7 yds, 24 yards, 32 inches	\$0.60 to \$0.60
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 44 inches	\$0.60 to \$0.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	\$0.60 to \$0.60
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 30 inches	\$0.12 to \$0.12

WOOLLENS.

	PER POUND.
Flannels	\$0.40 to \$0.40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	\$0.31 to \$0.43
Muscadine de France—24 yds, 30 inches	—
31 inches	—
Cloths—Pilot, 51 in 50 inches	\$0.16 to \$0.20
Cloths—Pilot, 51 in 50 inches	\$0.16 to \$0.20
Cloths—Pilot, 51 in 50 inches	\$0.16 to \$0.20
Cloths—Pilot, 51 in 50 inches	\$0.16 to \$0.20
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb.	—

	PER POUND.
Valents—Black, 35 yards, 32 inches	7.75 to 9.25
Victoria Lanes, 12 yards, 40-3 inches	0.70 to 1.10
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.5 to 4 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.45 to 3.45

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	35.50 to 38.50
Nos. 28, 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 36, 42, Singles	40.00 to 44.00
Nos. 48, 52, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
Nos. 48, 52, Doubles	44.50 to 45.50
Nos. 1, 2, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2, 4, Plain	79.00 to 80.00
Nos. 3, 100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 3, 60, Gassed	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2, 60, Gassed	90.00 to 91.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed	115.00 to 120.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$19.50 to \$20.00
Indian Brooch	18.00 to 18.50
Chinese	19.50

METALS.

The prices prevailing at present at home check operations. Some sales, however, have been effected in tin plates, galvanized and hoop iron.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 4 inch and upward	4.40 to 4.80
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	5.15 to 5.40
Galvanized iron sheets	9.75 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.25 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	6.30 to 6.60
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.60 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (4 to 12 inch)	5.95 to 5.50

KIROSHINK.

The market is firm, and prices still have an upward tendency.

	PER POUND.
American	\$3.30 to \$3.34
Russian	8.25 to 8.30
Langkat	8.20

SUGAR.

Inferior China Sugars have advanced in price, while in Manila the situation is unaltered. White refined is steady.

	PER POUND.
Brown Taken	Nominal
Brown Manila	\$5.20 to \$5.24
Brown Daitong	4.95 to 4.30
Brown Canton	4.90 to 5.75
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 6.80
White Refined	7.75 to 9.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market has continued active, and prices have risen considerably, a fact which, together with the short supply, has latterly checked transactions.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Fine	\$10.50 to \$10.50
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	10.05 to 10.15
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	10.30 to 10.30
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	9.70 to 9.90
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	9.80 to 9.90
Filatures—No. 3, Fine	9.50 to 9.60
Filatures—No. 3, Coarse	9.50 to 9.60
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Revels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 2	9.40 to 9.50
Re-reels—No. 3	9.70 to 9.90
Re-reels—No. 4	Nominal
Kakadas—Extra	9.30
Kakadas—No. 1	9.00
Kakadas—No. 2	8.80 to 8.90
Kakadas—No. 3	8.80 to 8.90

WASTE SILK.

Very little has been doing, chiefly owing to high prices asked.

QUOTATIONS.

	\$10 to \$15
Noshi—Filature, Best	10.00 to 11.00
Noshi—Filature, Good	11.00 to 11.50
Noshi—Oahu, Best	11.00 to 11.50
Noshi—Oahu, Good	11.00 to 11.50
Noshi—Oahu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	6.75 to 7.00
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	6.50 to 6.75
Noshi—Bushi, Best	11.00 to 11.50
Noshi—Bushi, Good	10.50 to 11.00
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	10.00 to 10.50
Noshi—Joshu, Good	10.00 to 10.50
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	9.50 to 10.00
Kibiso—Filature, Best	8.50 to 9.00
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	8.00 to 8.50
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	8.50 to 9.00
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair	8.00 to 8.50

TEA.

Very little business is doing, chiefly in medium and fine grades. The stock is now reduced to 1,200 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Choicest	No stock
Choice	No stock
Fine	No stock
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 16th.

In the absence of any news from abroad rates are steadily maintained.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	8/08
— Bills on demand	2/04
— 4 months' sight	8/1
— Private 4 months' sight	8/14
— 6 months' sight	8/14
On Paris—Bank sight	260
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	264 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	30
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.10 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.14 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	48 1/2 dls.
— Private 10 days' sight	51 1/2 dls.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76 to 77
— Private 10 days' sight	77 to 78
On India—Bank sight	15 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	15 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Besset & Co's List.]

Yokohama, February 16th.

Iron Works can be had at yen 220. Japan Brewery old shares are on offer at yen 300 and new shares cum yen 40 paid up at yen 120. Grand Hotels are steady at yen 225. Offers for Club Hotels are wanted. Oriental Hotels are enquired for at yen 100. Nagasaki Hotels have buyers at yen 40. Breits are unchanged at yen 9.50 at which rate there are sellers. North & Roes are in demand at yen 200. Langfields are procurable at yen 220; offers for shares are wanted. Hyogo Gas can be had at yen 170. Debentures stocks are unchanged at quotations.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50	200
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	200
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	200
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	200

Club Hotel, Ltd., 1000	1000
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., 1000	1000
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Frac.), 1000	1000
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 100	100
North and Hae, Ltd., 1000	1000
North & Co., Ltd., 1000	1000
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., 1000	1000
Hingao Gas Co., Ltd., 1000	1000
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., 1000	1000
Kobe Club 1/2, 1000	1000
Yokohama United Club 1/2, 1000	1000
Arata & Co., Ltd., 1000	1000
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., 1000	1000
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., 1000	1000
Reserve Fund — 1 yen 10,000; 2 yen 3,000 equalisation of dividends and yen 30,000 Restoration of property;	
3 yen 17,770-80; 4 yen 16,398-40.	
N.H.—S. Sellers, R.—Buyers, S.—Sales, St.—steady.	
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, R.—Rising.	

Tokyo, February 16th.

Redemption Loan Bonds	100.00
War Loan Bonds	100.00
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 100	100.00
Japan Industrial Bank—aid up yen 100	100.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	100.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100	100.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 100	100.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 100	100.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	100.00
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 100	100.00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Japan Railway, 1st issue—paid up yen 100	100.00
Japan Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 100	100.00
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Manyo Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 100	100.00
Hokkaido Coalfield Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Hokkaido Coalfield Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 100	100.00
Sohn Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Hama Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Iyodawa Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Nanase Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Hokuriku Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Toku Railway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 100	100.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 100	100.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 100	100.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 100	100.00
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—aid up yen 100	100.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 100	100.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 100	100.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 100	100.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 100	100.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 100	100.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—aid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Mercile Rice Exchange—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 100	100.00
Shingawa Electric Light—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 100	100.00
Japan Beer—aid up yen 100	100.00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 100	100.00
Kanagawa Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 100	100.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—aid up yen 100	100.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Tatemeno Kaisha—paid up yen 100	100.00
Tokyo Fire Insurance—paid up yen 100	100.00
Imperial Marine Insurance—paid up yen 100	100.00

383



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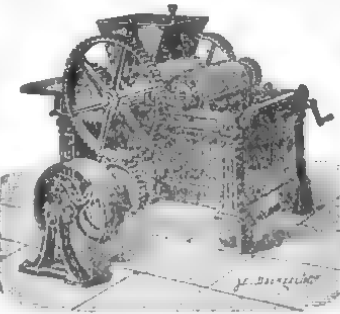
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 6.]

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YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 11TH, 1899.

第三千五百二十五號
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[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	109
The Political Parties	110
The Nippon Yasei Kaisha's Special Subsidy	110
Winter Campaigning	110
Preliminary Investigation in Criminal Cases	111
Japanese Fishermen in Saghalien	111
The Deficit of Revenue	111
Kobe Warehousing Company	111
A Correction	111
Liberals and the Land Tax	111
The Aborigines in Formosa	111
Mad Dogs	111
Telegraphic Notes	111
Colonization in the North	111
The Iron Foundry	111
A Japanese Consul in Montreal	111
The Question of Bull	111
The "Yoroku Choko" and Baron Iwano	111
The Arms and Explosives Bill	111
Taxing of Japanese Bonds	111
Arbitration between Foreigners and Japanese	111
The Government and the Revised Treaties	111
The Tokyo Waterworks	111
The Soy Tax	111
The Progress of	111
Japan's Foreign Trade	111
The New Election Law	111
The Japan Railway Company	111
The Wreck and Amended Law of Navigation	111
The State and Education	111
Increase of Railway Rates	111
The Tonage-Duty Law	111
The late Count Kato	111
A Big Concern	111
Leading Article - The Philippines	111
Imperial Diet	111
The Book-shelf	111
The Confused Critic	111
Wedding in Yokohama	111
The Funeral of Mr. Kato	111
Chinese Notes	111
Correspondence	111
A Word of Misnomer	111
A French Heroine	111
The Treatment of Allied Criminals	111
Japanese Refused a Landing	111
News of the Week	111
The Bedford Dinner	111
Present Condition of Japanese Industry	111
The late Count Kato	111
Kobe Trade for January	111
Serpent Cuts among the Aino	111
Ugou Church, Yokohama	111
Yokohama Fire Brigade	111
Lafayette & Co., Limited	111
The Nagasaki Hotel, Limited	111
Telegrams	111
China	111
Labour Shipping	111
Latest Commercial	111

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Chinese loan has been covered ten times over.

Rev. J. H. Foss of Kobe has been consecrated Bishop of Osaka.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY is suffering from fatigue as a result of overwork.

THE House of Peers has passed the second reading of the Copyright Law.

A new political party, under the title of the *Kokuren-se*, has been established.

THE death is announced of Count Leo von Caprivi, late German Chancellor.

THE death is announced of Mrs. Paul Ritter, wife of the Swiss Consul General.

A TELEGRAM from Formosa states that 3 cases of plague have appeared in Tainan.

In the middle of March, the Standing Squadron will engage in manoeuvres in Bungo Strait.

A WASHINGTON despatch says that the Senate has ratified the Peace Treaty by a majority of three.

THE Right Hon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has been elected leader of the English Liberal party.

THE House of Peers has adopted a Representation in favour of the improvement of national education.

On Monday Miss Elsie Johnstone was married at Christ Church to Mr. James Leslie Robertson, of Kobe.

THE Bill extending the Government monopoly to imported tobacco has been read a second time in the House of Peers.

At a conference, the Premiers of the Australian colonies have settled all the disputed points regarding the federation scheme.

THE funeral of Mr. Otto Keil on Saturday was a most impressive ceremony. It was performed according to the Scottish Rite of Masonry.

MR. ONIWA CHOBEI and some other merchants of Osaka are promoting a Japan-Korean Bank in Seoul. The capital is to be yen 3,000,000.

A GENERAL assembly of tea traders throughout the country is to be held on the 20th inst. at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

At the half-yearly meeting of shareholders in Langfeldt and Co., Limited, a dividend was declared for the half year of yen 7.50 per share.

THE annual meeting of the Yokohama Fire Brigade was held on Thursday afternoon. The accounts showed a substantial increase of subscriptions.

A ROBBER armed with a large fish-knife entered the house of a pawn broker named Ota Jihei, Sugatami-cho, Yokohama, and stole a small sum of money.

A VOTE in the House of Peers on the Bill organizing Associations of Medical Men resulted adversely to the measure, the figures being 121 against and 38 for.

A BILL making very important alterations in the law of election and greatly extending the franchise has been referred to a Special Committee of the House of Representatives.

THE promoters of the new political party have

established their office at No. 26, Uneme-cho, Kyobashi, Tokyo. They held a meeting on the 10th inst. to discuss the preparations for the ceremony of inauguration.

ACCORDING to Japanese official investigations made at the end of December there are 1,109 males, and 867 females residing in Seoul, Korea. They occupy 480 houses.

THE death is announced of Prince Alfred, son Duke of Saxe-Gotha, and not, as erroneously reported, the Duke of Coburg, better known as the Duke of Edinburgh, himself.

A BILL enabling foreigners to dispense with the use of seals (*natsu in*) in legal documents and giving them rights *in forma pauperis* has been read the first time in the House of Peers.

THE property of the Yamato Industrial Bank was confiscated on the 7th by the Liquidator of the Seiya Railway Company. The Bank was unable to pay a debt of yen 10,000.

It is reported that the new cruiser *Chitose*, which has been constructed at San Francisco, is to leave about the 10th proximo for home, and is expected to arrive at the commencement of April.

It is reported that the Korean Government intends to establish a Central Bank with a capital of yen 2,000,000, and to employ a foreign banker as adviser. The scheme is for the manipulation of the customs revenues, local taxes, &c.

A TELEGRAM from Havana says that Gen. Gomez has cabled to President McKinley assuring his co-operation in disbanding Cuban soldiers and in distributing the three million dollars offered by America to enable them to return to their homes.

THE launch of the *Taigen Maru*, the new steamer built for the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, at the Kawasaki Yard, was to have taken place on Saturday, but owing to a hitch the vessel was unable to leave the stocks. The christening ceremony, however, took place.

THE Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies appointed to investigate Judge Mazeau's report on the Beaupre charge of partiality has rejected it on the ground that it is not convincing. The Government has ordered a supplementary enquiry.

THE Queen's speech at the opening of Parliament states that the Queen's Government gladly participates in the conference summoned by the Emperor to consider the possibility of limiting the burdensome armaments, although unable to concur in all the resolutions concerning the proposed "anarchist conference." The speech announces the Government's Bills regarding measures dealing with education, and enabling workmen to purchase dwellings.

MR. HARA ZENZABURO, a wealthy Yokohama merchant, has died of consumption. He is said to have contributed yen 10,000 to the Imperial University, yen 10,000 to seven Primary Schools in Yokohama, yen 4,000 to the Commercial School, and yen 3,000 each to the Academy and the Normal School.

HOSTILITIES have begun between the Americans and Filipinos. An attack was made by the latter on Sunday, but they were defeated with heavy loss. Retter speaks of 14 hours of severe fighting in Manila since the 25th. The Americans carried two positions and advanced their lines, losing twenty killed and 125 wounded in so doing. The Filipino loss was heavy. The Washington Cabinet has decided on a vigorous offensive attack on Iloilo and on making endeavours to capture the Filipino Government of Malolos.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA."

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whoever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB 11TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

At Kobe, February 7th, the wife of E. W. TILDES, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 6th inst., at the British Consulate, Yokohama, and afterwards at Christ Church by the Rev. E. Champneys Lewis, JAMES LESLIE ROBERTSON, of Kobe, in ELISA TEMPLETON, eldest daughter of James J. Templeton, Yokohama.

At Union Church, Yokohama, on the 9th inst., at 9.30 a.m., by the Rev. H. H. H., assisted by the Rev. J. H. Bellagh and the Rev. E. S. Smith, MARY ELIZABETH daughter of Mrs. Adeline B. Jones, of New Jersey, U.S.A., in the Rev. WILLIAM VYTER JONES, of the American Presbyterian Mission.

DEATH.

At 27-c Hill, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. COLTON. Services will be held at the house, Tuesday, at 3 p.m.

THE POLITICAL PARTIES.

February 6th.

It appears that a considerable section of the Progressists have determined to adopt a course which, though it has the advantage of being logical, is thought likely to cause a split in the ranks of the Party. They maintain that, in order to be rational and consistent, they must adopt one of two definite courses: either they must admit the necessity of the scheme of armaments expansion elaborated by the Government after the War with China, and, admitting it, they must vote for the increased taxation which it entails; or they must agitate for a reduction of the scheme and oppose all measures of increased taxation. The section holding that view is said to comprise 48 members of the Lower House, or nearly one half of the total strength of the Progressist Party. They formulated their programme on the 30th ultimo, and are now canvassing for support. On the other hand, the remaining members of the Party, though willing enough to oppose increased taxation, are unwilling to stand forth as opponents of military expansion, which has the approval of the nation at large, and for which they themselves voted when the Matsukata Cabinet carried out the second part of the *post bellum* programme. Thus a split is predicted. It can scarcely be denied that the new movement appeals to reason. The attitude of hostility adopted by the Progressists towards an increased Land Tax was based on reasons connected with the tax itself and with the alleged condition of the folks by whom it will have to be chiefly paid. They can doubtless find independent arguments for voting against each of the other proposed taxes. But to vote against them *en bloc* is to deny that any addition need be made to the revenue, and that denial carries with it an assertion that the scheme of military expansion is excessive, for, certainly, to complete the scheme, additional taxes are essential. The Progressists at present are suffering from total effacement. One hears nothing of them in the Diet. Even their newspaper organs seem to have lost all stomach for the fight. Never, since the Diet met for the first time, has the political atmosphere been so stagnant. Speaking as foreigners, we are disposed to say that the stout adoption of some positive and clearly intelligible policy is the only hope for the Progressists to re-attract public attention.

February 7th.

The new political party, concerning which there has been some talk lately, is now an accomplished fact. All the preliminaries for its organization have been completed; its head office is fixed at No. 26, Unemecho, in the Kyobashi district of Tokyo; a general meeting of promoters is to take place on the 18th instant; its platform has been published, and it has adopted the name *Kokken-to*, which literally means "national power party," but may conveniently be called the Nationalist Party. The platform consists of eleven planks, six of which are mere platitudes; namely, (1) maintenance of the Constitution; (2) assertion of personal liberty in accordance with the Constitution; (3) development of local autonomy; (4) extension of education; (5) encouragement of agriculture, commerce and industry, and development of the national economy; and (6) establishing equilibrium between administra-

tive expenditures and national resources, and placing the finances on a sound basis. But the remaining five planks represent something like a positive and definite policy. They are:—First, the gradual acquisition by the State of all the machinery of communications, which evidently indicates that the Party will advocate the State purchase of private railways; secondly, the devising of means for the protection and assistance of labour; thirdly, expansion of national armaments as far as the resources of the country will allow, and with due regard to the armaments of other nations; fourthly, making peace the prime aim of foreign policy and insisting on equalization of the rights and privileges of foreigners and Japanese; and fifthly, while not opposing the introduction of foreign religions according to the Constitution, to assist the development and improvement of Japan's ancient creeds. With such a platform the *Kokken-to* will at least enjoy the advantage of having some principles to differentiate it from its rival organizations. A large section of the business community will be attracted by the scheme for nationalizing the machinery of communications; the "imperialists" will all flock to the standard of a party declaring itself boldly in favour of armaments expansion; the "strong foreign politicians" will find nothing to traverse in the announcement about foreign affairs, and the followers of Buddhism and *Shinto* will regard the *Kokken-to* as their patron and protector. What we do not understand, however, is the prominent association of Messrs. Shimada and Taguchi with a party advocating the State purchase of private railways and the expansion of national armaments. Probably the rumour connecting them with this Party is erroneous.

February 8th.

It appears to be certain that a considerable section of the Progressists are strongly disposed to inscribe "reduction of military armaments" on their banner, and to take the field with a definite issue such as may be expected to enlist popular sympathy. Their difficulty is, as we have already explained, that their Party voted for the inauguration of the second series of *post-bellum* measures, and thus pledged itself beyond all question to the whole programme. It will not be universally contended, we imagine, that even that record must necessarily prove deterrent on the present occasion. The Party performed something very like a *volte face* with regard to the Land Tax, and its credit, having supported one shock of that nature, might be equal to enduring a second. Besides, oblique consistency for the sake of consistency is of all things most irrational. Human judgment is not immaculate. Even a body of clever politicians may stray into the wrong path, and if the Progressists think that they have erred, there is no valid reason why they should not retrace their steps. Certainly something is wanted to bring them once more into public notice. The Land Tax question served its turn, but they took it up too late, and their thunder has been robbed of all resonance by the action of the Liberals, first in cutting down the Government's proposed rate, secondly in limiting the period of taxation, and thirdly in passing a Bill to exempt the land from all local rates throughout the duration of that period. The Progressists are in want of a fresh plank, or their platform will go to

pieces, and as the newly organized *Kokken-to* has adopted "armaments expansion" among its political tenets, the Progressists might do worse than adopt the opposite doctrine. But it is a pity that they did not think of doing so before they lost Mr. Shimada Saburo.

It is alleged that the 47 parliamentary members of the Progressist Party whose agitation has begun to engross public attention, have signed a solemn compact to hold together, and to secede from the Party unless it definitely adopts their programme, the three principal planks of which are that the Ordinary Expenditures of the State must be strictly limited to 140 million *yen* annually; that there must be no Extraordinary Expenditures, and that the outlays on account of the Army and the Administration must be reduced. Messrs. Ishiware, Hamaguchi, and Kanakoka are the leaders of these agitators, and it has been arranged that a general meeting of the parliamentary members of the Party shall be held on the 10th instant to discuss their proposals. On the whole they seem likely to obtain a measure of public support, for the complaisance of the Liberals and the quiescence of the Progressists have evidently begun to seem tiresome.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA'S SPECIAL SUBSIDY.

It is a little surprising to find that the *Shogyo Shimpo* strongly opposes the idea of granting a special subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on account of its European service. As a mere matter of theory there is justice in our contemporary's objections. It cites the practice of England, Germany, and France, which subsidise steamer lines to parts of the world where they have colonies or special interests, and never grant public aid to any service lacking such qualification. That rule of procedure, if applied to Japan's case, would limit her subsidies to lines running to China, Formosa, and Korea, according to our contemporary's calculation (why not also to Australia, Hawaii, and Peru?) and the *Shogyo* thinks that no warrant can be found for subsidising a service to Europe. The article containing this criticism reads as though it were inspired by some motive other than simple economical considerations. It takes no account whatever of the fact that Japan's programme of navigation encouragement is based upon military as well as commercial considerations. She wants to have means of transporting her Army, which would otherwise be practically useless, and there is no employment, meanwhile, except the European service, for large vessels like those specially constructed for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. The European service received direct encouragement from the Government, or it would never have been started, and we do not see how the State can evade the obligation of assisting it.

WINTER CAMPAIGNING.

The 20th Regiment of the Third Division (Sendai) seems to be engaged in exercises of a trying character. The men have taken the field in campaigning order, and are advancing across the mountains to Yamagata, camping out in the snow with only tents over their heads, and, in fact, carrying on offensive movements in mid-winter. It is fine practice, but must test the men's powers of endurance very severely.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION IN CRIMINAL CASES.

The Rev. D. C. Greene has addressed to the *Kokumin Shimbun* an excellent letter on the subject of the procedure followed in Japan in the preliminary investigation of criminal cases, and the *Kokumin* publishes a translation of the letter in leading article type, thus giving to it a degree of prominence which the subject certainly deserves. The *Kokumin*, following the *Japan Mail*, had pointed out that Lord Charles Beresford was apparently guilty of an inaccuracy when speaking to the Oriental Society at the Imperial Hotel. He said:—"If you arrest a man and do not allow him the advantage of counsel, do not allow him to see his friends, then you are holding him guilty until he has proved himself innocent." Had Lord Charles said:—"Your Judges have power to order an accused person into solitary confinement, thus depriving him of the advice of his counsel and the aid of his friends," he would have been absolutely correct. But the form of speech that he used suggested a misapprehension as to the exact provisions of the Code, and, since nothing injures a cause so much at any want of accuracy on the part of its advocates, we, for our part, were careful to correct Lord Charles' language, while supplementing it with comments of our own strongly endorsing the necessity of the reforms he advocated. Concerning the letter of Mr. Greene, who has given exceptional study to this subject, and whose extensive acquaintance with all classes of the Japanese, as well as his knowledge of their language, qualify him to pronounce a valuable opinion, we can but repeat our often expressed opinion that until a radical change of procedure is effected, miscarriages of justice, in the highest sense of the word, must be numerous. The present system imposes on the Judge who conducts the preliminary examination a kind of moral obligation to obtain from the accused person a confession of guilt. The Code provides powerful instruments to aid the Judge in attaining that end. It gives him competence to order the accused into solitary confinement for a virtually unlimited period, since the ordeal, though it can not bear on its face a period longer than ten days, may be renewed at the close of that time for a corresponding period, and so on to infinity. By investing him with this terrible competence, the law tells the Judge, in effect, that he is expected to obtain confirmation of the charge from the mouth of the accused himself, and that, if he fails to do so, the fault rests with his own incapacity. Few officials will be willing to sacrifice their own judicial reputation to any scruples of humanity. They will exhaust every possible means of proving an accusation, and it must often happen under such a system that cruel wrong is inflicted on innocent persons, not only in the form of physical suffering, but also in the form of unjust convictions due to the mental prostration resulting from solitary confinement. Naturally the judge, confronted with a task whose successful discharge largely concerns his own reputation, is averse to granting bail. It is his business to see that proofs are forthcoming, and he takes care that accused persons shall find no opportunity of suppressing or obliterating incriminatory evidence. He is not a judge,

indeed. It is a complete misnomer to call him a judge. He is a prosecutor, and the greater the severity he employs in discharging his functions of prosecution, the better is his official record. The judges who conduct preliminary investigations under such a system can never be dispensers of pure justice. The system must be changed, if Japan wants to rise to the highest level of modern jurisprudence.

We may refer here to an idea which still prevails among many foreigners; the idea that beating, though entirely illegal, is still employed by the Japanese police to extort confession—not beating in the sense of tying a man up and bastinadoing him, but simply "smacking" or cuffing. Our own inquiries among the Japanese have not elicited any confirmation of the theory, but it would, of course, be unreasonable to deny that abuses may exist in Japan equally with other countries, especially when, as is the case here, all the officials concerned in the preliminary examination of an accused person consider themselves officially pledged to establish his guilt. We have been informed, however, by several Japanese that there exists among the lower orders a very exaggerated conception of the *mise au secret*, and of the consequences it may entail. They conjecture that to confine an accused person for an indefinite period in a solitary cell is only a partial exercise of the judge's power, and that very much worse things may happen to them if they show themselves obdurate. That apprehension is probably responsible for many of the confessions made by prisoners during preliminary procedure in criminal cases.

The Rev. Dr. Greene's letter has evidently attracted Japanese attention. A Tokyo barrister writes a reply, heartily endorsing Dr. Greene's comments, assuring him that the Barristers' Association entertain the same views as himself, and bidding him and his foreign friends to be of good heart, for the question is now under discussion in the Diet, and the Bill submitted by the Government, proposing some partial reform of the Code of Criminal Procedure, will probably be transmuted into a thorough and satisfactory measure before it is restored to its drafters. We have already explained this Bill. Its chief feature is a nominal reform of the system of secret confinement (*mise au secret*)—nominal only, for, instead of abolishing the *misshitsu* altogether, the Authorities propose to substitute a separate cell.

The legal correspondent of the *Kokumin* drawn forcible attention to another point calling urgently for reform, namely, the perfunctory nature of the judgments delivered by the Courts. Where trial by jury does not exist, it is plainly incumbent on the Judges to make a full and exhaustive statement of the reasons underlying their decisions. Such a course is necessary, not merely for the satisfaction of the general public, but also in justice to the parties directly concerned, who have a right to know the exact bases of the Judges' conclusion. But at present the occupants of the Japanese bench confine themselves to setting forth a mere outline of the evidence, and delivering a *de-haut-en-bas* judgment, which reads like a sentence pronounced by a feudal chief upon an erring vassal. That is a custom which the correspondent justly condemns.

The great difficulty that stands in the way of a speedy and thorough reform of

the present system of preliminary criminal procedure is that it can not be condemned as manifestly opposed to the principles of Occidental Jurisprudence. In that sense the abolition of torture was easier to accomplish. From the moment that Japan made up her mind to recast her laws on Western models, torture was doomed. Torture did not find a place in any of the systems of Europe and America, and could not co-exist with their fundamental laws of evidence. But Japan's present procedure is practically French. It was elaborated by an eminent French juriconsult, and it received, at the time of its promulgation, the hearty approval of French, German, Belgian, and Italian experts. It could never, therefore, have been pleaded by foreigners as a ground of objection to Treaty Revision, and the foreign criticisms to which it is now subjected come from Anglo-Saxons only. Hence we learn with the utmost satisfaction from the correspondent of the *Kokumin* that the Barristers' Association has taken up the question, for we thus infer that there is no fear of obstacles being created by a conflict of views between the French and the Anglo-American schools of jurists in Tokyo. No one has ever attempted to show, no one could show, we think, that the system of the *proces verbal*, of the *mise au secret*, and of the other methods employed under the *Code Napoléon* to betray an accused person into convicting himself, is anything better than a half-way house between the old method of ordeal or torture, and the Anglo-Saxon principle that every man is innocent of crime until his guilt is established by independent testimony. Japan's first step took her to the half-way house, and if she now, of her own motion, passes to the higher plane, she will furnish a conclusive proof that the spirit of reform really animates her.

JAPANESE FISHERMEN IN SAGHALIEN.

A Bill now awaits the Diet's decision for abolishing the import duty on salt fish coming from Siberia. The business of catching and salting fish on the coasts of Saghalien is carried on by Japanese fishermen, under permission granted by the Russian Government. It is a flourishing industry, and great numbers of Japanese repair northwards every year to carry it on. In one bay there are no less than 343 fishing stations. The introduction of a Bill to improve the prospects of the enterprise has been made the occasion for circulating a canard in the sense that the Russian Government, having its attention thus drawn to the matter, has withdrawn the permit hitherto granted to Japanese fishermen, and has taken steps to reserve the industry solely to Russian subjects. The rumour appears to be quite erroneous. It is stated, on the contrary, that Russia has duly intimated her intention of continuing for next year the system hitherto in force. There is, however, a partial explanation of the misapprehension. The local authorities in Saghalien have considered it necessary, in the interests of conservation, to forbid netting in a river—we can not identify the Romanized name—whither the fish repair in large numbers to spawn. That prohibition seems to have been magnified by hearsay into a general interdict.

THE DEFICIT OF REVENUE.

It would seem that an agreement has at length been reached between the Government and the Constitutional Party as to ways and means. The deficit to be made good by new or increased taxes owing to the Party's having insisted on reducing to 3.3 per cent. the Government's proposed rate of 4 per cent. for the Land Tax is 5,800,000 *yen* approximately, and the methods now decided upon are said to be these:—

An increase of the tax on Soy	1,400,000
License fees of tobacco dealers	700,000
Increased Postal Rates	2,000,000
Taken from interest on Indemnity	1,700,000
	5,800,000

No explanation is offered of the item "interest on Indemnity." It does not refer, of course, to the interest paid by China. That has already been lumped with the principal and shown in the accounts as the "total amount of the Indemnity." But a part of the indemnity (17,182,880 *yen*) was received in the form of bonds (face value 20 million *yen*) of the Chinese loan; twelve millions have been invested in Public Undertakings Bonds, and forty millions were spent last year in purchasing War Bonds through the Bank of Japan. The annual interest on these sums aggregates 3½ million *yen*, but we confess that we do not understand how it can be regarded as a special asset available at this juncture. The interest on the War Bonds and the Public Undertakings Bonds has to be paid by the Treasury, and it is not supposable that the Budget for 1899-00 includes any provision for interest on such portions of these securities as are held by the Government. On the other hand, the interest on the Chinese Bonds must have been already shown as a budgetary asset. This new device for covering the deficit remains inexplicable, therefore, pending some official explanation.

The increased tax on soy is strongly condemned in some quarters. Soy is among the prime necessities of life in Japan. It is almost as important to the people as salt. Certainly it should not be chosen as a source of additional revenue by taxation until the whole catalogue of articles having any character of luxuries has been exhausted. We do not understand—and the *Mainichi Shinbun* takes the same view—why the Government does not tax tea in preference to soy. Tea, as the Japanese use it, partakes less of the nature of a luxury than the same article does in Europe or America, but it is by no means a necessity, and there is strong reason to think that some reduction in the quantity consumed by the nation would be decidedly an advantage from a hygienic point of view. The tax could easily be remitted in the case of tea for export.

Apparently the proposal to increase the rates of postage has been endorsed and will become law. We greatly regret it. This is an emphatically retrogressive step. It will inflict upon Japan's reputation an injury out of all proportion to the petty addition it brings to the revenue. The item of 700,000 *yen* under the heading of "licenses to tobacco dealers" explains itself, but we may add that the idea is to charge each dealer 50 *yen* as a license fee. Statistics show, we believe, that there are forty thousand tobacco dealers in the empire; that is to say, forty thousand persons

who make a business of selling the manufactured leaf. It would seem that only fourteen thousand, or about one third of that number, are expected to take out licenses. Presumably the idea is that a fee of 50 *ren* will prove deterrent in the case of twenty-six thousand. The fuller the experience gained of the tobacco monopoly the worse its economic results appear. It is calculated that each *Awamre* (8½ lbs.) 7 of the leaf costs the grower from 54 to 56 *sen* on the average. The Government buys it at 70 *sen* and sells it to the manufacturers for 1.40 *sen*, so that the effect of official intervention is to enhance the price by from 84 to 86 *sen* per *Awamre*; that is to say, over 10 *sen* per lb. The result is a net income which certainly does not exceed seven million *ren*, after deducting interest at 5 per cent. on the capital (14 millions) invested in the enterprise. Now the quantity of tobacco grown in Japan is 90 million lbs., approximately. If the English system of taxation were adopted, namely, simply passing the leaf through the government's warehouses and levying a tax on it in transit, the cost of collection would not exceed half a million *yen*, and the net revenue, at the rate of 10 *sen* per lb., would be fully 8½ millions. Moreover, instead of spending ten millions on the building of warehouses and the provision of plant, and setting aside four millions as floating capital, two millions would probably have sufficed for all purposes.

KOBE WAREHOUSING COMPANY.

A settlement of the affairs of the Kobe Warehousing Company has been effected on terms which enable the Company to continue its business. Its total liabilities are 751,966 *yen*, and of that amount Mr. Yonezawa has paid 66,462 *yen*, leaving a balance of 685,504 *yen*, out of which 300,000 is to be left in the Company's hands as working capital. The remainder will be paid off thus:—

	Yen.
On December 1st, 1899	108,000
On December 1st, 1900	108,000
On December 1st, 1901	58,000
On December 1st, 1902	58,000
On December 1st, 1903	58,000
	390,000

The figures do not exactly tally, it will be observed. Japanese newspapers add that the Company can earn 28,000 *yen* per month, and that its expenditures do not exceed 12,000 *yen*. Hence it should have no difficulty in discharging its debt, especially as the banks will be interested in promoting its business, and will subject its affairs to strict scrutiny.

A CORRECTION.

We have to apologise for an error of transcription in our issue of the 4th instant. Quoting the remarks of a correspondent with reference to the contention of "Jus Civile" that the laws of Japan provide no permanent remedy against trespass, or any other infringements of private right such as are dealt with under Anglo-Saxon law by means of injunctions, we made our correspondent cite "Art. 211 of the Code of Criminal Procedure," whereas what he wrote was, of course, "Art. 211 of the Code of Civil Procedure." The mistake is self-evident, but we note it for the sake of caution.

LIBERALS AND THE LAND TAX.

The Liberals are obviously determined that their action in supporting the Government's Bill for increasing the Land Tax shall not impair their popularity with the provincial constituencies. In the first place, they reduced the proposed increase by nearly one-half. In the second, they imposed a limit of 6 years, and further stipulated for re-assessment, so that, at the end of 6 years—supposing the present programme to be carried out—the nation will be paying less Land Tax by 3 million *yen* than it was paying before the increase was voted. Finally, the Liberals have introduced, and blithely passed, a Bill providing that the land, in consideration of the additional impost it will have to bear on account of the national tax, shall be exempt during six years from all local rates. The law now allows the Communes to impose upon the land a local rate not exceeding one half of the national tax. Hence, the amended national tax being 45 million *yen*, the local rate might amount to 22½ millions. It does not, in fact, amount to anything like that figure, but we imagine that it certainly does amount to more than the 7½ millions which have been added to the national tax. Hence, if the Liberals carry their point, they will be able to say to the land-owners:—"We have actually improved your position. You are now paying less than you ever did, and we, for our part, have been able to give a simulated support to the Government." It is not probable, however, that the Liberals will carry their point. The veto that they propose would throw the communal finances into disorder. They passed the Bill without even a pretence of debate, as though it were some wholly insignificant measure. But that is not the kind of treatment, it will receive at the hands of the Peers. And as friends of Japan we are glad to think that this extremely pusillanimous and short-sighted policy of the Liberals will not succeed, and that their six-years' limit will prove illusory. The main hope for sound finance in Japan is that the land should be properly assessed—the urban lots, above all, for their present valuation is farcical—and that a courageous tax should be imposed on it in lieu of the many vexatious and unproductive burdens which labour and its products are now compelled to bear.

THE ABORIGINES IN FORMOSA.

We read in a Tokyo contemporary that, during last year, there were 303 attacks made by the aborigines, and 635 peaceful folks lost their lives. The numbers, according to months, were:—January 63, February 39, March 77, April 47, May 69, June 53, July 37, August 29, September 85, October 39, November 39, and December 65. The preponderance in March and September is attributed to the fact that heads are needed in those months to offer to the gods at religious festivals.

MAD DOGS.

There has been a kind of epidemic of mad dogs in the Miura Division of Sagami. On three several occasions since the 23rd of January people have been bitten. The total number of sufferers is stated to be 17, and one death is reported.

TELEGRAPH RATES.

An explanation, professing to be official, is published with reference to the scheme for increasing telegraph rates. The statement is this:—According to the present system, the name and address of the recipient of the message, which average 25 *kana* syllables, are not charged for, and the name and address of the sender, averaging 20 *kana* syllables, are charged 5 *sen*. Hence the minimum payment of 15 *sen* for a message not exceeding 10 *kana* syllables, is really accepted in return for the transmission of 55 syllables. Taking 5 *kana* syllables as the equivalent of an English word, this means that 11 words are wired for 15 *sen*; namely, a rate of 1.36 *sen* per word; whereas in England the minimum charge is 24.5 *sen* (6 pence) for 12 words, or 2.05 *sen* per word. Hence the Japanese rate is 0.69 *sen* cheaper than the English. The Government's proposal is to raise the minimum charge to 20 *sen* for a message of 15 syllables, including the name and address of the sender, and to charge nothing for the name and address of the recipient. Thus 40 syllables—15 representing the message, and 25, the recipients' name and address—will go for 20 *sen*, which will be at the rate of 8 English words for 20 *sen*, or 2.5 *sen* per word.

There are several comments to be made here. In the first place, the obvious fact presents itself that money is far more valuable in Japan than in England, and that all postal, telegraph, and railway rates ought to be proportionately less in this country than in Great Britain. But the new scheme contemplates charging 2.5 *sen* for a service which, in England, costs only 2.05 *sen*. In the second place, if it be a correct estimate that the name and address of the sender average 20 *kana* syllables, then obviously a message limited to 15 syllables inclusive of the name and address will not suffice for even the name and address, and it will be necessary to pass that limit in order to convey any intelligence. Thus considered, the minimum charge for a telegram becomes, not 20 *sen* but 30 *sen*, which is 5.5 *sen* dearer than the minimum charge in England. But it is quite evident that in the vast majority of cases the sender will not devote 20 syllables, or anything like 20 syllables, to his name and address when he has to include them in the body of the message. At present, since no additional expense is involved in wiring these details, they are written out with great and wholly unnecessary fulness. But when it becomes an object to abbreviate the name and address as much as possible, the sender will generally be content to write his name only, and the average number of syllables required for that purpose will be less than four. Hence it is obviously misleading to allege that the name and address of the sender have hitherto required the wiring of 20 syllables. They may have done so, but that was simply because no charge was made, and people consequently expanded these portions of the telegram to a wholly needless extent. They will content themselves hereafter with one word, as Englishmen do. Indeed, the Japanese system and the English are not fairly compared in the Japanese official statement. The twelve words of the English system include names and addresses, which, being abbreviated as much as possible, certainly do not absorb more than one half of the number, thus leaving at

least six words for the message itself. Six words is the equivalent of 30 Japanese syllables, and to send that number would cost 40 *sen* under the new system, against the English charge of 24.5 *sen*.

The *Fiji Shimpō* attacks the proposed increase vehemently. Let us take, it says, the estimate of the Government itself, thus:—

	Syllables.
Name and address of receiver	25
Message, including name and address of sender	15
Total	40

40 syllables (*kana*)=8 words, and since a message of 40 syllables costs 20 *sen*, the charge is 2.5 *sen* per word (English). But in England a message of 12 words costs 24.5 *sen*, or 2.05 *sen* per word, so that the Japanese rate is 0.45 *sen* dearer than the English. Besides, the unit of calculation in Japan is a group of 10 syllables, whereas in England it is one word. In England, every additional word over and above the minimum limit of 12, costs a half-penny, or 2.05 *sen*. Hence we have these results:—

In Japan, a message of 25 syllables (15+10) will cost	30
In England, a message of 14 words (12+2) costs	28.6
In Japan, a message of 35 syllables will cost	40
In England, an equivalent message of 16 words costs	32.7
In Japan, a message of 45 syllables will cost	50
In England, an equivalent message of 18 words costs	36.8
In Japan, a message of 55 syllables will cost	60
In England, an equivalent message of 20 words costs	40.9

There is thus no question as to which of the two systems is the dearer. Our contemporary further remarks that, whereas England spends on the service 94 *sen* out of every 100 *sen* of gross earnings, Japan spends 75 *sen*. Japan should be thinking seriously of lowering her rates and improving her service, instead of exacting higher charges for inefficiently discharged duties. As a matter of fact, the Japanese rates, in order to be as cheap, proportionately, as the English, ought to be about one-fifth of the latter.

COLONIZATION IN THE NORTH.

The Government is expected to ask the Diet's consent to an arrangement for granting special facilities to colonists in Iturup island. There is a considerable tract of land—some 17,000 acres—awaiting cultivation in the island, and the idea is to induce a thousand farmers to proceed thither, furnishing them with seeds, tools, and other assistance. It will be observed that this project contemplates a grant of about 17 acres to each settler. That is surely a very small area. In Australia a settler can obtain two square miles of land, or 1,280 acres. Only the very lowest class of farmer, a man with no capital, no experience, and no prospect at home could be induced to emigrate to a cold and remote island for the sake of a paltry grant of 17 acres of unclaimed land. The Australian method seems much more rational. The dimensions of the grant are sufficient to tempt a substantial settler, and, on the other hand, the settler is bound by conditions, which ensure that his presence shall be a real element of progress in the country, and that there shall be no colour of speculation about his enterprise.

THE IRON FOUNDRY.

It is not at all surprising that there should be a great deal of astonishment about the changes that the official estimates for the establishment of an iron foundry have undergone. After much discussion and great opposition, as well as amid numerous and loudly expressed doubts of success, the project was definitely started in 1896, and the Diet gave its consent to a programme submitted by the Government, the outlay involved being 4,095,793 *yen*—namely, 579,762 *yen* to be taken from the Indemnity and 3,516,031 *yen* to be obtained by the sale of Industrial Undertakings Bonds—, and the work to be finished by the close of the fiscal year 1899-0; that is to say, within a period of four years. But when the Houses met for their twelfth session, they were asked to consent to a further appropriation of 6,474,056 *yen*, and to an extension of time for two years. Thus, according to this second programme, the enterprise was to cost 10,569,849 *yen*, and the work was not to be finished until March 31st, 1902. These changes were sufficiently startling. But now the Treasury comes forward with a third proposal, involving an additional outlay of 8,632,845 *yen*, and extending the time of completion until 1904. Thus a work which, according to the original estimate, was to cost only 4,095,293 *yen*, and to be completed by March 31st, 1900, will now require an outlay of 10,202,694 *yen*, and will not be completed until March 31st, 1904. The expenditure has been nearly quintupled and the time has been doubled. It must be confessed that a partial explanation of this radical alteration of plan is forthcoming. Thus 4½ millions of the last increase is to form the working capital of the foundry, and 1,630,000 *yen* is to be spent on the acquisition of mines. At the outset, the Authorities expected to purchase the iron ore, coal, and time required at the foundry. But subsequent investigation has convinced them that the work can not be satisfactorily conducted on such a system, and they have decided that the State must own the mines from which the materials are taken. There is also a grant of 400,000 *yen*, spread over 4 years, to a company which has undertaken to improve Wakamatsu harbour, which will be the port for the foundry. Operations will be commenced at the foundry on a small scale from next fiscal year—beginning April 1st—, but all the factories will not be opened until 1905, when it is expected that 90,000 tons of steel will be manufactured yearly. Whatever excuse may be offered on the score of inexperience, there is no denying that the preliminary story of this foundry reflects little credit on Japanese experts.

A JAPANESE CONSUL IN MONTREAL.

The Kobe Chamber of Commerce (Japanese) has memorialized the Government in the sense that a Japanese Consul should be appointed for Montreal. The trade between Japan and Canada last year aggregated 2,365,600 *yen*, and there is a steady tendency to increase. But there is only one Japanese Consul now in Canada, and he is stationed in Vancouver, which lies far outside of the principal spheres of business. The recommendation seems reasonable.

THE QUESTION OF BAIL.

As the question of criminal procedure in the preliminary examination of accused persons is now occupying a large share of public attention, our readers will probably be interested in a point which has given rise to some discussion. Recently a Kobe journal advanced the following statement:—"According to the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure, there is no necessity whatever for an application for bail from the prisoner or his advocate, it being the duty of the judge to grant bail of his own initiative if satisfied that the accused is entitled to have the privilege extended to him." This, it will be observed, is a very remarkable allegation. "There is no necessity whatever for an application for bail from the prisoner or his advocate," and "it is the duty of the judge to grant bail of his own initiative." We are told, in brief, that, according to the Japanese Code, an accused person need never trouble himself to apply for bail, as the obligation to grant it devolves upon the judge of his own initiative. It need scarcely be said that such an interpretation of the Code is quite erroneous. Indeed, it bears its refutation on its face, for unless sureties are tendered by the accused or his counsel, it is obvious that the judge can not find them on the accused's behalf. Referring subsequently, by memory, to our contemporary's statement, we inadvertently substituted "public procurator" for judge, and a great deal of capital is now made out of that substitution, though it is wholly immaterial, the public procurator being one of the judicial officials engaged in the investigation, and the question at issue being whether bail has to be applied for by the accused, or whether it is the duty of the judicial officials trying him to grant it of their own initiative. We have denied, and we do most emphatically deny, that any such duty is imposed by the Code on judicial officials in the matter of bail. The Kobe journal responsible for the original statement now defends it by quoting a translation of the 159th Art. of the Code, which runs:—"The examining judge may, after hearing the opinion of the Public Procurator, set the accused at liberty under the care of his relatives or friends, even if no request has been made for bail." This article, which gives the judge a discretionary power to set a prisoner at liberty, is actually quoted in proof of an assertion that "there is no necessity whatever for an application for bail" on behalf of the prisoner, since "it is the duty of the judge to grant bail of his own initiative." Such curiously loose and unintelligent renderings of definite legal provisions scarcely deserve serious treatment, and when our contemporary, after making the above quotation, recommends us to "read the Codes before venturing to say what they do not contain," its exultation is so naïve that we feel a certain reluctance in disturbing it. That a provision extending to a Judge permission to choose a certain course, should be construed as imposing on him a duty to follow that course, and that the possibility of a Judge's taking the initiative in granting a privilege should be held to dispense with all necessity for the prisoner to solicit the privilege on his own behalf—that is surely a quaint method of reading simple English. However, our contemporary's blunders of interpretation are altogether second-

ary. The issue is simply this:—We say that "the prisoner or his friends must make the application" for bail; our contemporary says, "no; there is no necessity whatever for the prisoner or his friends to apply: it is the duty of the judge to grant the bail of his own initiative," and in support of the latter assertion refers us to Art. 159 of the Code of Criminal Procedure as quoted above. Well, the fact is that the procedure indicated in Art. 159 is not bail at all. It would have been prudent on the part of the Kobe journal to ascertain the meaning of the Article before essaying to construe it. There are two entirely distinct processes in Japanese criminal procedure: one is "bail," or *hoshaku*. The other is "entrusting," or *sekiyu*. When an examining judge arrives at the conclusion that an accused person is innocent of the charge preferred against him, but, at the same time, sees reason to anticipate that his presence at the Court may possibly be again required for the purpose of elucidating the affair, he "entrusts" him to his relatives or friends, who sign a document promising to produce him, if necessary, but are not liable to any penalty if they fail to keep their promise. That is the measure set forth in Art. 159 of the Code. It has nothing whatever to do with bail, except that it is usually adopted in cases where bail has not been applied for. Naturally, though not necessarily, if bail has been applied for it is granted as the simpler course. The words of Art. 159 are:—

Yoshin hanji wa hoshaku no seikin aru to shaya to wa towazu tenji no item wo kiki hikoku-mi wo sono shizoku mata wa kokun ni sekiyu suru koto mo u.

A Judge of first instance, after consultation with the Procurator, may entrust a defendant to his relatives or friends, whether bail has been applied for or not.

This is an arrangement wholly distinct from bail, and that it should have been interpreted as referring to bail, above all as dispensing with any necessity for an application on the prisoner's behalf, and as imposing on judges the "duty" of "granting" what they have not been asked for, is another very striking example of the singular misconceptions gravely ventilated from time to time by the newspaper from which we have quoted. If an accused person wants bail in Japan, or if he entertains any hope of obtaining bail, he must apply for it. The Code of Criminal Procedure provides no machinery whatever for granting bail unless it has been asked for. We observe, from a paragraph in a later issue of the same journal, that it translates the two terms *hoshaku* and *sekiyu*, by the single English word "bail." Their meaning is quite different. In fact, the whole of our contemporary's argument is composed of ignorance and errors.

THE "YOROZU CHOHO" AND BARON IWASAKI.

It is really a pity that some one does not think it worth while to rouse the *Yorozu Choho* to a sense of its responsibility as a public print. The injury that it does to the reputation of Japanese journalism by its reckless and sensational attacks upon individuals is very great. The *Yorozu* may be inspired by worthy motives, but, if so, it must be the victim of some particularly mischievous fate, for it manages always to convey precisely the opposite impression. Its latest

assault is upon the financial credit of Baron Iwasaki. It relates a circumstantial story of an attempt made by the Sanyo and Kiushiu Railway Companies to raise a loan of 15 million yen in London; alleges that Baron Iwasaki went security for the loan, and declares that the British capitalists with whom the negotiations were conducted, finding, on inquiry in Shanghai and elsewhere, that the Iwasaki name was not good to that amount, declined to complete the transaction. We know, on the best possible authority, that Baron Iwasaki had no connexion of any kind with the affair, and that his name was never lent or used to secure the loan. The *Yorozu Choho* might have acquired the same knowledge without any difficulty, but it apparently sets a higher value upon a sensational paragraph than upon the credit of its country's capitalists. That kind of journalism is very contemptible. Japanese railway companies can not borrow money in England until they are in a position to hypothecate their roads as security for the loan.

THE ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES BILL.

Readers of the Diet's Proceedings, as reported in these columns, have doubtless observed that the Lower House has passed, and the Upper has now under consideration, a Bill for the Regulation of Firearms and Explosives. The Bill contains a clause providing that regulations for the enforcement of the new Laws shall be enacted by the Home Department. When the measure came up for its Second Reading in the House of Representatives, Mr. Haseba Junko, referring to the above clause, said that he understood that the Departmental Regulations had been already drafted, and that they contained a provision limiting to 100 *kwamme* (833 lbs.) the quantity of explosive compounds stored by an individual or company at one time, and limiting the quantity of gunpowder to 1,200 *kwamme*. (10,000 lbs.) Would these limits be applicable, he inquired, to foreign merchants. If so, great inconvenience might be caused, inasmuch as the present system was for the foreign merchants to import large quantities and store them in the official warehouses—as much as 6,000 *kwamme* at a time—, delivering them out to consumers in convenient amounts as required. He added that, in these times of railway and mining activity, limitations of the kind proposed might be very crippling. The Government Delegate replied that the Law would of course be operative in the case of foreigners as well as Japanese subjects after July next, but denied that the Regulations had been finally drafted, and promised that due consideration should be given to Mr. Haseba's point. It appears to us very unlikely that these limitations, or, indeed, any limitations, will be imposed on explosives stored in the official warehouses. Such action would simply kill the trade, for the transport of petty quantities from Europe and from place to place in Japan could not be effected except at prohibitive cost. Mr. Haseba did well to call attention to the matter, though probably his point had already presented itself to the authorities. At all events the matter is of sufficient importance to merit attention.

TAXING OF JAPANESE BONDS.

There is a curious and interesting point connected with the tenure of Japanese public securities by foreigners. After July next, or, at any rate, from January of 1900—for it is rumoured that the Japanese Government will not levy taxes from the foreign residents until the latter date—every one enjoying an income of 300 *yen* annually, or upwards, will have to pay income tax. The interest accruing on Japanese bonds held by a foreigner will not be reckoned as part of his general income. The tax will be levied independently on that interest. On the other hand, by sending the bonds to a Bank in Hongkong, or Shanghai, or London, and having the interest collected there, it will be possible to evade the tax altogether. Foreign investors in Japanese securities naturally expect to receive the full interest registered on the face of the bond, but if they make the investment in Japan, and keep the bonds in their possession here, they will find the interest diminished by the amount of the income tax. It is a consideration of some importance. The Revised Income Tax Law says that "Interest on Public Bonds or Companies' debentures, payable in the district where this law is enforced" shall be subject to a tax of 2 per cent., irrespective of the amount. Hence a person holding 100,000 *yen* worth of 5 per cent. bonds will have to pay a tax of 100 *yen* annually if he collects the interest in Japan. Possibly if he had the interest collected in London the British tax collector might make him "stand and deliver," but however that may be, the effect of the Revised Income Tax Law is to reduce from 5 to 4.9 per cent. the interest on Japanese public securities held in Japan.

We may add that the new Law fixes no minimum taxable limit in the case of incomes derived from bonds. Incomes otherwise obtained are not taxable unless they amount to 300 *yen* annually of net assets; but if a man's property is altogether invested in bonds, he has to pay a tax of 2 per cent. even though his income be only 200 *yen* or 200 *yen* per annum. That seems very hard. Many men of small means invest their property in public securities in order to leave it to their widows and orphans in a safe and easily manageable form. But, however small the pittance thus bequeathed, the tax collector makes his raid upon it. That point was raised in the House of Peers, though in another form. An income not derived from public bonds or company's debentures is not liable for income tax unless it amounts to 300 *yen*. Suppose, then, that a person has an income of 390 *yen*, and that among his property is included five per cent. bonds of the face value of 2,000 *yen*. Then his income not derived from bonds is only 290 *yen*, and he escapes taxation altogether in respect of that income. In short, whereas his tax, were there no bonds in his property, would be 3.90 *yen*—the tax on incomes from 300 *yen* to 500 *yen* is 1 per cent.—, by having a portion of his belongings in bonds he escapes with a payment of 2 *yen*—i. e. 2 per cent. on the interest of the bonds alone. Or, again, if out of a total income of 300 *yen*, 10 *yen* be derived from bonds, the owner of the income escape with a payment of 20 *sen* on account of the bonds,

his remaining income (290 *yen*) being below the taxable limit. In view of such contingencies it was proposed, in the Upper House, to reduce the minimum taxable income to 250 *yen*, but the amendment was rejected. Of course the Government's idea is to collect the tax on bonds by deducting it from the interest at the time of paying the latter, but it would seem a juster plan to include the interest on bonds and company's debentures in ordinary income.

ARBITRATION BETWEEN FOREIGNERS AND JAPANESE.

The Kobe Chamber of Commerce, in consultation with the Japanese Chamber of Hyogo and Osaka, seems to have elaborated an arrangement for arbitrating all commercial disputes that may hereafter occur between Japanese and foreigners, without taking them into Court. There is to be a section of joint arbitration (*Kyōdō Chūsaiha*) constituted with 20 members, 10 elected by the Kobe Chamber and 10 by the Hyogo and Osaka Chambers, which appear to be acting as one body in this matter. From these 20 members 3 are to be selected to form a board of arbitration in any case of dispute. The number 3 is not compulsory. One arbitrator will suffice if the parties to the suit agree in that sense. As to the appointment of the arbitrators, one is to be nominated by each of the disputants, and the third by the disputants conjointly, or by the Chairman of the arbitration section, if so desired—we are not sure whether the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce is not referred to, but such a provision would be manifestly ambiguous, since three chambers are concerned. The disputants may, if they please, nominate arbitrators outside the members of the arbitration section. Persons thus agreeing to arbitrate a question will be required to sign a very detailed document, pledging themselves to accept the decision of the arbitrators as final; explicitly renouncing all legal remedy subsequent to arbitration, and subscribing other conditions carefully framed with the object of rendering the arbitration effective and final. Each party has to put up a sum of 100 *yen* by way of preliminary, and the place of arbitration is to be fixed by mutual consent. We gather from the terms of the arrangement that the Law Courts are expected to lend their machinery for the purpose of enforcing the decisions of the arbitrators, and that summary execution (*shikkō*) may be resorted to. Altogether the arrangement is carefully thought out, and appears calculated to ensure valuable practical result. The only point suggesting uncertainty is the manner of nominating the third arbitrator. Naturally, when the parties concerned are a foreigner and a Japanese, each will choose one of his own nationals from among the 20 members of the section. But when the two come to determine the third arbitrator, who is obviously the person of chief importance, is it likely that they will be able to agree? The Japanese will naturally want a Japanese, the foreigner a foreigner, and neither will be willing to submit his case to a board of which two out of the three members belong to a nationality different from his own. This difficulty must have occurred to the framers of the arrangement, but the translation from which we take this *precis* does not contain any provision on the subject.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE REVISED TREATIES.

The Government is certainly displaying a very liberal spirit in its preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties. All its measures hitherto have indicated a sincere desire to make things pleasant for the foreigner. The clause in the Press Law, restricting to Japanese subjects the privilege of editing or publishing journals, has been amended, and foreigners will be free to engage in newspaper enterprise. It has been contended that the privilege was already secured by the French Treaty, but the contention might be difficult to establish. Foreigners are not allowed to enjoy any such privilege in France, we understand, and a treaty between France and another Power, though couched in the same language as the Franco-Japanese Treaty, has not been interpreted as conferring freedom of journalistic enterprise. But happily the question has been finally settled by Japan's action. Then we have had amendments of the laws in the sense of recognising the diplomas and licenses of foreign medical men, pharmacutists and druggists, and we have seen the Business Tax Law changed so that its provisions will not bear hardly upon foreign insurance companies. Finally, there is now in the hands of the Diet a Bill to relieve foreigners from the obligation of affixing their stamps (*natsu-in*) to legal documents, and for extending to them the same succour in litigation that Japanese subjects enjoy under the Code of Civil Procedure. The Code of Criminal Procedure has also been amended in the sense of dispensing with stamps where foreign defendants or complainants, &c., are concerned. We believe that several other measures connected with the operation of the Revised Treaties have still to be submitted to the Diet, and that they are all couched in the same liberal spirit.

THE TOKYO WATER-WORKS.

When the first trial of the Tokyo Water-works was made an interesting coincidence occurred. The representatives of the Municipality and the chief officials in charge of the Works were enjoying the spectacle of a handsome fountain delivering its volume of water in duly ordered fashion at a certain position, while the citizens in another quarter of the capital were fighting against an inundation which threatened to swamp their dwellings. The water, *en route* for the place of trial, had found a weak spot in the main and had thus extemporized an unexpected fountain on its own account. This experience was repeated on the 28th ultimo. The water having been turned on in the Shitaya main, burst the pipes in Okachimachi and in Takecho, and wrought considerable havoc. It is believed that some of the defective pipes fraudulently supplied to the Municipality two years ago, are still doing duty in the works, and that the system will be liable to catastrophes at any time. It will be a bad business for the reputation of the engineers in charge, and, indeed, their method of carrying on the work, supposing them to have anything like a free hand, deserves to be roundly censured. But we do not see that they can justly be blamed for accidents due to bad pipes delivered to them under a system of fraud against which no ordinary

precaution could have guaranteed them. It would have been safer, doubtless, to take up and discard all the pipes furnished by the dishonest company, but the Municipality has probably hesitated to incur such an outlay. It is impossible not to reflect now how enormously the citizens of Tokyo would have gained had they divested themselves of romantic and utterly unpractical ideas, and obtained their pipes in foreign markets. The first water-works made in this country, those of Yokohama, under the direction of a foreign engineer and by means of foreign material, were finished expeditiously without hitch of any kind, and have been rendering good service for a number of years. The same engineer planned works for Tokyo 13 years ago, and a Japanese company offered to construct them within 6 years, asking only for a Government guarantee of 6 per cent., and promising to hand over the works *gratis* to the Municipality after 30 years. The Municipality is paying 6 per cent. on a much larger sum than that involved in the original plan; will have to pay back the borrowed principal too, and seems likely to have to wait a considerable time longer before the city has a supply of water.

THE SOY TAX.

There is very strong opposition to the proposed increase of the tax on Soy, and many people predict that the revenue obtained from the measure will fall greatly short of the Government's expectation. The quantity of soy now consumed in the country is $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions of *koku*, in round numbers. In 1889 the quantity was only $1\frac{1}{2}$ million *koku*, and it remained stationary at that figure, or even showed a tendency to decline, until 1892, when it gradually expanded. A considerable quantity is now exported to Formosa, but the consumption in Japan has not increased apparently in a ratio at all proportionate to the improved circumstances of the people. The explanation given is that soy, unlike *sake*, is very easy to manufacture. Salt, beans, and barley are alone required, and it may be made at all seasons of the year, whereas *sake* can be brewed in winter only. Already domestic manufacture goes on largely, and if the people are asked to pay another *yen* per *koku*, the probability is that many of them will escape the tax by manufacturing their own *shoyu*.

THE PROGRESSIVISTS.

It is quite plain that great friction exists in the ranks of the Progressivists. The anti-expansionists show no sign of abandoning the position newly taken by them, and one of the members of the General Managing Committee, Mr. Sasaki Shigeto, has resigned. Rumour says that Viscount Miura, of Sōul notoriety, is acting as mediator, and, further, that in this dilemma there is talk of abolishing the General Managing Committee altogether, and placing the control and direction of the party's affairs entirely in the hands of Count Okuma. We should say that no wiser course offers itself. If the Progressivists ceased to wrangle among themselves, and trusted their business solely to Count Okuma, obeying him implicitly, the party's position would soon be altered.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

We have not recently observed any report compiled for the British Government by a trade commissioner on the subject of the condition of British commerce in the Far East. The *Fiji Shimpō*, however, writes as though such a document had been published, and says that the commissioner made six points:—(1) British merchants do not consult the tastes of consumers; will not import sufficiently cheap goods; will not employ the metric system of weights and measures, and will not do business on a credit basis. (2) Very few Englishmen go abroad to study the conditions of the markets and the fashions of the people they have to supply, and when the British Government, on rare occasions, sends a commissioner, he is not a person acquainted with foreign languages and does not possess the qualifications necessary for the task. (3) Compared with German and American goods, British exports are badly packed. (4) The freight rates by British ships are high. (5) Trade union troubles are so frequent in England that contracts can not be carried out within any certain time. (6) Germany sends numbers of young men to work in merchants' offices in foreign countries, where they acquire a full knowledge of the language of the country, and obtain other information which proves of great value subsequently; England does nothing of the kind.

Taking the above criticisms for text, the *Fiji* discourses upon the foreign trade of Japan, and asserts, at the outset, the somewhat unexpected contention that the foreign merchant at the Treaty Ports is an obstacle to the development of the country's commerce. He comes, we are told, between the foreign producer and the Japanese consumer; levies a heavy toll upon the goods passing through his hands; controls transactions to suit his own convenience; insists upon receiving ready money from his Japanese clients even in the case of goods imported by him on three months' bills; makes no concession on account of a fall in the Japanese prices of goods for export, and thus fails to encourage the trade. (We do not clearly understand this last statement. It seems to refer to exchange, but, since Japan adopted the gold standard, exchange is no longer a disturbing factor.)

Concerning these remarks, we can only say that they seem astonishingly wide of the mark. The foreign middleman is about the best agent that Japan could have. He takes upon his shoulders the whole risks of the trade; he brings the markets of Europe and America to Japan's very doors; so far from levying a large fine upon the trade to pay himself, he works upon a margin reduced by competition to the smallest possible proportions; and if he does not give credit, it is because bitter experience has taught him that loss is the inevitable result of doing so. These are cold facts. They ought to be quite obvious to the *Fiji Shimpō*, or to any observant Japanese.

Our contemporary does not spare its own nationals. It says that their untrustworthiness is a fatal obstacle to the development of trade. They do not keep their contracts as to time; they do not supply goods according to sample; they are without commercial morality; and finally, the men sent abroad by the Government to study and report upon foreign trade conditions are so unqualified

for the task that they have to rely upon a few scraps of information furnished by Japanese Consuls.

THE NEW ELECTION LAW.

The new Law of Election, now in the hands of a Committee of the Lower House, reduces the property franchise from 15 *yen* annually of national-tax payments, to 5 *yen* of Land Tax, or 3 *yen* of Income Tax or Business Tax. It is calculated that this will raise the number of franchise-holders from 510,000 to 2,110,000, exclusive of Hokkaido. The division is thus:—

Payers of 5 <i>yen</i> of Land Tax.....	1,480,000
Payers of 3 <i>yen</i> of Income Tax.....	170,000
Payers of 3 <i>yen</i> of Business Tax.....	460,000

Total 2,110,000

In the case of candidates for election, the property franchise is removed altogether. The election districts are completely changed, being enlarged to cities, prefectures, towns, and islands. Every town (*shi*), even though its population be less than fifty thousand, will return one member, and above fifty thousand a member is added for every eighty thousand, or fraction of eighty thousand. Thus the membership of the Lower House will be increased from 300 to 445. It is proposed that the Law shall take immediate effect, in so far as concerns the election of the 145 new members created by its provisions, but the members already sitting will not be affected until the next general election. Of course one great object of the Bill is to correct the present inequality of representation enjoyed by the rural and the urban populations. But that aim is only partially effected. The urban population numbers 9,700,000 out of a total of 42,000,000, being thus nearly 25 per cent. Moreover, in point of intelligence, education, and wealth, it may be said to constitute one half of the nation. Under the new system, however, the members of the House will be distributed thus:—

	Representatives.
Rural Population	341
Urban Population	98
Hokkaido.....	3
Islands.....	3

Total 445

Arithmetically speaking, the towns folk will be fully represented, but, could property and intelligence be taken into account, they ought to return about 145 members, instead of 98.

The system of voting is to be by unsigned ballot, each elector writing on his ballot the name of the person for whom he votes—one name only. There will thus be minority representation. Not without restriction, however, for it is provided that a candidate must obtain votes equal to at least one-fifth of the total number of voters registered in the district in order to be successful at the first ballot. In the second ballot this rule does not hold; but it is obvious that the minority have very little chance of returning their candidate in a second ballot, which is held only to fill vacancies left after the first ballot. On the whole, however, a minority commanding one-fifth of the votes should always be able to elect one representative, provided that the district returns at least 5 members. Take, for example, the case of a district containing 200,000 voters, of whom 45,000 are conservatives, and 155,000 Liberals. Such a district will have 3 representatives

under the new system, and it is plain that the Liberals can divide their votes so as to give 51,666 to each candidate, thus returning all their nominees. But in a district of 300,000 voters returning 5 candidates, the Conservatives, if they have 61,000 voters, should be able to capture one seat certainly, and their position improves the greater the numbers of seats, provided that they have one-fifth of the votes. For example, in a district of 450,000 voters returning 6 members, the minority having 90,000 votes can capture one seat, whereas the majority, having 360,000 votes, can not return more than 3 members. But in the second ballot for the sixth member, the majority would have complete command of the situation.

THE JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY.

The Japan Railway Company held its annual meeting on the 8th instant. The chairman, Viscount Soga, reported that, in accordance with resolutions adopted at the preceding meeting, the directors had been pursuing a policy of retrenchment. The staff had been reduced by 813, so that its total number now stood at 10,001. Full attention had also been given to the question of separating the accounts of the Omiya Works from the general accounts of the line, but there were many difficulties to be overcome in carrying out such a change.

The accounts were then presented, the principal figures being as follows:—

	Yen.
Net Profit on the year's working	1,613,151
Government Grant in Aid	642,132
Sale of property	1,230
Brought over from last account	25,434
	2,271,947

The above sum was disposed of as follows:—

	Yen.
Rewards to officials	48,394
Discharge of Obligations	3,494
Payment of Debts	21,700
Dividend, at the rate of 8½ per cent. ...	1,851,911
Carried forward to next account	265,791
Reserve	80,657
	2,271,947

The original proposal of the Directors had been to pay a dividend of 8½, but at the instance of the meeting the figure was changed to 8½. A dividend of eight and a half per cent. seems, at first sight, a sufficiently good achievement, but it has to be noted that the Company is still in receipt of Government aid to the extent of over six hundred thousand yen, or nearly 3 per cent. of its total paid up capital (21½ million yen, in round numbers). Thus, were it deprived of State assistance, the shareholders would not have much more than 5 per cent. to receive. The Japan Railway Company was the first private enterprise of the kind in this country. Organized in 1881, it received from the Government a promise that during a period of ten years in the case of the Tokyo-Sendai Road, and 15 years in that of Sendai-Awamori Road, the Treasury would pay a sum sufficient to ensure to the shareholders a dividend of 8 per cent. on the paid up capital. In reckoning the above periods, the time of actually commencing the work of construction is taken as a starting point. Hence the period for the Tokyo-Sendai line expired long ago, but that for the Sendai-Awamori section is still running. The Treasury's outlay on this account

diminishes year by year. In the Budget for 1899-00, the sum entered is 430,897 yen.

It is interesting to note that the principal shareholders are:—

	Shares.
The Fiftieth Bank	305,232
Baron Iwasaki	36,482
The Imperial Route Bureau	22,492
Marquis Ason	17,947
Marquis Tokugawa (Kishin)	15,124
The Mitsui Firm	14,591
Prince Shimazu	13,947
Marquis Mayeda	13,362
Marquis Tokugawa (Owari)	10,326

THE PRESS AND THE AMENDED LAW OF ELECTION.

Tokyo newspapers are unanimous in their applause of the amended Law of Election. Naturally they welcome the great extension of the franchise that it grants, and they are also particularly pleased that by introducing the system of single voting, the representation of minorities has been provided for. The *Kokumin* lays much stress on the provision that a voter who can not write the name of the candidate he wishes to elect will be disqualified. Our contemporary regards that restriction as a premium for education. It seems difficult to conceive, however, that any one possessing the property qualification should be so illiterate as to be unable to write a name. Moreover, to indite the name of a candidate is not necessarily a proof of education. That amount of calligraphic ability can easily be acquired for the occasion. There does not appear to be much anxiety about the passing of the Bill, though the confidence felt on that subject is not easy to understand, seeing that an almost identical measure, introduced by the Ito Cabinet, was so radically changed by the House as to become simply a means of extending the franchise without in any degree improving the system. It is evident that if the Bill be passed in its present form, the political complexion of the majority in the House may be radically changed, for among the batch of 145 additional members who have to be immediately elected, a large proportion are representatives of the urban population, and in all probability they will throw in their lot with the new *Kokkento*, thus rendering it a very powerful organization. Had the Progressists retained their old character, they would doubtless have commanded the allegiance of many of the new members, but their recent championship of rural interest in preference to urban must tell against them under these altered conditions.

THE STATE AND EDUCATION.

It is pointed out by writers who plead for a larger measure of State aid to education, that whereas the Treasury in this country grants only 330,000 yen annually towards the support of the Primary Schools, the corresponding sum granted in England is 64,438,550 yen, that in France, 41,205,563 yen, and that in Germany, 16,063,657 yen. There can be no doubt, as we recently predicted, that the country will soon insist on a fuller measure of State assistance for education. A simple plan would be to reduce the fees paid by students to one-half of the present amount, and to grant 3 millions annually out of the Treasury to make up for the loss of revenue thus caused to the schools as

well as to defray a moiety of the fees payable by the additional pupils whom the change would doubtless bring in. There would remain the question of increasing the emoluments of teachers, which, in spite of the improvement effected in recent years through Government intervention, are still inadequate.

INCREASE OF RAILWAY FARES.

Public opinion seems to be strongly opposed to the idea of increasing the fares on State Railways for the purpose of bringing additional revenue to the Exchequer. The *Yōji Shimpō*, which is by no means alone in its view, contends that so long as the Railways are in such crying need of improvement, any profit accruing from them should be devoted to their betterment. A second point made is that the private companies would raise their fares at once were they not restrained by Government example, and that they will certainly make a substantial increase if officialdom gives them a lead. A tax on means of communication is undoubtedly one of the last sources to which Japan should have turn for obtaining revenue.

THE TONNAGE DUTY LAW.

The Special Committee of the House of Peers, entrusted with the task of examining and reporting upon the Tonnage Duty Law, has made two important amendments. The first involves a reduction of the proposed dues by 50 per cent. A foreign-owned or Japanese ship engaged in over-sea trade, and entering a Japanese port from abroad, is to pay to *sen* per registered ton or per 10 *koku* of carrying capacity, according to the Government's Bill. The Committee proposes to write 5 *sen* instead of 10. It further suggests that when a ship has to enter two or more ports to discharge its cargo, a payment of 10 *sen* per ton on entering the first port should clear it altogether. It remains to be seen whether the House will adopt these amendments.

THE LATE COUNT KATSU.

The Emperor has been pleased to grant the title of Count to the tenth son of Prince Tokugawa, whom the late Count Katsu nominated as his heir. As a matter of strict right, the title should have become extinct, there being no lineal heir and Count Katsu not having complied with the legal formalities of adoption. But the Sovereign has made an exception in this instance.

A BIG CONCERN.

The final figures for 1898 of the Equitable Insurance Society of the United States have been issued. The surplus, compared with 1897, shows an enormous increase, now standing at the huge sum of £11,939,685. The "new business" written in 1898 by the "Equitable" amounted to over £35,000,000. With such figures as this the company has much to warrant its boast that it is the strongest Life Insurance Company in the world. The Branch Office for Japan is at No. 10, Band, and the representative is Mr. Kieue.

THE PHILIPPINES.

IT is difficult to ascertain exactly when hostilities broke out in the Philippines. The first news reached Yokohama at the end of January, but no one paid much attention to it. The source was a private letter sent from Hongkong by a Filipino correspondent. He alleged that on January 13th, a fight had taken place at Manila, resulting in the defeat of the United States' forces with a loss of 500 men, and he represented the situation as almost desperate, the civilian population fleeing from Manila in crowds, the Filipino leaders preparing to enter the city at the head of ninety thousand men, and the Americans having only ten thousand for the defence. There is no reason whatever to doubt that the whole of this story was false, with the exception, perhaps, of the relative strength of the Filipino and American forces, which seems to have been stated with an approximation to the truth. The next news that reached Japan was a telegram received by the Foreign Office in Tokyo on the 6th instant. Dated the 5th, it said that a general attack had been made on Manila by the Filipinos, and that they had been repulsed with heavy loss. The inference was that the attack had occurred on the 3rd or 4th, and that view derived confirmation from a London telegram dated the 4th instant, which spoke of hostilities having begun in the Philippines and of Manila's having been attacked. This telegram did not profess to emanate direct from Manila, but was merely a repetition of news wired thence to New York. Still the Tokyo and the London telegrams, taken together, constituted strong evidence that the trouble happened in the early days of this month. Indeed, there would have been no room for uncertainty had not another London telegram, also dated the 4th instant, alleged that 14 hours of severe fighting had taken place from January 25th, and that the Americans had carried two positions and advanced their lines, with casualties of 20 killed and 125 wounded, the Filipino loss being heavy. We are unable, therefore, to arrive at a closer approximation than that the situation culminated in an armed collision during the interval January 25th—February 4th. Obviously the initiative was taken by the Filipinos. They attacked Manila. General OTIS, being under orders to abstain carefully from recourse to arms pending the final decision of the Washington Government, can not have ordered any military movement. From the London news it would appear that he assumed the offensive when fighting commenced, and that he advanced his lines, occupying two of the enemy's positions. But that was doubtless a question of strategy only. The Filipinos had command of the city's water supply, which is in a distant suburb, and from the moment when they became hostile, OTIS could

have no choice but to deprive them of that advantage.

The interesting point is the cause of this outbreak of hostilities. What occasion was there for it? Both AGUINALDO and AGONCILLO ought to have known very well that a fortnight's delay would bring to them the final decision of the Washington Government, and that on the American side there was no intention of commencing hostilities. They ought to have been fully aware that whatever course the United States resolved to adopt would be communicated to them peacefully, and that they would be given full opportunity to endorse or reject it. In the face of that knowledge, why did they precipitate a collision? Two answers suggest themselves. The first is that the Filipinos resolved to anticipate the arrival of reinforcements from the United States, thinking that if they succeeded in getting possession of Manila, or even in affording conclusive proof of their military prowess, before the Paris Treaty went to the vote in the Washington Senate, the hands of the anti-annexationists would be greatly strengthened. That, of course, was a false forecast. Whatever the Senate might choose under peaceful circumstances, the honour of the country, after hostilities had begun, would forbid a choice capable of being interpreted in the light of a concession to armed force. Still, the Filipinos were not altogether without warrant for such a view. At Iloilo the Americans had quietly bowed to accomplished facts. General MILLAR had withdrawn without attempting to land because he found the place already in the occupation of the Filipinos. That experience might be repeated in Manila's case: the Americans might be unwilling to make any great effort for its recovery if once it fell into Filipino possession. Or, though falling short of that success, AGUINALDO and AGONCILLO might show that they possessed a force not to be conquered without heavy loss and sacrifice on America's part, and that they were irrevocably determined to fight for independence. Had they known America better, they would have avoided such an error.

The second explanation of the Filipinos' action is that their leaders did not really understand the situation in the United States, and imagined that they were being trifled with. This hypothesis raises the question whether General OTIS has been as tactful as he might have been. All accounts go to show that he treated the Filipinos with great reserve, if not with actual *hauteur*. The pleasant friendly intercourse which at first seemed likely to be established between the United States' officers and AGUINALDO's officials seems to have been exchanged for a condition of mutual aloofness after OTIS assumed the command, and there is also some reason to infer that Admiral DEWEY did not sympathise with the policy which his mili-

tary colleague was pursuing. There must, of course, be great hesitation in forming any conclusions of this nature. We refer to them merely as contingencies suggested by seemingly well-founded rumours, and certainly not inconsistent with the issue, for it is hard to conceive the impossibility of keeping AGUINALDO and the other Filipino leaders in a contentedly expectant frame of mind, had they been treated graciously and diplomatically. On the other hand, a cold, repellent attitude on the part of the invaders may easily have betrayed the Filipinos into mistaken inferences about the mood of the American nation. Possibly there are no grounds for this view, but that it will be widely entertained, to General OTIS' cost, we have no doubt.

It will be alleged now, in fact it is alleged by a Japanese newspaper, that America is in a very equivocal position; that she has made a signal failure; that she has proved untrue to her professions of international humanity and justice, and that a long and arduous campaign is before her. Surely that is a pessimistic view. The United States has decided to take over the Philippines, but has not announced any decision as to the form of government to be set up there. It is scarcely conceivable that the American nation should reconcile itself to the task of imposing its rule upon the Filipinos by force of arms. They will be given an opportunity of self-government under American protection, and, if the experiment proves successful, no obstacle will be placed in the way of their practical independence. In matters of foreign policy America must of course exercise suzerainty, and she will naturally require a coaling station, but for the rest the islanders will probably be granted full autonomy. As for a long campaign, we do not anticipate anything of the kind. If America considered it necessary to treat the Filipinos as rebels, and to beat them to their knees before offering them terms, an arduous task would certainly be before her. But that is not likely to be her mood. All that she needs is to demonstrate the hopelessness of their attempting to wrest the islands from her grasp. It is possible that they have learned that lesson already. If not, they will very soon learn it, and an arrangement can then be effected without much difficulty. In fact, it would be a hasty judgment to conclude that this warlike incident has been altogether unfortunate. A little practical experience of American mettle and the quality of American fighting will render the Filipinos much more amenable than they might have been had they approached the negotiations under a mistaken conviction of their own invincibility. A great deal has been written, we may add, about the vicarious responsibility incurred by the United States towards AGUINALDO and AGONCILLO in consequence of encourage-

ment which the two leaders received from the American Consuls in Singapore, Hongkong, and Manila, and it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that some indiscretion was committed by those officials. But there is the plainest evidence that Washington repeatedly warned them against any compromising steps. However, minor considerations of that nature disappear in the presence of the appeal that the Filipinos have made to the arbitrament of the sword. They have now nothing to rely on except American generosity. It will not prove a bad object of dependence.

IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NEW LEGISLATION.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., and, having adopted the amendments made by the Peers in the Government Bill for amending the Statutory Tariff and the Annexed Schedule, proceeded to deal with the following measures:—

Bill for levying Tonnage Dues. Passed with slight amendments.

Bill for the better Regulation of Lethal Weapons and Explosives. On the motion of Mr. Haseba Junko this measure was amended so as to be applicable to Fire Arms and Explosives only, and was passed in the amended form.

Bill (sent down from the Peers) relating to the Registration of Immovables. Passed.

Bill (sent down from the Peers) for amending the system of Medical Inspection of Ships. Passed.

Bill (private) for changing District Boundaries in Yehime Prefecture. Passed.

Representation (introduced by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro) for the despatch of 10 commercial and industrial students annually to China, India, and the Occident, each to be abroad for 5 years at a total cost of 7,000 yen for that period; the system to be continued for 10 years, and the aggregate outlay to be 100,000 yen per year. Passed.

Bill (private) for the Conservation of Temples and Shrines. Handed to a Special Committee.

REPRESENTATIONS.

Representation urging that experimental stations be established for testing the materials available as super-phosphates in Miyazaki Prefecture and the North-Eastern provinces. The introducer of this Representation pointed out that the farmers were much hampered by insufficiency in the supply of fertilizers, and had to rely more and more on imported articles for that purpose. It was understood, however, that Miyazaki and the North-Eastern provinces were more or less rich in mineral which might serve that end. The Representation was handed to a Special Committee.

Representation urging that the Government should adopt the policy of gradually selling the State forests and moors to the people. At present these properties give an insignificant revenue and are virtually useless to the nation. The population of the empire has increased by 10 millions since the year 1873, and the demand for charcoal and fire-wood has been proportionately augmented, to say nothing of the question of timber for building purposes. The State now owns forests and moors in 168,888 places, the total area being 19,125,000 acres, exclusive of Hokkaido and Okinawa. The gross revenue obtained from this vast tract of territory is a million yen, approximately, and the cost of collecting it is 620,000 yen, so that the Treasury profits to the extent of some 400,000 yen only. On the other hand, the forests and moors in the hands of the people measure 18,275,000 acres, and the tax paid on them is 610,000 yen annual-

ly, so that the people can afford to pay a tax fifty per cent. greater than the whole profit obtained from a larger extent of forest lands under official management. Such results pointed plainly to the expediency of transferring the State forests and moors to private ownership. The Representation was handed to a Special Committee.

Mr. Hoshi Matsushiro called attention to the fact that many days had elapsed since the Bills relating to a House Tax, the Soy Tax, and the Postal Rates were handed to Special Committees, but no report had yet been presented to the House with reference to these measures. The House rose at 3.05 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 4TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 10.30 a.m.

FIRST READINGS.

Two Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House) were read for the first time and handed to Special Committees; namely, a Bill for changing the Capital Fund Account of the Tobacco Monopoly, and a Bill for granting State Aid to the Bank of Formosa.

JUDICIAL MATTERS.

The Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for effecting certain changes in the location, etc., of Courts of Law was favourably reported on by the Special Committee, and passed.

A private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for extending the limits of suits judiciable by the Administrative Court was read and handed to a Special Committee, the Government Delegate having spoken in opposition to the measure as premature. The object of this Bill, as already explained in reporting the Proceedings of the Lower House, is to generalize the definition of complaints that may be carried to the Administrative Court, whereas the Government maintains that the system of particularization is better suited to the present condition of the Japanese people.

LOSSES THROUGH FIRE—LIABILITY.

The first reading was then taken of a private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for altering the new Civil Code in the sense of removing the responsibility it imposes on the occupants of Houses where conflagrations break out. This Bill, as originally presented to the House of Representatives, proposed simply that the Article of the Civil Code referring to the question should be supplemented by a proviso excepting conflagrations from the category of incidents in connexion with which compensation may be claimed from their originators. The Lower House adopted the principle of the amendment, but added a clause that exemption from the obligation to make compensation could not be claimed when gross culpability was chargeable against the occupant of the house where the fire broke out. (In reporting the Proceedings of the Lower House, we erroneously interpreted this added clause by making it refer to "heavy loss" instead of "gross culpability.")

The Government Delegate explained that this problem of responsibility in connexion with fires had not escaped the attention of the Committee appointed to revise the Code. It had received the fullest consideration, and the Committee's final decision had been that no difference of principle existed between responsibility for losses, in general, suffered through the neglect or defaults of others, and responsibility for losses resulting from the particular calamity of a conflagration. The difference was one of degree only. In the majority of cases, losses entailed by conflagrations were comparatively great, and responsibility for them would be correspondingly heavy. But that did not constitute a reason for excepting them from the general category. On the contrary, from the point of view of security of property, the greater the danger, the more imperative the duty of guarding against it, and the heavier should be the penalty for neglecting that duty. The Government, therefore, opposed the projected change on principle, and was not

swayed by any petty objection to changing the Code on the very morning of its operation. A wise change could not be made too soon, but this change, which the House was now asked to make, did not seem wise. He further explained (in answer to a question) that the "gross culpability" mentioned in the clause added by the Lower House, was understood to refer to palpable and flagrant neglect of the precautions prescribed by the police as safeguards against fire.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

ASSOCIATIONS OF MEDICAL MEN.

Viscount Tani, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported on the private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) organizing Associations of Medical Men. The members of the Committee had been equally divided, four for and four against the Bill, and the Chairman had given the casting vote in opposition to it. The Viscount made a detailed statement of the views entertained by the advocates and the opponents of the measure. The former held, primarily, that these Associations would add greatly to the facilities for preventing epidemics and for limiting their spread, since concealment would be rendered more difficult and concerted measures could be taken more readily. To that it was answered that the official precautions already operative against concealment seemed sufficient, and that the sanitary boards organized by the Government were competent to adopt all necessary measures. It was urged, in the next place, that the Associations would exercise a wholesome restraint upon the conduct of medical men, some of whom were known to extort money from their patients by exaggerating the nature of the latter's maladies, and to adopt other courses derogatory to the profession. The reply was that no valid reason existed for supposing that the proposed Associations could exercise any deterrent scrutiny in such matters without arrogating powers which could not be properly entrusted to them. A third argument was that the Associations would enable the toll of medical men to be compiled and kept with greater accuracy; but that, after all, seemed a petty consideration compared with the inconvenience and expense that compulsory membership of the Associations might entail. Finally, with regard to mixed residence and the desirability of protecting the people against being exploited by foreign charlatans, the danger seemed chimerical, and, at any rate, the law operated equally for the restraint of all; no one was entitled to practise medicine without a diploma. The diplomas held by foreigners were recognised, as well as the foreign diplomas held by Japanese, and there was no reason to adopt any special precautions. Speaking for himself, the Viscount denounced the agitation which had been carried on among the members in the interests of the Bill, and declared that nothing of the kind had previously occurred in the House.

Dr. Nagayo Senmai supported the Bill, but the feeling of the House was evidently against it, and its opponents were strengthened by an anonymous circular which had been distributed in its favour, and by the fact that its provisions clashed with those of the law now in operation. Finally the closure was moved, and a signed ballot being taken, 121 voted against the Bill and 38 for it.

KASHII SHRINE.

A Representation, urging that State aid be granted for rebuilding the national shrine of Kashii in Chikuzen, was then adopted without debate, having been fully explained at a previous sitting, and the House rose at 3 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.15 a.m.

THE USE OF SEALS.

A Government Bill was read for the first time relating to the use of Seals (*matzu-in*) by Foreigners on Legal Documents and to Succour in Litigation where foreigners are concerned. The object of this Bill is to enable foreigners to dis-

penes with seals and confine themselves to signatures on documents relating to civil suits; and, further, to modify the said Article of the Code of Civil Procedure. That Article provides that "a foreigner can claim succour in litigation in so far only as by treaty or by the laws of his State a Japanese could in a similar case obtain such succour." It is further provided, in Art. 93, that a party making a motion for succour—i.e. seeking permission to sue in *forma pauperis*—must produce a certificate issued by the Head of the competent *Sai, Cho, or Son* declaring the insufficiency of his resources for the payment of costs and giving other particulars. The Bill brings foreigners under the same system, and adds that where a foreigner has no residence or domicile in Japan, the necessary certificate must be obtained from the local authorities of the place where he has his residence or domicile, and must be endorsed by his Consul in Japan. Further, if, although having a residence or domicile in Japan, it is impossible for him to obtain the necessary certificate from the Head of the competent *Sai, Cho, or Son*, he may substitute a certificate procured, as above, from his own country. The Government Delegate explained that there was no idea of granting to foreigners any privileges not enjoyed by Japanese, but the provisions of this Bill were dictated simply by a spirit of equity. The Bill was handed to a special committee.

TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

The Second Reading of the Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Tobacco Monopoly Law, in the sense of extending the Monopoly to imported tobacco, was voted.

With reference to this Bill, Mr. Kaneko Kentaro inquired what course would be pursued with respect to foreign importers. The amended Law was to come into operation in six months. During that interval, it was conceivable that large quantities of leaf might be imported by foreigners and stored in the Bonded Warehouses as an escape to the restrictions imposed by the Law. Considerable supplies might thus be obtained, and gradually sold to manufacturers. Would the Government take over such tobacco, under the power created by this law, or would it be content to levy upon it the amended duty of 100 per cent. *ad valorem*?

The Government Delegate replied that tobacco stored in a bonded warehouse at the time when the law became operative, would be regarded as in transit.

The Second Reading of the Bill was deferred until the regular number of days should elapse.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Two Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House) relating to the Bank of Japan were then passed. The first, as originally drafted, had provided for a tax on the net profits of the Bank, but the House of Representatives had amended it in the sense of imposing a tax of 1½ per cent. on the Bank's note issues. The Peers introduced a further amendment, reducing the tax to 1 per cent. The second Bill was for raising the legal limit of note issues from 85 million *yen* to 120 million.

PATENTS

The Special Committee's reports on the amended Law of Patents, Law of Designs, and Law of Trade Marks were then made, and the three Bills were passed.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

A private Bill was read, for the first time, for amending the Local Government System. According to the present Law, the term of membership of City and Prefecture Assemblies is 4 years, and the members are elected one half at a time, the elections being held every second year. The Bill proposes to abolish this biennial system and have only one election in 4 years. While the introducer was offering explanations, the House was counted out at 12.10 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m.

ATTACKING THE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Takagi Masatoshi presented some questions on the subject of finance, and seized the

opportunity to make a violent attack on the Government, comparing it to a dissolute youth, and declaring that its professions about regulating the finances were a mere pretext for imposing fresh taxes.

NEW BILLS.

The Second Readings of the Government Bills for amending the Stamp Tax Law and the Business Tax Law were then taken, and both measures were passed, with slight amendments.

A private Bill for amending the Agricultural and Industrial Banks Law was read for the first time and handed to a Special Committee. The Bill provides that the management of communal moneys may be entrusted to these Banks, and that they shall have power to issue unregistered—or registered if desired—interest-bearing debentures of 10 *yen* larger denominations, for the better convenience of small capitalists.

The first reading of a Government Bill for amending the Formosa Bank Laws was next taken. It provides that, in lieu of the present unregistered night bills redeemable with silver, the Bank may issue bank-notes similarly redeemable with silver and of any denomination down to one *yen*, the present inferior limit—five *yen*—of the night bills being found inconvenient. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

The Special Committee presented a favourable report on the private Bill for exempting from local land rates all lands upon which an increased national tax is to be levied under the special six year system, and the House passed the Bill without debate.

The following two measures were passed, after a few questions had been asked:—A private Bill for granting State aid, to the extent of 150,000 *yen* annually, to Experimental Agricultural Stations in Cities and Prefectures, and a private Bill for granting State Aid to Marine Products Experimental and Instruction stations in Cities and Prefectures.

A private Bill for imposing a duty of 50 per cent. *ad valorem* on all imported foreign lacquer juice, including Chinese, was read for the first time and handed to a Special Committee. Its introducer explained that the use of foreign lacquer tended to impair the quality of Japanese lacquer, and that the industry was gradually declining.

In contrast to the above, a Petition was presented—but its discussion postponed by desire—for exempting Chinese lacquer juice from import duty, on the ground that it was essential to Japanese lacquer manufacturers.

AN ADDRESS TO THE THRONE WITHDRAWN.

The next measure on the Order was an Address to the Throne praying that His Majesty would take measures to punish Viscount Watanabe, President of the Board of Audit, for abuse of authority in removing 4 members of the Board under pretext of their physical incapacity. Mr. Abe Iwane, on behalf of the signatories, said that, as Viscount Watanabe had resigned, the Address might be withdrawn, but it had been allowed to come before the House as a warning to officials in general.

Two Petitions were then adopted for presentation to the Government, one praying that some measure of relief should be extended to the sufferers by the poison of the Ashio copper mine; the second, asking that Matsuko (in Tango) be declared a commercial port, in view of the importance the place would assume after the completion of the Siberian Railway.

The House rose at 3.50 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 7TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.20 a.m.

AN OLD ACCOUNT.

Baron Ogawa called attention to the fact that the settled accounts of income and expenditure for the War of 1894-5 had not yet been submitted to the Diet, and expressed a hope that no further delay would take place.

TONNAGE DUES.

The Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for levying Tonnage Dues, was read for

the first time, and handed to a Special Committee, the Government Delegate explaining that the Government opposed the amendments made by the Lower House, and that the revenue which the measure was expected to yield at the original rates was 480,000 *yen* annually.

COMMITTEE WORK.

The following Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House) were read and handed to Special Committees:—

Bill for the Regulation of Fire Arms and Explosives. The Government Delegate said that if the amendments effected by the House of Representatives were endorsed by the Upper, it would be necessary to enact a special law for the regulation of cutting and thrusting weapons (N.B.—The Lower House had altered the Bill so that, instead of applying to lethal weapons, in general, its scope was limited to firearms.)

Bill relating to the Registration of Immovable Property. The Minister of Justice explained that, according to the provisions of the new Civil Code, this Bill was necessary for protecting the interests of third parties; and added that, as the operation of the proposed Law would entail some outlay and necessitate the introduction of a supplementary budget, expedition was desirable.

Bill relating to the raising of loans in foreign markets.

COPYRIGHT

Mr. Kato Hiroyuki, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Copyright Law. In view of the advantage that Japan derived by translating foreign books, many people were of the opinion that this Law should not be enacted since, under its provisions, translations as well as reproductions would be a violation of copyright. However, the French Government pressed very strenuously for legislation, and in connexion with Treaty Revision Japan had incurred an obligation to join the Berne Convention.

The House voted for the Second Reading, and proceeded to discuss the Bill clause by clause, and finally passed it with some amendments proposed by the Committee and by Mr. Iwano.

PRIVATE BILLS

A private Bill (sent up from the Lower House), relating to a change of boundaries in Ehime Prefecture, was handed to a Special Committee, as were two Private Bills for amending the system of local government, in the matter of electing members of local assemblies. The term of membership of City and Prefectural Assemblies is 4 years, but the members are not elected simultaneously, one half being elected every second year. In the case of District Assemblies the term of membership is 6 years, and the election of one half of the members takes place every third year. The Bills propose to make the term uniform, namely, 4 years, and to elect the whole of the members at one time.

EDUCATION.

Marquis Kuroda introduced a Representation calling upon the Government to adopt some vigorous measures for improving the educational system, in the sense of improving the quality of school teachers, increasing their number, removing the Education Department beyond the range of political changes, and generally developing educational facilities. The discussion of the Representation was postponed, however, until the next sitting, and the House rose at 1.50 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.10 a.m.

DEATH OF MR. HARA.

The President announced the death of Mr. Hara Zensaburo, on the 6th instant, and the House voted that a message of condolence be sent to his family.

GOVERNMENT BILLS.

The following Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House) were passed:—Bill for abolishing the system of State purchase of sugar in Okinawa, and the Bill for amending the Leaf

Tobacco Monopoly Law in the sense of extending the monopoly to imported tobacco.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

Marquis Kuroda, in an eloquent and lengthy speech, introduced a Representation calling upon the Government to adopt a more liberal policy towards education. His main argument was that education constituted the basis of all national successes. The valour of Japan's soldiers and the skill of her generals had helped materially to secure the victory over China, but the real strength of the Army and Navy had lain in superior education. It had been a struggle of educated men against uneducated. The great German Captain, Moltke, had said that Germany's success against France was won in the class rooms of the primary schools, and the Marquis believed that the same might be truly said of Japan's victory over China. Nevertheless, the *post bellum* programme was directed solely to expansion of armaments and development of industry, excellent objects in themselves, but certainly not worthy to take precedence of education.

Viscount Tani strongly supported the Representation. He declared that armaments expansion should come in the sequel of the encouragement of education, whereas in Japan that order was reversed. He was in a position to submit to the House 67 instances demonstrating the faultiness of the present system of education, but he felt convinced that all were agreed as to the necessity of reform, and that no lengthy appeal was required.

Mr. Kato Hiroyuki spoke in the same sense. He had recently been questioned by a foreigner about Japan's universities, and had been obliged to give a humiliating answer. In Germany 9 per cent. of the total cost of education was borne by the State; in Bavaria, 10 per cent.; in France, 6; in Saxony, 14; and even in England, the land, *par excellence*, of individual effort, the percentage was 9. In Japan, on the contrary, the figure was 2 per cent.

Count Kabayama, Minister of State for Education, being invited to make a statement of the Government's views, expressed general assent with the object of the Representation. He was not disposed to regard educational progress as altogether unsatisfactory, seeing that the percentage of school age children attending school had increased from 50 in 1895 to 64 in 1898, nor could he forget that success in such a field must always be a matter of slow achievement. It was, however, undeniable that a deficiency of teachers existed to the extent of 26,000, and that in many respects improvement was called for. So far as he himself was concerned, he could promise to spare no efforts, but his time in office had been short, and he had not yet obtained all the necessary information. It seemed to him, however, that while technical education was comparatively easy to impart, moral education was at once more important and more difficult, and to that end special efforts should be directed. His Excellency complained much of the excisions made by the Lower House in the appropriations for the Department of Education, especially the cutting out of the item for Local Inspectors (*chiho shigakushan*), who were an essential factor of the system.

Mr. Kubota Yuzuru applauded the sentiments expressed by the Minister, though not professing to be fully satisfied with his *exposé* of policy. However, he gathered that His Excellency endorsed the Representation, which was a matter for congratulation. At the same time, it must be confessed that every holder of the portfolio of Education entertained most excellent intentions on the subject of reform. Unfortunately, none had carried his principles into practice. They relied on Count Kabayama to prove an exception to the rule.

The closure having been put and carried, the Representation received an almost unanimous vote.

PETITIONS PROCEDURE.

Biron Suyematsu introduced a Resolution for imposing closer limits on the House's procedure with regard to Petitions. He argued that, under the prevailing system, the Govern-

ment had ceased to carry any weight, since every Petition was transmitted whether for its own sake or for purposes of reference. The change he advocated was that no Petition should be adopted for presentation unless the House approved of its intention and object, and that all others submitted by the Petitions Committee, but not so approved by the House, should be merely placed in the archives for purposes of reference.

After a brief debate the House rejected the Resolution, and rose at 3 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.30 p.m.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. Tokumasa Genaro presented Questions as to the Government's policy (1) towards foreigners in general; (2) towards the question of free labourers in Australia; and (3) towards the question of contract labourers in Hawaii.

THE NIPPON SINKED TAX.

The House then proceeded to consider the amendments made by the Peers in the Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo held that this was a matter touching the financial action of the House very closely, and demanding most careful consideration. They had also to remember that considerable difficulty confronted the Administration in finding convenient sources of revenue, and that at such a time the Upper House's proposal to reduce the Bank's tax from 1½ to 1 per cent. was no trifling matter. He wished to hear the views of the Government Delegate.

The Government Delegate said that the change would not entail any serious inconvenience, since a tax of 5 per cent. would be levied on all the Bank's note issues over and above 85 million yen.

Mr. Shimada Saburo thought that there were many points in the Government's relations with the Bank calling for close investigation. He moved that the House postpone the discussion of the Peers' amendments.

Mr. Hoshi Toru opposed the motion, but the House endorsed it by a large majority.

FORMOSA.

The Special Committee reported favourably on the Government Bill for granting to litigants in Formosa the right of appeal to the Supreme Court in Japan, but recommended an alteration in the sense of making it competent for the Supreme Court to order retrial by a Court of Appeal other than that which had already tried the case.

The Government Delegate opposed the change, but Mr. Seki Naohiko advocated it, on the ground that to have a case retried by a tribunal which had already adjudicated it was contrary to the spirit of the Codes. The House adopted the Committee's amendment, but, on the motion of Mr. Hoshi Toru, deferred the final discussion of the measure.

BANKING LAW.

The Government Bill for changing the Agricultural and Industrial Banks Law was then passed.

THE LAW OF ELECTION.

Mr. Hoshi Toru made an urgency motion that the Government Bill for amending the Law of Election for the House of Representatives, which had been submitted that day to the House, should, in view of its importance, be placed at once upon the Order of the Day. The House agreed, and the Bill was read for the first time. The principal differences between its provisions and those of the present Law are that (1) the Election Districts are to be Cities, Prefectures, Towns, and Islands; (2) the number of members will be increased from 300 to 445; (3) Hokkaido is enfranchised, one member each being allotted to Sapporo, Hakodate, and Otaru; (4) instead of opening the balloting boxes at the Election Place, they are to be opened at a special place, and the result reported to the Election Chief Official; (5) the Headmen of Districts cease to be Election Chiefs and become Directors of Places for Opening Ballots (*Kaiyo Kwanri-sa*), and the Governors of Cities and Prefectures become Election Chiefs; (6) the

money qualification for an elector (which is now an annual payment of 15 yen of national taxes, for a period of at least a year previously to registration, or 3 years in the case of Income Tax) is changed to 5 yen of Land Tax, for a period of at least a year, and 3 yen of Income Tax or Business Tax for a period of at least 2 years; (7) all monetary qualification is dispensed with in the case of candidates for election; (8) a clause is added denying the franchise, as well as the privilege of offering themselves as candidates, to students of all schools, state, public, or private; denying the privilege of candidature to officers of companies or legal persons in receipt of Government support, to Government contractors, to officers of companies or legal persons acting as Government contractors, and to teachers in Primary Schools, as well as Buddhist Priests and Shinto Officials, but providing that in the case of the last three eligibility shall be acquired six months after they cease to hold the offices in respect of which the veto is enacted; (9) the date for revising the registers is changed from April 1st to January 1st; (10) unavoidable circumstances may be pleaded to remove the disqualification resulting from failure to register by the appointed date; (11) the date of a general election, now fixed for July 1st, is left to be determined by Imperial Ordinance; (12) the present system of signed and plural ballots is changed for unsigned and single ballots; (13) a clause is added, providing that any person not able himself to write the name of the candidate for whom he votes, can not exercise the franchise; (14) the present system of a simple majority is amended, and it is ruled that candidates elected at a first ballot must have votes aggregating at least one-fifth of the total number of registered voters, but that, in the case of second ballots, no such restriction shall apply; (15) the Election Chief is to be defendant in an appeal against the legality of an election, and other amendments are introduced in this section.

On the motion of Mr. Hoshi, the Bill was handed to a Special Committee of 27.

FISHERY ENCOURAGEMENT.

A private Bill was then read for amending the Law of Encouragement to Vessels engaged in Fishing on the High Seas. The present system is that steam vessels of at least 100 tons (registered) and sailing vessels of at least 60 tons, receive 5 yen per ton per year. The Bill proposes to reduce the limit for steamers to 50 tons and that for sailing vessels to 30 tons, gross measurement in each case, and to raise the rate of encouragement to 15 yen in the case of steamers and 10 yen in the case of sailing vessels. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee, as was also a Petition received from the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, praying that the regulation requiring all payments to the Treasury to be made in cash, whether in the case of taxes, duties, or security by contractors, should be amended so as to allow such payments to be made in bank cheques or deposit notes.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

THE BOOK-SHELF.

A Romance of Summer Seas, a novel, by Miss VERA ANNE JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Miss DAVIS, familiarly known as "Winnie Davis," was a daughter of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America. On the death of her father, she added his name as above in order to continue it, and is said to have devoted herself for the same reason to maidenhood. She was born in 1864, and was, therefore, a babe in long dresses when her father was captured by the Federal troops. She was also known as the "Daughter of the Confederacy." A few years ago she made a trip to the Orient, and then she evidently caught the idea of this novel, dealing with high life in India, China, and Japan. It is not, however, at all a book to be commended. Miss Davis is said to have written one novel, "The Veiled Doctor," of some literary value. She died last year.

THE CONFUSED CRITIC.

A DIALOGUE.

H. (on his way back from the Club, where he has met an ex-Consular official)—This is fine! What material for a paragraph!

M.—You seem elated. What's up?

H.—Such a bit of luck! I've been told of "a defect that has not been pointed out before" in "the enormously puffed Japanese Codes."

M.—Made a discovery, have you? Which Code do you mean?

H.—The Code of Criminal Procedure. Just fancy, "the Courts in Japan have no power vested in them by law to grant an injunction to restrain, though both English and American Courts have the right," and "are frequently called upon to exercise it in the interests of justice." "It will scarcely be thought to be true, but the Courts in Japan have no such power."

M.—No power to grant an injunction to restrain! Are you sure?

H.—Yes, quite sure. "When tested by actual practice the Codes are found wanting."

M.—I recommend you to look at the fourth chapter of the sixth book of the Code of Civil Procedure. The 27 articles that it contains are devoted solely to the subjects of provisional seizure and provisional disposition.

H.—Don't talk to me. "You are simply discharging your duty of attempting to discredit the foreign press as much as may be in your power."

M.—Try to keep your hair on, old man. It strikes me that the best way for the foreign press to avoid discredit is to avoid making errors. Your own ignorance of the Code is your trouble in the present instance.

H.—You're always "falling foul of me." But I admit that my statement about the power to grant an injunction "appears to be a little erroneous."

M.—"A little erroneous" is good. Do you call it "a little error" to say that a subject to which 27 articles in a Code are devoted is not mentioned at all in the Code?

H.—Well "the error charged is not my own, but is that of a gentleman who is entitled to be considered learned in the law, who had consulted two others similarly qualified, who informed him that there would be no use applying for an injunction on the ground that the Court has no authority to grant it, as there is no legal provision in existence to that effect."

M.—Quite a house that Jack built chain of hearsay. I thought you said that the Code had been "tested by actual practice."

H.—Well, "had I not been assured by a gentleman of legal education that the case stood as represented, I should have exercised inquiry and more caution in giving the statement made by him. But I was thrown off my guard."

M.—You have not examined the Code then? Don't you think it would be a prudent preliminary to do so before condemning it?

(Later, H. again jubilant.)

H.—Hi! Here you! Since I made my first assertion and followed it by an apology for error, "I have been able to refer to a copy of the Code of Civil Procedure, and I find that my original statement was substantially correct. The Courts in Japan have no power whatever to grant permanent injunctions. What they appear to possess enables them to grant orders for provisional seizures or attachments only. I was nearer right than you, who blundered into confounding the exercise of temporary provisional power with the granting of injunctions in general."

M.—Come, come, my friend. You never said a word originally about "permanent" injunctions. Your actual statement was that "the Courts in Japan have no power vested in them by law to grant an injunction to restrain." This distinction that you now set up between "permanent" and "provisional" is altogether an after-thought. We can't be expected to discover your meaning from your mumbling, you know. If you were thinking of "permanent injunction," why did you confess and apologize for your error when I called your attention to articles

explicitly treating of "provisional seizure" and "provisional disposition"?

H.—Don't be coming over me with your "affectation of superiority."

M.—There, there! Keep cool. Tell us what you mean by a permanent injunction.

H.—I mean "the power of granting a final and lasting injunction." That is to say "a final order to enjoin a person or persons or corporations from doing certain acts."

M.—Let me understand you clearly. Suppose that I bring a suit against a man in respect of a certain act of his which I regard as a violation of my private rights. You admit that a Japanese Court has competence to restrain him from continuing to perform that act pending its decision in my suit?

H.—Yes, but that is only a provisional injunction.

M.—Precisely. But neither an English nor an American Court could do more than restrain provisionally until the rights and wrongs of the case were decided, could it?

H.—No. I suppose not.

M.—Very well. Now let us advance a step, and assume that the Court gives judgment in my favour. In other words, it finds that the act of which I complain is really a violation of my rights. Do you mean to assert that the Court has no competence to give effect to its finding?

H.—You "have shifted your ground." The power of the Court to enforce its judgment is not in question.

M.—Pardon me. You say that the Court has no power to grant a final injunction. If it can accomplish the same end by other means, is not justice satisfied? If it has no means of accomplishing that end, then we arrive at the conclusion that, although a Japanese Court is competent to restrain a defendant from performing a certain act while the legality of the act is uncertain, it has no competence to prevent him from performing the act after its illegality is definitely decided.

H.—I say that the word "injunction" is not to be found in Japanese law.

M.—Well, in the word "electrocute" found in English law, or the word "guillotine" in American law?

H.—Of course not. Your talk reminds me of the lines:

"A little knowledge is a dangerous thing,
"Duck deep at taste not the Hyperion spring?"

M.—Very classical and white-haired! The principle you acted on, wasn't it, when you studied the Code so carefully before you were "thrown off your guard" by the "gentleman of legal education?"

H.—"You are discharging your duty of attempting to discredit the foreign press."

M.—Well, well! You admit that "electrocute" doesn't appear in English law or "guillotine" in American law. Would a citizen of New York State be justified in inferring from the absence of the latter word that the English Courts are not competent to condemn a man to death, and would a Frenchman be right if he concluded that an American Judge has no power to pass a capital sentence?

H.—Certainly not.

M.—Don't you see, then, that a Japanese Court may be able to grant all the relief sanctioned by its judgments although it does not proceed by the Anglo-Saxon form of an "injunction?"

H.—I don't consider it necessary to go on battling with you.

M.—Well, perhaps you will yourself state an illustrative case.

H.—Here is one, furnished by my friend "the gentleman learned in the law:"—"In England or America I can pray for a final injunction against a certain person or persons trespassing on my ground. The Court will then hear the case as an injunction, and if it thinks there is sufficient reason, will grant a final and permanent injunction against the defendant doing what is complained of. There is in Japan no Court or Judge who has in himself the right or power to grant such an injunction."

M.—Good. Now we have something to fix

our ideas. Permit me at this point to submit a question to your learned friend through you. Does he "mean to assert that Japanese Courts have no power to enforce their judgments?"

H.—"Of course he does not."

M.—Very well. Now look here. (M. points out the precise provisions of Japanese law which enable a suitor to obtain a Court's judgment with regard to trespass, and points out also the provisions which perpetually secure the execution of the judgment.) You perceive now, don't you, that your complaint about the absence of the term "injunction" is absolutely meaningless unless you intend to affirm that a Japanese Court can not enforce its judgments by any formula other than an injunction?

H.—"Nothing that you say invalidates my contention." According to you, it is necessary to bring an action in order to obtain in Japan the same end compassed by means of a permanent injunction in England or America.

M.—Why of course it is. What do you expect?

H.—Pooh! "To await the result of success in an action would be altogether too slow a procedure in instances where a peremptory action is requisite, as is frequently the case when a Court is asked to interfere by granting an injunction."

M.—Hullo! "To await the result of success in an action would be altogether too slow a procedure." Do you mean to say that in England or America a suitor can obtain a permanent injunction without awaiting success in an action? Do you mean to say that an Englishman or an American can get a legal tribunal to protect his alleged rights without examining whether he has any real rights at all?

H.—I don't consider it necessary to go on battling with you on the subject of the defects in Japanese law to which I originally called attention.

M.—Yes, yes, quite so. But, after all what do you mean. You say that to await the result of success in an action would be altogether too slow a procedure. You must mean one of two things; either that a man should be entitled to get what he wants from a Japanese Law Court without a trial, or that a Japanese Law Court, having given a verdict in a suitor's favour, is without the machinery to make its verdict immediately operative.

H.—I never expressed any doubt that the Japanese Courts have the power to enforce their own judgments.

M.—But if they have the power, what do you mean by saying that "it would be altogether too slow to await the result of success in an action?"

H.—"You are discharging your duty of attempting to discredit the foreign press as much as may be in your power."

M.—Well, let us take your own case of trespass. Do you mean to allege that after a Japanese Court has decided that certain persons have no right to enter your ground, they can continue to enter it with impunity?

H.—"You are misusing my learned friend's case entirely round." In his case, "the right to enter, or not to enter, a man's ground was not the question at all. It was simply stated that a permanent injunction could be obtained in a U. S. Court against any one trespassing on plaintiff's ground, and not that a decision could be obtained whether this person or persons had the right or not to do so."

M.—Oh, come. That is just a little too much. Your learned friend's words were "I can pray for a final injunction against a certain person or persons trespassing on my ground." Pray how is a Court to grant such an injunction without determining whether the person or persons have or have not a right to enter the ground?

H.—"You are giving the cases an entirely different aspect, and what you say only goes to confirm my former assertion."

M.—Certainly. If by your former assertion you mean your admission that you were led into error, I entirely agree with you. You have tied yourself up effectually in that tangled web which, as the proverb says, is invariably woven

by a certain practice, and you have been obliged at last to seek asylum in the subterfuge that to accuse a man of trespassing on one's ground is entirely different from denying that he has a right to enter it. You ought to compile a code, H. Its pages would surely overflow with that Hyperion spring which, quaffed in excess, leads to insanity.

H—You are a venal, shameless person. I won't argue with you any more.

WEDDING IN YOKOHAMA.

The nuptials of Miss Eliza (Elsie) Templeton Johnstone, eldest daughter of Mr. James Johnstone, of Yokohama, and Mr. James Leslie Robertson, of Kobe, were happily celebrated at Christ Church, Yokohama, on Monday afternoon. The sacred fane was transformed for the occasion into a grove of leathery bamboo, while the flowers of the season decorated the stalls, font and altar rails. A large congregation assembled and before the arrival of the bridal party Mr. W. K. Vincent played some of the wedding music from *Lohengrin*; he afterwards gave Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" in brilliant style. The bridegroom, who was accompanied by Mr. John McArthur, as best-man, was punctual in arriving, but he had not long to await the coming of the bride. She was escorted up the aisle by her father. Her dress was a beautiful confection in white satin and chiffon, the front being handsomely embroidered in white wistaria. A wreath of orange blossoms supported her full bridal veil, and sprays of flowers were draped over the long train. The bridesmaids were Miss Reah Kenderdine and Miss Muriel Cain. They were attired in white frocks of *cor du roi* cloth and wore white picture hats with one pink bow beneath the rim. Each carried a shepherd's crook adorned with flowers, and they wore gold brooches bearing their initials in pearls, the gifts of the bridegroom. The ceremony was performed by the Rector, the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A. After the service a reception was held at Mr. Johnstone's house on the Bluff, which was largely attended. The happy pair subsequently left for Tokyo en route to Miyazaki, where the honeymoon is being spent.

THE FUNERAL OF MR. KEIL.

If it be blessed to sink into the grave amid honour, love, and troops of friends, one's memory revered and loss mourned in all sincerity by a whole community, then the death of Mr. Otto Keil, tragic as were its circumstances, cannot be deemed an unhappy one. Seldom, perhaps never, in the Treaty Port's history has a more remarkable demonstration taken place in Yokohama than that which last Saturday afternoon marked the final act in the sad affair with which the community were startled on Tuesday. It was an eloquent testimony to the character of Mr. Keil and to the general esteem in which he was held. All—from the old and tried friends who had known him through all the stress of twenty years' business life in the East to the youngster just arrived from home, but long enough in Yokohama to have had a friendly word or received a good turn from one whose kindness was broad as the ocean—all were represented at the beautiful ceremony with which the craftsmen of the great Masonic brotherhood to which Mr. Keil belonged sought to do him honour. It was a most impressive ritual, solemn, but full of comfort and of the spirit of boundless charity with which the deceased was animated in his life. Masons were of course present in great numbers, but the attendance was not limited to them. Nearly every prominent resident, in fact, and many visitors from Tokyo, were present either at the Masonic Hall or at the graveside; and many ladies were also to be noticed. To accommodate as many persons as possible the folding doors dividing the large from the small hall in Keil's Building were thrown open, but in spite of this the seating facilities were quite inadequate; the hall, the corridors, and even part of the staircase were crowded.

The hall was draped in black; crape streamers hung from the pillars, and the archway between the two halls was hung with black cloth spotted with white, emblematic in Masonic imagery, of tears. Beneath this was a pedestal on which was placed the bronze vase—provided by Dr. Eldridge—containing the ashes of the deceased, whose body had been cremated on Thursday night. Beside the urn lay the dead Mason's purple and gold sheathed sword of office, the Rose Croix of the 18th Degree, and his two jewels of the 33rd degree. Above the altar, the frame veiled in crape, the portrait of Mr. Keil—a speaking likeness—looked down on the sad scene. Before the ceremony commenced the organist, Worshipful Brother Griffin, played solemn music which formed an appropriate prelude to the impressive service that followed. It was performed by the members of the Scottish Rite, some twelve in number, the different prayers and exhortations being delivered by Dr. Eldridge, Rev. J. G. Cleveland, Rev. E. C. Irwine, and Wor. Bros. Crane and Clarke. Into the details of the ritual we cannot go; suffice it to say that the charges and exhortations, and the exhibition of "the holy symbol of the Rosy Cross" of the 18th Degree, made up a most picturesque, impressive, and touching ceremony. When it was over, to the mournful accompaniment of that masterpiece of dirges, the Dead March in *Saul*, the urn was borne out by the knights of the Order, and, with the many scores of wreaths that had been sent, started on its journey to the Cemetery.

At the head of the cortege was Dr. Eldridge, of the 32nd Degree, who carried the deceased Legate's purple and gilded sword of the 33rd degree. The bearers were Worshipful Brothers Irwine, Clarke, Crane, and Cleveland, and after came Worshipful Brother Langfeldt, who was the only member of the 33rd degree able to follow. Worshipful Brother Gowey, the American Consul General, being absent through illness. Worshipful Brother Reitz, Wor. Bro. John W. Hall, Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Mr. J. F. Lowder, Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. M. Kirkwood, and a large body of Masons and of the general public followed.

The service at the graveside was commenced by Dr. Eldridge, during whose exhortation the Rosy Cross was again exhibited, and then the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine said the Lord's Prayer.

Dr. Eldridge then delivered the following address:—

Brethren and fellow residents,—A few short weeks ago it was my pleasant task, on behalf of the entire Masonic fraternity of Japan, to present to the friend and brother, near whose ashes we now stand, a token of their esteem and love. To-day, by his grave, speaking not only as a Mason, but, equally as a member of the community in which so many years of his life were spent, I would testify to the affection and respect in which our deceased friend was held by all who knew him—and who is here that did not know him? To his wide-spread and abounding charities, and his fatherly care, continuing through long years, for the widow and the orphan bear witness. Of the counsel and active assistance, often more precious than gold to recipient, not rarely imposing on the giver heavy burdens of care, sleepless nights, and sapping the strength of which he possessed so little; let the many among us, who have benefited thereby, speak. Work and anxiety of the severest nature, always for others, never for himself, shortened his life and brought, of late, a partial eclipse upon his brilliant faculties. Feeble, broken, suffering often to the extreme of endurance, he has toiled on, as few of the strongest can toil, until the tired brain began to fail, the marvellously active mind to respond fitfully and sluggishly to the demands upon it, and, most painful of all, the man himself recognized this, and feared the seemingly inevitable end with a terror that, God grant, none of us may ever know. Haunted by this awful dread, under special and unendurable present strain, can we wonder that the great heart broke at last, the noble courage yielded, and that the moral sense shared the bewilderment of the mind? Whatever his faults, sad, beyond expression, as his passing, let no one challenge the assertion that, in our friend, man of affairs, scholar, mathematician, musician in the highest sense, died a man, great in mind, but greater far in goodness to his fellow men. But we know that somewhere, somehow, his wearied mind will find a sweet repose, his restless spirit

the happiness that earth denied it; the good, beyond measure, that he did, its due reward. Farewell, my friend, my brother.

The Doctor's voice was broken with emotion as he pronounced the last words, after which the members of the Scottish Rite each cast into the grave a red rose, first pressing it to the lips.

The Rev. E. C. Irwine then said:—

Brethren and friends: I had no intention of adding any words of my own to the eloquent and entirely complete *résumé* of the life and character of Brother Keil—Mr. Oscar Otto Keil, as he was known to many of you—given by one of his eldest friends. But I have been asked very shortly before I came to this place to say in a very few words that which concerns very materially the memory of our departed friend. When a man of such varied business capacity, who had in his hands the reins of so many projects, plans, schemes, and also actual businesses—when such a man is suddenly taken away there must of necessity be a considerable amount of uncertainty as to the precise position in which his business affairs are situated. This would be the case, I venture to say, my friends, with very many of our most respected citizens, of whom Mr. Oscar Otto Keil was one. It has been found to be the case with men whose fortunes and whose business are known for their extent all over the world. It is therefore not at all unnatural that in the present instance varied reports—some of them very far from the mark and some of them perhaps positively adverse—should have found circulation, because fame is a wandering, wild, and uncertain thing. Therefore it gives me the greatest satisfaction, coming as it does from one of Mr. Keil's executors, that in the opinion of that gentleman the affairs of our late brother and widely respected friend will be found after sufficient examination to be ample to satisfy all the claims, however many, that may be made upon them. My dear brethren and my friends, I do not wish to add any further words regarding this subject, as I have stated it plainly; but I must express my own deep personal regret at the loss to this community of one of the kindest, readiest, most willing, and generous men it has ever been my fortune to meet.

The rev. gentlemen then pronounced the last solemn words of committal to the grave, and the ceremony was at an end. The urn is to be disinterred, and placed in a suitable monument that is to be erected.

CHINESE NOTES.

The *North China Daily News* printed the following Peking telegram on Jan. 30th:—

Upon receipt of secret denunciations by a cable at the head of which are Prince Ching, Kang Yi, President of the Board of Punishments, and General Ting Fushiang, accusing Director-General Hu of the Northern Railway of embezzling the Imperial Railway funds and making a secret alliance with Foreign Powers, the Empress Dowager issued a secret edict last night ordering the arrest of Director-General Hu for examination into his conduct, and appointing Hu Ching-cheng, ex-Minister to Germany, etc., as Acting Director-General pending the result of the investigations. It is stated that Hu's predilection for the British aroused the jealousy of the pro-Russian clique, and these, aided by the persons above-named who headed the denunciation, caused Hu's downfall, the results of which may be very serious not only to Hu himself but also to British prestige.

Commenting on this news, our contemporary said—"It will, no doubt, be remembered that H.E. Hu was Governor of Peking. He was removed from that post to make room for a Manchu, and appointed to the Tsung-li Yamén on the plea that his railway duties took up all his time, and he has now been sacrificed to the reactionaries. Hu Ching-cheng is a well-known Anglophobe."

The Marine Insurance Companies held an informal Conference in London on the 15th of December, to see whether they could arrange to advance premiums. It came to nothing, and a step of the kind seems impracticable against the competition of Lloyd's.

Capt. Trueman, of Company B, Shanghai Volunteers Corps, after 15 years in command, has retired and gone home to England. The members, to show their appreciation of the valuable services he had rendered, presented

him with a handsome silver bowl, bearing the inscription: "Presented to Capt. Trueman by the members of B. Company, S. V. C., on his retirement from the command after 15 years' continuous service. 27th Jan., 1899." An illuminated address was also given.

In their weekly share report Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., of Shanghai, mention that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has made a loan on the Northern Railways from which it is expected to make a profit of some £60,000 to £80,000, and the price of the shares in London has risen to £57 15s., against 275 per cent. premium in Shanghai.

Richard Tournay, the marine engineer who "ran amok" on board the *Fricking* on Christmas Day, and did violent injury to two men, has been sentenced at Shanghai to one year's imprisonment with hard labour.

Mr. H. W. Gye attempted suicide by taking a large dose of morphine while in the Masonic Club, Shanghai, on Feb. 1st. The medical men eventually brought him round. No reason is assigned.

Viceroy Lin of Nanking recently ordered the institution of special classes in modern military tactics for the benefit of the younger and more promising officers holding commissions in the Vice-regal army. These special classes will be held at the Nanking Military College, and already some sixty young officers are said to have enrolled their names as special students, the anxiety to obtain instruction being very noticeable amongst all ranks of officers in Nanking.

Peking seems to be a most lawless capital, says the *China Gazette*. During a marriage procession the other day several women were attacked by a band of armed robbers, who dragged them from their chairs, and tore off their clothing and jewels. The men in the procession, not being armed, made no effort to protect the women.

The *Foochow Echo* understands that the Provincial Authorities have withdrawn their opposition to the locality demanded by the Japanese Government for a settlement at Foochow, on the condition that Chinese at present in occupation should not be required to move immediately.

A Peking dispatch, printed in *Saanghai*, states that H.E. Li Hong-chang, who has recently been busily occupied in determining and preparing for the conservation of the Yellow River works in Shantung province, has been lately ordered by Imperial edict of the Empress Dowager to return post haste to Peking. It is stated that this has been due to the uncertainty of Foreign and Palace politics at present, and the Empress Dowager appears to wish to have her old adviser by her side when occasion arises. The post vacated by H.E. Li will probably be given to H.E. Hsu Cuing-yi, Ex-Governor of Kuangtung, who was formerly Director-General of the Yellow River, and is supposed to know something of river conservancy.

According to the *Universal Gazette* the subsequent demands of the French with regard to the Ningpo Joss-house affair are as follows:—That the Ningpo and Saigon roads be extended as shown in a plan drawn by the French Municipal Council. That the ground southward of the Little East Gate to the first creek running into the Whangpoo, which was former inhabited by foreigners, the land at Pasiengao and outside the West Gate be included in the French Settlement. All Chinese owners of land within these limits are permitted to retain possession of their land on registration at the French Consulate. In the event of their wishing to lease or dispose of their land, foreigners should be given the preference; that the French may have a grant equal to whatever extension may be allowed to the settlement north of Yangking pang; that a site covering fifteen mows should be granted to the French for the erection of a French School and Hospital. That an indemnity of Tls. 20,000 will be paid by the French when these demands are complied with.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A WORD TO MISSIONARIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—Several missionaries have expressed the belief that the heroism of the servant of the Rev. R. P. Alexander of Hiroaki should not be allowed to pass unnoticed. In her brave attempt to rescue her master's family from the burning building, she sustained spinal injuries which are believed to be likely to disable her for life. It is felt that the missionary body in Japan, and no doubt many others as well, would be glad to show in a practical way their appreciation of the noble deed of the sufferer, the more especially as her master, having lost all his earthly goods in the fire, is unable to relieve her.

The missionaries are already heavily burdened with demands on their resources; but by a small amount from each a sum of 200 yen or more might be raised, and would prove a great boon to the poor woman in her time of distress.

Those who wish to act on this suggestion would do a favour by forwarding their contributions to the Rev. B. Chappell, Aoyama Gakuin, Tokyo, at their earliest convenience.

JULIUS SOPER. } Acting
HUGH WADDELL. } Committee.
JOHN SCOTT. }

A FRENCH HEROINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the January number of the *New York Trained Nurse and Hospital Review* there is an "In Memoriam" article, that tells a short story of heroism as sublime and inspiring as any thing I've ever read. Knowing of such a life almost makes one forget that this is a cold selfish cruel world. The article begins thus:—

Miss Margaret Nestler Tricoche was born in Versailles, France, in 1867. She belonged to a family of soldiers. Her father is a retired Major-General in the French Army, late member of French House of Representatives. She spent her childhood "following the guidon" from post to post. Although there was no prospect of her taking up any calling, she passed examinations at Paris fitting her to teach and pursued a thorough course of musical studies.

Her life was a serious and a studious one. She had but few acquaintances amid people of her social standing, but was deeply cherished by all with whom she came in contact. Her sympathy was unmistakably with the toiler, the working girl, and above all, the private soldier.

A few years ago she came to America on private business, and while there she decided to enter a Training School for Nurses and make nursing her profession, a calling fitting her aspirations and through which she could put into practice the highest teachings of her Master. When the Spanish-American war broke out she was just finishing her training school course, and impatiently waited the completion of her term, which was to enable her to reach her ideal, to become an army nurse and devote herself at last to her friend,—see sick soldier.

From this point some extracts from her diary not only tell her own story, but give some of the best insights into the army camp life that I have then:—

Thursday, Sept. 15—Although my application to the "Daughters of the American Revolution" bore the number 3,313, which I thought was giving me few chances to become a true niece of Uncle Sam, I was summoned this morning to the army building and duly enlisted as an army nurse. I got there my first lesson of military patience and forbearance; for I was obliged to wait for many hours, and had to do without luncheon.

Saturday, 17—Reached Ariston (Alabama) to-night, after twenty seven hours of very monotonous travel. It was dark when we alighted in the depot, which reminded me somewhat of that at Ellenville; only there were no familiar faces here, but plenty of negroes and soldiers instead. A three mile drive through the woods on a very sandy road took me to Camp Shipp. The Surgeon-Major to whom I had my contract takes me to my new home, a tent which I occupy with another girl—a trained nurse from Middleton. I take an inventory of our furniture: one stool, one agate basin as wash bowl, one pail of water, two coats made of canvas stretched over a wooden

frame without any mattress, a trunk or two, —that's all.

Sunday, Sept. 18. Camp Shipp has been in existence only two weeks and many things are not settled yet. No provision having been made so far for women nurses, we are kindly invited to take our meals with the officers and doctors. Our first breakfast consisted of oat-meal without milk, coarse bread, some kind of meat the nature of which could not be ascertained, and a black liquid called coffee which is drunk without milk or sugar: upon the whole a wholesome if not palatable meal. Am detailed to the typhoid ward. This means three tents connected together so as to form one long canvas ward, containing eighteen cots. In front of the ward is a "fly," or awning, under which are kept on a small stand, bottles, boxes, a few utensils. Women nurses were much needed here owing to the scarcity of trained orderlies. When the first nurse arrived a few days ago, she found the boys lying on their cots wrapped up in blankets without any sheet, and the uniforms, canteens, and so on shoved pell mell under the beds.

Oct. 2—Two weeks have passed since I came, and everything is much changed for the better; thanks to the efforts of our Major and matron. On a sunny day our quarters are very nice indeed for a field hospital. When it pours (it does not rain here), there are drawbacks to our accommodations. The top of our closet is washed out; our pills become sticky in their boxes; our bed linen gets wet, and so does the nurse who is in charge of the medicine and washings, and has to spend nearly all her time under the "fly." Army nurses must give up that trim neat appearance they have been taught never to depart from when they are at school. Very soon the prim nurse takes off her cuffs; away goes the cap, which is either blown off by the wind or soaked by the rain, and her uniform dress is shortened to the length of a bicycle skirt.

Oct. 9th.—On night duty. This is an innovation. Formerly, as there were only three female nurses in camp, the night work was left to the orderlies. Night duty here is not without its charms, under the coal tent, dimly lighted by the regulation lantern, and a few candles stuck in old preserve cans. Were I writing for publicity, I should not omit this—"an ominous silence prevails." Fortunately poetry is not the order of the day. A furious gale is blowing impeding the safety of our canvas home. Now and then we hear the hammer of an orderly driving down some rebellious stake.

Oct. 15—This evening the band of the First Kentucky is playing in our camp. And as I am resting a while under the "fly," enjoying the mild breeze, my mind wanders back to another camp, far, far away, near the boundary line of France and Germany; and I think of a very young girl, who, quite a few years ago, was, as I am now, listening to a military band. She was not a soldier's nurse then, but the proud daughter of the camp commander, and it was not for the sick but mostly for herself that the band was playing. Little was she dreaming then, that some day her fondness for the Stars and Stripes and his unrequitable will would cause her to "rough it" in a Southern camp, and give sponge baths to typhoid patients of the South-east New York.

Margaret Nestler Tricoche,
Army Nurse,
1st Division 3 Army Corps.

This was the last record in Miss Tricoche's diary, and her mood of reverie seems ominous. She was contrasting her present position with that one back in her native land, "the proud daughter of the camp commander." Before she could make another record in her diary, Miss Tricoche was a typhoid patient, stricken down at the bed-side of her sick soldiers. She was carried back to New York, where she died and was buried in her nurse's uniform. This talented young French woman, the daughter of a Major General, had realized her ambition to help "soldier boys"; she fell at her post a martyr to her ideal of true usefulness. She is a heroic type of womanhood, an honour to the nation that produced her, and deserves the highest praise from the nation she served till death. Marquis La Fayette gave his great grins to the cause of American liberty and received the gratitude of a whole nation; Margaret Nestler Tricoche gave all she had—trained service and her life—for the American soldier and deserves a monument as a French heroine.

WILL PATILLO.

January 31st, 1899.

THE TREATMENT OF ALLEGED CRIMINALS.

We have been asked to publish the following letter:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

SIR,—Referring to your comments upon Lord Beresford's suggestion regarding the treatment of alleged criminals, will you allow me space for a few words? Just what may have been in his Lordship's mind at the time, it may be difficult to say, but there is, I think, no reason to assume any lack of accurate information regarding the Code of Criminal Procedure. Whatever the authors of that Code may have contemplated, there is no doubt that a fair construction does authorize the *yoshin hanji* at his discretion to confine the prisoner for an indefinite period without the privilege of counsel and without the moral support of his friends. It is also clear that such deprivation of counsel during a considerable part of the interval between the arrest and the *hokan*, or public trial, is a by no means uncommon feature of the practice of the courts. It is also clear, I think, that it is exceedingly difficult to secure bail prior to the conclusion of the *yoshin*, and that the *yoshin* is often continued through many weeks and even months. This certainly is the impression which a wide observation has made upon some of the most competent and candid minds, and it would seem to justify the guarded phrases of his Lordship.

Looked at from the foreign point of view, the cause of dissatisfaction is not so much the loss of harsh treatment after conviction, nor is it to be found in defects imputed to the regular prison discipline; for we have the best of testimony as to the high ideal which the prison authorities are exhibiting. After a careful examination of both the model prison at Sugamo and the old-fashioned prison at Ichigaya, the high commendation attributed to Lord Beresford does not seem to me too strong. Barring the cold in winter, I am not at all sure that the Ichigaya prison would be on the whole preferable to the other.

It is rather the thought of what at least English-speaking residents of Japan must regard as the unnecessary confinement of simply suspected persons, including of course a considerable number of entirely innocent men and women, which arouses anxiety. It is not a morbid sentimentalism, but the conviction that the system involves on the part of such innocent persons a very serious, as well as needless, loss of time and money, and in some cases at least actual want and misery on the part of their families, not to speak of the suffering from the loss of liberty which to certain sensitive minds is hardly less terrible than death. Neither do the opponents of the present system mean to charge the judges with any lack of conscientiousness in the exercise of their discretion. The radical difficulty lies in the fact that the system emphasizes so strongly the duty of the judge as the protector of society that, however generous-hearted he may be, he is almost certain to forget that he should be not less the protector of the accused who stands before him, and to forget also that even society may be quite as deeply injured by injustice to an innocent man as by the escape of a really guilty one—indeed, a mistake in the direction of undue leniency is much the less serious of the two.

After considerable inquiry, I am forced to the conviction that the suffering and loss resulting from the prolonged confinement which too often precedes the public trial, is very greatly underestimated by Japanese publicists, while they exaggerate the hindrance to justice created by the efforts of the suspected person to conceal the evidence of his guilt. It is known that sometimes even actual confession of guilt is made by innocent persons as a means of escape from the distress which the methods adopted to induce them to incriminate themselves involve. The London *Standard* last year cited the case of a woman arrested in France for the alleged murder of her new born child. She denied the charge, but under pressure confessed the crime in detail and was duly sentenced. Within two months, however, conclusive proof was found that not only had she not killed the child, but there had been no child to kill!

I have in mind a physician in Japan, a most respectable man, who was confined awaiting trial from December till the last of July without the privilege of bail, when, as I was informed on unquestionable authority, the penalty for the alleged crime could not have exceeded seventy days' imprisonment. He was acquitted at the public trial. In another case, a man who also was afterward acquitted, was begged by his friends to confess the crime charged, because forsooth he would thus the sooner regain his liberty. It may be contended

that such cases are exceptional, but they occur often enough, in my judgment, to condemn the system, and to lead any who will carefully study the question to urge its speedy abandonment.

However, it is obviously impossible to revolutionize the method of criminal procedure at short notice, and this leads to the question, what should be the first step in reform?

My own conviction is that the key to the situation is to be found in opening the preliminary examination to the counsel for the defendant. If the large discretion conferred upon the judge must be exercised, is it too much to ask that he shall at least be made to feel the weight of public sentiment as represented by a lawyer pledged to maintain the personal rights of the prisoner? Even should the rest of the system remain substantially the same, I firmly believe the preliminary stages of the criminal procedure would be greatly hastened; that release on bail would be granted far earlier and more frequently; and that the alleviation of the condition of the accused would be fully recognized that the judges themselves would rejoice in the change.

Moreover, I believe that with the recognition of this benefit, there would come, even from men now strong in their conservatism, a demand for other safeguards which would ere long place the judicial system of Japan abreast of that of the freest nations in the world, as regards its careful reverence for the personal rights of her citizens.

Is it too much to hope that at the present session of the Diet, at least so much relief as I have advocated may be afforded in the large number of persons held to await trial? No step could be taken which would awaken warmer sympathy on the part of the great English speaking nations whose interests run so nearly parallel to those of Japan.

D. C. GREENE.

Commenting on the above letter the *Kokumin Shimbun* of Friday says:—The views of Rev. Dr. D. C. Greene on the treatment of alleged criminals, that appeared in the last two issues of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, will, we hope, receive careful consideration of the public and the authorities. As regards our comment upon Lord Charles Beresford's discussion of the subject, which was the occasion for eliciting the communication of Dr. Greene, our word of explanation is necessary. From the language used by Lord Beresford, guarded as it certainly was, it would appear that the advantage of counsel and the right of seeing his friends were altogether denied to the criminal defendant. It was to this apparent assumption that we ventured to take exception. But, as Dr. Greene points out, it is clear that the liberty of criminal defendants is more strictly restricted in this country than in Western countries, especially Great Britain and America. There is certainly much to be desired in the way of improving the system of criminal procedure. We shall not fail to profit by the criticisms and suggestions made by well-wishers for Japan, like Lord Beresford and Dr. Greene.

JAPANESE REFUSED A LANDING.

The Colony of New South Wales has passed an Act which will render it difficult for Japanese and others who are not conversant with the English language, and who may not be in possession of certain means, to settle there. Three Japanese who went from Kobe by the E. and A. steamer *Australian* were refused permission to land at Sydney and had to return in consequence. The experience was an unpleasant one for the Japanese and decidedly hard upon the gentleman who had paid their passages to the Colony, but the law had to be respected. As a matter of fact we believe the Japanese themselves are not serious losers by the unexpected restriction, the party who had engaged them having compensated them for their loss of time.

The men in question had been engaged for service in Sydney as house servants, their passages being paid. On arriving at Sydney on December 12th the authorities declined to allow them to land and told them they must return whence they came as they were unable to comply with the Act passed to restrict immigration. Needless to say the news created quite a stir on board, but the officials were obdurate and represented that they had no alternative but to enforce the law. The three men therefore returned to this port by the *Australian*, and a well-to-do Sydney man is still without his ideal Japanese servants.—*Kobe Herald*.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A telegraphic despatch from Formosa dated the 4th announces that the rebels in Tainan Prefecture have been routed: about 250 surrendered.

On Sunday, the steamer *Tairen Maru* sustained some damage off Kanonaki, on her way from Yokohama to Hakodate. She returned to Yokohama for repair.

Queen Victoria's footmen wear wigs which have eight rows of curls, whereas those of the Prince of Wales are allowed seven rows, and those of the Lord Mayor of London are given six rows.

The North German Lloyd Company has representatives now at Seattle arranging for the starting of a line of steamers between that port and the Orient. Besides Chinese and Japanese trade, they see good possibilities in Samoa and the Philippines.

A San Francisco paper has this heading (reaching over some six columns, though the paragraph it refers to is entirely unimportant): "A Chinese Burglar on a Large Scale." The size of the burglar across the waistcoat is not stated.

On Saturday a word-broker named Ogawa Shimbei (53), living at Kasukabe, Saitama Prefecture, murdered with a spear his adopted son Hyosuke (31), who was married to his eldest daughter. The murderer then attempted suicide by cutting open his abdomen with a sword.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Kiofun Maru* encountered a violent storm on her way to Seattle, arriving there on the 3rd inst., three days behind the schedule time. Consequently her departure for Japan will take place a few days later than the date announced in the schedule.

The *Official Gazette* gives notice that Second Captain Wenceslao Jose de Souza Moraes, of the Portuguese Navy, has been appointed vice-Consul *ad interim* of the Portuguese Consulate for Osaka and Hyogo, which has for several years been in charge of the French Consul here.

Since the outbreak of hostilities in the Philippines the Japanese Government has decided to despatch the warship *Suma* to protect Japanese traders and witness the operations. The *Suma* left Tsu on Wednesday morning for Sasebo to provision for the voyage. She is expected to leave immediately.

It is reported from Shanghai that a Chinese has assembled over 600 malcontents at Pita-wu, preaching a crusade against the Russian Authorities in Tientsin and the vicinity. He tells the natives that the Russians are introducing an oppressive administration. The Commandant-in-Chief of Shing-king Prefecture has despatched two divisions of soldiers to put down the riots.

In chronicling the death of a young lieutenant at Haiphong on the 14th February, *Le Courrier d'Haiphong* passes some strong criticism on the French transport service. M. Cuzen du Ren was a second lieutenant in the 10th Marine Infantry, and was landed from the *Cholon* suffering from typhoid fever. Numerous cases of typhoid have occurred in the transports between France and the French Colonies during the troping season, remarks the *China Mail*.

At the Yokohama Saibansho on Friday, Oshima Sadaki, a lad of 19, in the employ of Mr. C. J. Strome, was sentenced to six months' hard labour and six months' police surveillance, for stealing from the residence of Mr. Strome, No. 12 Bund, on January 13th, a hand-bag containing a diamond ring, a bracelet and other articles, about 1,500 yen in value, besides six to ten gold pieces and 17 yen in paper currency. Prisoner was smartly captured a few

hours after the theft was discovered, and the whole of the stolen property was recovered.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, held on Thursday, the Chairman expressed the unanimous feeling of regret of the Committee at the loss they had sustained in the death of Mr. Keil, a man of high intelligence and great industry, having the interests of the Chamber keenly at heart, whose loss will not easily be made good; and it was unanimously decided to place on record in the minutes of the Chamber an expression of regret at his death.

An evening contemporary learns that telegrams were received on Tuesday at the purchasing office of the Imperial Government Railways for Tyres and Best Yorkshire Iron as under:—

Illies & Co.	£1669.04.00
C. & J. Trading Co.	1662.15.02
Frazar & Co.	131.01.07
Isano & Co.	1308.18.04
Takata & Co.	1281.18.03
Okura & Co.	1261.02.09
Mitsui & Co.	1236.15.11
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1217.15.00

The death is announced of Mrs. Ritter, wife of Dr. Paul Ritter, the Swiss Consul-General at Yokohama. The deceased lady had been in unsatisfactory health for some time, and, a lengthened stay in the country not restoring her, it was thought that a return to her native air might prove beneficial. She travelled to Europe by the German mail just before Christmas, but did not live to reach Switzerland, dying shortly after the arrival of the steamer at Naples. Every sympathy will be felt for Dr. Ritter in his bereavement.

The death is announced of Mr. Hara Zenzaburo, a wealthy Japanese merchant in Yokohama, which took place at his residence, Oimatsu-cho, on the night of the 6th inst. He had been confined to his bed for some time, and, in view of his advanced age, 73, the illness was early recognised as hopeless. A few days before his death Mr. Hara contributed 60,000 yen to the Tokyo University and other schools. On the 6th inst. he was promoted to the rank of *Frugii* in recognition of his various services to the State. The funeral takes place on the 16th inst.

All the Kobe R. and A. C. Debentures, new 7 per cent. issue, have been taken up. In fact applications were received for more than the amount required. At a Committee meeting it was decided to invite Messrs. W. S. Taylor and J. R. Gillingham to join the Committee. The following sub-Committees were appointed: Messrs. Sorhagen and Kalkhaff, Rowing; Mr. Lightfoot, Football; Mr. Taylor, Canoeing; Messrs. Hall and Gillingham, Athletic Sports; Mr. Hall, Gymnastics and Bar; Mr. Bethell, Theatricals. Messrs. Drewell and Franklin retain the offices they held last year. Work on the new Reading Room will probably be commenced some time next month.

THE BERSFORD DINNER.

The total expenses connected with the Bersford dinner amounted to yen 1,847.76. The details of the account are as under:—

Members of the China Association ...	30
British Residents ...	113
Guests ...	12
Press ...	4
<hr/>	
Cost. Yen.	159
Dinner ...	800.00
Wines ...	741.00
Yukosuka Band and their supper ...	105.00
Kelly & Walsh (for printing) ...	127.50
Yokohama Nurseries ...	12.00
Cigars and Cigarettes ...	37.50
Advertising ...	16.00
Sundries ...	8.56
<hr/>	
	1,847.56

The cost per head is thus yen 12.

PRESENT CONDITION OF JAPANESE INDUSTRY.

Mr. Ariga Nagatami, after graduating at the Imperial University, specially studied political economy, and was recently a high official of the Agricultural and Commercial Department. He gave an address recently on "The Present Condition of Japanese Industry," before the members of the Kokkagakkwai, and it has been reported in the magazine of that association. The main points are as follow:—The actual state of a Japanese industry is best explained by statistics. Taking the sum total of the exports to be one hundred, the ratio of increase of industrial exports was 66 per cent. in 1888, 64 per cent. in 1889, 67 per cent. in 1890, 55 per cent. in 1891, 67 per cent. in 1892, 71 per cent. in 1893, 75 per cent. in 1894, 77 per cent. in 1895, 74 per cent. in 1896, and 78 per cent. in 1897. In short, the exports have increased from 66 per cent. in 1888 to 78 per cent. in 1897. The decrease in the import of industrial products for the same period is shown by the following figures: 92 per cent. in 1887, 87 per cent. in 1888, 87 per cent. in 1889, 73 per cent. in 1890, 73 per cent. in 1891, 72 per cent. in 1892, 76 per cent. in 1893, 67 per cent. in 1894, 71 per cent. in 1895, 71 per cent. in 1896, 60 per cent. in 1897. That is, imports of industrial products declined from 92 per cent. in 1887, to 60 per cent. in 1897. There is thus a tendency to decrease in manufactured imports and to increase in exports.

Of the capital used in Japanese industry, no perfect statistics are obtainable with regard to monies absorbed in industrial works conducted by partnerships and individuals. But in regard to industrial companies, the increase of capital is from yen 56,000,000 in 1894, to yen 62,000,000 in 1895, yen 74,000,000 in 1896, and yen 151,000,000 in 1897. That is to say, the capital employed by industrial companies in 1897 is about three times that used in 1894. But all this capital was not actually paid up. The actually subscribed sums were yen 36,000,000 in 1894, yen 41,000,000 in 1895, yen 48,000,000 in 1896, and yen 74,000,000 in 1897. Thus the actual capital of industrial companies is yen 74,000,000, to which debentures—yen 4,000,000 in 1894, yen 4,900,000 in 1895, yen 5,500,000 in 1896 (that of 1897 is not yet ascertained)—have to be added. Of these debentures, yen 610,000 in 1894, yen 420,000 in 1895, and yen 440,000 in 1896 were actually paid-up. Briefly stated, the industrial capital in 1897 was three times that in 1894.

The total amount of industrial products of Japan in the present day is very difficult to ascertain. The following figures, however, have been collected by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, for 1895:—

	1895.	1896.	Increase.
Osaka fu	30,000,000	32,000,000	2,000,000
Kyoto fu	27,000,000	29,000,000	2,000,000
Tokyo fu	14,000,000	22,000,000	8,000,000

The total amount of important industrial products of the whole Japanese Empire was 338,000,000 in 1895, and 367,000,000 in 1896. Industrial products not considered important are not included in the above figures.

Figures with regard to the position of factories in 1896 are as follow:—

I. Industrial works in which motive power—steam, electricity, water, gas—are provided:—	
Factories	2,968
Engines	5,325
Horse-power	58,172
Workmen	273,793

II. Industrial works in which mechanical motive power is not provided:—

Factories	4,398
Workmen	140,243

Thus the total number of factories was 7,366, and that of the workmen more than 414,000. The above does not, however, include factories employing fewer than ten workmen, which, it must be remembered, are very numerous in Japan.

The figures concerning the consumption of coal show that 728,000 tons were used in 1893,

1,092,000 tons in 1894, 1,188,000 tons in 1895, and 1,553,000 tons in 1896. The total of 1893 is thus about doubled by 1896.

Present industries may be divided into two classes—native and imported. Indigenous industries are of woven goods, porcelain, lacquered wares, precious metal, utensils, paper, oils, unbleached wax, silk, Sakai cotton carpets (*danshi*), straw braid, and others; and the imported industries are those relating to spinning, matches, cement, glass, and others. Industries were first started to check the import of foreign goods; and under favourable circumstances they are now not only able to supersede imported goods, but many of their products are exported to China, Korea, Australia, and other places. Industries of this class are generally managed by big merchants, and by them scientific principles are applied. On the other hand, native industrial works are carried on usually on a small scale. Applications of scientific principles and new knowledge are rare. According to statistics published by the Finance Department, the total amount of Japanese industrial products exported in 1877 was yen 112,390,000, of which the so-called Western goods were only yen 16,000,000, or rather more than one-tenth of the total sum, and the balance of more than eight-tenths was made up from native industries. Thus great importance must be attached to the native industries.

The employment of labourers differs in the native and Western industries. In the textile manufactories of Kiyo or Ashtaka, for instance, labourers are employed for a term of years, say, three or five years, wages being generally five or six yen per year, yen 25 or 30 being given at the end of the term. Food, shelter and clothing of the labourers are provided by the employers. In Fukui, wages are paid according to piece work, and the daily gain of a skilled workman is said to be about forty yen. But in no place are daily wages paid to native industrialists. In the Western industries, on the other hand, labourers are employed at a daily wage. The following is a table showing the rise during the past few years, for first class, second class, and third class artisans:—

	1892.	1897.
1st. and 3rd. class.	1st. and 3rd. class.	
Osaka Sulphuric Acid Co.	50 30 80	75 48 96
Saitoh Spinning Co.	50 30 80	55 39 59
Tokyo Kanegafuchi Spinning Co.	44 25 9	45 27 10

In Western industries, it is very difficult to get good workmanship, for in the first place the artisans are drawn directly from the ranks of agricultural labourers, fishermen, and others, very few of whom continue in employment for many years; and in the second place these men are not educated. From a recent report of the United Association of Spinning Companies it appears that labourers who have graduated in primary schools, or have that degree of education, are only nineteen per cent. of the whole.

The capital employed by companies carrying on Western industries is yen 140,000,000 (of which yen 74,000,000 is paid up), with debentures, etc., as above stated. It consists generally of fixed capital, floating capital for the payment of wages, purchase of raw materials, etc. The interest charged is very high. In the case of one company, yen 36,943, and in that of another company, yen 26,400, were paid in interest in the first half of 1898. It is thus inevitable that, with high interest and inefficient workmanship, the companies sometimes suffer great losses. The following table illustrates the position of the spinning companies:—

Total number of Companies.	Companies making a profit.	Companies sustaining loss.
1893	33	29
1894	43	28
1895	59	41
1896	59	41
1897	66	33

A still more deplorable condition is seen in the native industries. Take the case of Fukui, in which district Mr. Ariga made an official tour. Fukui is famous for the production of *habutai*, the export of which amounted to yen 8,000,000 last year. But the total capital used in its production is only yen 500,000, and the smallness

of means brings about difficulties and entails enormously high interest. According to Mr. Ariga's examination, the daily interest per hundred yen was 3 sen and 7 rin, but as a matter of fact it was above 5 sen. With such a scarcity of capital the Fukui weavers are compelled to sell cloth at very cheap prices in the agents of the foreign merchants at Yokohama, who make very lucrative bargains.

THE LATE COUNT CAPRIVI.

Men and Women of the Times contains the following biography of the illustrious German statesman whose death has just been announced:—Caprivi de Caprera de Montecuccoli, Count Georg Leo von, the German Chancellor, is the eldest of the four sons of Julius Edward von Caprivi, who was a high legal functionary in the service of the Prussian State. General von Caprivi was born at Charlottenburg on Feb. 24, 1831. Entering a general regiment in high eighteenth year, he won rapid promotion and served with distinction in the campaigns of 1864 and 1866. In 1870 he acted as Chief of the Staff to the 10th Corps, of which he is now the Commander, and reaped fresh laurels in all the battles on the Loire. Swiftly ascending the other steps of the military ladder, he was appointed in 1883 to the command of the 30th Division at Metz; and next year, passing from the army to the navy, he succeeded to Herr von Stosch, on the latter's retirement from the head of the Admiralty. In a short time naval men by profession were amazed at the mastery of their art and the perception of their interests which were displayed by a mere landman and soldier. Soon after the present Emperor's accession, on the death of Count Monte, he reorganised the navy; the command of the Imperial fleet being vested in Admiral von der Goltz, while something like a ministry of marine was created under Rear-Admiral von Hensen; and it was on this occasion that General von Caprivi, sharing in the redistribution of military commands, was rewarded for his loyalty to the army, no less than for his naval services, with the 10th or Hanoverian Army Corps, which is one of the finest in the whole army. During the manoeuvres of the autumn of 1886, when the Hanoverians and Westphalians met in mimic warfare, with smokeless powder and other innovations on their trial, the Emperor had opportunity enough anew to study the character of General von Caprivi, and this general's character and ability to serve him in a political capacity must have fairly convinced his Majesty, otherwise he would never have asked him to assume the enormous burden of responsibility which Prince Bismarck had laid down. It was not without grave scruples and self-distrust that General von Caprivi listened to the proposals of the Emperor; but his Majesty, it is said, had finally decided to have a soldier for his new Chancellor, thinking, as he does, with Frederick the Great, that a General must be the surest conductor of a foreign policy, as knowing best how far he can go with the army behind him. On March 19, 1890, the appointment of General Caprivi as successor to Prince Bismarck was made public. The General received the title of Count from the Emperor in December, 1881. He gave up his position as Prussian Prime Minister to Count von Eulenbourg, in March, 1892, but remained Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs. In 1892 and 1893, despite of prolonged opposition, he conducted the German Army Bill successfully through Parliament. He unexpectedly resigned in October, 1894, owing to friction with Count Eulenbourg in the matter of the Agrarian League malcontents.

His Honour Judge Wilkinson sat on Thursday for the purpose of revising the Jury list. The only claim for exemption was preferred by Mr. C. M. Daff, who asked to be excused on the ground of deafness, producing medical certificates in support of his statement.—The application was allowed, and the rest of the list passed as published.

KOBE TRADE FOR JANUARY.

The returns of the foreign trade of Kobe during January, in comparison with the same month of last year, are as follows:—

	Jan. 1899.	Jan. 1898.	Comparison.
Exports	¥5,439,888	¥3,587,461	1,452,427+
Imports	¥8,844,876	¥9,207,874	362,998-
Imports exceed exports by yen 3,404,988.			

	Jan. 1899.	Jan. 1898.
Customs Duties	¥358,507	¥233,731
Vessels arrived	101	119
Vessels despatched	94	120

	Jan. 1899.	Jan. 1898.	Comparison.
Rice	1,962,864	183,672	1,779,192+
Copper	457,306	175,987	281,319+
Cotton yarn	920,841	1,291,118	370,277-
Mishra	382,165	198,913	183,252+

	Jan. 1899.	Jan. 1898.	Comparison.
Rice	83,542	1,861,885	1,778,343-
Cotton	4,493,596	2,409,117	2,084,479+
Leaf tobacco	559,918	65,688	494,230+
Sugar	324,771	245,589	79,182+
Kerosene Oil	467,441	459,461	7,980+

—Japan Times.

SERPENT CULT AMONG THE AINU

A LECTURE DELIVERED BEFORE THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SAPORO, ON SATURDAY, FEB. 4TH, 1899, BY THE REV. JNO. BATCHELOR.

I.—GENERAL REMARKS.

A general survey of the mythology of the nations of the world very soon leads one to conclude that there is no superstition more universal in extent and diversified in thought and conception than that connected with ophiolatry. While there are some races of peoples who regard the serpent family as divine and therefore worthy of all reverence and worship, there are others who look upon every species of the ophidian tribe as very demons; as demons absolutely and in every way antagonistic to man and for this reason worthy of hatred and only fit to be slain. The Phœnicians of old were of opinion that serpents were beneficent beings and welcomed their appearance as omens for good. The Dyaks of North Borneo regard them in the same light to-day.¹ It is hardly necessary to mention in this place the snake temples of India and to note how these reptiles are sometimes fed, though perhaps with reluctant interest, at the doors of Hindu cottages; and all here present will certainly have heard of the worship given to snakes at the present time in Yanagishima Mura, near Tokyo.

The national flag of China is a large dragon, and the common people of that land attribute to the supposed kings of heaven bodies like serpents. In Mexico the highest member of the Viti pantheon is Ndugei, who is worshipped as a mighty serpent.² The ancient Persians regarded this reptile as symbolizing the principle of evil, and in Egypt a hideous serpent was connected with the Typhonic superstition. Those curious pseudo-Gnostic sects of the 2nd Century, viz. those called Ophites, Sethites, and Cainites, even went so far in their regard for the serpent as to endeavour to graft ophiolatry on to the Christian faith. So catholic then, both as regards time and place, is this superstition found to have been.

The Ainu race does not differ from others in this matter, but is quite catholic in it, for it also has its Serpent Cult. And, though indeed there is nothing like the elaborate proportions of the worship of the Danigwe in the serpent's house at Dahomey,³ and the cult is quite distinct from it in kind, still the fact remains that ophiolatry is practised among them. What is now seen, however, is probably nothing more than the remnant of what was in bygone ages a much more complete system. I verily thought I had said all there was to say on this matter in my book on "The Ainu of Japan," but I have, since publishing that book, discovered that the subject has by no means been therein exhausted. Indeed, when writing that book I must frankly confess that I had no idea that ophiolatry was practised at all by this people. So that had anyone asked me concerning the matter I should certainly have said no. The fact is, all religious practices, of whatever kind they may be, mixed up as they are with a tremendous amount of superstition, are very occasional among the Ainu, and, like intermittent fever, quite irregular. But ophiolatry is particu-

larly irregular, only occurs at long intervals, and is practised by very few people indeed. However, having met with it I now proceed to give the facts.

II.—ORIGIN AND HOME OF THE SERPENT KIND.

According to Ainu ideas the first serpent that ever was belongs not to this earth, but had his origin in heaven above. In this we are reminded of Persian mythology, in which "Ahimain, the serpent enemy of man and purity," descended earthwards in the fashion of a serpent.⁴ But the Ainu, differing from the Persians, say that the original serpent, who is still pretty much alive, is a good and honourable deity. He is therefore not only worthy of divine honours but is actually worshipped by this people.

The history of his descent from above is very peculiar, and as related to me is as follows. This world is, under the Creator of all things, governed chiefly by the goddess of fire as His deputy. Originally this goddess had her home in heaven above, but was sent down by the Creator to take care of this world. Having heard that it was determined that she should leave her heavenly abode and descend to earth, the serpent, being enamoured of her, desired to come down with her. Having expressed his ardent love, the goddess, trying to dissuade him from this course, informed him that if he descended with her he would be obliged to endure fire, which would be exceedingly hard for him. Notwithstanding all this, however, the serpent declared himself ready to brave everything if only he should be permitted to accompany her. And so, after having received full permission, he came down with her in a flash of lightning; here he has been ever since, and here he is to remain.

The serpent, descending as he did in a flash of lightning, came down with such mighty force that his fall made a large hole in the ground. Even at the present day some of his offspring who were left behind, in heaven and have a longing to visit their father, likewise descend in lightning, and the force of their fall also makes holes in the ground.⁵ These holes, when known to exist, should by no means be approached, for they lead down to Hades which is now supposed to be the true home of the serpent kind. The original father-snake has his palace there and there reigns as king over all his tribe. Such is the account of this matter as given to me.

In writing of the home of snakes I have said elsewhere:—"By some Ainu, snakes are supposed to live in large communities in the under-world, and their real homes assume the bodily forms of men and women. They have houses and gardens just the same as human beings have. Their food, however, consists of dew.⁶ They have also a language peculiar to themselves. But their resemblance to men and women extends only to bodily form. Their hearts and natures are decidedly diabolical. They only assume the form of snakes when they come to the upper world, and they never appear here except with the intention of doing some harm to human beings."

The ancients of the Ainu once met together in prayer to take away these evil-working objects. He heard their prayer and determined to snare them out. But when they were about to leave, a frog stepped forth and told them that, if they would but hold its leg in their mouth, they would not snare to death. One snake tried the remedy, and found the frog's leg so sweet that he swallowed its whole body. From that time to this frogs have been the staple food amongst the reptiles of Ainu land.

All serpents, however, are not supposed to have descended from above, but may be said to be born upon earth and in Hades in the ordinary course of nature. For, having once descended to earth, the conditions of life here have become the natural course of nature to them. All of these so born are considered to be of a very evil disposition and desirous of doing all the harm they can to mankind. Of one of these I have written:⁷ "Some of the Ainu tell of a large serpent which is said to have been the immediate cause of wars and stinging ants. This monstrous reptile is, curiously enough, said to have been of the feminine gender, of an extraordinary length, and of such a beautiful colour as to be quite charming to look upon. She was, however, a very dreadful and dangerous creature, for she used to devour whole villages of people, and even swallow houses. One day this monster met an Ainu who was hunting far away in the forests, and tempted him to sin with her. The Ainu, however, was a God-fearing man, and would not be led into danger, but manfully main-

¹ Hardwick, "Christ and other Masters," p. 559.

² The holes have referred to are those made by serpents.

³ Journal of American Folklore, vol. vii, no. xiv, p. 11.

⁴ To this I must add now that some Ainu suppose these beings to have dogs, and also their eating and fishing propensities in Hades, and to live on the same food and follow the same pursuits as when upon earth.

⁵ Journal of American Folklore, vol. vii, no. xxiv, p. 36.

⁶ The natives of Sarawak and British North Borneo," Vol. 1, p. 84.

⁷ Hardwick, "Christ and other Masters," 4th Ed. p. 596.

⁸ Bouley's "Religions of the Africans," p. 46.

tained his integrity. Thereupon the serpent, instead of swallowing him up as he expected, told him that as a punishment he should be unable to die for a thousand years; and it came to pass that when this Ainn attained the age of a hundred years he shed his hair, beard, skin, and teeth, and became a child again, subject to all the ills and trials of babyhood, and this took place every time the poor fellow reached the age of one hundred years. He was quite unable to die till he had lived his thousand years, and lost his hair and teeth ten times. At length this reptile was slain by the Ainn, but as its carcass became decomposed and fell to pieces the particles became stinging ants and wasps."

As most of the Ainn really believe the original serpent to have been good and to have come down from heaven, they appear to be at a loss to understand why so many of his offspring are bad. They therefore seek to prove that they are not his children after all, but owe their origin to another. It is the opinion therefore of some that Yoshitsune, the famous Japanese who fled to Yezo in the 12th Century and lived for a time among the Ainn, was the true original of all evilly disposed snakes. There are two legends to this effect. The first is as follows. Yoshitsune was one day going to fish in the river, and, as he was pushing his boat off with the boat pole, the pole broke, one part remaining sticking in the mud and the other in his hand. He was very angry at this, and, cursing the piece which remained in his hand, threw it ashore. As soon as it left his hands it became a venomous snake, and is the ancestor of all such. It is the children of this reptile who ever seek the harm of men. The other legend says that when Yoshitsune was building a hut for himself in Ainn-land he cut down an alder tree and proceeded to make a frame for his hearth out of it. When he had finished the mending and the pieces of wood were fitting together and placed in position one piece began to move and wriggle about. This surprised him very much indeed, and, upon cutting it open to see what was the cause, there came out a demon in bodily form like a snake. This is said by those who believe in this legend to be the true ancestor of all the evil ones among the ophiolatry tribe. By the majority of Ainn, however, both of these legends are looked upon as mere tales, for the general opinion is that the serpent who originally came down from heaven with the goddess of fire is the ancestor of all snakes, both good and bad, and that all together have now their real home in Hades.

III.—OPHIOLATRY.

Before proceeding with this division of my subject I will take the liberty of again quoting from the "Journal of American Folklore" what I wrote therein. I there say:—"Speaking of the tree of evil brings to my mind the subject of the serpent and his connection with the fall of man. The Ainn are not different from many other nations in their superstitious fear of these reptiles; they have a very great dread of every kind of snake. Though the people do not seem to connect them with the entrance of sin into the world, yet many of them certainly believe snakes to be demons both in nature and deed, and to be at enmity with all mankind; and they think that, having a special spite against women, they will bewitch them and drive them mad if they get the opportunity. To be bewitched by a snake or to be possessed by a devil are the same thing according to Ainn ideas. The men are afraid to kill these reptiles because they think that the evil spirits which are supposed to dwell in them will, on leaving their former abode, enter the heart of the slayer." I must here qualify this last sentence by saying that while this is true of some men it is not so of all, for I find that many Ainn are very particular to have every snake killed which comes across the path of a woman. This is so because the people believe that snake possession is the chief cause of all troubles experienced at childbirth, and the only certain preventive is to slay the snake which is seeking to possess the woman. "It is also said that if a snake finds any person asleep out of doors, it will immediately enter the sleeper's mouth and take up its abode within him, the result being madness."

But to speak more particularly of the worship of serpents. Ophiolatry, I find, most frequently practised when an addition is being made to a family, but more particularly when there is any difficulty in the matter. When it has been decided that serpent-worship shall take place, the image of a snake is made of *Pophe-kina*, a kind of sedge (*Carex rhynchochrysa*). This image is called *Inoké kamui*, which means, "the image of god or divine image." In the particular case I have now in view the image was, it appeared to me, used as much as a charm as anything else. After the patient had been walked about, and various other courses resorted to and the desired

effect has not been brought about, the image of a snake was made and suddenly placed upon the shoulders of the woman. Here it was held for some time and worshipped.

Upon asking why this object was worshipped I was informed that according to Ainn belief all such like difficulties are caused by the demon of snakes. But lest I should suppose that it was any wicked, evilly dispositioned, snake which was worshipped, I was assured that it was the chief serpent himself alone who had this honour done him. The people go directly to head-quarters and ask the original parent himself to undo the mischief done or designed by his wicked progeny. After the image here referred to had been worshipped it was laid by the side of the patient for a time and afterwards put in the sacred north-east corner of the hut by the side of the household god which is sometimes called *Chissé koro skashi*, "the ancestor who keeps the house."

The next case in which serpent worship takes place is when a person has had the misfortune to be bitten by a snake or viper. At such times the image is by some people made and set up by the fireplace where it is worshipped. *Inao* are offered to it and sake drunk in its honour. It is then placed on the side for a time. If the demon has heard the prayers and wrought a cure, it is again produced, set by the fire-side, worshipped, thanked, presented with *inao* and *sake*, and then reverently taken outside and placed with the *inao* at the east end of the hut. However, should the patient die the image is left severely alone as being of no use. In such cases again I am informed that the people worship the chief of these serpents only and not any of his servants.

The other case in which I have known of serpent-worship taking place was for a woman suffering from an attack of ague. On this occasion the image was made and worshipped, and then with a good deal of professional air and mystery was secretly brought to the patient and suddenly slipped into her bosom. This caused the woman to become much agitated with surprise, and, upon springing from her couch, she was well beaten with a bunch of grass which goes by the name of *Takusa*. In these cases therefore we find that Ophiolatry is very closely connected with exorcism. In cases of ague, however, all the Ainn do not worship the serpent, but only such of them as ascribe attacks of this disease to the malice of his offspring. There may be other cases in which serpent-worship is indulged in, but so far I have heard of none.

You will not be surprised to learn that the Ainn are not ophiophagous. I have frequently heard of Japanese eating snakes as medicine, and even sometimes as a delicacy, but never of an Ainn doing so. I have heard also of snakes being killed, cut up, and given to horses to eat, but this is not an Ainn but a Japanese custom. It is said that they are given to horses because it is thought that, in some way or other, they confer physical strength.

IV.—OPHIOMANCY.

The only case I actually know of in which anything like predicting events by means of the serpent is practised is that of a woman witch-doctor, Icarunde by name, residing at Hoya-kotan, in the district of Shibichari. This woman keeps the image of a serpent in her hut all the time, and it is positively asserted that she prays to it often. She is said to regard it altogether as her *shuen kamui*, or guardian angel, and is looked upon as being inspired by it at times. It is said that she is in the habit of taking it from her box, talking to it, and asking it all kinds of questions. By its inspiration she professes to tell the reason of any given sickness or trouble and to discover the remedies for them. Indeed, she also claims to foretell future events by its influence. I need scarcely remark that this woman is very much feared by the people near at hand, and is treated kindly by them. But this is not what would be called true ophiomancy. I cannot hear of any Ainn, man or woman, who professes to predict future events by means of a genuine serpent, dead or alive, whether it be by its manner of eating or by its coils. They are too much afraid of these reptiles to watch them much in their live state.

It is said to be most unlucky for a woman to see a snake swallow anything, for that would mean nothing less than certain *okokko parat*, "snake possession." In such a case it must be killed at once and a stick of *noya*, "mugwort" (*Artemisia vulgaris* L.), stuck through its head.

In the same way the Ainn say that any snake which is seen with a large stomach, as though it had been gorging itself, must be killed and examined so as to see what is inside. A case in which I myself was interested is mentioned in my book on

g. Whittled sticks used as charms and offerings, though sometimes worshipped.

"The Ainn of Japan."¹¹ I there say:—"The Ainn, particularly the women, are remarkably afraid of snakes. Many a time have I been sent for to act as snake executioner. On one occasion I was asked to go and kill a snake which had got into an old man's storehouse. I found it, and saw that it had a very large stomach, as though it had been gorging itself. As soon as it was killed I invited the master of the storehouse to come and look at it; and when he saw its great size he assured me that if I would but make a post mortem examination of it I should find great treasure inside, which treasure, as the snake was killed on his premises, would belong to him. On examination we found that it had swallowed a large rat! The Ainn was dumfounded and angry at this being rewarded or punished for his greed. A somewhat similar case in which a young man now with me took part has also come to my knowledge. But a young hare was found in the stomach of the snake he killed, and not a rat, and it was not for treasure that the reptile was killed, but in order to get rid of a supposed demon and prevent a woman who had seen it from being possessed.

The Ainn declare it to be very unlucky to see the skeleton of a snake stretched out lengthwise. One does sometimes come across such when travelling in the interior after the grass has been burnt off in the early spring. The sight of one of them is supposed to mean a curse. In order to avoid the curse one must expectorate upon the ground and say:—*Turam koro guru kira!* "the coward was running." It is likewise considered unlucky to see the skeleton of one of these reptiles lie curled up. In such a case the curse may be avoided by simply saying *Kametek koro guru na!* "What a brave one! This last one died standing against the fire, while the former died running away from it." These phrases have reference to the boast of the original serpent who is supposed to have descended in lightning and who said he would brave even fire for the sake of the goddess of fire.

UNION CHURCH, YOKOHAMA.

The annual meeting of members of this Church was held on Monday evening in the Van Schwick Hall, the Rev. J. H. Ballagh presiding. After prayer by the Rev. J. L. Deering the Treasurer's report was presented by Mr. S. E. Unite, who pointed out that the income of the Church represented by the first two items of the accounts, showed a total of yen 3,007.49, as against 2,750.37 the preceding year. He expressed his thanks for the kind assistance rendered by the Misses Kuhn and Mr. C. T. Sale, in collecting the amount of yen 1,500 as a subscription for Dr. Meacham. While the balance sheet presented to the meeting showed a debit balance of yen 47.65, still since the books had been closed a cheque had been received from Mr. Thomas Rose, and another sum of yen 20 from another quarter, and thus, instead of a debit balance, the Church started the new financial year with yen 30 in hand. The accounts were as follow:—

DR.	
Receipts per Sunday morning and evening offerings	1,056.89
Donations and Subscriptions	2,022.25
Special Subscriptions for Dr. Meacham	1,500.00
Donation from Mrs. Ballagh	20.00
Donation from Mrs. Browie	100.00
	4,699.14
CR.	
Balance from 31st January	166.76
Rev. B. Buxton	10.76
Stationery	5.50
Advertising	12.50
Sunday School per A. J. Wilkin	50.00
Electric Lighting	35.37
Organ Tuning	75.00
Fire Insurance	19.25
Dr. N. G. Munro for Insane Ward	28.00
General Hospital	4.00
Organ Blower 4 months	5.00
New Year's Gift Church Momban	1,680.00
8 months' salary Rev. G. M. Meacham	2,000.00
Donation	191.00
Pulpit Supplies October-January	300.00
Church Rent 12 months	60.00
Van Schwick Hall	26.00
Sunday School Special Collection	30.00
Balance to February 1st	4,699.14

The Report was passed on the motion of the Rev. E. S. Booth, seconded by Mr. POLLARD, a vote of thanks being passed to the Treasurer.

The Rev. E. S. BOOTH reported that since Dr. Meacham's departure the Elders had met and arranged for pulpit supplies, and arrangements had been made to have two services on Sunday evening. He referred to the loss the church had sustained by the death of Mr. W. Barrie.

On the election of officers being taken, Mr. C. V. SALE pointed out that the existence of the church was endangered by the continued absence of a Pastor. There appeared to be no one in Japan at once able and willing to take the position, and the engagement of a pastor from abroad involved some element of risk which could not be undertaken in the present state of their finances. The only course he could see was to provide for the continuance of the church services in such a manner that the congregation could be kept together, and for the establishment of a fund which would enable them, when the opportunity offered, to risk experiments which they could not now undertake. He proposed,—"That an Honorary Pastor be elected whose office it shall be to obtain supplies for the morning services, to conduct those services, and administer the sacraments, and, together with the elders, to have the oversight of the spiritual needs of the Church and congregation. That the usual pastoral duty of general visitation should be delegated to the elders who shall give the Honorary Pastor information concerning new arrivals, cases of illness, or any special need of a pastor's services. That the elders provide for the Sunday evening services. That the Treasurer be authorized to disburse on the Honorary Pastor's order a sum averaging ten yen per Sunday for the supplies and any other small expenses which may be incurred by him in the services of the church. That the value of the Honorary Pastor's services be fixed at 100 yen per month, and that the sum be placed by the Treasurer each month in a separate account to be known as the Union Church Pastors' Fund. That the Rev. C. E. Booth be invited to take the position of honorary pastor." Mr. Sale mentioned that he had already asked Mr. Booth for permission to put forward his name, and the latter had very generously suggested that the remuneration should take the form of establishing a Pastors' Fund. Mr. Booth had always taken a deep interest in the church, and they were much indebted to him for undertaking the task of providing supplies for several long periods during the past 20 years.

The motion was seconded by Mr. BUNTING and carried to its authority.

The officers were elected as follows: Elders, Rev. H. Loomis, Mr. Finch, Mr. Bunting; Deacons, Messrs. G. Booth, C. V. Sale, and S. E. Unite; Deaconesses, Mrs. Bunting, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Fisher, and Mrs. Stansland; Trustees, Mr. C. V. Sale, Mr. T. Rose, Mr. L. Pollard, Mr. MacArthur, Mr. F. Stansland, and Mr. G. Booth; ushers, Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Bunting, jun.; organist, Mr. T. Southall.

Some discussion took place on the unsatisfactory state of the organ, and the Trustees were asked to give their consideration to it.

Several members expressed the opinion that it would be advantageous to remove the place of meeting to the Bluff, and the matter was finally left for the consideration of the Elders.

YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Fire Brigade was held on Thursday afternoon. There were present Messrs. Jas. Walter, W. B. Walter, J. P. Morrison, E. Flint Kilby, and J. D. Hutchison, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Jas. Walter was voted to the chair.

THE REPORT.

The report and accounts were as follow:—

REMARKS ON ACCOUNTS.—During the year, the contributions from the various Fire Offices have amounted to Yen 3,005.00, and the Policy Fees paid in to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank by the Agents of the Fire Insurance Companies amount to Yen 3,785.00. These figures show respectively an increase of Yen 50.00 and Yen 1,608.50 compared with the Brigade's income for 1897, but a portion of the latter sum really belongs to fees for the previous year. The Working Account shows a slight increase in expenditure over that of the previous twelve months, but this is fully accounted for by the additional expense attached to the keeping up of the new Hose-reel Station on Lot No. 107, Settlement.

WATCHMEN AND PATROL.—The usual look-out at the Tower has been kept up all through the year, while the Patrol-men have been on duty during the regular winter months. The Hose-reel Station referred to in last Report has proved to be of very valuable assistance to the Brigade.

FIRES, &c.—The full particulars given below show that the Brigade men have answered in all 13 calls during the year. The Waterworks water supply has been good at all fires in the Settlement.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Yokohama Fire Brigade, Yokohama,
January 1st, 1898.

To the Fire Brigade Committee,
Gentlemen,—I have the honour to present the following report of the work of the Yokohama Fire Brigade during the year 1898.

The number of calls for Fires, or supposed Fires, have amounted during the year to 13. Of these in the Settlement 6 slight, 2 false alarms, and 1 kitchen destroyed.

On Bluff 1 house destroyed. On Native Bluff, 1 house destroyed.

In Native Town 2 godowns destroyed, 1 shed slight, and 4 houses destroyed.

The causes as reported were as follows, viz:—

SETTLEMENT.	
Unknown	3
Overheat of Fire Gate	1
Overheat of Grille	2
False Alarm	2
Kerosene Lamp	2
Overheat of Stove Pipe	1

BLUFF.	
Unknown	1

NATIVE TOWN.	
Unknown	2

NATIVE BLUFF.	
Negligence of Servants	1

Total	13
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The figures above only refer to calls which involved the turning out of the Firemen, Fire Engines, Hose Reels, &c., belonging to the Yokohama Fire Brigade.

I beg to place on record that the Fire Brigade have worked most amicably with the Police and Waterworks authorities. I think it but right to mention Mr. S. Ikariyama, Inspector in Charge of Settlement Police Station, for his urbanity at all times and his endeavours to have his force in unity with ours.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,
N. MORGIN,
Supt., Yokohama Fire Brigade.

LIST OF FIRES DURING THE YEAR 1898.

SETTLEMENT.		Damage estimated at
January 1st—No. 119 (Settlement) Private Residence, Slight	100	
February 7th—No. 235, Club Germania, Very slight	200	
March 6th—No. 179 B, Central Hotel, Slight	400	
April 5th—No. 183, Stone Godown, Contents partly destroyed	6,500	
April 12th—No. 114, Creekside, Alcohol in the open	300	
June 7th—No. 149 (China Town) Restaurant, Slight	50	
December 22nd—No. 256, Outhouse, Kitchen destroyed	800	

BLUFF CONCESSION.	
August 28th—No. 217, Private Dwelling, House and contents entirely destroyed	8,000

NATIVE TOWN.

February 10th—Yokohama Duck Co.'s Premises, Engine sheds, &c., destroyed.	
August 17th—52, Honcho-dori, 4 Houses entirely destroyed.	

ENGINES, &c., AVAILABLE AT FIRES.

"Relief" steamer, Shand and Mason, 350 gallons per minute.	
"Victoria" steamer, Shand and Mason, 400 gallons per minute worked by the Brigade, stationed at the Brigade Station.	
6 Hose Reels.	
6 Stand Pipes.	
15 Lengths Leather Hose, about 600 feet.	
60 Lengths Canvas Hose, about 3 000 feet now in use.	
2,000 feet new spare Hose. All 2½ inch.	
1 Police Ladder, Fire Escape and combined Ambulance from Merryweather and Sons, London.	
3 Ladder Trucks, each with 6 lengths scaling ladders, 10 fire hooks, axes, 1-teel grappling-iron with 100 ft. of rope, and ambulance.	
3 Small French Manual Engines, each 17 gallons, 6 men.	
1 Small American Manual, 44 gallons per min., 10 men with 200 feet hose, at General Hospital, Bluff.	
1 Shand and Mason's Large Manual, 134 gallons per min., 30 men, with 1 lengths 3 in.	

canvas hose, 500 feet, stationed on the Bluff, in the U.S. Naval Hospital's compound.

1 Small Shand and Mason's Manual, and 1 French small Manual Engine, each 17 gallons per min., 6 men, with about 500 ft. of Hose, at the Bluff Station.

6 Extincteurs, (Dicks' Patent,) at the Bluff and Public Hall.

COMMITTEE.

The present Committee, consisting of Messrs. JAMES DODDS, J. D. HUTCHISON, E. FLINT KILBY, C. K. MARSHALL MARTIN, JAMES WALTER, and W. B. WALTER, beg respectfully to tender their resignations.

Yokohama, 30th January, 1899.

IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE HON SEC. AND TREASURER.

DR.	
1898. Jan. 1st.	
To Balance from 1897 (Due H. & S. Bank)	Yen. 263.66

WORKING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR.

1898. Dec. 31st.		Yen.
To Supt. Margin, Wages, 12 months at Yen 115.00	1,380.00	
" European Engineer, Wages, 12 months at Yen 100.00	1,200.00	
" European Foreman, Wages, 8 months at Yen 30.00	240.00	
" Japanese Engineer, Wages for 12 months	180.00	
" Japanese Assist. Engineer (3) for 12 months	288.00	
" Japanese Coolie Foreman, for 12 months	84.00	
" Japanese Tower Watchmen (2) for 12 months	228.00	
" Japanese Patrolmen (4) Wages for 6 months	168.00	
" Bluff Station, 1 Foreman and 2 Firemen, Oil, &c., Yen 25.00 per month for 12 months	300.00	
" Hose-reel Station No. 107, 1 Foreman, and 2 men, &c., for 12 months	319.00	4,387.00

" Clothing and Uniforms for Coolies	226.40	
" Coals, Oil, Fire Wood and Sundries	81.66	308.06
" Repairs to Standpipes, &c.	26.00	
" Shand Mason & Co., for Lubricators and rivets £3 11-3 at 2/6	35.08	61.08

" Repairs to Coolies' quarters	59.00	
" Ground Rent 228 Settlement	87.28	
" Ground Rent Bluff Station ground 2 years	3.74	91.02
" Gasworks account, Gas for 12 months	166.78	
" Waterworks account, Water for 12 months	71.22	
" Advertising and Printing	17.00	
" Balance carried forward to 1899	1,453.97	

	6,818.79	
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1898. CR.

Mar. 31st. By Subscriptions collected from the Fire Offices for the year 1898	3,005.00	
Dec. 31st. By Police fees paid in to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank during the year	3,785.00	
" By Interest on H. & S. Bank current account for the year	28.79	

	6,818.79	
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E. & O. E.

J. D. HUTCHISON, Hon. Sec. & Treas.
Examined with Vouchers and found correct.
E. FLINT KILBY, Auditor.
Yokohama, Jan. 30th, 1899.

The CHAIRMAN, commenting on the report and accounts, said there was a substantial increase on the amount of subscriptions collected and of policy fees paid into the bank as compared with the previous year, but part of that money actually belonged to the last account. There was a slight increase in the working account owing to the formation of a hose reel station at No 107, Settlement.

On the motion of Mr. MORRISON, seconded by Mr. E. FLINT KILBY, the report and accounts were adopted.

As no member of the public was present the Committee had perforce to continue in office.

THE BLUFF WATER SUPPLY.

The CHAIRMAN said it had been suggested that the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer should communicate with the Water Works authorities and ascertain whether anything was being done to supply the Bluff with water, which was very necessary both for fire and for household purposes. In reply to a letter from Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Asada, Supt. of the Water Works, wrote: "I am in receipt of yours dated the 8th inst. regarding the question of water supply to the Bluff Concession. In reply I beg to inform you that the extending of water supply to the Bluff has now been determined upon and that we can commence such supply about the end of 1901."

Mr. W. B. WALTER thought it would be very desirable to have the supply of water to the Bluff expedited. Possibly later on it might be arranged to have it on the Bluff earlier than the end of 1901.

COMPLIMENTARY.

The CHAIRMAN spoke of the debt the community owed to Mr. Hutchinson for his services, and, in replying, Mr. Hutchinson said Mr. Flint Kilby had promised to look after the affairs of the Brigade during his temporary absence, Mr. Marshall taking the routine duty of attending to the accounts.

LANGFELDT & CO., LIMITED.

The half-yearly meeting of this company was held on Thursday afternoon at Keil's Building. Mr. J. F. Lowder in the chair. Those present were Messrs. F. H. Bull, A. C. Read, C. Weinberger (Director), A. Langfeldt, F. Grosser, Eckhart, J. Tannor, Clark, G. R. Bennett, H. W. Fraser, Arnold, E. B. Jones, Bergmann, and J. Feicke, Secretary.

THE DEATH OF MR. KEIL.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, referred to the death of Mr. Keil, with whom, he said, he had been intimately associated from the moment he took up the idea of promoting the purchase of the business of Langfeldt and Mayer in the year 1890 to his death, having served with him continuously on the board of directors during that time. Mr. Keil's character presented many facets, each giving evidence by its individual brilliancy to the purity of the gem from whose depths its lustre was derived. Its chief features were self-denial, and active benevolence. A heart, ever overflowing with love and sympathy, and pity, and desire to succour the helpless and afflicted,—a large that neither envy nor anything that was petty or mean ever found entrance into his thoughts; an enthusiasm in all he undertook, which never cooled, and which, whether it originated in that catholic spirit of charity which was his life's impulse, or whether it had for its object the promotion of some business plan or arrangement, was so unselfish that it carried everyone who came near it into its irresistible vortex; a hatred of dishonesty,—a total suppression of self,—such were some of the prominent characteristics of his nature. In business matters, a huge capacity for painstaking work, a store of energy, a power of concentration, a mastery of principle, and a love of accuracy and of detail. "It's all right," Keil says so," was a sufficient assurance for most men. Among the shareholders, and those connected with that company's business there was no one who could wholly fill his place; and yet in their Manager, they had a man on whom Mr. Keil at all times placed unquestioning reliance, and who was deserving of the utmost confidence. His knowledge and experience, extending as they had over the whole period of the existence of the Company, and derived, as they had been, from the closest association with Mr. Keil in the management of the business of the Company during that time, make him eminently fitted to continue to carry it on. This he said for the express purpose of allaying any fears that might be entertained as to the future, owing to the loss they had sustained; and he was certain that if Mr. Keil were still with them he would echo the assurance he (the Chairman) gave them that though Mr. Keil's loss was a serious one, it was not irreparable as long as they were able to retain the services of Mr. Feicke.

THE COMPANY'S POSITION.

The affairs of the company were in such a position that there was absolutely no more ground for anxiety now than there was during the period to which the report and accounts referred, and in order that there might be independent testimony on these and other points, Messrs. Weinberger and A. C. Read were, two days ago, invited to join the Board of Directors. They at once proceeded to make careful inspection of the books, and of the stock, and close enquiry into the affairs generally, and into the method of managing the business; and the result was that they were entirely satisfied, and joined in the assurance

which he (the chairman) had just given them. Of course it was not possible to say how soon they might again be able to look for such exceptional dividends as had been distributed of recent years. That depended on matters entirely beyond their control. But they had lost none of their business connections, and none of their ability to benefit by them; they were forming new relations and hoped to form others; and for the moment they were waiting, without anxiety, the right time for the profitable investment of that large portion of their working capital which, as the accounts showed, was temporarily lying idle for lack of opportunity to turn it over. Looking at the statement of assets and liabilities as on the 31st December, 1898, they would see that the first item was an asset consisting of stock of merchandise and shipchandlery, amounting to yen 108,047.37. Considering that this Company commenced business on a capital of 100,000 dollars, they might suppose that this was rather a large stock to carry. But the business had been increasing ever since they purchased it, and three or four years ago it was necessary they should increase that capital by yen 50,000. With regard to the valuation of the stock, it had been valued for the purpose of this account by their auditor, who, having fallen ill during the audit, was assisted by Mr. H. W. Fraser, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. They together had inspected the stock of merchandise, and he, the chairman, was able to assure them that not only upon the report which was before them, but also upon the inspection which had been made recently, when the new Directors joined the Board, that the stock of merchandise and shipchandlery was in first-rate condition, and the valuation before them was at the cost price of the goods laid down in Yokohama. The plant and fixtures and so forth called for no comment, but the sundry debtors and cash in Bank, representing nearly the amount of their working capital, was lying there waiting for an opportunity to invest. On the other side, turning to the liabilities,—the capital was 1,500 shares at 100 dollars, carried out at yen 150,000. That was to say, they had taken one yen as the equivalent of one dollar, but it was worth a great deal more, and if that figure were carried out it would show a great deal more favourably. It was better, however, to do as they had hitherto done and carry out the capital into yen at par, instead of altering it every time according to the exchange of the day. The general expenses amounted to yen 10,041.76. In looking over the account for the past eight years, the general expenses had hardly varied. They began with 8,000 dollars and they were now 10,000 in consequence of certain increases they had made from time to time in the salaries of the staff. The general expenses included salaries and wages, and it might be better, perhaps, in another half year to separate the general expenses from salaries. The result of the account was that the gross profit on trade, instead of what they had been accustomed to in recent years, was only yen 17,898.15, and therefore they were only able to recommend a dividend for the half-year of yen 7,500; but if they would look back to the past they would see there were many half-years very much worse than that. In the last half of '91, the whole of '92, and '93, they sometimes were able to divide 4,000 dollars of net profit, and sometimes 6,000 and sometimes 8,000. Then they suddenly made a jump of yen 25,000, and now for this last half-year they had come down to yen 7,500, which was by no means the lowest limit they had touched, and by no means, taking into consideration all the circumstances, a bad dividend to be able to declare for the half-year. In fact, he considered it a very good dividend, and if they added it to the dividend for the preceding half year, they would see the company had earned 35 per cent. He had to make these remarks, because he was told there was a little dissatisfaction at the accounts, but he saw no reason why there should be, except that they would all like to earn more than they had earned. But it had not been owing to any defect in the management of the Company, or falling off or loss in their legitimate business. They would see in the report that Mr. Meyerdicks had been invited to rejoin the Board in consequence of the resignation of Mr. Reiz. The latter was invited to rejoin the Board, but he had since then written to say it was quite impossible he should pay the requisite attention to their interests. Mr. Bull and himself, the Chairman, retired by rotation, and it would be necessary for them, therefore, either to re-elect them or not if they pleased. The Directors had much pleasure in recommending the retention of the services of Mr. Hutchinson as auditor.

Mr. BENNETT—I have much pleasure in proposing the adoption of the accounts, also the dividend.

Mr. TANNOR seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

DIRECTORS AND AUDITOR.

On the proposition of Mr. H. W. FRASER, seconded by Mr. BERGMAN, Messrs. Lowder and Bull were reappointed Directors, and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN Mr. Hutchinson was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN then thanked the shareholders present for their attendance and the proceedings terminated.

Report of the Directors, and Statement of Accounts, to be submitted at the Sixteenth Semi-Annual Meeting of Shareholders, held at No. 61, Main Street, Yokohama, on Thursday, the 9th day of February, 1899, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and Profit and Loss Account for the half-year ended the 31st day of December, 1898, accompany this Report.

The Net Profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 30th June, 1898, and after providing for General Expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, Depreciation, bad and doubtful Debts, and the rectification of an omission in the accounts as rendered on the 30th June last, presently to be explained, amounts to..... Yen. 9,506.43 which it is proposed to apply as follows:—
In payment of a Dividend of 5 yen..... Yen. 7,500.00
per share for the half-year..... 7,500.00
Bonus to employees..... 800.00
Balance to new account..... 1,206.43

Your Directors have to express great regret for an inadvertent omission, when submitting the accounts to the 30th June last, to provide for meeting a liability incurred during the first half of the year, but not falling due to be paid until the second half. Owing to this omission, the moneys which would have been available for division during the last-named period, have been reduced by the sum of 6,400 yen, though the dividend of 25 yen per share for the whole year is unaffected.

Mr. Meyerdicks has been invited to rejoin the Board in consequence of the resignation of Mr. Reiz.

Messrs. Bull and Lowder retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

The Directors have much pleasure in recommending the retention of the services of Mr. Hutchinson as Auditor for the current year.

J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.
O. KEIL, }

Yokohama, 25th January, 1899
Langfeldt and Company, Limited.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON DEC. 31ST, 1898.

Assets.	
Stock of Merchandise, Ship Chandlery, etc.	Yen. 108,047.37
Plant, Fixtures and Furniture	3,000.00
Cash in hand	2,368.50
Fire Insurance Policies	470.58
11. S. B. Co. Ltd. Capital	34,814.02
Sundry Debts	20,473.89

Liabilities.	
Capital, 1,500 Shares at \$100	Yen. 150,000.00
Sundry Local Creditors	6,594.41
Bills Payable to Bank	3,973.52
	159,667.93
Balance, Profit	9,506.43
	169,174.36

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31ST, 1898.

Dr.		Yen.	
To General Expenses	10,041.76		
„ Rent	1,477.25		
„ Fire Insurance	851.82		
„ Plant, Fixtures, etc. written off	234.66		
„ Directors' Fees	575.00		
„ Auditor's Fees	150.00		
„ Bad and doubtful debts	881.12		
„ Balance, available for division to be dealt with as follows:—		9,506.43	
Dividend at Y. 5 per share	7,500.00		
Bonus to employees	800.00		
Rest carried forward to new account	1,206.43	9,506.43	6,506.43
			23,718.04

	Cr.	Yen.
July 1.—By Balance forward from		
June 30th, 1898		5,498 43
Dec. 31.—By Gross Profit on trade ..		17,898 15
„ Share transfer fees		33 00
„ Interest		288 46
		23,718 04
1898.		
Dec. 31.—By Balance		1,206 43
E. & O. E.		
Yokohama, December 31st, 1898.		
J. F. LUDWIG, } Directors.		
O. KAIL, }		
J. FRICK, Secretary.		
I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.		
E. HUTCHINSON, Auditor.		
Yokohama, January 30th, 1899.		

THE NAGASAKI HOTEL, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors of the above Company presented at the fifth half yearly Ordinary General Meeting of shareholders:—

The Directors have now the pleasure to lay before the Shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the six months ended 31st December, 1898.

Taking into consideration the disadvantage under which the Hotel was opened and also the working shown during December, the Directors have every reason to anticipate good results in the future.

In accordance with the Articles of Association of the Company, Mr. Ringer retires by rotation from the post of Director, but offers himself for re-election.

WORKING ACCOUNT FROM SEPTEMBER 1ST, TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1898.

To General Expenses, includ-	Yen.
ing Wines and Stores..	59,906 25
Less Stock on Hand.....	35,309 45
	24,596 80
Directors' Fees.....	250 67
Auditor's Fee	150 00
Proportion Fire Insurance	817 31
Interest	383 27
Rent	117 11
Transfer fees.....	29 50
	26,344 36

By Receipts	23,608 19
Balance Loss	2,736 17
	26,344 36

BALANCE SHEET TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1898.

	LIABILITIES.	Yen.
To Capital.....		130,000 00
Debitures		170 000 00
Messrs. Holme, Ringer and Co.....		93,283 33
Sundry Creditors		4,591 41
		397,874 74

	ASSETS.	Yen.
By Ground		54,250 00
Building		184 050 95
Furniture.....		70,013 14
Electric Light Plant		27 663 36
Refrigerating Plant		3 873 28
Wines and Stores on hand		35 309 45
Spare Building Material on hand ..		4,136 50
Spare Furniture on hand.....		514 00
Bills receivable		1,400 00
Interest on Debitures to January 1st, 1899.....		5,950 00
Sundry Debtors.....		2,478 24
Fire Insurance Policies		1,267 34
Rent		86 39
Cash in Bank and on hand.....		4,146 92
Balance Loss		2,736 17
		397,874 47

On Thursday, on the application of Mr. Litchfield, counsel for the plaintiff, with the consent of other counsel, His Honour Judge Wilkinson further adjourned the hearing of the insurance case of Ehirambhoy Pabney v. The China Fire Insurance Company and the China Traders' Insurance Company to Feb. 21st.

Mr. Os Seibei, President of the Mikage Bank in Kyoto, has committed suicide by cutting his throat with a sword. He is supposed to have been temporarily insane.

TELEGRAMS.

SERIOUS NEWS FROM MANILA.

NATIVES ATTACK AMERICAN TROOPS.

DEFEATED WITH HEAVY LOSS.

A private telegram received in Yokohama yesterday states that the natives made a general attack on the American troops in the Philippines on Sunday, but were repulsed with heavy loss. They are said to be quite demoralised.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY OVERWORKED.

London, Feb. 3.

President McKinley is suffering from fatigue as a result of overwork.

ESTERHAZY DECAMPS.

Major Count Esterhazy has refused to continue his evidence before the Court of Cassation and has gone to Holland, as he was threatened with arrest on the charge of fraud.

THE SAMOAN QUESTION.

THE "TIMES" HOPEFUL.

The *Times* in a leader confidently hopes that the Samoan troubles will only tend to bind Great Britain, the United States, and Germany closer together, as such a contingency will prove the surest guarantee to the world's peace.

NEWS OF THE OUTBREAK CONFIRMED IN LONDON.

London, Feb. 4.

Since January 25th there have been fourteen hours of severe fighting in Manila. The Americans carried two positions and advanced their lines, losing twenty killed and 125 wounded in so doing. The Filipino loss was heavy.

SMALL PROSPECT FOR PEACE TREATY.

Despatches from Washington state that there is but a small prospect of securing the requisite majority in the Senate in favour of ratifying the Peace Treaty.

THE CHINESE LOAN.

The Chinese Loan was issued on 2nd February, at the price of 97, and the list closes on the seventh.

London, Feb. 8.

The Chinese loan has been covered ten times over.

THE PLAGUE AT PORT LOUIS.

No fresh cases of plague are reported at Port Louis.

THE PHILIPPINE CRISIS.

HOSTILITIES BEGUN.

A report has reached New York that hostilities have begun in the Philippines and that Manila has been attacked.

VIGOROUS OFFENSIVE ATTACK DECIDED UPON.

London, Feb. 8.

The Washington Cabinet has decided on a vigorous offensive attack on Iloilo and on making endeavours to capture the Filipino Government of Malolos.

CUBANS TO DISBAND.

GOMEZ OFFERS CO-OPERATION.

London, Feb. 4.

A telegram from Havana says that Gen. Gomez has cabled to President McKinley assuring his co-operation in disbanding

Cuban soldiers and in distributing the three million dollars offered by America to enable them to return to their homes.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

FURTHER ENQUIRY ON PARTIALITY CHARGES.

The Government has ordered a supplementary enquiry into the Beaurepaire charges against the Judges of the Civil Section of the Court of Cassation.

MAZEAU'S REPORT THROWN OUT.

London, Feb. 7.

The Committee of the Chamber of Deputies appointed to investigate Judge Mazeau's report on the Beaurepaire charge of partiality, has rejected it on the ground that it is not convincing.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION.

ITS CONSUMMATION NOW IN SIGHT.

London, Feb. 4.

At a conference, the Premiers of the Australian colonies have settled all the disputed points regarding the federation scheme.

PEACE TREATY RATIFIED.

NARROW MAJORITY.

A Washington despatch says that the Senate has ratified the Peace Treaty by a majority of three.

LIBERAL LEADERSHIP.

CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN ELECTED.

The Right Hon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has been elected leader of the Liberal party.

NEW BISHOP OF OSAKA.

Rev. J. H. Foss of Kobe has been consecrated Bishop of Osaka.

OBITUARIES.

PRINCE ALFRED AND COUNT CAPRIVI.

The death is announced of Prince Alfred, Duke of Saxe Coburg-Gotha; and of General Count Leo von Caprivi, ex-German Chancellor.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT OPENS.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

London, Feb. 8.

The parliament has opened its session. The Queen's speech intimates that England's relations with the Powers continue friendly; and refers to the brilliant conduct of the Omdurman Campaign and its pride in acknowledging the distinguished bravery of the British and Egyptian troops. The Queen's Government gladly participates in the conference summoned by the Czar to consider the possibility of limiting the burdensome armaments, although unable to concur in all the resolutions concerning the proposed "anarchist conference." The speech further intimates that some requisite amendments of present laws will be submitted to the Parliament; dwells with great satisfaction on the Cape's offer of a contribution to the Royal Navy; and announces the Government's Bill regarding measures dealing with education, and enabling workmen to purchase dwellings.

LORD SALISBURY ON CHINA'S FUTURE.

NOT IN THE HANDS OF ENGLAND.

London, Feb. 9.

The House of Lords voted on the Address from the Throne. Lord Salisbury, referring to the situation in China, said that her future was not in the hands of Great Britain; but that England must deal with the Chinese Government with growing concern, securing the execution of treaties safeguarding the interests of the British. He did not contemplate the

acquisition of territory, or the dismemberment of Eastern Empires. His Lordship added that England's advantages in these parts had been greater in the past year than before, and were also greater compared with those of other nations.

HAVAS TELEGRAMS.

(FROM THE "ECHO DE CHINE.")

Paris, January 27.

M. Brion, retired naval paymaster, is appointed Director of Civil Affairs in Indo China. The widow of Major Henry (who committed suicide in prison) is prosecuting M. Reinach in the Assize Court for defamation. M. Reinach's lawyer has demanded the adjournment of the case until after the re-hearing of the Dreyfus case, which will throw light on the matter.

January 28.

The report of M. Mareau on the Beaurepaire incident does not ask for any disciplinary penalties against the magistrates. The enquiry concludes that it would be unwise to confide the revision of the judgment to the Criminal Section alone. The Government will submit a project referring the adjudication in the revision of the matters relating to the Dreyfus case to all the sections of the Court of Cassation combined.

The Assize Court has refused the adjournment of Mrs. Henry's case against Reinach. The latter has declared his intention to appeal. The Assize Court has adjourned the arguments until the Court of Cassation has given its decision on the appeal. There has been some squabbles outside.

PRINCE HENRY NOT TO GO TO BANGKOK.

The *Orientalische Lloyd* has received a telegram stating that the German Emperor has wired to his brother Prince Henry of Prussia, ordering him, pending the settlement of the recent dispute between France and Siam, not to proceed to Bangkok, where H.R.H. was to return the visit which H. M. the King of Siam paid to the Kaiser at Berlin about eighteen months ago.

(FROM THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.")

NEWS FROM SZECHUAN.

Chungking, Jan. 27.

The missionary who was attacked by soldiers near Hochou arrived here to-day.

Père Fleury is now quite recovered.

The Taotai here has been replaced, during the absence of the English and French Consuls, by the Taotai who was disgraced here during the riots of 1886.

All is quiet at Chungking.

(FROM THE "KOREA HERALD")

THE BANK CASE AT SHANGHAI. BURGOWNE SENTENCED.

Shanghai, Feb. 4.

J. W. H. Burgoyne has been convicted of obtaining 20,000 taels from the Russo-Chinese Bank under false pretences and has been sentenced to 15 months imprisonment.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

THE SHANGHAI DEFALCATION CASE.

Shanghai, January 31.

J. W. H. Burgoyne, charged with obtaining from the Russo-China Bank the sum of Tls. 85,000 on false pretences, has been found guilty, but sentence is postponed pending the argument of a point of law on Saturday.

THE REBELLION IN ANHUI.

Shanghai, January 31.

The Anhui Rebels, having defeated General Kuo at Kuyang, are now attacking Kuo's headquarters at Shouchn.

(FROM JAPANESE SOURCES.)

KOREAN OFFICIAL.

Nagasaki, Feb. 9.

To-day Mr. Li Kee yong, ex Councilor of the Korean Court, arrived here by the steamer *Genkai Maru*. He is to leave this afternoon for Tokyo.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 406.

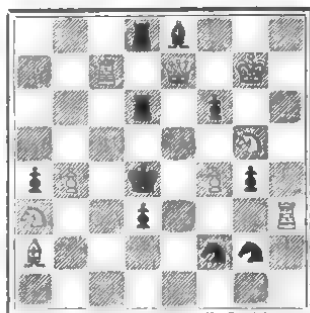
WHITE. BLACK.
1—Kt to K8 1—B to B4
2—Kt to B6 mate if 1—B to K3
2—B takes B mate if 1—B to K4
2—Q takes B mate if 1—B to B5 [P (R5)
2—R takes B mate if 1—B to Kt6 or R takes
2—B to B3 mate if 1—B takes B or N to
2—R to B4 mate if 1—R to B6 (Kt6
2—B takes R mate if 1—R takes P (K6)
2—Kt to B2 mate if 1—Kt to B3
2—Q to Kt-q mate if 1—Kt (Kt5) any other
2—Q takes R mate if 1—Kt (R7) moves
2—R to B3 mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Voila, Maer, and M. J.

PROBLEM No. 409.

By J. F. TRACY, Bridgton, Me.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

Game No. 476.

THE SHAWALTER-JANOWSKY MATCH.

This match, which was postponed on account of the death of Judge Shawalter, a brother of the first-named player, was resumed at the beginning of January, when the tenth game was played. Janowski, having the move, opened with a Ruy Lopez and obtained a draw after forty moves had been made. The score now stands: Janowski 4, Shawalter 2, drawn 4.

SEVENTH GAME.

QUEENS GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Shawalter.	Black—Janowsky.
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK.
1 P Q4 P Q4	21 B Kt3 BxRP
2 P QB4 P K3	22 R (B q) K
3 Kt QB3 Kt KB3	sq (c)
4 Kt B3 P B4	23 Kt Q q Q K5 (d)
5 PxQP KPxP	24 B K5 Kt K5
6 B K5 B K3	25 P B3 P B4 (e)
7 P K3 Kt QB3 (a)	26 PxKt QPxP
8 PxP BxP	27 RxP (f) PxR
9 B Q3 P KR3	28 Q P QxRch (g)
10 B R4 C. des	29 QxQ R H8
11 Castles R K2	30 Q K4 (h) R Kch
12 R B q Q R4	31 K B2 R B qch
13 B Kt-q KR Q q	32 K K3 R KB4
14 Kt Q4 KtxKt	33 R KtP (B4)xB
15 PxKt Q K5	34 Q R7ch K B-q (i)
16 Q Q2 QR B q	35 Q R8ch K K2
17 P OR3 QR4	36 PxR K KB8 (k)
18 KR K-q R H3	37 K K6 B B2
19 Q Q3 R (Q q) Q [B q]	38 BxB RxB
20 R K3 P Kt4 (b)	39 Q QK8 Resigns

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kameny, in *The Ledger*, Philadelphia.

(a) In the fifth game of the match Q Kt to Q2 was played. The text move is more aggressive.

(b) Endangers the King's side.

(c) He could not well play P takes B. Black answers Kt to K5, regaining the piece, with a decided advantage in position.

(d) Better perhaps was B to B8. Another play for Black was Kt to K5, which might have been answered by R (K3) to K2 and P to KR3.

(e) He could not retreat the Kt, for Q to R7 ch would have led to a winning attack. Black being two Pawns ahead, was quite justified in selecting this continuation, for the three Pawns will at least make up for the loss of the Kt. He, however, overlooked the brilliant continuation White had on hand, which leads to a speedy win.

(f) Brilliant and sound play. By sacrificing the Rook, White opens the diagonals, thus establishing a winning attack.

(g) He had hardly any other defence. White threatened Q to R7 ch, as well as Q to Kt6 ch, leading to a mate. The text play is quite promising.

(h) Excellent play. White can well afford to sacrifice the Kt, for Q to Kt6 or Q to R7 ch will win easily. The move prevents Black's intended R takes Kt and R to B8 continuation.

(i) Necessary, since Q to Kt7 mate was threatening, as well as Q takes B.

(k) He could not capture the Bishop on account of Q to R7 ch, followed by Q takes R.

GAME No. 477.

MORPHY AGAINST A WHOLE CLUB.

The following game was played by Morphy blindfold against the whole Versailles Chess Club.

FRANCE DEFENCE.

White—Morphy.	Black—Versailles.
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK.
1 P K4 P K3	15 P KKt4 Kt B3
2 P Q4 P Q4	16 P KR3 R Bq
3 PxP PxP	17 P R3 R K-q
4 Kt KB3 Kt KB3	18 Kt K2 P KR4
5 B Q3 B Q3	19 Kt B4 K KR2
6 Castles Castles	20 KxB PxKt
7 Kt B3 P B4	21 RxB BxB (a)
8 PxP BxP	22 RxBch KxB-q
9 B KK5 B K3	23 QxP R B2
10 Q Q2 Kt B3	24 KxB KR K2
11 QR Q-q B K2	25 Q R6ch K K-q
12 RR K-q P OR3	26 R K8h and mates
13 Q B4 Kt KR4	in three moves
14 Q KR4 P KKt3	

NOTE.

(a) Versailles had figured, no doubt, that at this point Morphy would have to sacrifice the R to save the Q, but his next move awakes them.

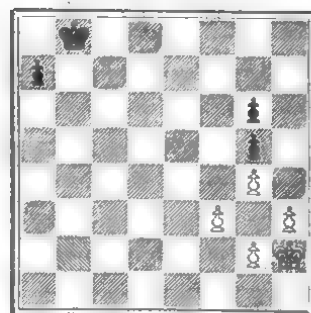
THE PLEASURES OF CHESS.

Thou knowest not, friend, the joys that Caissa yields

To those who do her inmost parts explore;
O sweeter far are they than ancient lore
To him who travels in poetic fields;
Or the stern strife so dear to him who wields
The patriotic sword. Thou knowest not friend,
Nor is it always given unto the wise
To know her great and varied possibilities,
Resources vast, and riches without end.
Oft o'er her ordered squares have we resolved
Plots vast and deep as e'er were thought or penned,
And subtler strategy than e'er evolved
From out the brain of him whose mighty plan
O'erwhelmed the Gallic legions at Sedan.

END GAME.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and draw.

The following is the answer to this interesting end game.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to B4	1—K to B2 (best)
2—P takes P	2—Any
3—K to Kt3	3—Any
4—K to R4	4—Any
5—P to Kt3, and there is an unavoidable stale mate.	

FAMOUS MEN WHO PLAYED CHESS.

Walter Pulitzer concludes his very interesting paper on "Some Famous Men Who Played Chess" in *The American Chess Magazine* (December), from which we take the following:—

"To Henry Thomas Buckle, the brilliant author of the 'History of Civilisation,' belongs the distinction of being one of the fine Chess-players of his time. Had he not already been noted as a historian, his name would still be enrolled high on

Per Japanese steamer *Tosa Maru*, for London via ports:—Miss M. Mead, Mr. K. Hadger, Lieut. Com. T. Takagi, Chief Surgeon U. Kadohara, Chief Paymaster R. Sano, Eng. T. Fukunaka, and Mr. T. Yokoi, in cabin; Petty officers T. Kuroda and K. Ojani, Mr. M. Yamashita, Mr. K. Tanabe, and Mr. K. Matsumoto, in second class; 45 crew 1 J.N., 16 Japanese, and 4 Europeans, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. V. F. Deacon, Mr. C. Junghenn, Mr. Albert Lowles, Mr. Arthur M. Wilson, Dr. Armstrong, U.S.N., Lieut. W. A. Gil, Mr. W. F. Cary, Mrs. Cary, Mr. H. E. Gunn, Mr. E. J. Bates, Mr. A. V. Johnson, Mr. W. S. Webb, Mr. J. Cogswell, Mr. L. H. Nolte, Mr. E. H. Dunn, U.S.N., Mr. R. Farshaw, Mr. E. C. Crosby, Mr. C. R. Joy, Mr. Mowat, Captain Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, daughter and son, Mr. James Creelman, Mr. E. J. Hughes, Mr. G. M. Ford, Mr. M. J. Beattie, Miss Muser, Miss Copmann, Mr. B. Hyde Pearson, Mr. C. F. Barber, Rev. B. C. Henry, Miss B. Nevill, Mrs. Deway, Mr. A. B. Deway, and Mrs. A. S. Richardson, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. W. Franks, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wilson, Mr. J. Bortista, child and infant, Mr. A. Hartmann, Mr. T. A. Singleton, and Mr. B. R. Berrick, in cabin; 3 Chinese, and 2 Europeans in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Rev. E. R. Woodman, Rev. C. E. Rice, Mr. H. W. Anderson, and Miss E. Anderson, in cabin; Mr. C. Masague, Mr. M. Gabrel, Mr. T. Shimada, Mr. F. Negishi, Mr. Y. Imai, yama, and Mrs. H. Uyehara, in second class; 13 Japanese, 2 Europeans, and 5 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, for Sydney and Melbourne via ports:—Mr. J. R. Kirby, Mrs. G. J. Melhuish, Mr. J. P. da Costa, and Master da Costa, Mr. A. C. Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Helmer, Mr. B. M. Stuebel, Mr. W. D. Wentworth, Mr. H. Worbe, Mr. F. W. Hill, Mr. O. D. Jevand, Mr. G. D. Poli, Mrs. F. B. Pulteney, and Baron Hisaya Iwasaki, in cabin; Mr. Y. Masumi, Mr. K. Ota, and Mr. T. Miyajima, in second class; 5 Japanese, and 3 Europeans, in steerage.

CARGOES.

Following were silk shippers per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco Feb. 4:—

	Bales.
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	205
Sieber & Co.	106
Otto Reimers & Co.	87
Bavler & Co.	85
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	92
Middleton & Smith	55
Olivier, de Langenhagen & Co.	44
Vivanti Bros.	25
Kiito Shokwai.	332
The Doshisha	62

Total 1,093

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw silk for Europe, 546 bales; Waste silk for Europe, 46 bales.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised to on the berth:—

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, 11th Feb., the "GALIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, Inland Sea, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, 13th Feb., the "EMPEROR OF JAPAN."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, (Inland Sea), Nagasaki, and Shanghai, about 14th January, the "NIPPON MARU."—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

For MARSEILLES, via ports and Shanghai, 15th Feb., at a.m., the "SYDNEY."—M. M. Co.

For SEATTLE, WASH., via Victoria, B.C., 15th Feb., the "KINSHU MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, Shimonsaki and Nagasaki, 15th Feb., at Noon, the "SATSUMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, 17th Feb., at a.m., the "HOHENZOLLERN."—Norddeutscher Lloyd.

For MARSEILLES, London, & Antwerp, via Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, Penang, Colombo, and Port Said, 18th Feb., at Noon, the "HITACHI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	F. Feb. 20
Canada, etc.	C. P. R. Co.	Ken. of Japan	M. Feb. 23
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Feb. 23
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Feb. 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Feb. 23
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. Feb. 26
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. Feb. 27
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	—	W. Feb. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Ken. of India	Th. Feb. 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. Feb. 26
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Mar. 2

- Left Kobe on the 9th inst.
- Left Nagasaki on the 28 inst.
- Left San Francisco on the 28th Jan.
- Left Hongkong on the 28th inst.
- Left San Francisco on the 28th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Feb. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Ken. of Japan	M. Feb. 23
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Feb. 24
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Sydney	W. Feb. 25
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamashiro Maru	W. Feb. 25
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Feb. 27
America	T. K. K.	Hongkong Maru	Sa. Feb. 28
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Feb. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Feb. 28
Canada, etc.	C. P. R. Co.	Ken. of India	F. Feb. 29
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu. Feb. 29
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	F. Mar. 2

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

There is still little movement. Prices nominally as last week.

COTTON FIBRE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirts—84 yds. 35 inches	\$2.35 to 2.85
Grey Shirts—66 yds. 35 inches	2.85 to 3.35
1. Cloth—70 yds. 35 inches	1.80 to 2.00
Indigo Shirts—12 yards, 35 inches	1.60 to 2.30
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 35 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sateen Black, 35 inches	0.15 to 0.25

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$2.50 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 36 yards	0.28 to 0.40
Assorted of Lanes—Super, 24 yards, 35 inches	0.15 to 0.24
Cloths—Pinto, 51 yds 35 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Pinto, 51 yds 35 inches	0.20 to 0.72
Cloths—Pinto, 51 yds 35 inches	0.40 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlait and Green, 3 to 5 lb.	0.45 to 0.67

	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	7.50 to 8.92
Victoria Lawn, 12 yards, 35 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Turkey Red—2.0 to 3.0 yds. 24.25 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 2.30
Turkey Red—3.8 to 4 yds. 24.25 yards, 35 inches	2.50 to 3.45

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$34.50 to 36.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 36 to 42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	41.50 to 45.50
Nos. 80, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 200, Plain	76.00 to 77.00
Nos. 200, Gassed	97.00 to 99.00
Nos. 200, Gassed	70.00 to 75.00
Nos. 200, Gassed	84.50 to 90.00
Nos. 200, Gassed	112.00 to 115.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$18.50 to —
Indian thread	18.25 —
Chinese	18.25 —

IRON.

Business has not been large. Quotations are nominally at last week's level.

	PER TON.
Round and square 4 inch. and upward	4.00 to 4.35
Iron Plates, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Sheet Iron	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanized iron sheets	9.75 to 11.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.05 to 6.35
Flat Plates, per box	6.20 to 6.50
Flat Iron, 10 in.	2.08 to 2.10
Flat Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.75

KIKUSINK.

The market is steady with an upward tendency.

	PER TON.
American	\$2.00 to 2.10
Russian	2.00
Langkat	2.00 to 2.10

SUGAR.

The market is steady, last week's prices being maintained.

	Nominal
Brown Lakoo	85.50 to 8.55
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.25
Brown Canton	3.90 to 3.75
White Java and Penang	8.70 to 8.80
White Refined	7.75 to 8.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market continues active, and fairly large purchases have been made both from Europe and States.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Kata, Fine	\$980 to 990
Filatures—Kata, Coarse	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 14, Fine	950 to 960
Filatures—No. 14, Coarse	950 to 960
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	900 to 910
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	920 to 930
Re-reels—No. 14	900 to 910
Re-reels—No. 2	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakadas—Extra	900
Kakadas—No. 1	870
Kakadas—No. 14	840
Kakadas—No. 2	840

WASTE SILK.

Rather more movement has been visible the latter part of the week.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$100 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 117
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	67 to 74
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	65 to 67
Noshi—Baku, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Baku, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Baku, Medium	80 to 85
Noshi—Baku, Fair	55 to 60
Noshi—Joshu, Good	55 to 60
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	50 to 55
Kikuso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kikuso—Filature, Second	80 to 85
Kikuso—Joshu, Good	85 to 90
Kikuso—Joshu, Fair	80 to 85

TEA.

The market is quite lifeless.

QUOTATIONS.

Choice	Nominal
Choice	no stock
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	21 to 22
Good Common	19 to 20
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 9th.

No change to report in Rates, with silver from London and sterling quotations from China maintained.

Starting—Bank T.T.	2/0
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/1
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/1 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	260
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	264 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.10 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.14 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4 1/2 % dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	6 1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	7 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	7 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London) and	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bissat & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, February 9th.
Iron Works can be had at yen 220. Japan Brewery old shares are offering at yen 320 and new shares cum 4 calls paid at yen 130. Grand Hotels are steady at yen 225. Club Hotels can be had at yen 100; offers for shares are wanted. Oriental Hotels are offering at yen 105. Nagasaki Hotels are wanted at yen 35, holders offer shares at yen 40. Breits have sellers at yen 9.50 and buyers at yen 9. North & Raes are in demand at yen 200. Langfeldts can be had at yen 225. Debentures stocks are unchanged at quotations.

Yokohama Kasei & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50	100 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100, Old	100 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50 (yen 47 paid up)	100 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Paid up \$100)	100 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 100	100 S.
Smith and Kasei, Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Smith & Co., Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Langfield & Co., Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Shiga Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	100 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 5% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Kobe (Lab 6%) Deb., \$50	100 S.
Yokohama United Club 5% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Smith & Co., Ltd. 5% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 5% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 5% Deb., \$100	100 S.
Reserve Fund.—1, yen 10,000 1/2, yen 3,000 equalisation	
of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property;	
1, yen 17,770-50 1/2, yen 10,228-44.	

N.M.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, So.—Sales, St.—Steady,
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, B.—Bullish.

Tokyo, February 9th.

Redemption Loan Bonds	99 3/4
War Loan Bonds	99 3/4
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99 3/4
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 100	100 00
Japan Industrial Bank—aid up yen 50	100 00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	100 00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 100	100 00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	100 00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	100 00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	100 00
Tokoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 50	100 00
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Japan Railway, 5th issue—paid up yen 50	100 00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 50	100 00
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 50	100 00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway, new—paid up yen 50	100 00
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Toyoake Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Naseo Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Hokuriku Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Tohoku Railway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 50	100 00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	100 00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	100 00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 50	100 00
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—aid up yen 50	100 00
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—aid up yen 50	100 00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 50	100 00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 50	100 00
D. Mastic Transport—paid up yen 50	100 00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 50	100 00
Osaka Stock Exchange—aid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—aid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—aid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Mercile dice Exchange—aid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—aid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Electric Light—aid up yen 50	100 00
Shingawa Electric Light—aid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Gas—aid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Gas, new—aid up yen 50	100 00
Japan Beer—aid up yen 50	100 00
Japan Beer, new—aid up yen 50	100 00
Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning—aid up yen 50	100 00
Tokyo Warehouse—aid up yen 50	100 00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—aid up yen 50	100 00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—aid up yen 50	100 00

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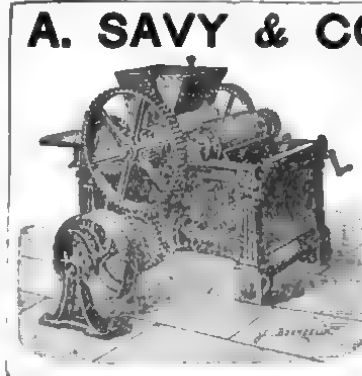
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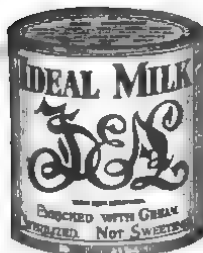
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 5.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 4TH, 1899.

月三年五十二拾
號百壹第張第

[Vol. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	202
Suicide of Mr. Oscar Kell	202
Criminal Procedure	202
Funds for Education	202
The Japan-China Bank	202
The Bank of Korea	202
Accident at Yokohama Station	202
Physicians' Association Law	202
The Foreign Loan	202
Japanese Public Opinion on Extra-Marital Relations	202
State Purchase of Private Railways	202
Land Tax and Land Rent	202
The Salaries and Allowances of Members of the Diet	202
Opposition to Increased Postal Rates	202
Mail at the Italian Legation	202
An Emergency Reserve	202
Leading Articles:—	
Japanese Ideas on Lord Charles Beresford's Policy	207
Raw Silk or Manufactures	207
Japan's Foreign Loan	207
The Missing Fractions of Revenue	207
Japan and her Foreign Friends	207
Family and Individual	207
The Japan-China Railway	207
The New Political Party	207
The Reason of Chinese Decadence	207
Railway Accidents	207
Opium Smoking	207
Imperial Diet	207
Mr. Junker's Second Concert	207
Shooting Affair at Kasuga	207
Correspondence:—	
Another Correction	213
The Rev. H. P. Alexander	213
The Value of Democracy	213
The Windfalls of 1898	213
Affairs in the Philippines	214
A Humorous Theft	214
Casualties to N.Y.K. Steamers	214
Chinese News	214
News of the Week	214
Prince Bismarck's Auto-Biography	214
The Bookshelf	214
The Philippines and the Tariff	214
Ladies' Benevolent Association	214
Yokohama Engine and Iron Works	214
The Death of Mr. Kell	214
The Leo old case	214
H.M.'s Court for Japan	214
A Firm and its Bank	214
The Rebellions in Hupah and Anhu	214
Telegrams	214
Cheese	214
Latest Shipping	214
Latest Commercial	214

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB. 4TH, 1899.

DEATH.

At Yokohama, on January 31st, OSCAR OTTO KELL, aged 58 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

HIS MAJESTY the Emperor is suffering from a slight cold.

PRINCE YAMASHINA arrived at Kyoto on the 29th and afterwards left for Ujima.

THE NIPPON RAILWAY Company has decided to declare a dividend of 8½ per cent. per annum.

COL. KITCHENER is returning to Omdurman after an unsuccessful pursuit of the Khalifa.

As the late Count Kato left no direct male issue, it has been decided that the Peerage shall lapse.

MR. JUNKER's second grand concert took place at the Public Hall on Monday and drew a good house.

THE English Churchmen of Kobe have decided to build a rectory on the land adjoining All Saints' Church.

THE Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society will

give a theatrical performance at the Sho-iei-kai on February 14th.

IT has been decided that the enforcement of the new Commercial Code shall take place on the 15th June.

THE torpedo destroyer *Murakumo*, which has been constructed in England, is to leave for Japan in a few days' time.

THE Yokohama Engine and Iron Works have had another very successful year, and declare a dividend of 10 yen per share.

THE Hankahn Railway was recently completed. Traffic was opened on the 29th ult., when over two hundred guests were invited.

AN engine on the Boso Railway was derailed on the 28th January near Chiba station. Some four or five passengers received injuries.

THE construction of the jail at Negishi has been completed. Prisoners are to be removed from Tobe Jail from the 6th proximo.

IT is reported that Marquis Ito will proceed to the west again, after his mother has regained her health. He is now staying at Oia.

A DESPATCH from Mr. Odagiri, Japanese Consul General at Shanghai, states that small-pox is prevalent there, and is likely to increase in virulence.

THE iron safe of the warship *Isukushima*, then anchoring at Yokosuka, was broken into on the 26th January, and money amounting to yen 160 was stolen.

THE first payment of the public loan of yen 2,055,000 for the Yokohama Water Works has been completed, and the remainder will be paid by the 10th proximo.

AT Esashi, Kitami province, Hokkaido, gold-bearing sand has been discovered. About 40 *swanne* has been already secured by the people residing in the vicinity.

A POLICEMAN named Kuriya Tora-jiro (40), of Wadayama, Kobe, has stolen yen 440, breaking open the iron safe belonging to the station. He is supposed to be in Tokyo.

ADVICES from Brussels state that Major Lothaire's soldiers have joined the Bataste mutineers, killing their officers. The Major has been wounded and taken prisoner.

A WASHINGTON despatch says that the House of Representatives has passed the Army Bill fixing the minimum strength of the national Army at 5,000 and the maximum at 95,000.

THE amalgamation of the Osaka 34th Bank, the Nippon Kyodo, and the Nippon Chinnai Banks has been settled. The business is to be carried on under the name of the 34th Bank.

MR. G. KELL, for many years Secretary of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, shot himself at the Phoenix Saw Mills, on Tuesday, while in a state of temporary mental un soundness.

THE Korean refugee Chong Yee ying arrived at Tokyo from Nagoya on the 27th to visit Prince Li Yun yung, grandson of the late Tai Wön kun, at Ikegami, and Mr. Pak Yongho of Orai.

A MAID servant named Yamakawa Shiko (21), in the employ of Mr. Doi Seiki, a barrister living at Hachioji, who stole yen 1,200 belonging to her employer and is now in jail under sentence of 4 years' imprisonment, attempted

to commit suicide on the 24th ult. by hanging herself. She was, however, cut down in time by the jailor.

A COOLIE named Heumi Junichi (43) and his wife Fuji (29), living at Ofikano machi, Chichibu, Saitama prefecture, murdered his father, named Yasujiro (63), by beating him to death with a club.

ON the 22nd, Mr. Ujijasu, a Grand Chamberlain, proceeded with a message of condolence from the Emperor to the house of the late Mr. Awata, Professor of Literature. He was the bearer of a gift for the family.

THE Filipinos have definitely declared a republic and protested against the annexation of the Philippine Islands by the United States. The Americans are hastening the dispatch of reinforcements to the Philippines.

THE Russian Legation in Seoul are said to be hurrying on the work at the Russian Cathedral. Recently two missionaries under orders from Bishop Nicolai, of Tokyo, arrived in Seoul to conduct services.

A NEW political party is promised. It will probably be called the New Constitutional Party, and the promoters, among whom is Mr. Shimada Saburo, are trying to obtain a building for the head office.

IT is announced that the Russian Government intend to place the fisheries of Saghalien under a monopoly. Japanese fishermen have been in these waters for many years, and a protest will probably be made against the innovation.

THE ritualistic controversy is becoming acute in England. At a demonstration by ten thousand people at the Albert Hall, it was resolved to uphold the Protestant demand for the suppression of the mass and confession in the Established Church.

THE *Times* announces that the Chinese five per cent. loan to the extent of £2,300,000 sterling has definitely been arranged for, being guaranteed by the Northern railways. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will issue the prospectus at the end of the week.

THE directors and shareholders of the Kyoto Imperial Fire Insurance Company (paid up capital yen 500,000), held a general meeting on the 29th and decided to wind up the concern. It is reported that the Company has lost yen 40,000.

A WASHINGTON despatch says that the Senate has resolved to take a final vote on the Peace Treaty on the sixth of February. It further states that there is in America a tendency to the increase of the opposition to imposing American rule in the Philippines.

THE Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, speaking at Manchester, said that he was convinced that the strength and efficiency of the British armaments constituted the best security to universal peace, and that he regarded the good understanding established with the United States as the surest guarantee to future civilization throughout the world.

A TELEGRAM has reached the Government to the effect that the Czar has made the following proposals for discussion at the Peace Congress:—(1) Abolition of the use of balloons and of the use of explosives from balloons; (2) Abolition of explosive shells and bullets in naval and military warfare; (3) Vessels despatched to save lives to be recognized as having the privileges of neutrals.

SUICIDE OF MR. OSCAR KEIL.

Yokohama was shocked on Tuesday morning by the news that Mr. Oscar Otto Keil, Secretary of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, had been found in an insensible condition near one of the sawpits of the Phoenix Saw Mills, Creek-side. At 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning, Mr. Keil was in the bar of the German Club conversing with Mr. Luther, the Manager, and appeared to be in the enjoyment of his accustomed health and spirits. Within an hour an employé of the Saw Mills, going the round of the mill on business, found Mr. Keil's body lying extended behind a pile of boards, a revolver near at hand. The unfortunate man, who was still breathing, though unconscious, had shot himself through the mouth. With all possible haste medical men were summoned and the body conveyed to the German Hospital on the Bluff, where he lingered until about a quarter to 12 o'clock. His couch was surrounded by many sorrowing friends, who arrived only to see him die.

Mr. Keil, who was born at Breslau 58 years ago, was at first intended for a physician's career, but not liking the profession turned his attention to music. In early manhood, having been left a competence, he travelled to the United States, where he took out naturalization papers, and after spending several years among the gold-diggings extended his travels to Japan. At first he occupied a position as school-teacher at Nagoya, but afterwards started in business in Yokohama. As the years went on he gradually took up the work of public accountant and then became Secretary of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Keil was head of the American Rite of Freemasonry in Japan, holding the 33rd degree in the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States. He had filled the principal chair in the Scotch and English Lodges working in the Craft, Mark, and Arch degrees, besides being for many years District Grand Secretary of the D.G.L. of Japan.

Mr. Keil's exceptionally cheerful nature, the rare helpfulness and kindness of his disposition, his unflaggingly active and successful life, were all inconsistent with any of the theories usually formulated to account for self-destruction. It can scarcely be doubted, we think, that he succumbed to the climatic effects which have already proved so frequently fatal in this Settlement. Yokohama's record long ago established the fact that there is something in the air of the place which creates in many persons a condition of nervous tension such that events, insignificant in themselves, assume the dimensions of unendurable strokes of fate, and death becomes the only apparent refuge for the sufferer. During the past two months, Mr. Keil was known to be afflicted with nervous prostration which is said to have driven him to the use of anesthetics. Though retaining his wonted brightness and activity, the highly disordered state of his nerves did not escape the notice of his friends, and, now that the end has come so sadly, many incidents will probably be recalled indicating the possibility of a catastrophe at any moment. It is the tendency of such a disease to incite efforts which help to aggravate it. There was no ostensible reason why Mr. Keil should have over-worked himself, but the fact is that he could not be content to take the rest which his condition

so sorely needed, and it is conceivable that when the intolerable pain of continuing the struggle finally overcame his strength of endurance, no consciousness remained with him except a bewildered recollection of the one infallible place of repose. There is no occasion to write any eulogy of his life or character. Such expressions as that he was universally beloved and respected, offend in his case by their conventionalism. Yet they are literally true. Charity seemed to be the guiding principle of his existence, and we may say of him with absolute veracity that he lived for others rather than for himself. Doubtless to these extraordinarily philanthropic instincts may be attributed his devotion to Free Masonry, which is before everything a cult of brotherly love and unstinted benevolence. It seems almost like a happy dispensation that his portrait was painted for the Masons of Yokohama a few months ago.

His funeral takes place this afternoon.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

One of the apprehensions entertained by thoughtful persons when forecasting the operation of the Revised Treaties is that frivolous charges of fraud may be preferred against foreigners and lightly taken up by tribunals. A creditor may suspect—a common enough suspicion—that a debtor has behaved dishonestly, and may induce some public procurator to adopt that view without due scrutiny. We have heard it alleged in well informed quarters that abuses of that character are not uncommon. Considerable interest attaches, therefore, to some statistics just published by the officials of the Tokyo Local Court. They show that out of 4,675 criminal charges submitted last year to the public procurators within the Court's jurisdiction, 994, or 26 per cent., were dismissed as groundless. In these instances no arrests were made, nor were the accused persons subjected to any inconvenience. The figures, however, seem to partially bear out the apprehension suggested above, though happily the astuteness of the law officers averted any miscarriage of justice. It would appear, also, that in the vast majority of instances the discretion of the public procurators was wisely exercised. For among the 3,681 cases of persons actually summoned or arrested, 182 were dismissed at the preliminary examination, and among the 3,499 remanded for trial, 3,407 were convicted and only 92, or something over 2 per cent., were found innocent.

These figures are distinctly re-assuring. They seem to indicate a satisfactory condition of criminal jurisdiction, in Tokyo at all events. But they do not touch the great trouble, namely, that accused persons are detained for long periods awaiting trial, and that, partly through their own apathy or ignorance of criminal procedure, and partly through the timidity of the judges, the privilege of bail is not often obtained. We have been informed, in the course of investigations made on this subject, that the average time of detention awaiting trial is 70 days, and that in the case of serious crimes it averages 120 days. If that record be even approximately true, it indicates a most defective state of affairs. Happily the judges and public procurators seem disposed to introduce useful reforms. One is to appoint at each Court

a *shuban henji*, or procurator on weekly duty, who must remain at his post unremittingly for seven days so as to be always ready to investigate complaints. We explained in a previous issue that a public procurator is supposed to live constantly in the immediate neighbourhood of a Court, and to be available, day and night, for examining persons arrested. The procurator on weekly duty appears to be an additional precaution against delays. It is further stated that, at a meeting of police inspectors and captains of gendarmes, held on the 25th instant, the following five resolutions were adopted:—(1) In the case of a person accused of a crime, the documents relating to the case shall have a red tag attached to them, and shall be immediately submitted to the procurator on weekly duty. Should that officer find that there is no *prima facie* case, the accused shall be forthwith liberated. Should a *prima facie* case be judged to exist, he shall be brought up for trial on the following day. (2) Applications for bail made by an accused person have hitherto been refused in 7 or 8 cases out of ten, from which it would appear that some understanding in favour of refusal exists among the judges. Hereafter, applications for bail shall be granted as far as possible. (3) Witnesses shall hereafter be summoned by telephone as much as possible, so as to avoid the delay and expense of using bailiffs. (4) When criminal accusations are laid before a public procurator, without being accompanied by proper proofs, he shall not entertain them, and every effort shall be made to prevent the arrest of innocent persons. (5) The chief procurator shall unfailingly make a daily examination of the record of accused persons.

In connexion with this subject, passing reference may be made to an extraordinary statement recently advanced by a Kobe journal, to the effect that the indifference or timidity of prisoners could have nothing to do with their failure to obtain bail, since it is the duty of the public procurator to apply for bail on their behalf. Unfortunately that idea is quite erroneous. It would doubtless be a very good system if the public procurator could be charged with such a duty, but according to the Code of Criminal Procedure the prisoner or his friends must make the application. Perhaps the Kobe newspaper imagines, also, that the public procurator should find sureties for an accused person.

In another newspaper, a Yokohama journal, we find the following:—

Notwithstanding the enormous amount of puffing about the perfection of the Japanese Codes, when tested by actual practice, they are found wanting. To give an instance, which has lately occurred, a case arose which fully justified the granting an injunction to restrain, but it will scarcely be thought to be true, that it was found that the Courts in Japan had no such power vested in them by law, though both English and American Courts have the right, which in the interests of justice, they are frequently called upon to exercise. The defect mentioned has not been before pointed out.

The "enormous amount of puffing" referred to in this very pretty specimen of English "as she is heralded" exists entirely in the writer's imagination, for the Code of Civil Procedure, which alone is in question, has never been "puffed," or even journalistically reviewed, since it went into operation on January 1st, 1891. That, however, is a minor point. The important fact is the denial that the Courts in Japan are

not legally invested with power "to grant an injunction to restrain." If the editor who makes that remarkable assertion refers to the Code of Civil Procedure, he will find that the whole of Chapter IV, Book VI, from Art. 737 to Art. 763, is devoted to the subjects of "Provisional Seizure and Provisional Disposition," and that the Courts have most full and sufficient competence to take steps of that nature in the interests of justice. It is amusing to learn that "the defect mentioned has not been before pointed out." We should think not, indeed!

It was recently stated by a local contemporary that Japanese Courts of Law have no power to grant an injunction to restrain. We pointed out that such an assertion is erroneous, for the whole of Chap. IV. Book VI. of the Code of Civil Procedure, from Art. 737 to Art. 763, is devoted to the subjects of "Provisional Seizure and Provisional Disposition," and by these provisions very full and sufficient competence of the nature in question is vested in the Courts. Our contemporary, in reply, first admits the justice of our correction, but then contends that its reference was to permanent injunction. This second contention is avowedly based on a discovery resulting from reference to the Code of Civil Procedure. One imagines that the obviously necessary precaution of referring to the Code would have been adopted before the original assertion was made, but such commonplace preliminaries are not always observed in the Far East. Our contemporary's new position is that "the Courts in Japan have no power whatever to grant permanent injunctions." We may change the terms in which that proposition is expressed in order to make its full import clear to lay minds:—"The Courts in Japan have no power whatever to enforce their own judgments." That is what it amounts to; that and nothing less. *P.* brings a suit against *D.*, and, pending its decision, applies to the Court to restrain *D.* from pursuing or adopting a course prejudicial to the interests which *P.* asserts. The Court grants the application. The case is then duly tried, and judgment is rendered in *P.*'s favour, the judgment, as a matter of course, securing to *P.* all the relief to which he is legally entitled. What more is required? If the Court has competence to enforce its judgment, *P.*'s rights are fully asserted. Does any one seriously contend that Japanese Courts have not that competence? Surely such an extravagant assertion is not seriously advanced? It is true that the terminology of the Codes is not identical with that of English or American law. We do not find that the judgment of a Court takes the form of a "permanent injunction to restrain." But the same end is unfailingly attained, whatever be the language employed to attain it.

It appears that our contemporary's original allegation was based on information obtained from "a gentleman who is entitled to be considered learned in the law." The same gentleman, or presumably the same, now addresses our contemporary over the signature of "Jus Civile," and adduces the following illustration in support of his position:—

In the Courts of England and the United States I can pray for a final injunction against a certain person or persons trespassing on my ground,—a step which was frequently resorted to during the

big coal strike in Pennsylvania two years ago. The Court will then hear the case as an injunction, and, if it thinks, there is sufficient reason, will grant a final and permanent injunction against the defendant doing what is complained of. If the defendant acts contrary to this decision, he can be arrested and brought up for contempt of Court, and such is the law in the United States that, in that case, he even loses his right to a trial by jury, which, by the way, secured a good deal of controversy in the case quoted. There is in Japan no Court or Judge, who has in himself the right or power to grant such an injunction.

Another "gentleman learned in the law," and that not merely Anglo-Saxon law but also the law forming the basis of the Japanese Codes, writes to us as follows with reference to the above:—

"Jus Civile" is, of course, right when he says that the word "injunction" is not to be found in the Japanese Law, but there can be no doubt that the new Codes furnish ample means to secure the same end as that compassed by "injunctions" in English and American law. Taking, for instance, the case of "trespass," which is specially chosen as an example by "Jus Civile," a decision of the Court as to the existence or non-existence of a person's right to enter the plaintiff's ground can be obtained by bringing an action, or by raising the question in a cross-action, under Art. 211 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Pending the Court's decision, provisional dispositions are admissible, according to Art. 755 of the same Code. After the Court has rendered judgment declaring the non-existence of the defendant's right to enter the grounds of the plaintiff, the execution of the judgment is perpetually secured by Art. 733 of the Code of Civil Procedure in conjunction with Art. 414 par. 4 of the Civil Code. The Court can issue any order it considers necessary for the future preservation of the plaintiff's rights.

It should scarcely be necessary to warn English readers of the Japanese Codes that they are apt to fall into very serious errors if, from the absence of some particular terminology to which they are accustomed, they infer absence of all provisions couched in such terms by British or American legislators.

FUNDS FOR EDUCATION.

It is plain that the next demand of considerable dimensions made on the Treasury will be for educational purposes. The country's grants in aid of education have not expanded in anything like reasonable proportion to the growth of its revenue or its outlays on account of military and naval purposes. The statistics of 1897 showed that 66.6 per cent. of the boys of school-going age were receiving instruction, and that the total sum expended on their education was 15,207,037 yen, of which 11,455,098 yen was paid by the Communes, 3,372,947 yen, came from the students in the form of fees, whereas the drafts made upon City and Prefectural funds and on the Central Treasury aggregated only 478,892 yen. These figures relate, of course, to Primary Schools, and take no account of the Government's expenditures on the Department of Education, the Universities, and the High and Middle Schools. A society called the Association for Promoting National Education (*Kokuritsun Kyoiku Kisei Domei kai*) presented to the Diet, in its fourth session, a petition signed by 10,162 persons, urging that greater liberality should be exercised by the State in the matter of education, and the two Houses, last session, adopted a Representation advising that 20 million yen from the Indemnity should be appropriated to form an educational fund. The Government itself has doubtless all the desire in the world to comply with these suggestions, but the main thing is to find the necessary money.

AN EMERGENCY RESERVE.

It is understood to be the purpose of the Government to form an emergency reserve of 50 million yen with the residue of the Indemnity. The *Kokumin Shimbun* is puzzled to discover how such a sum can be obtained. It estimates the state of the Indemnity thus:—

Total sum received from China with interest	364,482,305
Sums already taken from the Indemnity or already allotted to purposes approved by the Diet	289,754,361
	74,727,944

Supplementary Budget—

No. 1, for 1898-9	2,400,905
No. 2, for 1898-9	1,142,383
No. 3, for 1898-9	1,800,000
No. 4, for 1898-9	100,900
No. 5, for 1898-9	898,965
No. 6, for 1898-9	37,102
No. 7, for 1898-9	1,110,143
Drafted to Imperial Estate	20,000,000
	27,490,398

Actually remaining

47,237,546

The *Kokumin* naturally asks how 50 million yen can be set aside out of 47 millions, but our contemporary seems to have lost sight of the fact that the Government's financial programme contemplates annual surpluses from 1900-1 onwards, which, by the end of the fiscal year 1905-6, will aggregate 107 million yen. The idea is to apply those surpluses to paying back the drafts made upon the Indemnity for the purpose of balancing previous yearly accounts.

THE JAPAN-CHINA BANK.

The projectors of the Japan-China Bank (*Nis-shin Ginko*) are of opinion that the Treasury should be their foster-parent to the extent of three million yen. Their scheme is extensive. They hope to finance all the trade that Japan does with China, Korea, and South Sea ports, and they talk of establishing their head office in Kobe with branches or agencies in Yokohama, Nagasaki, Hakodate, Shanghai, Hongkong, Amoy, Tientsin, Newchwang, Hankow, Canton, Chefoo, Chemulpo, and Fusan. Their capital is to be 10 million yen, and they expect to get three millions of it from the Treasury without interest, which sum they would hold as a reserve against losses. That means, of course, that the Treasury would merely stand sponsor to the extent of 3 millions. Public opinion, however, does not appear to be altogether favourable to the scheme. Some writers see no reason why a new institution should be started while the Specie Bank, with its 20 years' experience and its established credit, is ready to do the work. The difficulty calling for removal in the interests of trade is said to be that the Specie Bank will not grant bills for longer periods than 10 days' sight, which time is insufficient for transactions either in China or in Japan. Hence the whole trade between the two empires—a trade aggregating something like 100 million yen—tends to pass into the hands of Chinese merchants, though it is not explained why these latter enjoy greater financial facilities than their Japanese rivals, unless, indeed, the foreign banks are open to one and closed to the other, as seems to be the case. Recent incidents in Shanghai showed that Chinese traders receive large accommodation from the foreign banks there, and we presume

that the same rules apply to Chinese traders in Japan, but assuredly Japanese merchants are not similarly favoured by foreign banks. The idea of the opponents of the *Nissin Ginko* is that the Government should give aid to the Specie Bank rather than to a new institution. It appears that the Government has already lodged 3 million *yen* worth of silver bullion with the Specie Bank, in order to enable it to lend money on easy terms to the exporters of cotton yarns, but the loan may be recalled after June next, and that possibility naturally hampers the Bank's transactions.

There are strong objections to the idea that no occasion exists for establishing a bank of Japan and China, since the functions to be undertaken by it can be discharged without difficulty by the Specie Bank. The *Fiji Shimpō* acts as spokesman of the objectors. Its chief argument is that as the Specie Bank works on a gold basis, it is not properly qualified to carry on the required business. It seems to us that such a contention is not very convincing. Japan is now a gold mono-metallic country, and the Japanese shareholders of the new Bank would scarcely consent to have their capital converted into silver and to receive their dividends in that metal. They might be willing to take the risk of working with silver, but they would naturally insist on having their dividends in gold, and on forming a special reserve to guarantee them against heavy losses from exchange on advances made in terms of silver. A bank with its head office in a gold mono-metallic country and with shareholders and customers who must ultimately convert everything into gold, could not derive much advantage from keeping its accounts in silver.

THE BANK OF KOREA.

It is alleged that the Bank of Korea, projected by Mr. Omiya Chobei, Baron Ozaki Saburo and others, will be started next May. The scheme hung fire for some time, owing to the same cause which has interrupted many enterprises, the unfavourable state of the money market and the consequent impossibility of obtaining funds. But there is a general expectation that an improvement will take place in economic conditions before the spring sets in. Strange to say, the projectors of this particular enterprise seem to have no intention of seeking assistance from the Japanese Treasury. They hope to raise 2 or 3 million *yen* of capital without making any draft upon official credit. But the success of their banking operations depends on getting the management of the Korean Government's funds and on obtaining note-issuing power in Seoul. Rumour alleges that they have already enlisted the active sympathy of some important Korean officials.

ACCIDENT AT YOKOHAMA STATION.

On the night of the 31st ult. the train from Hodozaya ran into the stop buffers at Yokohama station, and the engine was derailed. Three women and three men amongst the passengers sustained injuries. Two of the latter were seriously hurt, and are now in Yokohama Hospital.

PHYSICIANS' ASSOCIATION LAW.

The project of law for organizing associations of physicians has been carried in the Lower House, and is now awaiting discussion by the Peers. Meanwhile it is vehemently criticised in some quarters as a useless and possibly pernicious measure. Its supporters rely chiefly on the argument that some machinery is needed to prevent foreign quacks from setting up in the provincial districts without having the necessary sanction from the Authorities. It is evident, they say, that the Japanese are specially exposed to a danger of that kind, and, unless the orthodox members of the profession render some assistance, great abuses may be practised. That view of the case is certainly incontrovertible. The law, as it now stands, does not suffice to restrain charlatans. In no country does the law suffice for such a purpose. One has only to consult the advertising columns of an American or European paper to find innumerable announcements of medicines, patented and consultations invited by men who would not be recognised as legitimate members of the medical profession anywhere. It is not easy to see a valid reason why the individual should not come to the assistance of the legislature in such cases. There are laws in England, for example, against the brutal treatment of helpless creatures, but their restraining effects would be insignificant in practice were they not aided by the efforts of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Under existing conditions a totally unqualified charlatan may settle in some provincial district and practise medicine or surgery whenever he can find patients, but such an abuse would be effectually checked if every practitioner had to obtain the recognition of an association of duly licensed experts. The feature of the proposed measure which invites legitimate criticism is the pretence that it is rendered necessary by the inauguration of mixed residence. Why, at the present moment there are hundreds upon hundreds of Japanese practising medicine openly and doing excellent work, who have never taken out a diploma, but have received their training solely as apprentices and assistants of licensed experts. The passage of the Bill would sweep these people out of the field. Yet they play there a most useful part, for, while thoroughly competent to deal with all ordinary ailments, they are satisfied with a scale of remuneration which places their services within the reach of nearly every class. The suppression of such practitioners would be a great, a terrible, hardship to millions of people who can not afford to pay the fees of a licensed physician, and would therefore be virtually deprived of medical assistance altogether. There is a shrewd suspicion that the real object of the Bill is to drive these practitioners out of the arena, and thus add materially to the *clientèle* of the costly licensee. Speaking as foreigners, we are reluctant to traverse any measure calculated to protect Japanese against foreign charlatans, but we can not close our eyes to the fact that for every alien quack who might be hereafter restrained by this law, many hundreds of useful and fairly competent Japanese practitioners would be suppressed at once. The measure seems to bear the impress of insincerity, and we trust that the opposition will muster strength enough to obtain the

rejection of the Bill when it comes up for its second reading in the House of Peers.

THE FOREIGN LOAN.

According to Tokyo journals, there are no less than seven competitors in the field for Japan's new foreign loan, four of them being English, one American, one German, and one French. Under such circumstances, the negotiating of the loan on favourable terms should not be difficult. Three-and-a-half per cent. bonds at 97 or 98 are talked of, but that may be regarded as an optimistic estimate. Three-and-a-half per cent. bonds at 92 would be nearer the level of the market, we imagine, and if Japan can obtain a loan on such terms, she may count herself very fortunate. It would pay her well, in that case, to convert her national debt, for if she borrowed 400 million *yen* abroad at 3½ per cent., selling the bonds at 92, she would save 4½ millions annually in interest by redeeming 400 millions of her five-per-cent., domestic debt. But, for our own part, we are disposed to doubt whether such transactions are possible. Her credit was better last spring when she sold her five-per-cent. War Bonds to an English syndicate at par, and if there be any truth in the rumours freely circulated, she had to pay more for the accommodation than the public in general imagined. If her five-per-cent. securities could not be sold at a better figure than par a year ago, her three-and-a-half's should certainly not fetch more than 70 now, for though her finances are perfectly sound, she has taken no manner of trouble to make the fact known to the world.

JAPANESE PUBLIC OPINION ON EXTRA-MARITAL RELATIONS

One of the results of the sensational disclosures published by the *Yoroku Chōhō* last year on the subject of extra-marital relations was the thorough discussion of the whole subject by writers of every school of thought. The majority of foreigners when considering such topics begin by assuming the superiority of Occidental to Oriental customs and have no hesitation in condemning the practice of concubinage *in toto*, because it is contrary to our Western canons. It is hardly necessary to point out that such a summary method of dealing with any long established Oriental custom appears to the Japanese to be no less arbitrary than unwarranted. With regard to Japanese opinion, the majority of the leading writers of the time hold that in most cases the circumstances which first gave a kind of moral sanction to the practice do not now exist, and that concubinage to-day is to be attributed to general looseness of morals. Mr. Fukuzawa Yūkichi, in his *Ukiyo-dan*, and Dr. Katō Hiroyuki, in No. 84 of the "Hundred Short Essays" both champion this view. Dr. Katō maintains that concubinage was quite a different thing in the eighth and ninth centuries and even in the Tokugawa era from what it is now. The practice, now so common, of making *geisha* concubines, was unknown in olden times. Nor was it allowable for gentlemen to choose concubines from women belonging to the lower classes. The one recognised object of using concubines was the perpetuation of the family line. No other reason for resorting to it would have been deemed valid by

Japanese society prior to the *Meiji* era. Dr. Katō further remarks that the number of such women in foreign lands is certainly very large, and that hence when we come to actual practice the Orientals and Occidentals are on a level, with one difference: what is done in the East openly is carried on in secret in the West.

The *Tetsugaku Zasshi* argues that the practice can only be condemned *in toto* when referred to Western current moral standards, but that it considered in the light of Confucian and Buddhist teaching and the stress that they lay on the preservation of the family line, it is impossible to show it to be immoral. This organ is ready to concede that, as a matter of principle, the Western ethical standard which condemns concubinage *in toto* is in every way superior to the Oriental Confucian and Buddhist standard which sanctions the custom, but, in practice, the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* does not think that the Japanese people can follow the lead of the West under existing circumstances.

In the *Shakai Zasshi* and the *Rikugō Zasshi*, Mr. Yamagata Tōkon discusses the whole subject at great length. The value of his essay consists in the minute analysis that he furnishes of the statistics supplied by the *Yoroku Chōhō*. As a record of a state of things that actually exists the contents of some of his tables are worth reproduction here. Though some facts were misstated by the *Yoroku Chōhō*, the general opinion among the Japanese is that on the whole the account given of the prevalence of concubinage by this organ was correct. The cases referred to amounted to 493. These are divided under various headings. First we have 183 instances of *geisha* who have been made concubines. Among the cases quoted are 7 Ministers or ex-Ministers of State, 5 Peers, 7 Barristers, and 3 learned doctors. The rest are nearly all business men. The next table given by Mr. Yamagata concerns instances of servant girls being used as concubines. They total 36. It is explained that the Japanese term for servant-girl (*jochu*) includes the *naka-bataraki*, or maid of all work, the *homa-sukaye*, or errand-girl, and the *o-shaku*, or wine-server. Among the gentlemen who, presumably for purposes of economy, says Mr. Yamagata, turn their servants into concubines are 1 ex-Minister, 1 Vice-Minister, 3 Members of the House of Peers, 7 Peers, and 1 School-teacher. There are 8 instances given of girls serving at houses of assignation being made concubines, 18 of restaurant girls and 3 of *yadoya* girls. The number of prostitutes who have been turned into concubines is comparatively few, 17 cases only being given by Mr. Yamagata. Fifteen instances are given of adopted daughters who are used as concubines. The number of existing cases in which this practice is followed, Mr. Yamagata thinks to be very large. Seventeen instances are given of the keepers of *chaya*, *gisha* establishments, restaurants and houses of assignation—who are usually remarkably talented women in their line—being converted into concubines. These women are so accustomed to rule and are so strong-willed that it is said that instead of calling them concubines, which in Japanese always bears the meaning of subordination, the men with whom they consort should be called

their concubines. It may not be generally known that the term *Danshō*, male-concubine, is actually applied in Japan to this class of persons. Seven cases are given in which widows have been made concubines.

The full list as given by Mr. Yamagata stands thus:—

Geisha...	183
Maid-Servants ...	69
Prostitutes ...	17
Adopted daughters ...	15
Keepers of places of amusement ...	17
Widows ...	7
Performers ...	7
Ordinary young girls ...	91
Miscellaneous ...	87

493

Mr. Yamagata is opposed to the practice and proposes as measures for its suppression (1) The branding of the children of concubines with disgrace (surely a very unjust proceeding); (2) a public exposure of the manner in which concubines are obtained and of the objectionable features of the life they lead; (3) the ostracising of those who persist in continuing the practice.

In No. 19 of the *Nippon Shugi*, Mr. Yumoto Takeliko defends concubinage as an absolute necessity in Japan. He does not distinguish between the different reasons alleged for keeping concubines, but maintains that the practice should not be interfered with, as the preservation of family lines and the populating of the country are largely dependent on its observance.

The result of our inquiry then, may be stated in a very few words. Concubinage, as practised in Japan to-day, is almost universally condemned by leading writers, but there are not a few influential men, like Mr. Nishimura Shigeki, who hold that men not able to obtain children by their lawful wives are quite justified in keeping a concubine. The practice was sanctioned among the Hebrews on this ground, says Mr. Yumoto, and what was good enough for the race that gave to Christians the greater part of their Bible is good enough for us. In questions of this kind it is quite plain there is no universally acknowledged standard. Many Japanese maintain that their centuries of what we should call polygamy yielded as good results physically and mentally as our monogamy, and hence that there is no call for them as a nation to abolish a custom which, if kept within proper bounds, is perfectly harmless and is in every way superior to what actually goes on in the great cities of the West. Our own opinion, after considerable study of the subject, is that the nation as a whole is in favour of retaining the practice, but subjecting it to stricter control. This view is confirmed by the provisions of the new codes bearing on the subject, to which provisions allusion has several times been made in these columns.

STATE PURCHASE OF PRIVATE RAILWAYS

This question, so long on the tapis, seems to have at length entered the field of practical politics. The General Committee of the Constitutional Party, having decided that a Representation should be introduced on the subject in the Lower House, held a general meeting of the parliamentary members, and obtained an

* This word must not be confused with the *Danshō* given in Brinkley's Dictionary, which has quite a different meaning.

almost unanimous endorsement of the project. Negotiations have therefore been opened with the National Unionists, the Satsuma Section (*Sap-pa*) and the Hiyoshi Club, and although no immediate answer has been obtained, it is expected that the support not only of those bodies but also of a part of the Progressists, will be secured. Of course a Representation from one house, or even from both, by however large a vote it be adopted, does not bind the Government to anything. But there appears to be an idea that the leaders of the Constitutional Party can persuade the Cabinet to take favourable action, not, perhaps, to the extent of setting about the purchase immediately, but at any rate in the sense of appointing a committee to conduct preliminary enquiries. Mr. Hoshi Toru, Baron, Suyematsu and Mr. Matsuda are evidently interesting themselves actively in favour of the scheme, and their advocacy is very powerful.

LAND TAX AND LAND RENT.

It has often been pointed out in these columns that the so-called "land tax" in Japan is really land rent, the land having been originally made over in perpetuity to its holders in consideration of a payment of 3 cent. of its assessed value; which payment was subsequently reduced to 2½ per cent. and has now been raised to 3.3. Our readers are also aware that, in assessing the value of the land, 25 years ago, for the purposes of this payment, the figure obtained by calculating the actual net yield of the land was divided by 2, so that the so-called tax of 3 per cent. was really only 1½, and the present tax of 3.3 per cent. is 1.65 per cent. of the value which the land had in the market a quarter of a century ago. We refer to the figures, not for the purpose of renewing the argument about the Land Tax, but in order to compare them with the legislation in New South Wales on the subject of grants of land. In New South Wales a British subject can obtain a grant of crown land for the purposes of a homestead by paying 1.25 per cent. of the assessed value of the land for 5 years; and 2.5 per cent. thenceforth in perpetuity, subject to re-assessment every 10 years. He has also to make a payment on account of the survey fee, but that is a matter apart. It is interesting to note that the New South Wales Government fixes the perpetual rent at the same figure as that which obtained in Japan up to the time of the recent change. But, whereas the Australian figure is based on the actual value of the land, which value is re-assessed every tenth year, the Japanese figure is based on one-half of the value that the land had 25 years ago, and all talk of re-assessment for the purpose of bringing the value up to the real market price of the time has ceased to be heard. The total value of the agricultural land of Japan at present in the tax registers is 1,350 million yen in round number, and the gross annual value of the produce is at least 650 millions. Hence the capital value of the land is assessed at only the double of the gross produce, or about four times the net produce. It is as though land letting for £1 an acre in England were valued for sale at £4 an acre.

THE SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

A short time ago, there was much talk of increasing the emoluments of the members of the Diet, but the proposal passed out of hearing, perhaps on account of the hostile reception accorded to it by several newspapers. It has now come again upon the *taps*. The Constitutionists are said to have revived it. Their scheme, however, has undergone some change since its original presentation to the public. The idea then was a definite addition of several hundreds of *yen* to each member's salary. But that plan is now suggested only in the cases of the President and Vice-President, whose annual stipends would be raised from 4,000 and 2,000 *yen* respectively to 5,000 and 2,500. The members, on the other hand, would receive 10 *yen per diem* for every day of the House's sitting, and for a period of 15 days before the session and 15 days after it. The regular session lasts 90 days. Hence the pay term becomes 120 days, and the total salary, 1,200 *yen* instead of 800 *yen* as at present. These changes would mean an additional outlay of 121,500 *yen* for the Lower House alone on its present establishment of 300 members, or about a quarter of a million *yen* for both Houses. There is also talk of giving each member a pass on the railways, instead of granting a travelling allowance. One advantage of such a system from the Government's point of view would be that, in the event of dissolution, the members would receive only a part of their stipend.

The proposal to increase the salaries of members of the Diet naturally evokes some ridicule. The *Nippon* is particularly sarcastic. It contrasts the original scheme of increase, by which a yearly stipend of 2,000 *yen* was contemplated, with the sum of 1,200 *yen* to which the demand of the members has now been reduced, but it notes, at the same time, that 1,200 *yen* is a great deal to a man who has hitherto been receiving only 800. Our very sharp-tongued contemporary is conspicuous among denouncers of the corruption that prevails in parliamentary circles, and it now asks, with fine contempt, why the nation should strain at the gnat of a few hundred *yen* in the shape of salary increase while swallowing the camel of bribery and corruption. "If a wolf is in the way, one doesn't trouble about a fox or a badger," says an old Chinese proverb.

All this writing, however, seems to be mere embroidery. The main point, the one solid cause of objection to the proposed increase, is that it may prove to be the beginning of much more extensive changes in administrative salaries in general. If, after the House has voted for an increase of its own stipend, the Government should introduce a Budget providing large increases of official salaries all round, how could the Diet refuse its consent? That is the question now asked with considerable show of reason, for the same arguments that apply to the pay of the members of the Diet apply equally to the emoluments of officials. But the query is wrongly stated, it will be observed. What should be asked is whether the Government, if the Legislature asks for more pay, will not feel justified in giving more pay to the Executive also. For the Diet has no constitutional right to

meddle with the salaries of officials. They are entirely beyond its reach, the power determining them being expressly reserved to the Sovereign. Hence, if the Lower House votes a Representation in favour of larger emoluments for its members, it will be making a suggestion which the Government is not unlikely to follow in other directions also. Despite the objections of the *Nippon* and other journals we venture to hope that the House will vote such a Representation, and that the Government will act upon it in the extended sense so much dreaded by our contemporary. The bulk of Japanese officials are not in receipt of salaries sufficient to tempt able men.

BALL AT THE ITALIAN LEGATION.

On the 25th ultimo, the Italian Minister gave a ball which must have seemed to the dancing folk of the capital like an oasis in the social desert of present-time Tokyo, and which delighted the old people by its picturesque features. Dancing has quite lost its temporary vogue among the Japanese. We never thought that it had come to stay, and we were roundly censured by some of our friends for employing our columns to hasten its departure. The truth is that the Japanese took it up not as a matter of choice but in self-defence. There is no form of effacement more complete than that of the diminutive non-dancing unit in a modern ball room. The dancers monopolise space and attention. The noise that they make, added to the noise that must be made for them—what is ordinary dance music but noise?—the violence of their exertions; the wide area of their gambols; the intrusion-resenting interludes, and the monopoly of pastime that they enjoy—all these things combine to obliterate the outsider. Quite a curious spectacle used to be presented at dances twenty years ago in Japan: we mean dances given by Japanese for the entertainment of foreigners, or dances which foreigners extemporized on their own account in Japanese houses. The host and hostess and all their compatriots ceased to have a recognised existence. It was as if a gale of Western garments had suddenly swept in and reduced all the small framed Orientals to the condition of fallen leaves, which were either tossed hither and thither unnoticed, or driven huddling into corners and behind doors. The Japanese never visibly resented their conversion into insignificant waifs and strays. They bore it with smiling complacence. But they saw that one of two things must be chosen: either this incongruous form of social observance must be ostracised, or they must qualify to take part in it. They tried hard to qualify. They organized a dancing club with a noble Marquis for chief promoter, and they assembled solemnly week after week to practise the exotic antics. But it wouldn't do. Heaven had not made them that way, and after some stilted struggles among the fantastic crowd of foreign prancers, they wearily fell back to their old posts as wall-flowers, and reconciled themselves to the conviction that neither waltz, polka, nor gallop would ever assist to make them socially distinguished. Then they tabooed the dance altogether, and in so doing they fell, we venture to think, into the common habit of swinging to the opposite extreme. For why should not Japan be eclectic in the matter of dancing as she has been in her adoption of all other

things foreign? Why, because the round dance seems an uncounted guest, why should she not offer a home to the graceful gavotte, the stately minuet, the grand reel, the jovial Sir Roger, and some of those other Western dances which give an opportunity for displaying the music of motion in which her people are such adepts and of which they have such a keen appreciation? Why, to go a step farther, why should she not introduce modifications of her own, or devise totally new dances such as would make Tokyo socially famous? She could do it. We have not the slightest doubt that she could do it. She has failed as a mere imitator, but she might make a brilliant success as an adapter and an inventor. There is a field here which we commend to the attention of the some-time enthusiastic but discomfited weekly frequenters of the Rokumeikan. Perhaps Count d'Orfini had something of that nature in mind when he organized a gavotte as the opening feature of his ball last Wednesday. A most attractive feature it was, for the fair ladies who took part in it looked as though they had stepped down from some of the canvasses of the Regency artists, and the gentlemen were at once magnificent and picturesque, making one sigh for the terrible degeneracy of fashion which changed these glowing harmonies of aristocratic costume for the supremely ugly swallow-tail of the pillion. That gavotte with its woven paces and waving hands set the Japanese spectators thinking. It showed them a point of close contact between European society a century ago and their own immemorial civilization, and if their reflections bear practical fruit, Count d'Orfini may give his name to an epoch. We suppose that it was a wise measure to begin the ball with the gavotte, but from a literary point of view an anti-climax threatens us if we expatiate on what followed. So we confine ourselves to saying that it was a delightful party; perfectly managed, most hospitably and lavishly conducted, sustained with unflagging zest until four o'clock in the morning, and wound up with a cotillon where the favours were things to be treasured for their own valuable sakes not less than as mementoes of a bright social event.

OPPOSITION TO INCREASED POSTAL RATES.

Forty-two editors and proprietors, representing thirty-two periodicals, held a meeting in the Ko-uakamura-ro at Asakusa on the 25th instant, and decided to employ every possible means of opposing the projected increase of postal rates as applicable to magazines and periodicals. We have already explained the point. By changing the classification of publications privileged to go through the post at newspaper rates, the cost of carriage is increased from 50 to 300 per cent. At present, any periodical issued once a month or oftener travels as a journal, but the new regulations require that it must be issued at least three times a week. That effectually excludes nearly all periodicals, and places them in the rank of ordinary mail matter. We can not suppose that the drafters of the proposed amendment intended to penalize periodicals. They have probably been guilty of an oversight which can easily be corrected in the Bill's passed through the Diet.

JAPANESE IDEAS OF LORD CHARLES
BERESFORD'S POLICY.

THE superficially weak points in the policy of alliance advocated by Lord CHARLES BERESFORD are noticed by Tokyo newspapers. On the whole, as our readers will have perceived from the translations appearing in these columns, Japanese public opinion favours the programme of a combination of Powers to ensure freedom of trade with China and to preserve her territorial integrity. But doubts find frank expression whether the four Powers indicated as coadjutors could reasonably be expected to work together for such a purpose. Some people, for example, are startled by the incongruity of America's figuring as a champion of freedom of trade. Commercially the most exclusive country in the world, and the least disposed to admit foreign manufactures into her markets, her claim to oppose, by force if necessary, the imposition of protective or exclusive tariffs by other States is naturally considered illogical. Thus we find it frankly asserted that if the United States is to enter a union for keeping Oriental markets permanently open to American produce and manufactures, and to the produce and manufactures of all the world, she should first correct her habit of closing her own markets to everything foreign. Germany's case suggests equal misgivings, though for a different reason. Her trade policy does not constitute a difficulty, but rather her imperial policy. Territorial expansion is believed to be her main object, and in the face of her Kiao-chow record it is asked how she can be expected to lend her assistance for guaranteeing the integrity of the Chinese empire. This point is specially emphasized by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which has always been a conspicuous advocate of an Anglo-Japanese *entente*. The *Kokumin* thinks that Lord CHARLES BERESFORD'S policy is not abreast of the time. Eighteen months ago, the programme of the Open Door, pure and simple, might have been logically adopted by European States in the Far East. But since that time another element has been introduced: the element of spheres of influence. As yet the Powers have not definitely proclaimed their adoption of the latter method. They have not parcelled out China as they have parcelled out Africa. But they are on the threshold of doing so, and, at any rate, they have exchanged the theory of one universal open door for the theory of several open doors. They are willing to recognise spheres of influence provided that within each sphere freedom of trade shall be guaranteed to the occupants of all the other spheres. If any one doubts the accuracy of that assertion let him ask himself what is the difference between Russia in China and Germany in China from the point of view

of the proposed alliance. Both alike are trespassers upon Chinese territory. Russia has appropriated the Liaotung Peninsula; Germany has absorbed the Shantung Peninsula. Yet Germany is counted a proper member of the open-door union, whereas Russia is regarded as its arch-enemy. Where is the ground of distinction? Is it not to be found solely in the fact that Germany has purged her aggression of any commercially exclusive feature, whereas Russia remains exclusive as well as aggressive? We are forced to conclude, then, that the integrity of China has ceased to be a real motive of the projected union, and that the Powers are quite willing to dissect her, provided only that the markets of each fragment shall remain as widely open after the operation as they were before it. Hence, when Lord CHARLES BERESFORD raised aloft in one hand the flag of China's integrity, and held out the other to Germany in Shantung, he made an impossible attempt to reconcile the obsolete with the actual; to cling to the traditions of 1897 in the presence of the realities of 1899. Other critics, whose principal representative is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, are unable to approve a union which does not include all the interested Powers, or which is not at least framed on an inclusive basis. They fail to see why Russia and France should not join the combination, or be invited to join it. Any union, say these publicists, which is conceived from the outset on lines of discrimination, will inevitably provoke the hostility of those discriminated against.

These views are decidedly interesting, for nothing can obscure the fact that Japan, with her powerful army, is a most important factor in the Far Eastern question, and that her value as an ally will always be considerable. It appears to us, however, that the opinions we have quoted are academical rather than practical. The objection to Germany's qualifications would be paralleled by the argument of a legislator who should consider it useless to draft a law because its corrective influence could not be made retrospective. Things must be taken as they are not as they ought to be. It is quite true that Germany's Kiao-chow *coup* was an indication of the sphere-of-influence policy, but it does not follow that because Germany has taken one step in that direction, she is pledged to take several more. She appropriated Kiao-chow in the days when "every State for itself" was the *mot d'ordre*, and if her surrender of it must be a necessary preliminary to her joining an union which has for one of its objects the preservation of China's integrity, we do not see why England would not be equally bound to qualify for the union by surrendering Wei-hai-wei. If the union is to succeed in its purpose of guarding China against foreign aggression, each member of the union must have a *point*

d'appui in the Far East, and Kiao-chow serves that end for Germany as Wei-hai-wei does for England. As to America's policy of protective tariffs, such an argument carries us into a region of sentiment where practical statesmanship is impossible. America's treatment of goods entering her own territory has nothing whatever to do with the treaty rights she possesses in China. She is entitled to protect those rights whatever be the nature of her domestic legislation, so long as no conventional stipulation of reciprocity is violated by her enactments. The Open Door which the union would secure for Western Powers is altogether independent of their own tariffs. Finally, with regard to the contention that France and Russia should be admitted to the union, the only question is, would they enter it. It would be the best of all possible worlds if everybody agreed to do the right thing by every one else, but that kind of millenium seems to be still remote.

RAW SILK OR MANUFACTURED.

ANOTHER correspondent, of long experience in the silk trade, writes with reference to the question of the manufacture of Japanese silk before export. We recently expressed the opinion that Japan's trade in exports will develop chiefly in the direction of manufactured goods, and in the case of silk we said that, by-and-by, it would probably be converted into fabrics before leaving the country. A well-known silk expert differed from us. He said that in the very light classes of silk fabrics, as *habutai*, where labour counts for a great deal in comparison with the value of the material, the Japanese article has a distinct advantage, but in the heavier grades of goods, as satins, velvets, and so on, the manufacturers of England and France had perfected special methods and developed special skill which would probably enable them to defy Japanese competition. As an illustration of his assertion, he added that Japanese raw silk can now be sent to France, worked up into velvet or satin, and re-exported to Japan at prices which undersell the corresponding Japanese fabrics, the advantage of quality also being on the side of the foreign article. Our second correspondent writes:—"I agree with you and not with your correspondent. The change you predict will not come this year, perhaps, or next. But eventually the naturally artistic taste of the Japanese artisan, his skill in working, and his small requirements in the way of remuneration or wages, must tend to change the export of raw silk into an export of silk piece goods. That he has not the machinery is only a temporary difficulty. He has already commenced to import weaving machinery. There are a good many Jacquard looms at work in the weaving districts, and the weavers learn quickly, marvellously quick-

ly. They are already producing a great variety of new makes and are keen to push the business. I think they will succeed. On the other hand, the filatures of Japan, as a whole, have not made the progress that was expected. Some of them have adopted improved methods, and, in consequence, their silk is almost perfect. But these are in the minority. The bulk of the filatures have made little or no progress in the last two years. They do not reel for reputation, but simply to make money, scrambling through their work and often doing it in a slovenly manner. This has been the case to such a marked extent that many American mills which, for years past, were steady users of Japanese filatures, have given them up this year, and turned to Italian and French silk. It is only because the supplies in Europe are failing that some of these mills have again had recourse to Japan. That, however, is a pure chance, and if the demands of consumers are not more carefully considered, the sale of the Japanese product will again become difficult. Not only is it necessary that when a manufacturer ask for 14/16 silk the variations must not greatly exceed those limits, but also it is desirable that ability should be developed to reel any sizes that are demanded. Italian and French filatures are accustomed to take orders for their produce in any size. They will reel you any quantity wanted in the very finest sizes—9/10 or 9/11—, or they will deliver you a special order in 19/20/22, or 20/24, without any considerable additional charge. How many Japanese filatures will do that? Very few, and then only after bargaining for an exaggerated increase of price. Moreover, in the end they will deliver work that is far from satisfactory. That appears to me to be another reason why Japanese raw silk as an export is likely to be ultimately supplanted by the manufactured article."

It would be greatly to the advantage of Japanese sericulturists if some of the leading Tokyo journals translated the above remarks into their columns and thus brought them to the notice of their nationals engaged in the silk trade. We desire also to point out the illustration they furnish of our recent contention that Japan, by dispensing with foreign aid before she has supplied herself with proper standards, is likely to find her progress seriously checked, and even to retrograde from some of the positions already attained by her. It should not be necessary to insist that we do not write in a captious spirit. Our unique desire is to see Japan progressive and prosperous. The same is true of the correspondent whose remarks we have quoted. Even were he ill-disposed towards the Japanese—which he certainly is not—his business interests are altogether concerned in her sericultural success. That the credit of her chief staple of export declines in foreign markets, means the contraction of his operations

and the diminution of his gains. The advice of such men—men with thirty years' experience in the line of trade about which they speak—is quite invaluable to the Japanese. "The bulk of the filatures," our correspondent says, "have made little or no progress in the last two years." Why have they made no progress? Is it not because they are without a higher standard than that already reached? It was in the early seventies that the Government established the Tomioka filature: imported a number of Japanese and French *ouvrières* and by making the place a school for the country's reelers, laid the foundations of improvement which has put millions upon millions into the pockets of the people. Had the same system been pursued steadily—not necessarily on so large a scale—, can there be any doubt that the danger which now threatens the trade, as described by our correspondent, would have been effectually averted? France and Italy gave Japan instruction twenty-five years ago, and have now left her behind in the race. There is one thing to be constantly remembered in this context. It is Japan's geographical position. Though advantageously situated for gaining access to Oriental markets, she is terribly hampered by her distance from all the centres of technical competition. In Europe the rival manufacturers live side by side, and are, moreover, always within sight of the consumers for whose tastes they have to cater. Whatever improvements are introduced by one community of artisans, speedily become known to their neighbours; each can observe the fashions of the markets at close range, and all breathe the same atmosphere of emulation and progress. Japan, on the contrary, is a veritable outsider. She sees nothing of what is happening in Europe or America. Rumour alone reaches her, filtered through many channels, and she does not realise her failures until their irrevocable effects begin to distress her. Her artisans and her artists are similarly handicapped in that respect. A Japanese painter or sculptor who is trying to catch the inspiration of Occidental art, can not frequent the studio of a great expert, can not study the traditions of a renowned school as interpreted by its modern representatives, can not inform his mind by visiting galleries where the works of celebrated masters are exhibited. He has to grope his way unaided through almost profound darkness towards whatever spark of light may be dimly reflected upon his horizon from some distant and fortuitous beacon. Men working under such disadvantages, working with brave patience and unflagging effort, present to our eyes types of a people bound to make their mark in the world. But there is all the more reason why they should compensate their geographical handicap by engaging the direct assistance of the foreigner.

That is the only way of bridging the gulf. The remarks which we recently made upon this subject evoked some criticism from the *Japan Times*; criticism excellent in tone and temper, if we may be permitted to say so, but quite beside the mark from our point of view. For our Tokyo contemporary, instead of dealing with our contention that Japan shows a tendency to lose her rate of progress in the near future, confined itself to demonstrating the amount of progress she has made in the past decade. As to that, however, there is practical agreement. We did not speak of the past at all. We spoke of the future. Whenever "a distinguished traveller" comes here and talks to the Japanese of the "wonderful progress" they have made during the *Meiji* era, we have to hope that they are too wide-awake to be lulled by these reiterated compliments into a satisfied sense of their own achievements.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN LOAN.

TOKYO contemporaries state that the news of Japan's intention to commence operations for obtaining money abroad, has brought quite a number of applicants into the field. The *Asahi Shimbun* illustrates the state of affairs by quoting the old proverb *muko hachinin*, or eight suitors for one bride. The names of some of the applicants are given, Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, and Americans, as are also those of the prominent Japanese through whom they are supposed to be working. According to newspaper accounts, the sum to be raised is 10 million *yen*, being part of the Railway Loan. We sincerely hope that the pernicious method adopted last year will not be again resorted to. Japan can not afford to enter the foreign market as a borrower of petty amounts—four million pounds sterling one year and one million the next—and she ought to work in the most open way through the most orthodox channels. We do not mean to reflect in any degree on the credit or competence of those whose services have already been employed. The chief criticism of last year's performance is that the amount was quite insignificant, and that the character of some of the go-betweens employed—quite unnecessarily employed—imparted to the affair a hole-and-corner complexion altogether unbecoming to a financially respectable Power. The amount appears to be much smaller in the present case, but we suspect that the statement is defective. Under the *post-bellum* programme, the loans to be floated between 1896 and 1909 aggregated 213,392,022 *yen*; namely, Public Undertakings Bonds to the amount of 135 millions, and Railways Bonds to the amount of 78,392,022 *yen*. Out of that total, the sums to be raised in the three years 1896-7, 1897-8, and 1898-9 aggregated 109,019,377 *yen*,

and the sum nominally raised was 49,797,350 *yen*. We say "nominally," because, although bonds to the value of the last figure were issued, only 11,727,550 actually found purchasers in the market, the remainder being taken by the Treasury itself. Hence it follows that, if the *post-bellum* programme were strictly obeyed, loans aggregating 97,291,827 *yen* should be floated between the present time and the 31st of March, when the fiscal year ends. But there are some corrections to be applied. The enterprises contemplated in the programme have not been carried out as rapidly as was originally intended: it has been found impossible to push them at the estimated rate without dislocating the labour market. Thus, whereas 35,407,866 *yen* should have been spent upon railways and public works during the years 1896-7 and 1897-8, the disbursements actually made were only 29,803,096 *yen*, so that there is a difference of 5,604,770 *yen* in this account. Then again, the sums to be expended under the programme for the Army and the Navy in the same two years aggregated 121,422,479 *yen*, whereas the sums actually expended were only 72,875,319 *yen*, so that in this account there is a difference of 48,547,160 *yen*. We are, of course, without the figures relating to the current year, the returns not being yet available, but if we consider the accounts up to March 31st, 1898, we find, according to the above figures, that the total difference between the actual and the contemplated expenditures was 54,151,930 *yen*, and deducting that amount from the aggregate of the loans that should be floated before the end of next March, we find that the bonds to be put on the market represent 43,139,897 *yen*. That amount would, of course, be absolutely required if the Indemnity had been exhausted. But there is a considerable sum of the Indemnity still remaining and the Treasury has just received authority from the Diet to utilize that sum instead of floating loans, provided that the amounts thus taken are subsequently replaced. It is a difficult matter to determine what portion of the Indemnity is still an actually available asset. Our own calculations do not tally with the official statement, and we refrain from setting forth the figures at present. But we may say roughly that, so far as we can see, there ought not to be more than 40 million *yen*, approximately, in cash, all the remainder being in bonds which must be sold sooner or later. At all events it is certain that the loan to be raised—whether by selling the bonds hitherto purchased with the Indemnity or by making further issues—will reach a figure of 200 million *yen*, approximately, and we are persuaded that Japan could make arrangements to obtain that amount on terms much more favourable than she can get by asking for 10 or 20 millions. However, criticism at this

stage is premature. Our object in writing is chiefly to help our readers to form an idea of the figures that have to be dealt with.

THE MISSING FRACTIONS OF RAVENUS.

THE most unhappy, ill-advised and retrogressive policy of raising postal, telegraphic and railway rates in order to obtain a few hundred thousand pounds of revenue, can not be too severely condemned by every friend of this country's progress. Japan has nothing to be particularly proud of in the quality of her postal service. It is not remarkable for regularity or promptitude, and it will not be remarkable for either of those essentials until the Authorities reconcile themselves to paying a fair wage for a fair day's work. Count INOUE, always an eminently progressive statesman, appreciated that fact when he recently held the portfolio of Finance, and had his measures of increased taxation been passed, he would have asked the Diet to consent to an increase of salaries all round for post-office and telegraph *employés*. We never could understand, indeed, why the Diet's consent was necessary in that case, nor do we understand now why the Diet should be consulted by way of preliminary to an increase of postal rates. It is within the distinctly defined range of the SOVEREIGN'S prerogatives to raise or lower the stipends of officials at will, and as for the postage rates, since they are not taxes, but compensation received for services rendered, they are constitutionally beyond the purview of the Diet. It appears to us that the Authorities would be better advised if, instead of taking counsel of the House of Representatives, which has proved itself the worst possible guardian of the national credit and the most narrow-minded of financiers, they boldly fixed the pay of postal and telegraphic *employés* at rates sufficient to ensure really competent service. The State has no manner of right to derive a revenue from the posts and the telegraphs so long as the important duties of these two means of communication are indifferently discharged. If, as is the case in some Occidental countries, the organization is so perfect and the service so unflinchingly excellent, that no reasonable expenditure of money could improve it, then and only then the Exchequer is entitled to apply to general uses any surplus revenue that may accrue. We believe the Japanese to be thoroughly capable of organizing and conducting the services in such a manner that they would do credit to the country, but they certainly are not a credit at present. On the other hand, Japan may reasonably be proud of her half-penny postage. It can not, we admit, be called a direct creation of her own progressive intelligence, for when she fixed at 2 *sen* the minimum

cost of transmitting a letter, the *yen* had an official value of 50 pence, and a *sen* represented a penny. But the appreciation of gold has gradually brought her into the happy position of possessing a half-penny post, and she is the only nation in the world that can boast that distinction. It pays, too. The income of her postal service is very much larger than the expenditure. It would be a great pity if she now abandoned that unique position for the sake of a paltry fraction of increased revenue. What she ought to do is to devote a more liberal amount to the administration of the service, until it attains a standard of genuine excellence. Nobody now consider the cheapness of the post. Attention is engrossed by its defects. But if it were at once cheap and good, Japan would soon hear its merits fully recognised. The argument about the telegraphs has a somewhat different complexion. They are already much too dear. In England, the charge for 12 words is six-pence, or, say, 25 *sen*; and 12 words, such as are used in telegrams represent, at the very least, 40 *kana* syllables, which would cost 45 *sen* to transmit in Japan. Thus the rate is 80 per cent. dearer in Japan than in England, and we may confidently affirm that there is no comparison between the qualities of the two services. The *Fiji Shimpō* discusses this question with its usual practical intelligence, illustrating its arguments by tables of considerable interest. The first shows the use made of the telegraph in different countries:—

No. of TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES ANNUALLY PER 100 OF THE POPULATION.

England	208
United States	78
France	116
Russia... ..	13
Sweden	46
Denmark	85
Switzerland	132
Italy	33
Austria	55
Norway	89
Belgium	88
Denmark	94
Germany	74
Japan	26

Russia stands lowest on the list, but she might fairly be excluded from it in view of the fact that enormous tracts of her vast empire have no telegraphs and are inhabited by people who would not use the wire if they had it. Possibly, however, the figure refers to Russia in Europe only. At all events, Japan stands second lowest on the list, yet she now talks of raising her telegraph rates. Another point brought out by the *Fiji* is that nearly all European countries, instead of seeking to derive revenue from the telegraph service, are willing to make a financial loss by it. Thus, for every 100 *yen* of gross income earned by her telegraphs, Switzerland spends 104 *yen*; Belgium 128 *yen*; Holland, 171 *yen*; and Denmark, 111 *yen*. England alone makes the service pay, but the income she obtains from it is small, being, only 6 per cent. of the

gross takings. In Japan, however, the gross income is 3,480,000 *yen*, in round numbers, and the expenditure is 2,610,000 *yen*, so that there is a net gain of 870,000 *yen*. In other words, 25 per cent. of the gross earnings go into the exchequer. Japan might, therefore, devote 661,200 *yen* to improving the service and raising the salaries of its *employés*, and she would still have as good a financial record as England. But the truth is, as the *Fiji* justly remarks, the rates are much too high in Japan. People do not use the telegraph. The cost deters them. We can conceive nothing less justifiable than this recently mooted idea of raising the charges.

JAPAN & HER FOREIGN FRIENDS

SOME of these days, when the Japanese come to cast up calmly and impartially their account of the losses and gains resulting from foreign intercourse, they will have to make a pretty large entry in the column of indirect advantages. Is it likely, for example, that they would now be in possession of complete codes of law based on principles of highly civilized jurisprudence, had not the desire of qualifying to recover their judicial autonomy spurred them to extraordinary legislative efforts? Ever since the Restoration there has been a strong political movement in favour of individual liberty, but individual liberty can never be more than a shadow unless personal rights are recognised and protected by good laws efficiently administered, and it thus appears that the attainment of the ends for which the various political parties have contended, must have been considerably postponed in the absence of the Treaty-Revision incentive. Nor has the talisman yet lost its influence, for not only is it now leading to useful reforms in the realms of criminal procedure and prison management, but it is also employed as a moral corrective. The *Fiji Shimpō*, always quick to throw its weight into the scale of progress, asks its countrymen whether they are quite prepared to endure the close scrutiny of foreigners when mixed residence is introduced next July. In the early days, Europe and America regarded Japan merely as a possible market for their goods. But after her war with China, they changed their estimate; and began to think of her as a possible ally. That is an agreeable change, but the question now is, what will they think of her moral condition when they have a better opportunity of observing the kind of life led by her upper classes. It is rare, in our contemporary's opinion, to find a Japanese gentleman whose life is spotless. The inhabitants of Europe or America may not be much better in practice, but there is this essential difference, that whereas the European or American does everything in his power to conceal his excesses,

thus proving that he recognises their impropriety and is ashamed of them, the Japanese discusses them openly and is rather proud of them than otherwise.

We ourselves certainly should not have been disposed to pen such a criticism as the above. There are some forms of vice,—one form in particular,—which do not receive condemnation in Japan; which even enjoy the sanction of custom and ethical philosophy. Judging from the openness with which they are practised, one might be disposed to infer that offences against morality in general are lightly regarded. The licensing of the social evil is a good illustration. It has the effect of giving to that special sin a degree of notoriety which suggests corresponding prevalence. Yet in the great cities of the West, on any and every night, one may witness scenes indicating extremes of depravity which are certainly not to be observed in Japan, and statistics show that, as a mere question of arithmetic, the social evil has not larger dimensions here than in Europe. The dainty, winsome little *geisha* is another factor of misapprehension. She makes so much noise in the practice of her art that, aided by three or four companions, she can cause a whole street to ring with sounds of dissipation. Passing through some otherwise sombre and demure quarter of a Japanese town, one suddenly reaches a tea-house whence there is poured forth into the still air of night a torrent of sounds indicating the most complete abandonment of revelry—twanging of *samisens*, beating of drums, snatches of rollicking songs punctuated with choruses of girlish challenge, peals of coquettish laughter, and clappings of soft hands. One imagines that vice has run riot and is courting observation. Two or three of these resonant revels in as many miles of street make the whole town echo with immorality, and create the impression of evil stalking abroad unabashed. Yet it may all be as innocent as a wine-party in college chambers whither a petticoat has never penetrated. The fact is that the Japanese does not embrace his pleasures silently. His caresses are emphatically clamorous. He cares comparatively little for Delilah alone, greatly preferring an accompaniment of *samisen*, song, and *saké*. In those respects his pursuit of vice is not secretive. Is it the more abominable for that? Who will answer confidently? Certainly if any judgment may be based on the conversation of Japanese men and on the anecdotes most apt to provoke their mirth, the fibre of their morality is not permeated by any darker thread of vice than that which runs through the disposition of the average Occidental. The one sphere in which want of concealment really aggravates the offence is that of extra-marital relations, which, having been originally based on the expediency of perpetuating the family, as was the practice of the Biblical patriarchs

whose memory all Christians revere, has sunk to the level of a mere "lust of the flesh" without entirely losing its pristine sanction. It would, perhaps, be idle to expect any radical reform in that matter, so long as the example of the highest in the land may be quoted in extenuation. But at least we may hope to see a sense educated of its total inexcusability in the case of men who already have heirs, and we may also hope that a higher perception of the rights of woman will soon save Japanese wives from being wantonly exposed to the cruellest kind of torture that male despotism can inflict.

FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL.

A VERY interesting discussion is undertaken by the *Hochi Shimbun* with regard to the relative importance of the family and the individual in Japan. It is customary to say that the family is the basis of the Japanese social structure, and that the individual stands upon an altogether secondary plane. But the *Hochi* thinks that family life in Japan is comparatively lacking in essential elements, and that the family really centres upon the individual. An European household is pervaded by an atmosphere of communism which seems to be entirely absent in Japan. The one point of importance in the Japanese family, its pivot, is the master of the house. Everything is subordinated to his wishes, his tastes, his comforts, and his caprices, and every other member of the household is virtually his slave. So supreme is his despotism that no murmur is allowed even though he introduces into the family circle that most demoralizing and harmony-destroying factor, a concubine. The life led by the units of such a household can not justly be called a family life. They are simply inferiors grouped about the shrine of a superior, where they daily burn the incense of self-sacrifice. In the Occident, on the contrary, the rights of every member of the family, from the youngest child to the father himself, are fully recognised and respected. Their joys are shared, their griefs borne, their pastimes pursued, in common. The continuity of the domestic circle is not broken by any intrusion of tyranny or any assertion of individual supremacy. There is continual recognition of the great principle so flagrantly disregarded in Japan, recognition that the exercise of rights entails the discharge of duties.

Naturally these remarks must be read as applying to the theory only of family life in the West. There are many ideals of the family. We English congratulate ourselves on possessing the "home" in its most perfect sense. Certainly our language offers the most harmonious and expressive term that human genius has discovered to describe that earthly paradise. The Japanese have no word for home. They have an expression for "home-sickness"

(*renkyo-byo*), but it is a term of recent manufacture, appealing only to the scholar or the philosopher. An Englishman speaking of "nostalgia" would be in as close sympathy with his subject as is a Japanese when he talks of *renkyo-byo*. Probably the nearest equivalent for "home," according to Japanese ideas, is the "native village" (*furusato*) of the middle and classes; the "country" (*kuni*) of the upper. A servant when he goes "home" on leave, a bride when she visits her parents' house after marriage, is said to have gone to the "village." A gentleman when, in the intervals of his official life, he returns to the home of his ancestors, tells you that his destination is his "country." Yet the Japanese are not singular in the want of a name. There is but one word in the world for "home," and that is the English word "home." We may not infer that the home does not exist in practice because it is not found in a nation's vocabulary. The French, for example, though in common with the Japanese they are without a "home" in speech, claim, and with some show of truth, that they have more of the reality than their neighbours across the channel possess. The English, they say, have the model habitation for a family, have also the melodious and exquisitely significant name for it, and have songs that celebrate it with incomparable tenderness, but they have not the close ties of the French family life and its lofty conception of the mother. That may be true or it may be altogether false. We refer to it simply as showing that in such matters the verdict of foreign critics generally differs radically from the verdict of the people criticised. When, however, a Japanese tells us that home does not exist in this country and that the pivotal position claimed for the family is a myth, we must accept his testimony with deference. On the other hand, one point strikes every foreign observer of Japanese family life: it is the consideration which children receive within the domestic circle. On the whole, their happiness seems to be better consulted and the discipline to which they are subjected appears less rigorous and more rational in this country than in Europe or even America. As to filial piety, it certainly is not wanting. The child's love for the parent is probably much the same, the world over. But the reverence paid by a family to its elders—not merely to the heads of the house but to the past heads—is a distinguishing feature in Japan. Sometimes the old folks are only tolerated, and the patience of self-effacement that they show under such circumstances is very beautiful. But, as a rule, they receive respect and kindly deference. The great blot, as the *Hochi* remarks, is the overshadowing position accorded to the master of the household. The abuses that result from his despotic status force themselves upon the attention

of every careful observer, and find their most revolting expression in those terrible sacrifices of their daughters which still disfigure the history of Japanese parentage.

THE GWAN-YETSU RAILWAY.

This is a line running from Koriyama on the O-u Railway in Fukushima prefecture to Sakaya in Niigata prefecture via Wakamatsu. The first section of 10 miles has been opened to traffic, and the continuation to Wakamatsu will be open in two or three months. But with regard to the second half of the road, from Wakamatsu to Sakaya, a dispute has arisen, the directors and engineers being anxious to change the originally planned route in favour of one offering fewer technical difficulties, and an influential body of shareholders, headed by Mr. Kusaka, the former Governor of Nagasaki, being strongly opposed to any change. It is ultimately a question of increasing the capital (6 million *yen*) of the Company, for the estimates on which that sum was based have been disturbed by the appreciation of commodities; or of altering the route. We know nothing of the merits of the case, but should be inclined to accept Mr. Kusaka's view as the sounder in all probability.

THE NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

There is revived talk of forming a new political party. It is expected to be under the leadership of Messrs. Taguchi Ukichi, Shimada Saburo, and Ooka Ikuzo, and to have the support of Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi. Rumour alleges, further, that Messrs. Saito Shiuehiro and Arakawa Kimizo are likely to join the party, and to work for its interests in commercial and manufacturing circles. So far as we can see, the object of the promoters is to consolidate the political nebulae that fill the space between the Progressists and Constitutionalists, and create an element of uncertainty in every situation. It is very unfortunate for the success of the parliamentary system in Japan that any necessity should exist for forming a third party at all.

THE REASON OF CHINESE DECADENCE.

Mr. Von Brandt, formerly German Representative in Peking, has published a series of pamphlets on the subject of Chinese sociology, and in the latest of them he discusses what he believes to be the chief source of Chinese decadence. His views are thus translated and condensed by an exchange:—

He finds it in an unexpected quarter, namely, in that excessive exaltation of the family tie which has always been counted to the Chinese as their most distinctive and admirable virtue. In no country in the world as in China is the unit of the family held in such high regard. The Chinese family is a sort of civil beneficiary society, whose property is ordinarily held in common and whose members, standing solidly together, are bound to render each other mutual assistance in any way that may be required. The oldest rules, and fulfil all the functions of a governmental chief. The family possessions are commingled, the rights and duties of each member are defined by family statutes, and if internal dissensions render a division necessary, the family thus disunited is discredited, its happiness and its reputation alike are lost. Filial piety is the supreme virtue, and the only sacred thing in the world is paternal authority. The father is a sovereign surrounded by his sub-

jects, and the sovereign is, in theory, a father surrounded by his children. Thus, China is less a nation than an immense family, and, though the flowery empire is divided into provinces as extensive as kingdoms and distinguished from each other by the widest climatic and geographical differences, everywhere throughout its immense and densely peopled area the moral and social conditions are the same.

This may be thought admirable, and so in a measure it is, but so are not all its consequences. This excessive development of the family spirit produces some unfortunate results. The family becomes a clan, and the close connection of interests established among all its members substitutes for personal independence and individual dignity the tyranny of an irresponsible combination whose exigencies operate to pervert the moral sense of the Chinese people. It does more. It renders the growth of what we know as public spirit almost impossible. The Chinaman is without any national sentiment. He can form no conception of patriotism. His thoughts and interests are limited to the circle of his family, and everything which lies beyond that circle is regarded by him with indifference. Moreover, this excessive devotion to the family organization powerfully and directly promotes the corruption and inefficiency which characterize the conduct of the public offices. So it seems that China has been reduced to a state of national impotence by an excess of that virtue which is so often and rightly lauded as lying at the foundation of civilized society. Filial piety and family affection have been the death of it.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Two railway accidents occurred on the 27th of last month, but happily and singularly no injury was suffered either by passenger or official. The first was on the Bantan (Harima-Tajima Railway). A train which had left Hakase for Himeji, was derailed at half-past six in the evening, when within about 24 miles of Shikama, owing to the line's having been broken by a fall of heavy rocks during a thaw. The engine-driver, guard, and some of the passengers were greatly shaken, but escaped unhurt. The second accident happened at 2 p.m. on the same day. A coal train travelling from Naokata in Fukuoka Prefecture to Wakamatsu, left the line near Nakawa, and the engine as well as several of the waggons were upset.

OPIUM SMOKING.

Two Chinese named Chang Wung-dak and Ma Cheong-on came up for trial in the Yokohama Chito Saibansho on Friday on a charge of smoking opium on board the steamer *Riojun Maru*, in Yokohama harbour, on Dec. 11th. The prisoners were returning to Canton from America and from the evidence adduced it appears they were caught in the act of smoking by a tide-waiter, Yamaguchi Shinichi, who happened to be passing through the steerage accommodation. Mr. Akiyama, who defended, endeavoured to prove that the arrests were wrongly made and that the real offender had escaped, and that as the arrests were effected at night, the witness Yamaguchi's statement of identification could not be accepted as sufficient. The court convicted, and in view of extenuating circumstances, sentenced prisoners to the minimum penalty, one year's imprisonment with labour.

The two Chinamen have given notice of appeal.

America is very proud of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, the head of the Standard Oil Trust, who is expected to be a billionaire before he dies. Now that his fortune is rapidly approaching the thousand million point, a New York journal has taken the trouble to reduce his income to the amount received per day (including Sundays), and by the hour, minute, and second. Every tick of the clock represents 64 cents, which works out at over 38 dollars a minute. Rockefeller started business as a book-keeper with 50 dollars a month.

IMPERIAL DIET.

THURSDAY, JAN. 26TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

ZONES OF FORTIFICATION.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., and after the Chairman of the Petitions Committee had reported in favour of 33 petitions out of a total of 146 received, the First Reading was taken of a Government Bill embodying regulations with regard to Fortification Zones (*yōsai chitai*). The Bill distinguishes three zones round each fortified place; the innermost having a radius of 500 yards; the middle zone, a radius of 1,500 yards, and the outer zone a radius of 4,500 yards. Within these zones no new building may hereafter be erected of a greater height than 3 feet, nor must a burial ground be formed, and various other restrictions are imposed according to the position of the zone. The places at which the law is to be operative are the Kii Strait, the Yura Strait, the Gaiyo Strait, Kure, Sasebo, Bikan, Nagasaki, Maizuru, Hakodate, Tsushima, Kailung, and the Pescadores.

Many questions were asked with reference to this Bill, and its effect upon private rights. T. a Vice-Minister of War explained that undoubtedly it would more or less impair private rights of property, but where the interests of the State were concerned, the interests of the individual must become secondary. People already living within the zones would not be disturbed, but no additional buildings might be erected. As to burial places, those now in existence might be used as heretofore, nor would any obstacle be placed in the way of tomb erecting, as such structures did not fall within the definition of buildings. In some countries compensation was made by the State to individuals under the circumstances contemplated in the Bill, but in others such was not the case, and the Government considered the latter system superior for many reasons.

The Bill was handed to a special Committee, as was also the Bill (Government) sent up from the Lower House relating to the establishment of new law courts, &c.

NINE GOVERNMENT MEASURES PASSED.

The following nine Government Bills (sent up from the Lower House), having been favourably reported on by the Special Committee, were passed without debate:—

Bill conferring discretionary power on the Government with regard to the method of floating the Railway and Public Undertakings Loans.

Bill empowering the Government to make drafts upon the Indemnity instead of raising loans.

Bill for amending the Indemnity Special Account Law.

Bill for rescinding the Special Account Law with reference to Consols.

Bill for making an addition to the Working Capital of the Mint.

Two Bills for amending the Tobacco Monopoly Account Law.

Bills for amending the Special Account Law with reference to the Hokkaido Railways.

Bill relating to the Accounts of the Iron Foundry.

PETITIONS.

The House then proceeded to consider the petitions recommended by the Petitions Committee.

Mr. Seki Yoshiomi pointed out that two of these petitions were contradictory; namely, one which prayed for the abolition of the import duty on Chinese lacquer juice, and another which sought protection for Japanese lacquer juice. The object of the former was to cheapen the article and encourage the competition of the foreign product; the object of the latter was to secure the monopoly of the domestic market to the home juice. The Committee seemed to have exercised very little discrimination when it recommended these two petitions simultaneously for the House's approval.

Mr. Okouchi, on behalf of the Committee, explained that the House's function did not extend to approval, in the case of petitions, but

was limited to submitting them for the Government's consideration.

The Government Delegate strongly traversed that view. He declared that the Government attached great importance to the recommendation of the House, and considered that a petition which had received the approval of the Committee, after due examination, and which had been adopted by the House for presentation, should be treated with much greater respect than that attaching, *ceteris paribus*, to a petition which had not the benefit of such endorsement. Certainly it would be within the province of the Peers to ask questions if the Government took no notice of petitions which had received the *cachet* of the House; and, on the other hand, if the petitioners themselves found that their petitions were adopted by the House but rejected by the Government, they would make contrast very unfavourable to the latter's liberality. The House shared the Government's responsibility in this matter, and should render assistance by due discrimination.

A short debate ensued, and the House finally rejected the petition for abolishing the duty on Chinese lacquer-juice, as well as a petition for changing local boundaries (in Ibaraki and Chiba prefectures), but adopted all the other petitions for presentation to the Government.

The session closed at noon, the President announcing that the House would not meet on the 27th instant.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives was engaged in Committee work only.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m.

EDUCATION AND THE INDEMNITY.

Mr. Kubota Yuzuru complained that the Government had returned no answer to his question about applying a portion of the Indemnity to educational purposes. The House, in its last session, had adopted a Representation urging that a sum of 20 million *yen* be appropriated from the Indemnity to form a capital fund in aid of education, but the Government had not taken any action, and although the speaker (Mr. Kubota) had formulated a question on the subject, it remained without reply. He begged the President to bring the matter to the notice of the Government.

SUGAR BOUNTIES, ETC.

The Government Bill for abolishing the system of State purchase of sugar in Okinawa Prefecture (the Rianki Islands), was then read for the first time and handed to a Special Committee, after which the House, without debate, passed Supplementary Budgets No. 2 and No. 5 for the 31st fiscal year (1898-9). The former provides appropriations totalling 737,562 *yen* (the Government's original demand had been 812,268 *yen*) to meet outlays in connexion with the collection of the *Saké* Tax, the re-assessment of land values, and certain judicial arrangements necessitated by the operation of the Commercial Code.

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, ETC.

The Second Reading of the Government Bill relating to changes in the Statutory Tariff with regard to alcohol, tobacco, *saké*, &c., was then taken. Amendments were proposed by Mr. Suifu Kohel and Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, in the sense of remitting the import duties on phosphate of lime (which does not now appear in the Tariff and will henceforth be added after No. 526), that substance being required for fertilizing purposes, and belonging, therefore, to the same category as animal bone ash and guano, which are already duty-free; on sheet and plate metal (No. 250), on amorphous phosphorus (No. 112), on chloride of potash (No. 115), and on paraffin wax (No. 285), these four articles being necessary for the manufacture of lucifer matches, a trade now giving employment to 130,000 people, and promising to assume great importance in the future. These amendments, involv-

ing a loss of revenue to the amount of 130,000 *yen*, were adopted by the House, and the Bill was otherwise passed as submitted by the Government.

The House rose at 11.30.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

The House met at 10.10 a.m., and proceeded to the First Reading of the Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House), empowering the Government to extend the Tobacco Monopoly to the imported leaf. In answer to questions, the Government Delegate explained that tobacco for medical purposes or for Museums would be exempted from the operation of the proposed system, and the Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

ASSOCIATIONS OF MEDICAL MEN.

The First Reading of the Private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for organizing Associations of Medical Men, provoked numerous questions. It was shown that the measure conflicted with the existing Law, for whereas the latter confers on every diploma-holding physician the right to practise, the Bill deprives him of that right unless he becomes a member of an association. Further, the penalties prescribed by the Bill would duplicate those of the Law, and the former is greatly wanting in explicitness, since it makes no reference to military surgeons, professors of medicine at the Universities, and dentists. Dr. Hasegawa, the Government Delegate, replying to a question, said that the number of licensed practitioners in Japan at present is 39,000, of whom 1,000 have passed through the University, 8,000 have obtained diplomas by examination, 20,000 are of the old school, and the remainder are graduates of High Schools. He denied that the proposed system could have the effect of establishing uniformity of medical fees throughout the empire, and he explained that foreign practitioners were to be brought within the purview of the new law. The Bill was finally handed to a Special Committee.

A NATIONAL SHRINE.

A Representation was then introduced urging the Government to appropriate a sufficient sum for rebuilding the national shrine of Kashii in Chikuzen. This shrine marks the place whence the Empress Jingo set out to conquer Korea, and is also the place whither she returned from the conquest and gave birth to the future Emperor Ojin. It is further sacred to the memory of the Emperor Chinai. In the year 1585, during the war between Shimazu of Satsuma and Tachibana of Higo, the shrine was destroyed by fire, and, although partially restored at a later date, is now in a very dilapidated condition. The present year, being the 1700th anniversary of the Empress Kogo's return from Korea, seems a suitable time for rebuilding the shrine.

While Baron Watanabe was explaining the Representation, the House was counted out at 12.10 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.30 p.m.

PAWNBROKERS.

The President announced that permission was asked to withdraw the private Bill for the better Regulation of Pawnbrokers.

INCOME TAX LAW.

The House then proceeded to consider the amendments made by the Peers in the new Income Tax Law. A motion was made to appoint Managers to consult with the Peers, but Mr. Hoashi Toru moved that the amendments be endorsed, first because they seemed proper, and secondly because a Conference of the Houses might imperil the Bill. Mr. Hoashi's motion was approved.

NEW BILLS.

The two following Bills were then passed:—
Bill for amending the Law relating to the Capital of the Tobacco Monopoly, so as to bring it into accord with the new Law empowering

the Government to extend the Monopoly to imported leaf.

Bill for amending the Postal Regulations in the sense of increasing the dimensions of parcels and extending the limits of sums transmissible by post.

The Second Readings were voted of the Bill for the better Regulation of Lethal Weapons and Explosives and the Bill empowering the Government to assist the Bank of Formosa by purchasing one million yen worth of its shares, holding them for 5 years without dividend, and not disposing of them for the space of one year at least.

FORMOSA.

On taking the Second Reading of the Bill for continuing the operation of Law No. 63 of 1896, which confers a measure of legislative power on the Governor General of Formosa, Mr. Hanai strongly opposed the measure, on the ground, first that it was unconstitutional, and secondly that such power could not be safely entrusted to officials like those now serving in Formosa. Mr. Hoshi Toru inquired whether the speaker held that the Law in question ought never to have been passed, but Mr. Hanai made no reply. The House voted in favour of the Bill, and dispensed with the Third Reading.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

The Bill (sent down from the Upper House) embodying the Revised Commercial Code was then handed to a Special Committee, as were also two Bills creating and defining official power to sell or let State forests or moors, and to restore State forests or moors to their original owners, should it be found, in the course of the surveys now being carried on for the purpose of re-assessing the taxable value of land, that the said owners had been wrongfully deprived.

The discussion of the Bill for remitting import duty in the case of salt fish coming from Karatsu, was postponed.

The Bill for amending the Law of Suits Judiciable by the Administrative Court, in the sense of generalizing instead of particularizing the subjects of complaint, was opposed by the Government Delegate but passed by the House.

The House then passed the private Bill for appending to the 79th Article of the Civil Code this provision:—"In the case of conflagration the above Article shall not be applied, unless the victim of the conflagration has suffered heavy loss."

The following Bills were read for the first time and handed to a Special Committee:—

A Bill (private) providing that all sums less than one yen be omitted in assessments of Land Tax.

A Bill (private) for abolishing the Tax upon Marine Products of Hokkaido, there being no longer any reason why Hokkaido should be thus distinguished from the rest of the empire.

A Bill (private) for making the office of Member of the Board of Audit elective; each House of the Diet to choose six of its members, of whom one half would actually serve and one half be in reserve, the members thus appointed having the same life-tenure of office as members of the Judiciary, subject, however, to removal by a vote of want of confidence passed by the electing House.

A Bill (private) for abolishing all fees paid by students in Elementary Schools, the amount now collected from the students—namely, 3,370,000 yen—to be defrayed by the Treasury out of funds obtained by a tax on Sugar.

A Bill (private) for giving State assistance to Prefectural and Urban places for conducting experiments with and studying Marine Products.

The House then adopted a Representation similar to that introduced in the Peers with reference to the Kasuhi Shrine, and rose at 4.05 p.m.

Sir Claude Macdonald, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, goes home in March on leave. Overwork has been responsible for a not altogether satisfactory state of health. It is quite probable that his leave of six months will be extended.

HERR JUNKER'S SECOND CONCERT.

The second "grand" concert by Herr Junker's combined societies was given in the Public Hall on Monday evening, drawing a good audience. As before, this was a popular and financial success; but the programme and performance appeal to the *fancier*, rather than to the connoisseur, and as such we treat it.

First as to the soloists. Mrs. Clarke made a most favourable impression upon her *début* at these concerts and Mrs. Payne sang like the artist that she is. Mr. Seel did well in Neesler's celebrated song; and was not all disturbed by the "Orchestra Accompaniment" as per programme.

The chorns was short in numbers—about half of the boasted 80 being present. But this half did well that which they had to do (nothing very onerous on the present occasion), the ladies especially looked charming and sang delightfully. The audience were immensely tickled by a little ditty in the second part about a maritime Cupid, with his little boat, and a reference to "four stars." This had to be repeated, and was the only encore of the evening.

Turning to the band, we find the strings good and strong as before: if we might venture a suggestion, it is that the violins be increased, to balance the great preponderance of deep tone furnished by bass, cello and viola. We congratulate Herr Junker upon his performers, and his direction generally; also on the additions and improvements made in several of the numbers. The duet (*tempo rubato*) in the Rosamunde Overture, between cymbals and triangle, was especially fine: the addition of P.F. to Mozart's Church motet (as well as drawing the piece out to twice its normal length) was a stroke of genius, and would have been eminently satisfactory to the composer could he have heard it. (It is but fitting that he who improved Handel should himself be improved in his turn.) But the climax was reached in Meyerbeer's Coronation March, where the cymbals and pianoforte vied with each other in producing such a magnificent peroration—old Jakob never heard while he was with us.

Altogether (as friend Popsy would say) "a right merrie evening with consort of vials and so home."

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

- 1—Overture: Rosamunde Schubert.
Orchestra.
- 2—A. the Cloister-gate Grieg.
For Solo, Chorus and Orchestra.
- 3—Selections:—
(a) T. Amneri Schumann.
(b) Serenade Haydn.
Singing Orchestra.
- 4—La Carità Rossini.
Soprano Solo and Lady Chorus.

INTERMISSION.

PART II.

- 1—Königs-marsch from the "Prophet" Meyerbeer.
Orchestra.
- 2—Ave Verum Mozart.
Chorus and Orchestra.
- 3—"Der Trompeter von Säckingen" Neesler.
Bass Solo and Orchestra Accompaniment.
- 4—Tuscan Volks-Song Weinmann.
Chorus.
- 5—Waltz "T. & J." Waldteufel.
Orchestra.

STABBING AFFRAY AT KOSUGE.

A serious affray took place on the night of Jan. 30th at a Japanese drinking saloon at Kosuge, Nagasaki, a man named Neale, stoker of H.M.S. *Barfleur*, being stabbed in five places. His assailants were Japanese, and one person has been arrested by the police, who are enquiring into the matter. Most of Neale's wounds are on the face, and, though serious, are fortunately not of a dangerous character. He was able to return to his ship after his wounds had been attended to.—*Nagasaki Press*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ANOTHER CORRECTION.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In my letter published in your issue of the 28th inst., I state that the only representative of the historic Lutheran Church in Japan is the Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Kyōshū. Since writing that letter I have been informed that the Danish Lutheran Church has recently undertaken mission work in Japan; so our mission is no longer the only representative of Lutheranism here.

Thanking you for the privilege of making this correction I remain,

Yours truly,

R. B. PERRY.

Saga, January.

THE REV. R. P. ALEXANDER

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Many friends will be interested to learn that the Rev. R. P. Alexander and child, who were so seriously burned at the Hirotsaki fire, are progressing as favorably as could be expected.

A large number of letters have been received, but as Mr. Alexander is not yet able to attend to correspondence personally, he desired me in this way to express his thanks to all the friends for their cordial sympathy, so highly appreciated at this time of severe affliction.

Yours truly,

GIDEON F. DRAPER.

January 28th, 1899.

THE VALUE OF DEMOCRACY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your paper of to-day's issue, under the heading of "Prof. Davidson for Imperialism," occurs the following:

"All progress means more or less the abandonment of tradition. Democracy itself is the abandonment of nearly all the past political traditions of the race" (human). The generally prevailing idea that democracy is something new is clearly a mistake, as citizen-suffrage was in full force at ancient Rome, and also in the Athenian republic about 480 B.C. The radical and republican belief, or rather delusion, that anyone is qualified to be a legislator or administrator provided he is elected by manhood suffrage, has not produced good or honest government in the United States. Going back to the old-fashioned notion of citizen-suffrage, it has not been a success in the French republic, the negro republics of Liberia and Hayti, or in the various republics of Central and South America. In Australasia it has produced a second rate class of politics and politicians.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ANGLO-SAXON.

Yokohama, Jan. 30th, 1899.

THE WINDFALLS OF 1898.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the course of a year some thousands of advertisements appear in the "Agony" columns of the press inquiring for missing heirs, legatees and others. Many of these notices, apart from their monetary value, possess a curious air of romance, which renders them of great general interest. A short summary of the more important cases for the year may, therefore, interest your readers.

Information is wanted as to the descendants of Lieutenant John Eley, or Ely, who was massacred at Vellecore in 1806; and the relations of Captain Rogers, who, about 1870, with his two daughters, sailed for Java, and were never again heard of, are inquired for. Alexander Hicks, who emigrated to Australia many years ago, or his next-of-kin, are interested in freehold estates at Brighton; and the relations of Rachel Hill, who lived at Chesham-upon-Medlock in 1840, are entitled to an inheritance. The heir-at-law of George Carter,

late of Earlston, Warwick, who died in 1886, is missing; £4,236 is due to the next-of-kin of F. J. Fernandes, who died abroad in 1892; and J. H. Cock who left England for America in 1873, is entitled to funds. The children of Mary Cooper, of Ipswich, widow, so described in the will of Ezekiel Taylor, deceased in 1837, are sought; also the widow of T. F. Evans, who died in a hospital in 1887. Dora Henwood, daughter of Mary A. Henwood, of Cornwall, is informed that her mother is dead, and that she is entitled to a legacy; while the relatives, supposed to be in Scotland, of a Miss Harvey, who lived at a baker's shop in the Harrow Road, London, in 1860, are wanted for their benefit. It is intimated that the property of Emily M. Hynes, who visited Paris in 1882, has much increased; and William Mackay, who left Scotland for London many years ago, or his heirs, are interested in the estate of a plumber who died intestate. Mary E. Shobolt, née Marshall, and William Marshall, who left England for America in 1852, are missing legatees; the descendants are sought of Michael How, who married Eleazer Casemore in 1787; and the grandson of William Moore, deceased, formerly Governor of Horse-monger Lane Gaol, is inquired for. T. F. Whistler, who went abroad some time ago, can hear of a sum of money standing in his name; and the children of Mary Bryan, who lived in Yorkshire in 1873, are missing. W. R. Clayton, who left Lincolnshire for America about 40 years ago, is entitled to funds; Alicia Dunne, last heard of in London in 1856, is wanted; also Richard Parker, formerly of Natal, and supposed to have gone to Melbourne. The children of Thomas Milne, coachmaker, of Long Acre, who died in 1844, are only now inquired for; H. W. Bainbridge, last heard of in Arizona in 1891, is entitled to share in an estate; and the nephews of George Bullen, of Tottenham, deceased in 1875, are missing. The relations of William Pickering, formerly of Salisbury, Warwick, who died in 1859, or of his wife, Elizabeth Bicknell, are wanted; also the children of Henry D. Osborn, livery-stable keeper, of London, in 1853; while information is desired of H. A. Slater, nephew of Anthony Slater, deceased, late of Liverpool and Philadelphia. Richard Fern, or Fearn, who was convicted of house breaking, sentenced to transportation for life, and sailed for New South Wales in 1830, is interested in an estate in Chancery; Thomas Greenwood, who left for Australia in 1853, and went into the bush, is inquired for; and W. H. F. Cross, formerly of Manchester, is entitled to freehold property.

Representatives of shareholders in the West New Jersey Society, on whose stock no dividends have been paid since 1692, are again sought; while the youngest daughters of Alice Lanham and Maria Howlett, sisters of Nathaniel Palmer, veterinary surgeon, deceased, are entitled to participate in the sale of some property. Missing relatives, supposed to have entered a work house, are interested in the estate of Elizabeth Alexander, who was born in Ireland in 1813, and who married Thomas Ashby, of Liverpool; and among several members of the Seamer family advertised for may be mentioned Walter Seamer, believed to have gone to Australia many years ago, and the children of William Seamer, who married Elizabeth Richardson in 1813.

Many persons are inquired for by the Courts of Chancery. These include Jonathan Hasans, of Hongkong in 1845; Mary A. Rowcamp, or Roecamp, the wife of a brass-moulder; W. H. Markwick, of India; A. E. Markwick, whose address is unknown; Michael Shiers, a confectioner; the nephews and nieces of Richard Sholl, late of Newton Ferrers, Devonshire; the next-of-kin of Emily C. Proctor, of Wiltshire, who died in 1884; Sophia R. Ellis, believed to have gone to New Zealand; and the next-of-kin of Charles Strong, of Exeter, who for many years was confined in a lunatic asylum.

Among numerous lucky individuals wanted for "something to their advantage" are William Purchase, who left England in 1848; Arthur Such, who, when six years of age, was

taken abroad by his father; G. A. Moxon, who left England for Canada several years ago; Edwin Fife, last heard of in Queensland; Robert and Walter Hartley, formerly of Manchester, who have been absent from home for a number of years; Charlotte, Elizabeth and James Williams, of London in 1849, or their descendants; Stephen Spring, of Pembroke Dock in 1866; Henry Barton, who went to Australia about 1835; Frank Nicholls, formerly of Bristol, and afterwards of America; Jane Johnston, last heard of at Manchester in 1895; George Levick, an engineer; Ann Turner, the widow of a coachman; Nathaniel Kilminster, last heard of in Naples; and Joseph Jackson, who left for Bermuda in 1856 and proceeded to Australia.

The next of kin or representatives are sought of William Parry, who died shortly before 1815; John Queen, or Quin, and Marion Smith, who were married in Paisley in 1849; Conrad H. A. Reid, said to have died at Singapore in 1856; Mary Robinson, maiden name unknown, born in Glasgow in 1845, who died in New York; John Freeth, of Birmingham; Hannah Pitkin, deceased in 1869; Josiah Joyce, of Tasmania; Ellen A. Harrison, widow, of Kenish Town, who died in 1882; Henry Lodge, licensed victualler, of Bexley, Kent; Jane Oliver, of King's Lynn; and Delia Plomer, formerly widow of James R. Wright, and whose maiden name is believed to have been Dymond, deceased in 1888.

Among estates of persons who have died in the Colonies leaving money for their unknown heirs may be mentioned the names of the following intestates:—John Renny, £3,576; Edward Bevan Thomas, £1,995; Sarah and Thomas Wells, £502; H. W. Remy, £69; E. A. Lehman, £1,091; John C. Jamieson, £677; John Reid, or Reed, £371; George T. Ivey, £563; and Richard W. Platt, £628.

In addition to the foregoing, claimants to Chancery deposits in Jamaica are sought; several lists of officers' and soldiers' unclaimed balances are issued; certain shareholders are entitled to unclaimed moneys in the Waterloo Bridge and other companies; the Treasury Solicitor has advertised for next of kin in several cases in which intestates' estates have fallen to the Crown in the absence of heirs; and many rewards are offered for missing wills, birth, marriage and death certificates.

I am, Sir your obedient servant,

SIDNEY H. PRESTON.

27, Chancery Lane, London, W. C.
December 27th, 1898.

AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

OPINIONS OF AN ACUTE OBSERVER.

PROTECTORATE, NOT ANNEXATION.

A WAR OF CONQUEST IMPOSSIBLE.

Professor Clay MacCauley, of Tokyo, who has just returned from a trip to the Philippines, was interviewed by a representative of the *Japan Mail* shortly after landing at Yokohama. The Professor gave an interesting account of recent events at Manila.

THE GREAT CRISIS.

"I was there," he said, "during the great crisis, which began on the 5th January and came to a termination on the 12th, by which time a *modus vivendi* was arrived at which will probably continue until some definitive policy is announced by the United States Government. The insurgents and the United States forces were on the friendliest of terms at the downfall of Manila, and it was then the former's expectation that they would at once receive recognition by the American Government and be given a share in the administration of the islands. As no treaty of peace, however, had been signed, the United States officials were unable to hold any official intercourse with the insurgents, though at that time a very pleasant social relationship existed between the officers and the insurgent leaders. This inability to recognise them officially made the insurgents rather suspicious of what the United States people intended to

do. That feeling, and the fear the Americans felt of compromising themselves, had the effect of gradually lessening the warmth of the social relations, and in October they ceased entirely, the insurgents beginning to look on the conquerors as their possible enemies. Matters continued, however, on a peace footing, although the insurgents began to import arms and ammunition in large quantities from Hongkong by way of Manila. Up to the present time they have imported about 80,000 rifles. They have enrolled a large number of men for their army, and throughout November and December were drilling to the utmost of their ability.

A MISUNDERSTOOD PROCLAMATION.

"I arrived there just at the time President McKinley, through General Otis, issued his proclamation. It was done with the most friendly intent to the Filipinos, but was unhappily very much misunderstood. In the first place, it was issued through the office of the Military Governor of the Philippines, and in the proclamation it was stated by General Otis that the regulations concerning the administration of affairs in the Philippine Islands were to be of such and such a character. The tension produced by this became so strong that Aguinaldo issued the first proclamation resenting any such scheme as Gen. Otis had put forth, or such as was assumed to follow from the President's words, and the Filipino soldiers were mustered to such an extent that Manila practically came into a state of siege. The American soldiers were under the strictest orders not to promote hostilities, and it seems the Filipino forces were also under the same orders, but while the heat of intentions appeared to direct their leaders the subordinates were very impatient and it became apparent that the slightest provocation would produce an attack. Aguinaldo afterwards issued his second proclamation, which ended by saying that the responsibility for bloodshed would be on the heads of the United States. On the 6th, the insurgent commanders issued orders to all the Filipino residents in Manila to come out of the City and take their places within the insurgent lines. That was quite a hostile movement, and on the 7th, 8th, and 9th many thousands of people left Manila for the interior, using all sorts of vehicles, from water buffalo drays to four-wheeled carriages, while I saw many poor people carrying all their possessions on their heads; at the same time the Spanish who lived in the suburbs of the city in large numbers made an opposite-going stream seeking refuge in the large citadel of Manila, while simultaneously the Americans were hurrying to their barracks and intrenchments. The crisis was indescribable. I saw the carriages on the Bridge of Spain so crowded that six of them were smashed into kindling wood in the scramble. Everybody was in a state of great excitement.

GREAT EXCITEMENT.

On the night of the 10th, there was a general alarm excited by the burning of several Filipino houses, and through the consequent confusion it seemed almost as if fighting was taking place. We were told that the attack would be made about 3 o'clock on the morning of the 10th, and the excitement through that night was very great. On the 10th, there was more excitement through a quarrel in the market, or some say it was the shooting of a dog. All the merchants closed their places of business and the regiments were called out and went with a rush for the entrenchments. It seemed as though war had actually begun. At that time I was sent down through the city in a friend's carriage, and every shop was closed as tightly as if it were Sunday. However, the conflict did not take place, and the two armies remained within a very few yards of each other for two or three hours, but no imprudent act occurred, and at nightfall everything had become quiet again. In the midst of the excitement the commanding General appointed a commission consisting of Provost-marshal General Hughes, the Judge Advocate General, and Col. Smith, of the 1st California Regiment, and asked them to meet three representatives of the

insurgent forces and try to come to an understanding by which the insurgents would agree to wait until some definite policy could be announced by the President of the United States. The Filipinos did not then seem to understand that the Treaty of Paris had not been ratified and consequently no definitive policy could be announced by the United States Government. The Filipinos seemed to have become convinced that it was the intention of the United States to take away all semblance of autonomy from them; but the real root of the trouble was wounded vanity—the feeling that they were not being considered in the arrangements, and that the United States Government was holding no official relations with them. That was the course of affairs up to the 13th, when I left.

THE STATE OF MANILA.

"What was the state of the city when you were there—was the place quiet, or was business much disturbed?"

"Well, business has, with the exception of that brief period of anxiety, been going on as usual. Up to the 5th there was perfect toleration. People were perfectly free to come into the city provided they had no arms. I saw groups of Spanish soldiers, Filipinos, and American soldiers standing and talking together. But during the three days I spoke of there was such tension that it was like living in a besieged city. The night of the 9th an incident occurred that made matters much more serious. A South Dakota man was on his beat as sentry when two native's sprang upon him with knives, cut him a gash in the face, another on the chest, and another on the left arm. However, he bayoneted one and shot the other. Both were killed. This incident induced a very tense state of feeling. A couple of nights before that, a United States sergeant was killed by one of our own men because he did not answer the sentry's hail when he was near an important part of the magazines."

THE CULTURE OF THE FILIPINOS.

"What impression did you form of the Filipinos?"

"Well, they struck me as being very serious determined men, but of course I could not give any proper judgment of them. Evidently they are not under very good discipline as yet. Their upper classes are very much more intelligent and better educated than people give them credit for. They are very like the people of Japan in this—that they have a large ignorant peasant class, but they have many thousands of men as merchants, plantation owners, literary men, &c., who have had a good deal of education in Hongkong, Spain, Germany, and England, and some in the United States. There is thus a large class who could probably under proper control take part in government, but their traits of character are such that nobody could entrust them with entire self-government with any safety. Here is an instance which indicates the weakness of organization among them. When Admiral Dewey captured Cavite, there were in a very short time seven bands each claiming to establish a Government, and for a time it seemed as if the whole country would be given over to chaos. The only man who could restore order was Aguinaldo. He was brought over from Hongkong as a peace measure, and he, with the help of the prestige he had enjoyed before, organized all these parties into one body. He is carrying on the internal administration of the islands very well now. The Filipinos have a very good postal administration, for example. I saw some handsomely engraved postage stamps just issued; they are available for postage throughout the country. The business men in Manila place every confidence in the Filipino postal service; in fact, it is the habit of the merchants to send their correspondence five miles to the country to the Filipino post office and post them there. They have been gathering their taxes in the interior and during the last few weeks they have sent nearly one million dollars from the Philippines to Hongkong to their agents."

MUCH LIKE THE JAPANESE.

"What do you think of the natives generally?"

"Well, they are as much like the people of

Japan as I can imagine any country, except that they are on a little lower level. There is a great deal of wealth and intelligence. I do not consider Aguinaldo, personally, a strong man, but as chief of the Junta he has great power. He is not supposed himself to have written the proclamations he has issued."

NATIVE VIEWS OF A PROTECTORATE.

"Do you think the natives would be favourable to a protectorate?"

"Well, I have already sent to the *New York Herald* my views on that matter. I said that as a result of a study of the situation at Manila, I think there are now only three ways open to the United States for the solution of the Philippines problem. In the first place, the Islands might be annexed by force of purchase. The use of force means that the United States will be plunged into the most disastrous foreign war in their history, a war that would entail great loss of life and treasure and the violation of our national honour. Purchase means the recognition of the insurgents as our allies during the war with Spain, the reward of the leaders with high office and salaries, the employment of insurgents in military and civil offices, with back pay as allies for some months, &c. Such purchase would secure a compromising gain of doubtful tenure. Generally speaking, the Americans in Manila are opposed to annexation in any form. The second way open to us is to make a complete transfer of the sovereignty in these islands from Spain to the Philippine Republic, the United States retaining for its own use Manila Bay and ports—like Hongkong by Great Britain. This solution means the defenceless exposure of the Philippine Islands to the greed of the world's Powers, with a consequent acute crisis in Europe over its Far Eastern question. This way is neither honourable nor wise. The third is to recognise the autonomy of the Philippines under an American protectorate. This means independence for the Philippines Republic in the administration of its own internal affairs, the United States taking charge of the supreme judiciary and the Republic's foreign relations, such as the power to declare war or to enter into treaties with Foreign Powers, the control of the Customs, etc. This solution might bring about intelligence towards absolute independence in the future or voluntary annexation to the United States. Only by the third way can there be peace and prosperity for both the United States and the Philippines. Immediate action is imperative."

THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION.

"We have read a good deal as to discontent about the American administration. There was a letter in a Singapore paper abusing the Americans in very strong terms. What were your own impressions?"

"That letter was certainly a gross exaggeration, though it is true that the Americans have incurred some unpopularity through their continuing the old Spanish laws in regard to customs, &c. The Americans have revived a great many regulations which are oppressive but which under the late administration could be evaded by bribery. Bribery is unpardonable with the Americans as administrators, and consequently that makes things appear very oppressive to merchants. Some seven bills have by the Spanish regulations to be taken out for cargo, but by a judicious use of money they used to be reduced to one or two. Now the whole seven have to be adhered to, which makes things very onerous. But the police administration of the city is admirable. It is conducted by the Minnesota Regiment, and I saw men whom I know to be professional men and business men acting as military police. It is not true that the American soldiers are addicted to drunkenness or rowdiness. Nor are they overbearing in manner, though certainly they have the bearing of being possessors of the place. However, they do not subject the natives to any insult. The only serious thing I heard is that they have got into debt with some of the saloons and storekeepers, but as a notice was issued by the Government warning the latter, it is their own fault. The health of the troops is much better during the dry and winter season, though the weather is still ex-

remely hot. The soldiers have discontinued their foolish practice of eating all kinds of foods and drinking a large quantities beer and strong liquors."

AGAINST ANNEXATION.

"What is the general feeling on the future of the Islands?"

"Among the Army and Navy it is very strongly against annexation. Among the common soldiers there is a feeling that it is impossible for them to stay there and live and work, consequently they have no use for the country. The other people who look on it as a commercial affair think that under the wise proterate of a friendly Government capitalists will have as many advantages as under annexation. Annexation is not considered necessary by any one."

NO TRANSFER OF GREAT BRITAIN.

"Is there any idea of an ultimate transfer to Great Britain?"

"No, the feeling is that the United States would best solve the question by guaranteeing complete internal autonomy to the people, reserving for themselves the control of the Supreme Court for final appeal and judgment in process of law and controlling perhaps the foreign relations of the Republic so far as treaty-making and war-making powers are concerned, taking not exactly control but supervision of the regulation of customs duties, and reserving a certain portion of the revenue for their own use. I did not find a General Officer there who is in favour of annexation. The general sentiment seems to be gathering decidedly towards autonomy with a United States protectorate. I think that would prove acceptable to the people. I think almost anything but absolute subjection will be acceptable to them, as long as they feel that they have the sympathy and goodwill of the American people. To my own mind much of the irritation so far has been caused because they think they are regarded as an inferior people and not worth considering in the matter of the disposal of the Islands."

"It is quite untrue," continued the Professor, "that murders are of nightly occurrence and that the administration is rotten. Manila is as safe as Japan."

MANILA'S OLD WORLD CHARM.

The Professor waxed eloquent on the charm of Manila as a city, which he described as more like Florence than anything he had ever seen. The dome of the Cathedral, the big Churches, the great fortresses and medieval embellishments and bastions, the great walls and bridges, the clean well-paved streets, the fine stores with large plate-glass windows, the stately Government buildings, the beautiful residences of the rich Spaniards and Filipinos—all these, Dr. MacCauley said, were "finer than anything you could see in Japan." It was, he added, an eye opener to the soldiers from small inland American "cities." The cathedral is at present occupied by Spanish prisoners, and is sadly desecrated. Mr. MacCauley saw soldiers gambling under the altar, and there were at least 150 playing cards in the aisles under the eyes of two American sentries. The Governor-General's Palace is a magnificent structure, for the Spaniards knew how to make their surroundings splendid. It possesses a most beautiful marble staircase and a fine statue of some person famous in Spanish history. The Court of Justice has magnificent hangings, the roof is supported by splendid columns, and beautiful paintings adorn the walls. A very large portrait of the Queen Regent still hangs there. The whole place is like one of the great cities of Southern Europe.

THE PRIARS' DELINQUENCIES.

Turning to the question of the grievances of the Filipinos Professor MacCauley said there was no doubt the Friars had been cruel, tyrannical, and extortionate. Their fees for burials and marriages were very high; many natives preferred to live together out of wedlock rather than pay the excessive cost of the marriage ceremony. In many other ways, the ecclesiastics need their position to plunder the people, and this accounted for the murderous hatred in which they were held. The Archbishop of Manila had a very bad name; he was described as a man who would improve vastly by hanging.

THE ILOILO AFFAIR.

Referring to the Iloilo affair, the Professor said: "It is believed the tension there was brought about by the treachery of General Rios, who was in command of the Spanish forces. He promised the United States authorities that when he was no longer able to hold the place and had to evacuate it, he would notify them. Towards the end of December, he informed General Otis he was ready to hand over Iloilo to the American force. Gen. Otis prepared an expedition and sent it down under the convoy of the *Charleston*, but when it arrived it was found that, some days previously, the Spanish had turned the place over to the rebels in the expectation that the Americans would demand possession and proceed to hostilities. When the American forces came, the business men of the place requested them not to land. General Miller agreed not to do this and sent back to Manila to report the state of affairs. The result was that the *Charleston* was ordered back to Manila and some of the troops were afterwards ordered back, leaving things in *status quo*. The general impression when I left was that the crisis was past and both parties would wait."

With regard to the supply of arms to the insurgents, the Professor said they were chiefly bought in Hongkong ostensibly for shipment to Macao and China. The Hongkong Government would probably take steps to stop the export, in which two Americans among others were engaged.

A CHANGE OF POSITION.

Mr. MacCanley described interestingly a visit to the great prison at Manila, where the United States received from Spain charge of some 1,600 prisoners. Among them is the former commandant of the prison. He was left in charge at the time of the surrender, and there were then in the safe of the prison some 23,000 dollars of money for the prisoners. A few days after there were only 9,000 dollars in the safe. Hence the commandant's change of position.

PROSPECTS FOR CAPITAL.

Asked his opinion as to the prospects of business in the country, the Professor said: "It offers a fine opportunity for exploitation; for while it is under a good deal of cultivation the country is in a very large extent a virgin country still, and the opportunities for the growth of sugar, hemp, and tobacco and for the development of mines, are I am told, very great. But while it is a good country for capital there is no opening for labour. The only chance is for capital lists and their immediate assistants. As for the subjugation of the Islands, it is told to talk of a war of conquest, for the reason that the climate, so good physicians tell me, would place sixty soldiers out of 100 hors de combat in 60 days. For a long distance back of Manila the country is as flat as it is round Tokyo, and composed of swamp land cleared here and there to the extent of four or five acres but surrounded by bamboo thickets and tropical jungle. There are no roads over which wagons could be taken, and transportation is extremely difficult. If soldiers went into the country they would have to camp amid the swamp, and malaria would disable them in a very short time. The Filipinos would have hundreds of miles of country to fight over, and their tactics would be a guerrilla warfare. Every bamboo thicket and jungle would be a shelter for their rifles, and the loss of life and expense of such a war would be terrible. In fact, it is hardly to be thought of."

THE CLIMATE.

In conclusion the Professor spoke of the climate. Though it is now mid winter the weather is extremely hot, so hot that sleep at night is not comfortable, and exercise in the middle of the day intolerable. In March the hot season begins, and lasts till July. The heat is then intolerable, the skies being cloudless and the sultriness tempered with no refreshing winds. In July and August, though still intensely hot, the moisture and winds make things a little more bearable. Mosquitoes of an exceptionally blood-thirsty species flourish all the year round, and detract much from the enjoyment of life.

A HUMOROUS THIEF.

The premises of Messrs. Herb and Co., Yokohama, were entered early on Monday morning by a thief of catholic tastes and humorous temperament. He entered by the window of a small sample room at the back of the ground floor, taking out a pane with the dexterity of an expert glazier. He ransacked this room and another on the upper floor, both filled with samples; selected a great number of miscellaneous articles; opened a bottle of whisky and a packet of cigarettes; and apparently spent a pleasant time before leaving. He was a man of devices. He brought his own candle, but, being without a candlestick, improvised one from a sample salt cellar. He apparently had no boy to carry off his booty, but his genius rose to the occasion, and he neatly denuded the windows of their curtains for packing purposes. His tastes, while catholic, were luxurious. He opened nearly every box and drawer in the rooms, but only selected a few valuable articles here and there. A few boxes of carved ivory appealed to his artistic instincts, and were annexed wholesale. He appears to have hesitated over some rolls of high class woollen suitings, and apparently only left them behind with regret as too heavy, consoling himself with some vividly coloured neckties, two or three handsome silk shawls, and some blankets. He scented his handkerchief liberally with choice perfume, but after opening several cases of toilet soap left them behind with disgust. Altogether he secured a few hundred yen worth of things. Having packed up his bundles he sat down and wrote a polite note to the occupants, couched in classic Japanese. In this he stated that he was a gallant *Samurai* and full of love for his fellow men; that his motives were excellent; that he intended to sell the goods he had taken, and give the proceeds to the poor. The exact wording of the letter was as follows:—"I am a chivalrous man who undertakes the task of collecting money and property from the rich and distributing them among the poor as well as using them for the purpose of elevating myself in society. Fortunately I have secured some prizes here and so I tender my thanks to the firm. 2 a.m., Jan. 30th, 1899. Shinko Kozo ('godly fox fellow'), a chivalrous man of Meiji." The police are investigating the little joke.

CASUALTIES TO N.Y.K. STEAMERS

At 8 p.m. on the 26th January, Captain Allen, of the *Yamaguchi Maru*, discovered fire among the cotton cargo on board and headed for Oginohama at once, arriving on Friday. The *Yamaguchi* was on a voyage from Seattle to Yokohama. Every effort was made when the fire was first discovered, to extinguish the flames, but without success, and when the vessel arrived the fire was still un subdued. She was at once beached and measures were taken to put out the fire.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha on Wednesday, stated:—The fire is in No. 2 hold, and is still burning. The contents are cotton for Yokohama, Kobe, and Shanghai, and flour for Hongkong. Every effort is being made to extinguish the fire, but work is very difficult through the ship's plates being hot. Latest advices from Oginohama report that the cargo from No. 2 hold has already been discharged, partially damaged by water.

A cablegram has also been received from England to the effect that the N.Y.K. *Bingo Maru*, Capt. G. E. P. Cook, has been in collision on the Tyne. The accident is serious. The Yokohama office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is not in possession of detailed information, but has received a telegram from the Tokyo office confirming the news that a collision has taken place.

A London despatch which has reached the Government confirms the report that the N.Y.K. steamer *Bingo Maru* (tonnage 6,241) collided on the 22nd ultimo with a foreign steamer—the *Ural*—on the Tyne during the

voyage from Middlesbrough, having left London on the 17th ultimo. She will have to go into dock for repair. It is believed that the collision was caused by the heavy fog, and took place while the pilot was on board.

CHINA NOTES.

Under the heading, The Yangtze Valley, the *N. C. Daily News* gives utterance to the following leading article:—"Mr. A. R. Colquhoun writes from Kueichowfu, on the Upper Yangtze, that unless we assert our right to maintain order in the Yangtze Valley, which by every right we claim as our sphere of influence, that you will slip away from us as the north of China has done and is doing. The policy in which we are joining at Peking is to weaken the authority of the Provincial Governments, and favour the concentration of all power in the hands of the Manchus at Peking, which means in the hands of Russia. For this reason we regret the withdrawal of the *Hermione* from Nanking, as her presence there tended to strengthen the hands of Viceroy Liu. Our position is becoming more and more precarious, and we want a Kitchener or a Noel with a free hand to straighten things out. There is little doubt that serious trouble may be anticipated in this Valley unless we stiffen up the Viceroys, and the public at home should understand that chaos in China may suit every other Power but ourselves and the United States. Lord Salisbury seems to be relying on some vague promise from Germany that she will not interfere with us in the Valley, and probably our Foreign Minister will endeavour, when Parliament meets, by some such assurance to quiet the public at home, unless the China party in the Commons are on the alert. It is no longer a question, says Mr. Colquhoun, whether the proposed railway connecting Burma with the Yangtze through Yunnan will pay; it must be made, and as soon as possible, for the protection of our sphere of influence. Preparations should be made also for continuing it to the Tungting Lake and to Hankow; so as to put the future Chicago of China—Shanghai being the New York—in railway connection with Burma. Unless everything possible is done to strengthen our moral hold on the Yangtze Valley, we may be by and find ourselves edged out of China altogether."

Augustus Barrier, lately second officer of the China Merchants' steamer *Feiching*, has died in the General Hospital at Shanghai under circumstances of the saddest character. The deceased was one of the victims in the disgraceful affray which occurred on board the *Feiching* in Shanghai river on Christmas night when the second engineer, in a state of intoxication, ran amok and shot three men. Barrier received a bullet wound in the head, and his condition was such that, after being once released from the Hospital, it became necessary to re-admit him. Afterwards he appeared against the engineer referred to, a Chinese Islander named Tounney, at the British Court at the preliminary investigation, where he undoubtedly presented evidences of acute suffering. The *N. C. Daily News* learns that Tounney will be put forward on the capital charge, but on the other hand it is stated that the death was actually due to suppressed small-pox. Barrier who had been employed on the China coast for some considerable time, was generally respected by his shipmates.

The Editor of the *Peking and Tientsin Times* gathers from sundry indications at Peking that the Empress Dowager is inclining to join the ranks of the Reformers.

The *Kuowtnpao* says that it is in contemplation to substitute women for the eunuchs in the Imperial Palace at Peking.

According to a Soochow dispatch, printed in a Shanghai contemporary, the water route between that city and Quinsan has, since the 1st of January, been the scene of no less than seven cases of piracy, in two of which the pirates cut down five men. The last piracy was on the

night of the 17th Jan., when two boat-loads of pirates robbed a passenger boat near Quinsan of nearly \$500 in cash and six leather trunks of winter fur and silk clothing belonging to some of the passengers, who were well-to-do natives of Quinsan returning from Soochow to spend the Chinese New Year holidays in their homes.

The *North-China Daily News* contains a stirring tale of the sea, the adventures of the C. N. Company's steamer *Ningpo*, Captain Phillips, on a voyage from Otaru to Shanghai. She left port on the morning of Jan. 14th under somewhat favourable circumstances, the wind being variable and moderate. At five o'clock that evening the wind shifted to the westward, and at six to the north-east and blew a whole gale from 8 p.m. until noon. The following day a perfect hurricane was encountered, and Capt. Phillips judiciously hove the vessel to. At 1 p.m. the barometer was at its lowest, namely, 28.95, with a temperature of 5° Fahr. The ship was covered with masses of ice, the riggings were frozen into solid blocks, the ropes were a foot in diameter with ice, and the weather cloths on the upper bridge were walls of the same cold and cheerless substance. At half-past two the wind veered to the northward and commenced to moderate, although still blowing a gale. By half-past nine the wind had fallen considerably, and the sea became less rough, when one independent, almost perpendicular, wave of gigantic proportions came rolling along into which the vessel plunged up to the foremast. The huge body of water breaking aboard swept the heavy ice chest over the side, smashed the main derrick in halves, and completely stove in the steel bulkhead of the saloon, flattened down the rails both of the upper and lower bridges, and even carried away the awning spars of the former. Fortunately Mr. Pennel, the chief officer, who was on watch, escaped without injury. The bridge ladders which were triced up were also carried away and the commodore's room stove in. All the boats were thrown out of the chocks and two on the starboard side were stove in. Soon after daylight on the 16th, the weather having moderated, Capt. Phillips bore away for Hakodate Roads and anchored in Satsukari Bay at 1.50 a.m. on the 17th. During all the time they were visited with heavy snow and hail squalls. At noon on the 18th, having done all that was possible for the safety of the ship, a fresh departure was made, the wind blowing fresh from the north-west and west and then veering to north-west with moderate gale force as far as Okishima, thence moderate N.N.W. winds and nasty beam sea to Woosung.

The following Imperial edict concerning the disturbances in Central China was issued on 22nd January, says the *N.-C. Daily News*:—"The other day, when we received news of the rising at Kuyang, Anhui province, we issued repeated instructions to Liu Kun-yi, Viceroy of the Liangkang provinces, and Teng Hua-hai, Governor of Anhui, to act in concert in crushing the disturbances there. We now learn that desperadoes in Haiyai district, Honan province, have also risen up in discontent, and it is to be feared that they will join the rebels of Kuyang and spread trouble in various directions. Having in mind, however, that of late years the districts joining the two provinces of Honan and Anhui have been the scene of crop failures and much consequent suffering amongst the inhabitants thereof, it may be that the risings above noted were due to a famine-stricken people seeking for food, and then, fearing lest the authorities call the delinquents to account, they were led to raise the flag of rebellion in order to prevent capture and punishment. Although such practice in theory is perfectly unpardonable, there is yet an element in the present instance which calls for our pity and clemency. And, lest, in sending forth the Imperial armies to crush these rebellions, no distinction be made between those who voluntarily rebel and such as were forced to do so through lack of food, whereby the innocent and the guilty will suffer together—a proceeding at the thought of which our heart revolts—we hereby issue this

edict calling upon our people to avoid the serious crime of rebellion. Furthermore, a short time ago, when the Governor of Anhui reported to us that the prefectures of Fengyang and Yenchow were suffering from drought as well as floods, we graciously commanded the Board of Revenue to remit funds at once to the distressed districts, and the Viceroy Liu and Governor Teng were also commanded to investigate the extent of the distress in order that when the funds arrived immediate aid could be dispensed. This shows that we think day and night concerning the welfare of our people; it may be, however, that the local authorities concerned are in fault this time, and the people have suffered through their avarice and dishonesty and have so been forced into rebellion. If such be the case then not only the local authorities but also the high provincial officials cannot be free from blame. All should, therefore, at once seek to redeem their faults and while on the one hand be prepared to grant every relief to our suffering subjects, issue proclamations, on the other hand, calling upon the rebels to lay down their arms and come and accept the relief the withholding of which caused them to take up arms. Again, should it be discovered that the misconduct and avarice of the local authorities were really the cause of the above-noted troubles, we hereby command the said Viceroy and Governor to denounce such men with the greatest severity in order that the true delinquents may be punished. Care should also be taken to give every protection to the numerous missionary chapels, missionaries, and converts scattered throughout the disturbed districts. Finally, strict discipline should be kept among the troops sent to crush the rebellion so that innocent people may not suffer from their outrages, while no mercy should be shown to rebel leaders and those who willingly join them against the government.

Three large steam launches have been bought in Hongkong by the U.S. Government for service in Manila, and they will steam over immediately.

The *N.-C. Daily News* understands that the new first-class cruiser *Bertha* will relieve the German cruiser *Arcona* on the Asiatic station.

The *Universal Gazette's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that the secret edict reported to have been sent by the Empress Dowager to the Governor of Chinese Turkestan the other day was, after all, not meant to recall the exiled Chang Yin-huan, but that, if it is any comfort to his friends to know, the edict merely cancelled the sentence of banishment for life to imprisonment for life. This looks the same, remarks our senior Shanghai contemporary, but really absolves the exile from working on the post-roads.

The Honan rebel chief whose name is Huo Ming-yen has made his stronghold in a hill village, two miles from the T'ang Hill, where 21 centuries ago Liu Pang, the founder of the powerful Han dynasty, first made his attempt for the Dragon Throne. The families of the rebel chief and his adherents have all been housed in this village, and Brigadier-General Ch'en of Hsichow has ordered a cavalry force now at Suchow to reconnoitre the stronghold. Most of the Honan rebels are, however, in Anhui assisting the rebel chief Niu.

Mr. J. S. Fearon, Chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Council, was returned at the head of the poll in the recent annual election.

A Japanese travelling recently in a junk with a cargo of cloths, etc., whilst in Tungshan, met with pirates who took the vessel and cargo but released him. On returning to Amoy he sought protection from his Consul, who addressed the Chinese commander of the port, the loss being stated at 400 bundles of cloth, 30 bundles of hemp, and a wooden box containing 120 odd dollars. A military officer was then sent in a launch to Tungshan, where he found the junk and cargo with no one in it, so it was towed back to Amoy and handed

over to the Japanese. Some of the cloths were missing, and the owner requested the commander to recover them. Later on the Tungshan military station sent about 30 bundles of cloth which were recovered from one of the pirates, who was trying to sell them. The pirate, however, made his escape.

From the *China Gazette*:—

The letter of a gentleman occupying an official position in the British service at Peking, which has been shown to third parties, gives an official version of the *coup d'état* in China in September. It states:—

At a dinner party Sir Claude Macdonald explained to us the present situation; therefore what I am writing is not confidential. The Emperor, according to Sir Claude, is a quiet, sympathetic man in bad health. Kang Yu-wei was an enthusiastic dreamer, who believed that the whole of China could be reformed by edicts. When, however, it came to the question of adopting Western ideas to the extent of cutting off pigtails, the Conservative party, headed by the Empress, stepped in and decided that the Emperor was too ill to manage State affairs. The Reform party then decided to do away with the Empress, but she seized the ringleaders and cut their heads off. Kang fled to an English gunboat, and claimed British protection, and is now making out that the men were executed because they desired reforms, ignoring all mention of their rebellious designs.

The Chinese then got it into their heads that the foreigners were assisting the rebellious reformers, and as the latter were being led to execution through the streets of Peking the populace shouted, "Down with the men who want to cut off our pigtails and the foreign devils who are supporting them." Hence arose the assaults on Europeans. The T'ungli Yamen, anxious to conciliate Europeans, asked Sir Claude Macdonald how they could stop the absurd rumours that had got abroad to the effect that the Emperor had been poisoned. Sir Claude advised them to avail themselves of the Legation doctors. They asked for the English one, but he being absent, Sir Claude recommended the French doctor, who saw the Emperor and reported on his condition. He found the Emperor suffering from acute Bright's disease, and quite unable to do any work at all.

The Empress, who is a clever woman, by no means bigotedly opposed to reforms, simply stepped in and managed the affairs of State which the Emperor was unable to do. The reformers are crying out against the Empress on the ground that her private life is not all that it should be, but European Sovereigns have not always been paragons of virtue in that respect—witness Catherine of Russia.

The T'ungli Yamen is desirous of keeping peace at all price, and the Empress guiding affairs with every wish to introduce reforms gradually so as not to hurt the old-time prejudices of the people.

Regarding the general situation, the writer remarks that Sir Claude Macdonald told him that "The whole Corps Diplomatique have never, during the time he had been here, been on more cordial terms as regard co-operative work in China." The greatest difficulty he had to contend with was the effect of canards supplied to certain papers to create a sensation. These absurd reports are translated into the Chinese papers, and do more harm to British interests than all the intrigues of Russia and France. From another portion of the correspondence we learn that Sir Claude Macdonald believes "that matters must some day reach a crisis."

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A court martial was held on board the *Narcissus* at Hongkong, on Jan. 22nd when Edward Bullen, seaman of the *Powerful*, was sentenced to three years' penal servitude for striking a superior officer.

The Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of English Freemasons, has appointed Earl Amherst Deputy Grand Master and Provincial Grand Master for Kent, to succeed the late Earl of Lathom as Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master.

The *London and China Express* says:—Captain Swinton Holland, Commodore at Hongkong, will obtain promotion to Rear-Admiral by the retirement of Admiral of the Fleet Sir J. E. Commerell, V.C., G.C.B., on 13th January. But for the unexpected promotion

of Captain Pelham Aldrich, Captain Holland would have been retired under the age clause on the 8th February next. Captain F. A. Powell, C.B. of the *Mars*, is to succeed Commodore Holland at Hongkong.

An anti-Semitic Theatre has just been started in Vienna as a joint-stock enterprise, enjoying active municipal support.

It is stated in home papers that the new Chinese regiment will be for general service, and will be available wherever required, and not for Wei-hai-wei alone. Mauritius has been mentioned as one of the first destinations of the regiment outside China.

From Kobe comes news that Gilbert and Sullivan's "Gondoliers" is to be put into rehearsal and given by the newly resuscitated Kobe Choral Society. We hardly like to count the years since Yokohama gave a light opera; perhaps when the Y.C.S. comes to life again next autumn something in this line may be attempted.

A new school, which ought to commend itself to Japanese students, has been opened at the University of Chicago. It is the School of Commerce and Politics, in preparation for which no dead language is required in the case of Japanese, as their proficiency in Japanese and Chinese is credited in place of Latin, usually required. The course of study in the school is excellent.

The British and Chinese Corporation have secured, through the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, a concession for working the extensive coal field at Nanpiao, on the line of the railway from Shanhaikwan to Newchwang. The corporation are sending out an engineer to report upon the concession, and he will have the assistance of Mr. Kinder, Engineer in Chief of the Imperial Railway of North China and the benefit of the great experience he has gained as the engineer who developed so successfully the Kaiping coal mines.—*London and China Express*.

Dr. John Henry Barrows has announced his acceptance of the presidency of Oberlin College.

The *Hongkong Maru*, the latest of the new vessels of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, made an average run of 17.12 knots on her trial the other day.

Prof. Droppers, who recently returned to the United States after a nine years' sojourn in Japan, has been chosen by the regents to succeed Mr. John W. Mauck, resigned, as President of the State University of Iowa. Senator Pettigrew met Prof. Droppers on his recent tour in the East and recommended his election.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

A REVIEW.

Biographical literature is becoming gradually one of the most important departments of *belles-lettres*—indeed, if judged by the intrinsic value of the books published during the last two years, the most important department. If we recollect rightly, it was Lord Beaconsfield who advised his young Lord in one of his novels to "read biographies." Biography, especially that of a great man, takes us into a world full of ideas where we see them impressed in their encyclopædic form upon the mental retina of a recognized authority. It is quite surprising to see that the English make far better writers of biographies than the Continental nations. This faculty may be attributable to the encyclopædic nature of their mental characteristics. The English have the natural facility of collecting and arranging their materials and possessions in an attractive, hence durable, form. Whatever be the cause, the fact remains uncontested that the English have produced more valuable biographical literature than the rest of Europe. It is not

because England has produced more heroes than Europe. Voltaire was a greater literary genius than Johnson, but while the former is being gradually forgotten except as the leader of a revolt against superstition and religious intolerance, the latter, thanks to his biographer, will for ever stand as the great monument of 18th Century English literature. The best biographies of Angelo and Goethe were written by Englishmen. While Hugo, Alfred de Musset, the genial Renan, and scholarly Taine have passed away without even a short memoir, we have seen volume after volume coming out to commemorate the deeds of Arnold, Macaulay, Pusey, and Tennyson, not to mention Manning, Dean Church, Dr. McCosh, and a host of others. Judging from the life and character of the subject, the coming biography of Mr. Gladstone by Mr. John Morley will be the greatest book of the age of its kind. It is true that Mr. Morley hitherto has not produced anything of permanent value, still he is a man of undoubted literary abilities, as his "Critical Essays" show, and in Mr. Gladstone's Life he will probably conceive and bring out his *magnus opus*. The apprehension is expressed by many that the author, being an unbeliever, will not be able to comprehend, or rather see, the beauty of Mr. Gladstone's religious life, which always manifested itself in such a wonderful intensity during his long career, and which was the basic foundation of his ideal character. For this feature of the biography we have to wait with patience before uttering any word of criticism.

Prince Bismarck's "Autobiography" as we now have it, is in my opinion, nothing but a short outline of his long and wonderful career. It opens with the words: "I left school at Easter, 1832, a normal product of our State system of education; a Pantheist, and, if not a Republican, at least with the persuasion that the Republic was the most rational form of government," and it ends with a letter of the Emperor Frederick. It does not touch, as it was expected, upon his relations to the present Emperor, nor refer to his dismissal. The rumour is that another volume, the 3rd, will soon follow.

Bismarck, like Goethe (Autobiography Book I), ought to have told us in this book the date of his birth, and the part which the Cosmic bodies, Saturn, Mars, Mercury, the Moon, etc., played on the grand occasion, so that we common clay could find out the ways, at least, of a smiling fortune, notwithstanding our inability to control its movements and operations.

In his early youth Bismarck encountered many liberal tendencies, and he tries to show that a predilection towards a liberal form of Government was inherited from his ancestors, and was not the outcome of a shifting and shaky opportunism. "My father was free from aristocratic prejudices. My mother was the daughter of Mencken, Privy Councillor to Frederick the Great, who sprang from a family of Leipzig professors, and was accounted in that days a liberal," (Vol. I p. 16). Although in process of time he greatly modified his earlier views, and is considered by many as the worst type of monarchical conservative, still his views concerning the advisability of a constitutional monarchy, that is, a dual government, by a King and an elective representative parliament, never underwent, during all his life, any material change. He says:—"The unlimited authority of the old Prussian monarchy was not, and is not, the final word of my convictions..... Absolutism primarily demands impartiality, honesty, devotion to duty, energy, inward humility in the ruler. These may be present, and yet male and female favourites (in the best case the lawful wife), the monarch's own vanity and susceptibility to flattery, will, nevertheless, diminish the fruits of his good intentions, inasmuch as the monarch is not omniscient and cannot have an equal understanding of all branches of his office." (Vol. I. P. 17).

Then follows a record of Bismarck's gradual advancement from an insignificant office to the first place under the monarch—Chancellor. Wherever Bismarck went, whether to foreign

countries as ambassador, or when he was at home recuperating his health, he seems to have possessed a prescience of coming greatness, and was quite impatient to attain it, like a child whose mother has promised to give him a piece of cake if he keeps good and quiet. He is constantly writing to Roon, "I am still prepared to enter (the Cabinet) without a portfolio," and so on; till finally he got in "with a portfolio."

After becoming the first minister of the Prussian Cabinet, he gives a "Retrospect of Prussian Policy" (Chap. XII.), a masterpiece written by a master mind. This is a chapter that requires special study, and minute investigation.

The rest of the book is occupied mostly by a description of the causes and issues leading to the great three wars which Bismarck recommended and carried on—that of Schleswig-Holstein with Denmark, 1864, that with Austria, 1866, and that with France in 1870, and their final outcome in an enlarged and united Germany. With these events of a past history we do not intend to deal to-day; there is one point, however, which will always remain interesting to posterity, the Ems telegram. To this the author has devoted one whole chapter. Both telegrams are given *in extenso*. The King's runs as follows: "Count Benedetti spoke to me on the promenade, in order to demand from me, finally in a very importunate manner, that I should authorize him to telegraph at once that I bound myself for all future time never again to give my consent if the Hohenzollerns should renew their candidature. I refused at last somewhat sternly, as it is neither right nor possible to undertake engagements of this kind *à tant jamais*. Naturally I told him that I had as yet received no news, and as he was earlier informed about Paris and Madrid than myself, he could clearly see that my government once more had no hand in the matter." This telegram was sent from Ems to Berlin to Aheken, who, after deciphering, sent it to Bismarck, who reduced it by striking out words, but without adding or altering, to the following form:—"After the news of the renunciation of the hereditary Prince Hohenzollern had been officially communicated to the Imperial Government of France by the Royal Government of Spain, the French Ambassador at Ems made the further demand to His Majesty the King that he would authorize him to telegraph to Paris that His Majesty the King bound himself for all future time never again to give his consent if the Hohenzollerns should renew their candidature. His Majesty the King thereupon decided not to receive the French ambassador again, and sent to tell him through the aide-de-camp on duty that His Majesty had nothing further to communicate to the ambassador." This second form was given to the public press and led to the *furor* culminating in war. That the two telegrams are radically different no one can deny. After the "concentrated" telegram had been read to Roon and Moltke, the latter remarked:—

"Now it has a different ring: it sounded before like a parley; now it is like a flourish in answer to a challenge."

If judged by a moral and rigidly ethical standard, whether Bismarck was culpable in mutilating and changing the King's telegram, is a question which had better be left to the decision of that great tribunal before which he is perhaps now standing. However, it cannot be doubted that the drift of affairs had been for many years towards an inevitable conflict between the two Powers, whatever be the part which this telegram played in that terrible tragical drama. Napoleon had been publicly speaking of the "readjustment of the frontiers," for many years, and the Prussians also had been for years preparing for the coming struggle and when it came they went into it with an enthusiasm unparalleled in the history of war. The King and the rest of the Cabinet had full authority for arresting the consequences of the "condensed" telegram even if Bismarck was for war, but they did not; on the contrary the mobilization of the whole army, through the influence of the Crown Prince Frederick (See

Emperor Frederick's Diary P. 48), was at once ordered. "I pushed for the immediate mobilization of the whole army and navy, there being no time to lose. This is approved, and I tell it to the public. The King embraces me in the deepest emotion, both of us feeling what was at stake. Enters carriage with me; enthusiastic cheering." (ibid P. 49) "July 18, Universal enthusiasm; Germany is rising like one man" (P. 50). We are not endeavouring to present a brief justifying Prince Bismarck's action; but simply to show that he was not the sole agent in bringing about this terrible war.

We must say, however, that this action of Bismarck's was in conformity with his fundamental ideas of statecraft. Bismarck was not an idealist like Plato. He did not believe that the state has to be governed by the immutable ideas of justice, of righteousness, and of equity which float in the infinity of space, and which shape and mould everything. On the contrary, he laughs to scorn the "Platonic" sympathy and humanitarianism of the Empress Augusta and of the English Court. To Bismarck the political arena of the whole world was analogous to a chess-board where each one has to watch his own gains and losses. Pity or morality have nothing to do with the case. In fact their very existence betrays the weakness, if not the immorality, of the agent. Selfishness, when manifesting itself in the individual, is extremely reprehensible, but selfishness, where seen in a state, has to be placed in some other category and judged accordingly. If Victor Hugo praises the nun for speaking something that was not truthful in order to save Jean Valjean from being arrested, why should Bismarck be condemned because he altered the tone of a telegram and thereby brought a great victory to his native land? All these are matters which will come before a higher and final tribunal.

The two Chapters which are most important are 29 and 30. "The Triple Alliance," and "The Future Policy of Russia." In these two Chapters, especially in the latter, the Prince has propounded his views in regard to the attitude which Germany should assume in the future towards Russia. The proposition is that Germany should give a free hand to Russia in Western Turkey, that is, "a Russian control of the Bosphorus," provided that "Russia, as soon as she is sufficiently ready, if necessary, to fall upon and overrun the Sultan and the Bosphorus by land and sea, makes a personal and confidential proposal to the Sultan to guarantee him his position in the Seraglio and all his provinces not only against foreign countries but also against his own subjects, in return for permission to erect sufficient fortifications and maintain a sufficient number of troops at the northern entrance to the Bosphorus." (Vol. II, p. 287.) This is the most extraordinary proposition of the Prince, and it shows that after all he was not an infallible being. Supposing that Germany acquiesced in this, what would be the ultimate outcome of it?—simply her being outflanked from the East as well as from the North. Of course Russia would not be satisfied by acting merely as a sentinel on the Bosphorus. Once well established there, and Turkey as an element of resistance obliterated, both Austria and Germany would find themselves under the tender mercies of Russia and France. Once convert the Mediterranean Sea into a Russian lake, and not only will the future colonial expansion of Germany come to an end, and with it her gradually increasing foreign commerce, also but the very existence of the empire as an independent and progressive element in the world's history may be threatened, and we may see another China in the midst of Europe. That this view of the situation is not taken by the present Emperor we have ample proof, and reason and foresight prompted by the instinct of self-preservation, are more on the side of the Emperor than on that of the Prince. The whole book does not contain a single word, as far as we can remember, about the colonial expansion of Germany, showing that Bismarck cared no-

thing for it: a fact sufficient in itself to have caused his dismissal after the great task of his life—the unity of Germany—had been finished. That this way of solving the Eastern Question cannot be conducive to the future safety of the German Empire we do not entertain the slightest doubt; and that the Emperor William II. does not consent to that way of solving it his recent visit to Constantinople and Palestine is a convincing proof. The ways of solving the immediate question of the Turkish possessions in Europe and Western Anatolia are varied, and many of them less suicidal to Germany than that suggested by Prince Bismarck; either to have the *status quo* preserved, or at least, for a few more generations; or to have the ancient Byzantine empire restored under the paternal care of the "Great Powers" of Europe; or to have Austria proclaim a sort of protectorate over the Balkan principalities and cut off Russia altogether from becoming a Mediterranean Power, and turn her direction towards Asia completely; she and England, then, would have to fight out the supremacy of the continent, Russia already has found an outlet for her commerce in Liaotung; and if she extends her transian railway to the Persian Gulf she will have another valuable outlet there also. Hence the necessity of a Russian outlet in the Mediterranean is not acute now as it used to be a few decades ago. By acquiring such valuable possessions Russia will be more vulnerable, and consequently less aggressively warlike.

Before closing this short review the question often arises in one's mind: Was Bismarck really a great man? An editorial article in *Harper's Weekly*, which bears the undoubted traces of Carl Schurz's genius, says Bismarck was not a great man because he did not move with the progressive tendencies of mankind. It put plainly, it means that Bismarck was not a great man because he was an ultra-conservative statesman. Whether such a contention can be made a universal standard for judging the comparative greatness of all historic heroes, is very questionable. The maxim, "Ye shall know them by their fruits," appears more catholic, more universal, and more rational, and to have a better applicability to the case of Bismarck at least. Judged by this standard, Prince Bismarck is not only one of the greatest personalities Germany has produced, but its greatest. From prehistoric times, as the Roman historian Tacitus tells us, Germany had been divided into small tribal principalities which carried on perpetual wars between themselves. The Christianization and civilization of the country, while it redeemed most of this internal evil, still did not succeed in unifying the country till the time of Frederick Barbarossa A.D. 1123-1190. For a short time the personal valour and activity of the Emperor succeeded in forming an ephemeral unity; however, the natural instinct was too strong for this weak bond of union, and very soon asserted itself, and the nation lapsed again into its primitive habits of feudalism. The Germans somehow like to have a large number of Kings. Bismarck tells us that once he overheard two soldiers quarrelling with each other. One with great contempt said to the other one: "Why, you haven't got even a King in your part of the country!" Bismarck came at a time when his fatherland was altogether exhausted by a long chain of foreign wars and internal jealousies; when the country was divided into almost innumerable petty khanates and dukedoms. He took up this conflicting and inharmonious mass of humanity and by his wonderful genius welded it into a unique whole and brought it out again as one of the greatest powers of history. Whatever were the elements gravitating towards the making of the German Empire, we must not forget that the very idea originated in the Prince's brains, and when the auspicious moment came his birth was attended with no throes. It was Bismarck who ushered into the world the "German Empire," and with it German culture and German civilization, as a distinct and progressive factor. A man who has achieved so much for the human race in general, and for the land of his birth in particular, we call *Great*

What was the secret of Prince Bismarck's success? Two words can amply answer this question: prevision and perseverance. From the very beginning of his career he foresaw his pathway step by step, and what he foresaw he persevered to reach. Sometimes we find him standing alone *contra* Germany, but he neither wavers nor budge one inch, and finally prevails upon the vacillating king. Of course, the results always justify his firm action. Oftentimes we wonder how a human being made of flesh and blood could have resisted all the influences arrayed against him; then, of course, we remember that the great Chancellor was not made, like other mortals, of flesh and blood, but of solid steel.

Let us not be misunderstood. We do not mean to exalt Bismarck to the altitude of a demi-god. He also had his own human limitations and shortcomings. He did not possess that acrobatic nimbleness which Gortchakoff and Beaconsfield possessed to a wonderful degree; nor was his ken of observation broad like that of Bonaparte, on the contrary it was very limited; as we have seen in his views on the final settlement of the Turkish Question. Neither can we for a moment contrast him with that ideal Christian Statesman, William Ewart Gladstone. Bismarck's greatness was of a different stamp: slow, grim, heavy, crushing—but more abiding.

One characteristic of his unpleasantly obtrudes itself almost on every page of this autobiography: namely, his inability to get on with anybody. There is a species of insanity which comes either from a disordered brain, or sometimes from the last stages of consumption, in which the patient thinks that every human being extant is his enemy. Bismarck seems from his early life to have been afflicted with similar hallucinations. Somewhere he tells us that perhaps, it was a sort of inborn natural defect in him, that he could only see the weak and bad side of the people and not their good side! A very queer confession indeed for a man of Bismarck's capacity and position to make! He lets no opportunity slip away without saying something unpleasant about the Empress Augusta and her "Roman Catholic and French proclivities." Eulenburg, Arnim, Gerlach, Geyken—every one has his own full share of abuse. Sometimes he even searches after insignificant personages in order to cover them with opprobrium and reproach. He tries to convince us that the principal motives of Prince Gortchakoff to ask the Emperor for a Parliament was not the improvement of the conditions of the Russian people, but in order to show in that great body his own oratorical powers! Was ever such empty nonsense put into type?

His character sketch of the Emperor William I. (Chap. XXXII) is the best ever published about that great monarch. We think it a sober and faithful picture of the first Emperor of United Germany. Would that he had given us another Chapter on the Emperor William II!

I. D.

THE BOOKSHELF.

"The Resident Councillor," by Mrs. Egerton Easton; published from the *Straits Times* office.

"THE RESIDENT COUNCILLOR" is a pretty and well-told story of Eastern life, which is much the same as life in all latitudes and in all degrees of temperature. The scene in this case is Malacca, and the story tells of the love passages of the official head of the community, some of his relatives, and an adventure. It is narrated with some force, and the style is not without distinction. The local colour is laid on with more discrimination than in most novels of the kind; not in blotches of native names and pidgin English, but in a manner which unobtrusively but vividly depicts the mental background of the story. The Resident Councillor is himself an interesting figure, sympathetically drawn,

and the characters of the adventures and her boy admirer are not without life. It is a story which will appeal to Eastern readers chiefly for its Eastern atmosphere. If the *mise-en-scène* were an English village the book would have no claim above that of the ordinary novel, but, dealing as it does with the life of European exiles in Asia, it possesses an interest of its own for all who have had an experience of the Treaty Port or the Crown Colony. We can recommend the book.

THE FILIPINOS AND THE TARIFF.

We are asked—says the *China Mail*—to state that the reason why the Filipinos will not surrender to the United States the Customs in the Philippines, apart from its being the principal source of revenue, is that it would be a guarantee that the Americans could not introduce their preferential tariffs in the inter-ocean trade of the islands. The Filipinos wish all nations to share alike, a fair field and no favour, and they are already alarmed at the unequivocal indications that the United States intended to introduce the McKinley tariff of protection. They have seen the benefits of the English policy in the neighbouring Colonies of Singapore and Hongkong, and are determined to have no preferential distinctions in their country in favour of any one nation. The only guarantee of enforcing this is a control from the very outset of the Customs and all fiscal arrangements. The same thing applies to the supreme judiciary. This, in American hands, might entirely clash with their own Code. No doubt sufficient guarantees would be given to foreigners if required on terms to be arranged hereafter. What the Filipinos require is a *real* autonomy and not a fictitious one, like the Malay protected States, where it is well known the real power is the British resident who actually wields more power than the Crown. At the same time, it must be said that if the Philippine Islands were as ably ruled as the Malay States, under a Protectorate of the same nature, it would be the best thing for the Islands and the Islanders.

LADIES' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

COMMITTEE.

President.—Mrs. Irvine. Vice-President.—Mrs. Eldridge. Hon. Treasurer.—Mrs. Isaacs. Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. Thomas Thomas. Managers.—Mrs. J. Walter, Mrs. Whitall, Mrs. Meier, Madame de Micheaux, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. James. Hon. Secretary. Tokyo.—Mrs. McMillan.

Your Committee have much pleasure in laying before you, the 26th Annual Report of the Association. They are glad to say the funds of the Society are at present in a fairly satisfactory condition; but in such a cosmopolitan community, in which constant changes occur, and where all in want of help are assisted, without any distinction as to creed or nationality, it is impossible to foresee, when large demands may not suddenly be made on the funds of the Association, which has to be prepared for all such emergencies. The case of every person desiring assistance, is enquired into by members of the Committee, and all cases are helped according to their need.

The sincere thanks of the Ladies' Benevolent Association, are tendered to the kind friends who have sent donations, either from themselves personally, or by giving entertainments, for the benefit of the Funds of the Society, and to the Editor of the *Japan Herald* for printing last year's report free of expense, also for the donations of clothing, any further contributions of which, especially men's clothing, are greatly needed at present, and will be thankfully received by the President, at the Parsonage.

The Committee gratefully acknowledge the kind help of the King's Daughters' Circle, towards the maintenance of a destitute sick woman at the General Hospital.

The work done by the Ladies' Benevolent Association, during the past year, will be seen by the Hon. Treasurer's Report.

J. P. THOMAS,
Hon. Sec. L.B.A.

Yokohama, January 9th, 1899.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1898.

Dr.

Paid out for keeping a helpless destitute Widow at the Hospital for one year,	\$ 378.20
Paid out for Milk supplied monthly to a poor family of six children	160.32
Paid out Rent for one year for a poor English Widow with a large family.	345.00
Paid out Mrs. Pass' Board and Schooling and clothing for one boy	126.40
Paid out for boots for a poor boy	3.00
Paid out for English boy by L. M. A. School fees to Mr. Schmit	61.50
Paid out towards Passage money for a poor English Lady	50.00
Paid out for Boots for two poor boys	5.60
Paid out to assist poor Portuguese man.	8.00
Paid out to assist poor Italian man	25.00
Paid out Stationery and Stamps and Postcards	8.00
Paid out Passage for poor Russian woman to America	32.00
Paid out to assist poor Portuguese family (the Father being sick) for a year	215.00
Paid out for Boots for two poor boys	6.00
Paid out for Passage of poor Italian to Honolulu	30.00
Paid out for food for poor Russian woman	5.00
	\$1,459.02
To Balance in Bank	587.52
	\$2,046.54

Cr.

Received in Subscriptions	\$1,259.08
Donation	424.65
Received from the "King's Daughters" towards the keep of a poor woman in the Hospital	100.00
Interest on Current Account	19.23
	1,802.88
Balance from 1897	243.66
	2,046.54

B. A. JAMES, Hon. Treasurer.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND WORKS.

The half-yearly meeting of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ltd., was held at Mr. J. F. Lowder's Chambers on Thursday, when there were present Mr. J. F. Lowder (in the chair), Messrs. A. B. Walford, C. Ure, All. Woodley, B. Gillett, J. Johnston, J. Stewart, Berger, Langfeldt, Arnold, Tresize, Weaver, G. Charlesworth, F. Gillett, and Colomb.

THE ACCOUNTS.

The statement of accounts was submitted as follows:—

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON NOVEMBER 30TH, 1898.

ASSETS.	
Property (Estimated value, 1898, yen 62,000)	Yen. 22,405.60
Plant, Machinery, Steam Launches & Salvage Gear	53,719.12
Stock as per Inventory	50,662.21
Fire Insurance Policies	510.84
Sundry Debtors	12,586.93
Chartered Bank of I.A. & C.	3,123.04
Cash in hand	741.08
	143,748.82

LIABILITIES.	
Capital, 1,300 shares of \$50 each	Yen. 65,000.00
Capital Reduction Account	65,000.00
Sundry Creditors	5,250.34
	135,250.34

Balance, Profit and Loss Account.	8,498.48
	143,748.82

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED NOVEMBER 30TH, 1898.

To Interim Dividend Yen 12 per share paid 20th October, 1898	15,600.00
„ Property Account, Depreciation of Buildings	500.00
„ Plant, Machinery, and Salvage Gear, Depreciation	1,248.00
„ Fire Insurance	712.00
„ Rent	417.84
„ Wages and Working Account	55,706.07
„ Directors and Auditor's Fees	700.00
„ Balance	8,498.41
	83,382.48

1898.	Yen.
May 31.—By Balance	1,093.78
Nov. 30.—By Gross Earnings	82,137.32
„ Interest	100.38
„ Transfer Fee	51.00
	83,382.48

Nov. 30.—By Balance	8,498.48
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Geo. CHARLESWORTH, Secretary.
We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the books and vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

O. KEIL,
C. H. FRARON, } Auditors.
Yokohama, January 24th, 1899.

A SATISFACTORY YEAR.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, as you are aware we are not called upon to lay before you a report or accounts by the articles of association. Nevertheless for the last three years your directors have caused to be prepared a statement of assets and liabilities as on the 30th November every year. It is a very convenient arrangement, as you all have before you the actual figures, the amount of work that has been done, and the position of the company at that time, duly and properly audited. I think you can read this statement of figures very much better for yourselves than I can do for you, but I shall be pleased to answer any questions on points that may suggest themselves. You will see that on the 30th November we carried forward a balance of 8,498 yen odd, but I am happy to be able to announce to you that since then the balance to our credit has so materially increased that we are able to declare an interim dividend of 10 yen per share. We are enabled to do this because of the continued prosperity of the company. I have before me the amount of work that has been done during the year 1897 and during the year 1898. The work done during the former year amounted on the average to 18,000 yen a month. The work done during the last year, 1898, including December, averaged about 24,500 yen per month. The work done during 1898 was about 80,000 yen more than in 1897. That shows a very satisfactory condition of affairs, certainly satisfactory to us as directors and it ought to be satisfactory to the shareholders. I will take this opportunity of saying that we feel that a great deal of our success is due to the excellent and efficient services rendered us by our manager, Mr. Tresize, and by all who are at work in the works. We as directors have very little to do with the actual working of the company. We exercise a discretion and a supervision, and that is all we do. For the accounts we are responsible, but for the work we have to trust to others who have practical knowledge of the work, which we have not.

On the proposition of Mr. Langfeldt a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the directors and to Mr. Tresize.

THE DEATH OF MR. KEIL.

INQUEST AND VERDICT.

The inquiry into the circumstances of the death of the late Mr. O. Keil was held at the American Consulate on Wednesday afternoon before Mr. J. McLean (Vice-Consul General), sitting as Coroner, and Messrs. August Langfeldt and T. L. Brower as assessors.

Mr. G. H. Scidmore, at the request of the Court, examined the witnesses on behalf of the people of the United States.

Dr. Stuart Eldridge deposed—I was acquainted with Mr. O. Keil, whom I last saw alive on the 31st ult. Just before 11 o'clock I was called by a messenger who told me Mr. Keil had shot himself at the Saw Mills at Ishikawa, and was alive at the messenger's departure, and they were bringing him to town along the canal road. I immediately proceeded to meet the injured man and did so at Jizozaka. I found that he was fatally injured, and, directing the bearers to follow me to the German Hospital, I proceeded there to make arrangements for his reception and there awaited the arrival of the bearers. When the patient reached the hospital, assisted by Dr. Koch, I made a thorough examination. We decided that the case was absolutely hopeless. The injury was a gunshot wound inflicted through the roof of the mouth passing upwards, backwards, and a little to the left of the median line; emerging to the left of the brow of the head. The brain was destroyed to a very large extent, a considerable portion protruding from the wound. When I met the *cortège* bringing the body, a European employed at the saw mills who accompanied it handed me a pistol which he stated was picked up by the side of the injured man, which

I now produce. It is a Smith and Wesson revolver. All the five chambers had been loaded and one was discharged. The pistol was one of a large calibre, a .38, and the injuries were such as would have been inflicted by a weapon of the kind. Mr. Keil survived until a quarter to twelve. I was not present at his death. I received an official notice from Dr. Koch regarding his death.

Witness added that deceased had been his patient and intimate friend for many years; he thought 20. When he first knew deceased he was suffering from symptoms of brain disorder, really of no great importance, but which he interpreted as threatening insanity. From these he speedily recovered under treatment, and until about four years ago enjoyed a fair degree of health, though he suffered occasionally from attacks of depression. Four years ago, as the result of very severe and special strain, he was temporarily insane, and witness removed him to hospital on that account. Since that time his fits of depression of spirits had been more frequent and severe sleeplessness had been the rule rather than the exception, and witness thought he had been able to detect more or less failure of mental power as time went on. The fear of mental breakdown into insanity or imbecility was never absent from his mind. Witness considered that for several years deceased's mind could not be considered perfectly sound, and there was a tendency to melancholia—the most depressing of all mental afflictions.

Mr. Scidmore—Do you think his mental condition was such as to unfit him for the transaction of business?—No, I can hardly say that, for with a great mind like his the ability for business might exist with some mental injury, but there were times when he was unfit for business. He was not the able man he once was. I have heard him use the expression himself that he was losing grip of the complicated matters he had on hand. He was worse at one time than another, but I think he was steadily deteriorating all the time. He overworked himself for years, and I warned him again and again of the inevitable result. When witness last saw him alive he was in much the same condition as for some months past. He had often expressed the feeling that sometime he could not endure his burden any longer, and since his death witness had received a letter from him written two days before the suicide in which he expressed the intention of destroying himself at once. Witness considered the act of suicide was due to mental unsoundness taking the form of melancholia, and he did not consider that the evidence of deliberation and intention given by his having written farewell letters and arranged his business militated against that conclusion, for deliberation and capacity in some directions might be accompanied by a most serious form of mental disease in others.

By Mr. McLan—He was satisfied that the wound was effected by the deceased, it could scarcely be other than suicidal.

Mr. John W. Hall said he was acquainted with deceased. He last saw him just after he died at the General Hospital, about 11.50 a.m.

Mr. Jessie S. Day, employed at the Yokohama Woodworking Company's Works at Nakamura, said he was at the works on Tuesday morning. He saw Mr. Keil there. Witness was at the side of the Creek taking some lumber from the godown of Ahrens and Co., having it put on a pontoon, when one of his employes came to him and said Mr. Keil was on the other side of the Creek. Witness had deceased taken across in a sampan, and shook hands with him. Deceased enquired what use the lumber was to be put in, and witness told him. He enquired about some beer box stuff, and the quality of the wood. Witness said he would show him the stock. He immediately replied, "No, you boys go ahead with your work here; I'll be back presently." Witness spoke to him, and told him it was pay day, and asked as to getting money for the men. He said, "Very well," and then crossed the Creek again. Witness next saw him between some piles of kerosene "box-shocks" about twenty-five minutes afterwards. He was lying prone on his left arm grasping a revolver in his right hand. He was not conscious. Witness looked round to see if anybody was near, and saw Mr. Martin 200 feet away from him, standing looking at him. Witness called to him that Mr. Keil had killed himself. Mr. Martin seemed to be unable to move. Witness went into the mill proper, and called for Mr. Upton to come out and help him. He could not realise the fact, and asked witness why he was fooling. Witness told him he was not, and to come quick. They then both ran out, Mr. Upton being ahead of witness. With the assistance of Mr. Martin they carried Mr. Keil to the office door, placed him on a board, and ordered the coolies to take him to the German Hospital. Witness noticed then the position of the wound. He had been shot through the

roof of the mouth and the bullet had passed through the head, the brain oozing out. Witness had not heard any shot. Witness had noticed when deceased was speaking to him a troubled expression on his face, but he had noticed such an expression before. Possibly it was a little worse this time. He was very quiet, and had very little to say. Witness did not go to the German Hospital.

Antoine Martin said he was employed in the godowns of Ahrens and Co., at Nakamura. On Tuesday deceased came to the Saw-mill and witness spoke to him about various business matters. Some time after he heard the last witness cry, "My God, he has killed himself." Witness could not move; the shock was so great, for Mr. Keil for two years had been more than a father to him. He described the position of the body. Deceased was much depressed when witness spoken to him.

Franklin Nelson Upton, employed at the Saw-mills, was the next witness. He said when deceased left the witness Day, witness asked him if he had seen Langfeldt, or Kildoyl, and he said "Yes," and everything was arranged very satisfactorily. Some time afterwards Day told witness that Mr. Keil had shot himself. Witness at first thought that Day was joking, but, finding that he was serious, witness went to the kerosine oil "shocks," and there found deceased lying face downwards with his head on his left arm, and his other hand stretched out holding a revolver. Witness suggested that they should get him up, but Day proposed that they should wait till they had notified the Consul. Witness, stooping down, heard deceased breathe, and then proposed that they should take him to a doctor. Witness took him by the shoulders and lifted him up, and then saw a large wound at the top of the head from which the brains were oozing. Witness, Day, and Martin carried him to the office, and then ordered some coolies to convey him to hospital. Witness did not have much to say to deceased on the day in question, and did not notice any peculiarity in his manner. The day before witness saw him on business, and he then said that Day would see about it, adding, "You don't know, Frank, the trouble I am having." He appeared more troubled and depressed than witness had ever seen him.

Mr. Scidmore said these were all the witnesses who were at present available.

The witness Day, however, was recalled, and said some three weeks before deceased's death he saw a revolver in one of the pigeon-holes of the desk in deceased's office.

The Court retired and after a short absence returned with the following verdict:—

We find that Oscar Otto Keil, a citizen of the United States of America, died at Yokohama, Japan, on the 31st day, of January, A.D. 1899; that the cause of his death was a gunshot wound in his head; and that the said wound was inflicted upon himself by the said Oscar Otto Keil, while suffering from temporary mental unsoundness.

THE LEOPOLD CASE.

PROCEEDINGS IN BANKRUPTCY.

In H.B.M.'s Court for Japan on Friday morning, before His Honour Judge Wilkinson, a petition was heard on behalf of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China praying that a receiving order in bankruptcy should be made against the estate of Charles Emil Leopold, a convict now under sentence in H.M.'s prison.

Mr. R. J. Lowder appeared in support of the petition, and Professor Terry represented the debtor.

Mr. Lowder read the petition, which was as follows:—

IN HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S COURT FOR JAPAN, KANAGAWA.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

re-CHARLES EMIL LEOPOLD.

as *parte* THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA, a CREDITOR.

I, Edwin Manifold Janion, an Attorney for the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, hereby petition the Court that a receiving order may be made in respect of the Estate of Charles Emil Leopold, a convict now undergoing imprisonment with hard labour in Her Britannic Majesty's Gaol at Yokohama, and lately carrying on business at Number 59-D, Yokohama, and say:—

1. That the said Charles Emil Leopold has for the greater part of six months next preceding the presentation of this petition carried on business at Number 59-D Yokohama, within the jurisdiction of this Court.

2. That the said Charles Emil Leopold is justly and truly indebted to the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China in the sum of yen 49,295.80 on a judgment debt.

3. That the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China hold security for the payment of the said sum, and I estimate the value of such security at the sum of yen 30,000.

4. That Charles Emil Leopold within three months before the date of the presentation of this petition has committed the following act of Bankruptcy, namely, the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, having on the 13th day of June last obtained a final judgment against him for yen 49,295.80 and execution thereon not having been stayed, has served on him by leave of the Court of Bankruptcy notice under the Bankruptcy Act, 1883, requiring him to pay the judgment debt in accordance with the terms of the judgment or to secure or compound for to the satisfaction of the said Bank or the Court, and he has not within the time limited by the order giving leave to effect service of the said notice either complied with the requirements of the notice, or satisfied the Court that he has a counterclaim, set off, or cross demand which equals or exceeds the amount of the judgment debt, and which he could not set up in the action in which the judgment was obtained.

Dated this 17th day of January, 1899.

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, by the Attorney:

(Signed) E. M. JANION.

Signed by the petitioner in my presence.

(Signed) J. H. LOWDER.

ORDER.

This petition having been presented to the Court on the 17th day of January, 1899, it is ordered that this petition shall be heard at Yokohama on the 27th day of January, 1899, at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon.

And you, the said Charles Leopold, are to take notice that if you intend to dispute the truth of any of the statements contained in the petition you must file with the registrar of this Court a notice showing the grounds upon which you intend to dispute the same and send by post a copy of the notices to the petitioner three days before the date fixed for the hearing.

Mr. Lowder also read the affidavit of Edwin Manifold Janion, accountant of the Bank, and attorney for the petitioners, stating that the statements in the petition were true; and the affidavit of the Usher of the Court, George Kircher, that he had served a copy of the petition on the debtor in H.M.'s Gaol at Yokohama.

Mr. Lowder said but for the case of *In re Lindsey ex parte Lindsey*, he should have considered the affidavits put in as sufficient, but in view of the ruling in that case he should put in another affidavit proving the debt and the act of bankruptcy alleged.

The following affidavit of Mr. Janion was then read:—

I, Edwin Manifold Janion, British subject, Attorney for the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, make oath and say as follows:—

1. Charles Emil Leopold, the debtor in these proceedings named, is justly and truly indebted to the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, in the sum of yen 49,295.80 and interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the said sum from the 13th day of June, 1898, upon and by virtue of a judgment recovered by the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China against the said Charles Emil Leopold in this Court and dated the 13th day of June, 1898.

2. The paper writing marked A now produced and shown to me is an office copy of the said judgment, which still remains in full force, unreversed and unsatisfied.

3. And I, speaking positively for myself and to the best of my knowledge and belief as to other persons, say that I have not, nor hath nor have any other person or persons by the order or to the use of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, received any security or satisfaction whatsoever for the said sum of yen 49,295.80 and interest, or any part thereof respectively, save and except the said judgment.

4. On the 17th day of January, 1899, I, as attorney for the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, filed in this Court a petition in bankruptcy, praying that a receiving order might be made in respect of the estate of Charles Emil Leopold. The several statements in the said petition are within my knowledge true, and the said Charles Emil Leopold has been duly served with a copy of the said petition.

5. The said Charles Emil Leopold, within three months before the date of the said petition, committed the following act of bankruptcy, that is to say, the Chartered Bank of India, Aus-

ralia, and China, having on the 13th day of June, 1898, obtained a final judgment against him for yen 49,295 80, and execution thereon not having been stayed, served on him by leave of the Court a bankruptcy notice under the Bankruptcy Act, 1883, requiring him to pay the judgment debt in accordance with the terms of the judgment, or to secure or compound for it to the satisfaction of the said Bank or the Court, and he did not nor hath, within the time limited by the order giving leave to effect service of the said notice, either complied with the requirements of the notice or satisfied the Court that he has a counter claim, set-off, or cross-demand which equals or exceeds the amount of the judgment debt, and which he could not set up in the action in which the judgment was obtained.

His Honour said under the special circumstances he thought Mr. Lowder should tender the witness for cross-examination if necessary.

The witness was accordingly tendered for cross-examination on his affidavit, but Mr. Terry said he did not propose to ask any questions either of him or as to the service of a copy of the petition on the debtor.

His Honour pointed out that there was a discrepancy in the matter of security mentioned in the petition. The full judgment was 49,000 yen and the amount of 30,000 yen was mentioned in the petition as the security. It seemed to him that in order that the petitioner could obtain the proportion of what was due he must prove for the whole sum.

Mr. Lowder pointed out the judgment itself was mentioned as the security and it was valued at 30,000 yen.

His Honour questioned whether that was sufficiently explained without the verbal explanation of counsel—whether it was made clear by the affidavit itself.

Mr. Lowder said he was of course subject to his Honour's correction, but he had given the matter some thought, and he believed that was the proper way of presenting it. He believed the judgment could be regarded as a security. It would not in any case make any difference as to making the receiving order, and at the proper time he thought he should be able to satisfy his Honour on the point.

A lengthy legal discussion of the matter followed between Mr. Lowder and His Honour, and eventually the latter said that his difficulty was with regard to the notification of the security; he was anxious to remove an apparent discrepancy. Was Mr. Terry satisfied with the statement that the security referred to in the affidavit was the judgment?

Mr. Terry—I understand Mr. Lowder's explanation. I don't know that it concerns me at present.

Mr. Lowder—All we have to prove is that we have a debt of over £50.

Eventually the Judge made the receiving order asked for, appointing Mr. C. D. Moss as receiver.

H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before His Honour Judge WILKINSON.
TUESDAY, JAN. 31st.

EBRAHMBHOY PABANEY V. THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

This was a claim for yen 11,244.55, with interest and costs, for indemnity in respect of a fire at Kobe in March last.

Mr. Litchfield appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Lowder represented the defendant company, and Mr. Wallford watched the case on behalf of the China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited.

Mr. Litchfield, in opening the case, said the plaintiff's name was a firm name rather than an individual one, and the firm was represented by its local manager. This was a claim for compensation for loss occasioned by a fire which occurred at the Pier compound at Kobe on the night of March 2nd or the morning of March 3rd last. The fire was very extensive in its scope and caused heavy damage to the property then lying on the Pier, among which was some cotton which was consigned to the plaintiff and in respect to the loss of which this claim arose. Learned counsel then read the petition for the plaintiff, which set forth that the goods were insured with the defendant company, for 25,000 yen, but the defendants in their answer to the petition contended that they were not liable, but that if any persons were liable, it should be the China Traders' Insurance Company, or persons or companies other than the defendant.

Mr. Litchfield then put in the policies taken out by plaintiff with the defendant company and a

number of other documents which were admitted. He then proceeded to submit that the statements made in the answer to the petition were demurrable, and even if true did not constitute a defence to the suit. They did not allege that there was any misrepresentation on the part of the plaintiff; there was no allegation of fraud; and there was nothing in the answer which went to prove the annulling of the contract, though it was attempted to add to the contract. The defendants sought to show that the policy they granted was one which should cover only such goods in the Pier Company's compound as were not covered by a marine policy having a clause of insurance against fire. He submitted that the evidence to be called by the defence to support that contention was inadmissible. That evidence consisted of a slip written by the plaintiff's agent which he (learned counsel) contended by previous rulings was inadmissible as evidence. Taken at the best their allegation came to this—that the plaintiff told them that he only wanted a policy of limited scope, and that they thereupon gave him a policy of full scope extending over all goods of his own or held in trust by him—which they now sought to limit or explain.

His Honour asked Mr. Lowder whether it would be convenient to him to argue that point now.

Mr. Lowder—It would be very inconvenient. His Honour said the matter would stand thus. If the point were decided against Mr. Lowder he would be prevented from tendering the evidence; if decided in his favour he could tender it. Supposing this case should go to appeal, which was probable, it would perhaps be better that the evidence should be introduced before objection was taken.

Mr. Lowder said he did not intend to ask quite so much latitude as that, but he thought the objection could be taken at the point when he was about to introduce the evidence, and he would then argue it.

Mr. Litchfield proceeded to deal with other points in the defendants' answer to the petition.

After the adjournment foriffin Rihantulla Verseybhoy was called, and sworn on the Koran. Witness said he could not speak English well, and was afraid there might be some mistake.

Mr. Lowder said he understood the witness spoke English very well, and it was decided that an attempt should be made to take his evidence without the aid of a medium.

Witness said he was a British subject, and was a resident at Kobe, where his position was that of a merchant. He traded in the name of Ebrahmbhoj Pabanej, which was the name of the firm. He was manager of the firm, but not a partner. He held a power of attorney for the firm. In Sept., 1897, he applied to the agents of the China Fire Insurance Company for a policy of insurance, which he received. The document produced was the policy. In February, 1898, he applied to the agents to change the policy. The application (produced) was made in writing. He afterwards received the policy back from the agents with an endorsement on it.

Mr. Litchfield read the endorsement as follows: "It is hereby declared and agreed that the within policy is transferred to cover a similar risk contained in the Pier Company's compound in Kobe to the extent of 25,000 yen only."

Witness, explaining the reason for changing the policy, said he wanted to do because the firm's goods which were coming by the steamers and remaining on the wharf were not covered by any clause in the marine policy. Shipments from Bombay were advised to witness by letter. They were accompanied by invoices. Witness knew that his principals in Bombay had taken out policies of insurance for consignments of cargo that reached him in February. The goods were insured in the China Traders' Company. The policies remained in the hands of the Bank. The cotton arrived in Kobe the 25th or 26th of February. Five hundred bales arrived by the *Maria Valeria* and 500 by the *Idzumi Maru*. Out of the former 144 the got 420 bales in sound condition, 24 were damaged by fire, and 49 were destroyed by fire. Out of the 500 by the *Idzumi Maru* 169 were received in sound condition, and 331 were destroyed by fire. The fire occurred on the morning of March 3rd. It was a very big fire. About 9,000 bales were destroyed altogether. Witness went to see the fire himself. It continued about three days. The Insurance Company through their representative, inquired whether witness had any claim. He saw the representative on the 3rd or 4th March. It was a Mr. Teverson. Witness told him that the goods were insured in the China Traders' Insurance Company, but that he had not received any marine policies, so that he could not say positively whether the China Fire Company were liable or not. Witness afterwards got some marine policies.

After looking at them he wrote to the China Fire agents. He pointed out in the letter that by the marine policies the goods were covered up to 10 days after landing in Kobe unless already covered by a fire policy, and he pointed out that the China Fire Insurance Company were thus liable under their policy. Witness received a reply from the company (produced). It read as follows:—

We are in receipt of your favour, to which we are to reply that as you have not yet taken delivery of cargo ex steamer *Maria Valeria* and steamer *Idzumi Maru* we cannot entertain your claim for loss or damage under the policy. Moreover, the above policy was transferred to cover a risk not already covered by marine insurance, as we understood that you held and do still hold such policy and that was the reason you wished us to make the transfer.

P.S.—Please point out the above to the agents of the China Traders' Insurance Company Limited, as it is important.

Witness had an interview on the 5th March with the agent, Mr. Edwards. He pointed out that he had some bags of saffron flour which had been injured, and which were insured in the North China Insurance Company, whose policy contained no fire clause with regard to wharfage. The agent said he would pay for the saffron flour, but the company was not liable for the cotton. Witness, however, thinking that they were liable for both, declined to collect for the saffron flour alone. The saffron flour was stored in the Pier Company's compound as was also the cotton landed from the *Maria Valeria* and the *Idzumi Maru*. There were only 24 bales salvaged, and they were sold by auction. On April 26th, witness wrote to the China Fire Insurance Company's agents sending in a formal claim. The total claim was 24,700 yen. On April 28th, witness wrote the agents enclosing duplicates of several insurance policies.

At this point the Court adjourned till 10.30 this morning.

WEDNESDAY, February 1st.

Counsel in this case, which is a claim by a firm of Indian merchants at Kobe for yen 11,244.35, compensation for loss by fire, had a consultation before the Court assembled, and on the Judge taking his seat Mr. Litchfield, for plaintiff, rose and said:—Under the circumstances of an order made by your Honour in chambers by consent—

Mr. Lowder here rose and made a negative sign to Mr. Litchfield.

Mr. Litchfield—You make the application.

Mr. Lowder—After a consultation of counsel we have to ask your Honour to adjourn the further hearing of the case until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

His Honour—Very well; I agree. Adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, February 2nd.

The case of Ebrahmbhoj Pabanej v. The China Fire Insurance Company was down for hearing at ten o'clock, but counsel asked for leave to continue their consultation, and remained in Chambers till shortly before noon. His Honour then took his seat, and Mr. Lowder rose to make the following application:—May it please your Honour, it has been agreed upon by all the counsel before you that it is advisable that the China Traders' Insurance Company should be joined as a party in this case. To accomplish that object we have agreed upon an order which we will ask you to make. It is in these words:—

Upon the application of Mr. Lowder, the counsel for the China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, and with the consent of Mr. Wallford counsel for the China Traders' Insurance Company Limited, and of Mr. Litchfield, counsel for the plaintiff, it is ordered that the China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited, be added as defendants for the determination of the question as to whether the China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited, should be liable for the payment of the sum claimed in the petition or of any and what part thereof, and further that all amendments necessary for this purpose be deemed to have been made before the beginning of the hearing and that the hearing continue without further pleadings and that all necessary orders may be made as if the China Traders' Insurance Company Limited had been joined as defendants from the institution of the suit.

Mr. Wallford—I consent to that.

Mr. Litchfield—And I, my lord.

The Judge—I make the order, then, in the terms of the application.

Mr. Lowder—Following that it will also suit the convenience of counsel, if it suits your

Honour's convenience, that the hearing should be adjourned till the 14th of this month at 10 o'clock.

His Honour—I make an order to that effect.

A FIRM AND ITS BANTO.

The trial of Nacumo Kinjiru, aged 37, formerly in the employ of Messrs. Berrick Bros., No. 75, Settlement, Yokohama, commenced on Wednesday afternoon before Judge Ketsu-ura and Judges Ichikawa and Mori.

Accused, who pleaded not guilty, acknowledged to having been sentenced previously to three years' imprisonment with hard labour. He was employed by Messrs. Berrick as head banto at a salary of 150 yen a month, but resigned the position in August to join a new company. On the 13th September he sent out a number of letters to clients of Berrick Brothers, informing them that Berrick's business had been transferred to the Toyo Kaisha, and that all orders might be placed in the hands of the new company. The accused contended that this was done by consent of Berrick Bros' representative. Accused had made a verbal, though not a written, agreement with Mr. Rice, of Berrick Bros., to establish a separate company. The establishment of a company was in the interests of both parties, as the firm of Berrick Bros. was in straitened financial circumstances, as both the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the Specie Bank had refused to issue any letter of credit on behalf of the firm.

The Judge—It appears in the affidavit that Mr. Rice denies the fact stated by you that the despatch of letters to different clients saying that the transfer of business to the Toyo Kaisha, was done with his consent, had been duly authorized. Was it not so?

Accused—On the 2nd and the 7th July Mr. Rice wrote letters to a customer to the effect that all orders hitherto given to Berrick Bros. should be transferred hereafter to the Toyo Kaisha, as the business referred to had been entirely transferred to the hands of the new company. The letter dated on July 2nd was written by Mr. Rice himself and the second letter dated July 7th, was written by me and signed by Mr. Rice (letter produced). The terms were that the Company should receive one per cent. of the value of the goods ordered from Berrick Bros. when the orders were collected by the Company, to be placed in the letter of credit issued by the Specie Bank in favour of the Company. The rate of commission, however, was afterwards altered to 2 per cent., the agreement, so far as commission was concerned, being concluded with Mr. Rice and approved by Mr. Berrick. It was about May 26th.

The Judge—Are you unable to state any reason which induced Berrick Bros. to charge you with the offence of forging the firm's name and stamps?

Accused—From the month of February to May, orders were obtained by me to the amount of yen 1,000,000, nearly all of which were afterwards cancelled by the firm without giving notice to me. On August 31st I asked for the payment of the commission due to me, but was refused by the firm, as all the orders collected by me were cancelled. I did not receive my salary even at that time. Some other reasons were also furnished by the accused.

In further answer to the Judge, the accused deposed that he paid yen 3,000 in cash in Berrick Bros. on Oct. 16th when a compromise was made between the parties.

The accused asked that a number of witnesses should be called and documents examined, and his request being granted, the Court adjourned for a fortnight.

THE REBELLIONS IN HUPK AND ANHUI.

The N.-C. Daily News translates the following telegrams from Chinese sources, some of which are official:—

Colonel Wu and Prefect Chu, the military and civil Commandants, respectively, of the Viceroy Chang's disciplined K'ai regiment (800 men), operating against the Hupai rebels in Changlo district, report that they captured the second of the fortified villages near Changlo on the 24th instant, and then, closely pursuing the fleeing rebels, followed them pell-mell into the city itself, which they subsequently captured after some fierce street fighting. The Changlo magistrate Chou, who had not been murdered as at first reported, was rescued from prison and was accordingly replaced in office pending instructions from Viceroy Chang in the matter. A large body of rebels are still collected

on the Hunan-Hupai border near Changlo, which must be dispersed before that portion of Hupai can be pacified. In the fighting before the two fortified villages, following with their capture the recapture of Changlo, the quick-firers and magazine rifles of the K'ai regiment simply swept the rebels away wherever there was the least indication of their presence. By this means nearly 700 rebels lost their lives. The backbone of the Hupai rebellion is now considered at Wuchang to be crushed and that before long peace will be restored, owing to the death of the three principal rebel chiefs, who were killed while fighting the K'ai regiment on the 21st, 23rd, and 24th inst.

Nanking (capital of Anhui) telegrams reporting the rebellion in that province state that on the 22nd instant General Lin, commanding a body of 600 cavalry and a battery of six mountain quick-firing guns, had a desperate fight with a strong body of rebels who held a fortified village called Changchiang, near Shuchou. The battery having occupied without opposition an elevated position commanding the village, one half of the cavalry was dismounted, while the other half was sent round to the rear of the village, hidden from the eyes of the enemy by high dunes, in order to cut the latter down as soon as they should begin to evacuate the village. As soon as everything was ready, not a shot being to the meanwhile fired in answer to the pattering volleys of the rebels which fell much too short, the signal was given, and a storm of shells began falling into the doomed village, exploding right and left and setting fire to not a few houses. The rebels, who had never seen the like of this before, however, stood bravely to the defences awaiting the advance of the dismounted troopers who were to scale the mud ramparts of the village. But soon the fire became too hot for the rebels, and they had to run. The fire of the battery was then slackened in order to enable the troops to mount. The rebels, perceiving this, again rushed to the ramparts to meet the soldiers and a fierce fight ensued, the rebels being finally driven out of the village only to fall victims to the horsemen on the outside. No fewer than 500 fighting men, women, and children, killed by the bursting of the shells inside the houses, lost their lives in that fight, including one of the rebel chiefs named Liu Tsun-yuan. Only some 250 men and their families were left in the village to surrender to General Lin; but it is stated that two other leaders with 80 men succeeded in cutting their way through the cavalry lines lying in wait for them. Several hundred head of cattle and a quantity of grain were captured in this village. Everywhere the troops met the rebels, the latter fought most bravely and recklessly and gave way only owing to the great superiority of the arms of the former.

The Universal Gazette publishes also the following:—A Tsingkiangpo telegram of the 29th instant reports the capture of the Hunan rebel chief Hui Ming-yen with ten of his men by the cavalry troops of General Chen of Hui hou. It is further stated that between 3,000 and 4,000 rebels have been killed in the several battles in the vicinity of Kuyang, while numbers have fled into that city. Hence it is anticipated that with the capture of Kuyang the rebellion in that part of the country will be easily crushed. A mounted courier from Shuchou came into Tsingkiangpo this noon (19th) reporting the alarming news that Shuchou was in great danger owing to the capture by the rebels of an important market town near that city named Shuchikou. This last-named is just on the Anhui-Kiangsu borders, and by this means the rebels will be able to attack Tsingkiangpo itself if they are not driven northwards. So far Kuyang and Miao-cheng, two district cities—and about seventy-five walled villages are held by the rebels. Shuchou is on the point of being besieged and Kauchou is on the point of capture by the rebels. The rebels seem to be rising everywhere in North Anhui. A man of the Chou Clan of the large market town of Shuangkaucha, near Shuchou, has also risen, and with 3,000 followers is about to attack the latter, which is a district city of some importance but utterly unprepared to resist the rebels.

Following the above telegrams is one from Nanking to a local mandarin privately stating that there are grave charges against the various Generals sent by the Viceroy of Nanking and the Governor of Anhui and Hunan to make a combined movement and crush the rebellion in Anhui, to the effect that there is no combination or cordiality at all amongst them, that each is waiting for the other to make the forward movement, and that owing to this dilatory action the rebels are gathering strength every day and will soon be too formidable to be attacked singly by either of the Generals sent against them. The want of a very high official to take supreme command is sincerely felt and Viceroy Lin may ask the Throne to send Governor Teng of Anhui to take the field in person.

TELEGRAMS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE TRANSVAAL.

London, Jan. 26.

The Indian Location Law in the Transvaal will be enforced from the first of February next, but extension of time will be given in certain cases.

BY BANK THEFT.

Over sixty thousand pounds in Bank of England notes have been stolen at Parr's Bank.

THE PHILIPPINES.

General Otis has been instructed to do his utmost to avoid hostilities in the Philippines.

PEACE TREATY IN SENATE.

London, Jan. 27.

A Washington despatch says that the Senate has resolved to take a final vote on the Peace Treaty on the sixth of February. It further states that there is in America a tendency to the increase of the opposition to imposing American rule in the Philippines.

THE EPSOM ELECTION.

Mr. William Keswick, a Conservative and partner in the firm of Jardine, Matheson and Co., was elected unopposed at Epsom, and replaced Mr. Bucknill, who has been appointed a judge.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

London, Jan. 30.

M. Mazeau, Chief President of the Court of Cassation, who, with two judges of the Civil Section, investigated the charges of partiality, preferred by Judge Beaufort, has reported to the Cabinet, stating that it would be unwise to entrust the decision on the Dreyfus case to the Criminal Section alone. Thereupon the Cabinet decided to submit a Bill, on Monday, in the Parliament, to refer the Dreyfus case to a united Commission of the two sections of the Court of Cassation, consisting of sixty judges. M. Mazeau's report is being withheld from the public, excepting that portion where he says in conclusion, that while the honour of the Criminal Section is unaffected, it will be unwise to leave to it the whole responsibility of pronouncing the final judgment. In the meanwhile, the Criminal Section continues the present investigation, on the basis that a definite trial will be undertaken by the whole court. The Dreyfusites are furiously denouncing the decision as an unparalleled slur on the Judiciary.

London, Jan. 31.

Both the *Temps* and the *Journal de Debats* regret the Cabinet's decision regarding the Dreyfus case, as derogatory to the judicial system of France.

London, Feb. 1.

The Dreyfus Bill has been introduced into the Chamber which has referred it to a Committee; and M. Dupuy has undertaken to submit Judge Mazeau's report to the Committee.

PLAGUE AT PORT LOUIS.

London, Jan. 30.

Several cases of plague are reported at Port Louis, Mauritius.

NORTH BORNEO.

During Mr. Beaufort's absence three Commissioners are administering North Borneo.

IN THE SOUDAN.

The British flag has been hoisted at Wady Halfa and Atbara.

London, Jan. 31.

Col. Kitchener is returning to Omdurman after an unsuccessful pursuit after the Khalifa.

The *Times* correspondent at Cairo reports that only six European Powers not including Germany, France and Russia, have accepted the prolongation of the Mixed Tribunals whose charter expires on January 31st.

MR. BALFOUR AT MANCHESTER.
ANGLO-AMERICAN UNDERSTANDING, A
BULWARK TO UNIVERSAL PEACE AND
CIVILIZATION.

London, Feb. 1.

The Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, speaking at Manchester, said that he was convinced that the strength and efficiency of the British armaments constituted the best security to universal peace and that he regarded the good understanding established with the United States as the surest guarantee to future civilization throughout the world.

BRITISH LIBERAL CHIEFTAINSHIP.

The Liberal party meets on the 7th inst. to elect its leader. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannermann's election is regarded as assured.

THE MIXED EGYPTIAN TRIBUNALS.

London, Feb. 2.

All the Powers have agreed to prolong the Mixed Tribunals for one year.

THE PHILIPPINE SITUATION.
MORE REINFORCEMENTS HASTENED ON.

The Americans are hastening the dispatch of reinforcements to the Philippines.

AMERICAN NATIONAL ARMY.
A Washington despatch says that the House of Representatives has passed the Army Bill fixing the minimum strength of the (national) Army at 5,000 and the maximum at 95,000.

RITUALISM IN ENGLAND.
The ritualistic controversy is becoming acute. At a demonstration by ten thousand people at Albert Hall, it has been resolved to uphold the Protestant demand for the suppression of the mass and confessional in the Established Church.

CHINESE LOAN FINALLY ARRANGED.

The *Times* announces that the Chinese five per cent. loan to the extent of £2,300,000 sterling has definitely been arranged for, being guaranteed by the Northern railways. The Hongkong Shanghai Bank will issue the prospectus at the end of the week.

MAJOR LOTHAIRE MADE A PRISONER.

Advices from Brussels state that Major Lothaire's soldiers have joined the Batatele (?) mutineers, killing their officers, and that the Major has been wounded and taken prisoner.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")
PROCLAMATION OF THE PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC.

Hongkong, Jan. 25
We are informed that a telegram has been received from Manila stating that on Sunday last, the 22nd inst., the Philippine Republic was duly proclaimed at Malolos.

The Philippine Congress unanimously refused to agree to the annexation of the country by the United States. Meetings are being held all over the country in support of the Government.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")
FRANCO-ENGLISH RELATIONS.

Paris, Jan. 25.

In the Chamber of Deputies to-day MM. Constant d'Estourmelles and Cochon during a debate on the budget of Foreign Affairs, demanded an explanation of the recent difficulties which arose between France and England.

M. Ribot, the Premier, in reply, asserted that the French claims over Madagascar were incontestable, and M. Delcasse, Minister for Foreign Affairs, stated that the Fashoda incident had been settled in a patriotic spirit of conciliation, and that the honour of the nation remained untouched. He held that France was ever ready to negotiate honourably.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

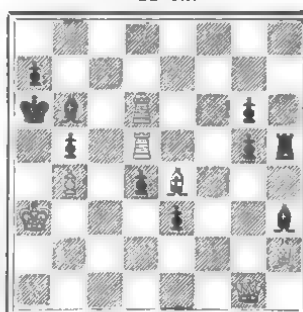
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 405.

WHITE.
1—K to K1 sq
2—Q takes P (K1 4) ch
3—R to B4 mate
BLACK.
1—P to Q6
2—P takes Q
1—B to B2 or 4
2—B takes B
3—Q takes P (B5) mate if 2—P to Q6
3—Q to B4 mate if 2—P to R7
3—Q takes P (K2) mate
Etc., Etc.

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Maico and Voila.

W.H.S. is also to be credited for correct Solution of Problem No. 404.

PROBLEM No. 408.
By JOHANNES HADAN.
From *Ueber Land und Meer*.



WHITE.
White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 473.
JANOWSKY-SHOWALTER MATCH.
SIXTH GAME.
VIENNA OPENING.

White—Showalter.	Black—Janowsky.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4
2 Kt QB3	Kt KB3
3 B B4	Kt B3
4 P Q3	B B4
5 P KB4	P Q3
6 Kt B3	Castles (a)
7 P B5	Kt QR4
8 B KK5	Kt B3
9 P Kt	P B3(h)
10 Q Q2	P QR3
11 Kt QR	Q K2
12 Kt K2	P QR4
13 Kt K3	R K4
14 KR K4	P R3
15 B Kt	Q B4
16 Kt R5	Q Q4
17 P B6	K R2(d)
18 Kt Kt P(-) R Kt1 q	R Kt1 q
19 R B-q(l)	Q P
20 Kt R5	Q Kt3
21 Kt K3	B K2
22 Q Q3	P Q Kt4
23 P P(-) R	P P
24 Q Kt P	B RP
25 Kt B5	Q K3
	WHITE.
	26 Q R4
	27 R R q
	28 P R4
	29 Q P
	30 Kt B5 ch
	(h)
	31 P P ch
	32 Kt R6 ch
	33 P Q
	34 K Kt-q(k) R P ch
	35 K R q
	BLACK.
	26 B5
	27 QR Kt sq
	28 R Q Kt5
	29 KR Q Kt sq
	P Kt
	K Kt q
	Q Kt(i)
	R K6 ch
	R(K7) Kt
	K R q
	B Q5 ch(m)
	P R
	R R3
	R Q
	K P
	R K q
	K Kt2
	K Kt2
	B B q
	B K3
	R Q B q(-)
	R Kt sq.

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kameny, in *The Ledger*, Philadelphia.

(a) The position thus arrived at is similar to the King's Gambit Declined—Black's usual continuation is 6, B to K Kt 5, and if White answers P to K R 3 then B takes Kt and Kt to Q 5. White then sacrifices the exchange, but he obtains an attack which fully makes up for it.

(b) Necessary, to prevent White's Kt to Q 5 play. The move weakens the Q P.

(c) With the intention to continue Kt to R 5, which could not be played at once, on account of Black's Kt takes K P reply.

(d) He could not play P takes P nor P to K K 3 on account of Q takes K R P winning at once. The text move as well as the Q to Q sq play on previous turn were exceedingly strong for the defense.

(e) Much stronger than P takes P, which would have been answered by B to K Kt 5.

(f) Which enables Black to play Q takes P and the attack is neutralized. A quite promising play for White was Kt to K 5 ch, which, however, by correct defense would not have proved satisfactory.

(g) Which opens the diagonal for the adverse Q B and gives Black a powerful if not winning attack. White at this stage of the game had the inferior position.

(h) White's game at this point was pretty hopeless, for he could not guard against the powerful attack his opponent has established. He thus was quite justified in selecting this continuation, which, though unsound, gives some chances of escape.

(i) Brilliant and sound play, which virtually decides the game.

(k) He could not play R to Q 2, for R takes Kt P would have followed, Black winning easily.

(l) B-tter perhaps was B to B 4 in order to guard the Q P. Black then might have continued R(Kt 7) to Kt 3 and R to R 3.

(m) He could not play R takes R, for Q takes P ch and Q takes R would have given White a winning game.

(n) He had no better play. Q to K 5 ch would have been answered by P to B 3, while R to R 6 could not be played on account of B to Kt 8 mate.

(o) Forces exchange of Rooks or wins the Q B P.

GAME No. 474.
POSTICAL CHESS.

Played in the late correspondence tourney in the *Leds Mercury Weekly Supplement*, between Messrs. G. W. Farrow and C. J. Aving. The extracts, cleverly appropriate to the circumstances of the moves, were supplied by the contestants themselves.

WHITE. Mr. G. W. Farrow (Hull).
BLACK. Mr. C. J. Aving (London).

RUY LOPEZ.

1—P to K4
"Forward to the fight."—Men of Harlech.
1—P to K4
"And may God defend the right."—Old Saying.
2—Kt to B3
"And tuition every charger neigh'd To join the dreadful revelry."—Campbell.
2—Kt to Q B3
"Then Knight eyed Knight in proud array. Each eager for the coming fray."—Aron.
3—B to Q Kt 5
"How dute this Bishop by his conduct show that he is a quarrelsome fellow."—Henry Ross.
3—Kt to B3
"Up, Guards, and at 'em."—Duke of Wellington.
4—P to Q4
"Come, battle, neighbour Prig. Put on your hat and wig!"—Old S ne.
4—Kt takes K P
"If it were well 'twere done,
"Twere well it were done quickly!"
—Shakespeare.
5—P to Q 5
"Received, but reck'd not of a wound,
And lock'd his arms his foeman round."
—Scott.
5—Kt to Q 3
"And backward sprang with flaming eyes."
—Butler.
6—B takes Kt
"Murder, most foul, as in the best it is;
But this most foul, most strange, and most unnatural."—Shakespeare.
6—Kt P takes B
7—P takes P
7—P to K 5
"Go forth, my little child, into the wide, wide world."—Jean Paul.
8—K to Q 4
"O, then and there was marching to and fro."
—Byron (slightly altered).
8—P takes P

"He which hath no stomach for the fight let him be gone."—Shakespeare.

9—Kt takes P
10—Kt to K4
"Give me my principal and let me go."—Shakespeare.

9—Q to Q2
10—B to R2

"Though his coat were black,
And a casso on his back,
Yet a jolly, jolly priest was he."—Old Song.

11—Kt to Q5
"An errant Knight."—Anon.
11—B to R3
"A parade of episcopal power."—John Knox.
12—Q Kt to B3
"Will none of the varlets who eat of my bread
rid me of this turbulent priest?"—Shakespeare.

12—Castles, K R

"No bulwarks,"

No castles on the steep!"—Campbell.

13—Kt to K2
"And two good Knights are pressing close beside
that snow-white crest."—Macaulay (altered).
13—Q R to Q2

"And frowning castles crown the steep defiles."—Anon.

14—Castles

"Nothing but Castles and old armour."—Scott.

14—Kt to B4

"Charge for the golden lilies,
Upon them with the lance!"—Macaulay.
15—Kt takes B ch
"Have at thee, thou catiff Bishop!"—One of
the Knights who murdered at Becket.

15—Q takes Kt

"A Roland for an Oliver."—Old Saying.

16—Q to K4
"The Queen takes the throne,
Long live the Queen!"

16—P to K6

"The pioneer of a coming fray."—Anon.

17—P to K B3
"Now, by my soul, this Pawn goes bravely
on!"—Anon.

17—R to Q2

"His step is cautious, and his pace is slow."—Anon.

18—P to K Kt4

"He yields not, he, to man nor fate."—Scott.

18—Kt to R5

"Have your cavalry in hand for a flank attack."—Napoleon I.

19—Kt to B3

"Would that night or Bûcher would come!"—Duke of Wellington.

19—B take R

"My priestly benison be upon thy head."—Anon.

20—Q takes B

"A few more moves and then the game;
Whose shall it be?

Whose the honour? Whose the fame?
Ah! ask not me!"—Medley.

20—K R to Q2

"A perfect Rookery."—Old Saying.

21—P to Kt3

"A parous boy! go to, you are too shrewd!"—Shakespeare.

21—R to Q8

"Charge, Chester, charge!"

On Stanley, on!"—Scott.

22—Resigns. For if 22—Kt takes R, 22—P
to K7 wins; and if 22—Q takes R, 22—R takes
P (ch), 23—Kt takes R, 23—P to K7, and wins.

"Now he captures a Knight, and the Queen
guts to fight,

As he forks them both in the midst of the fight.
Oh, no belted Knight or Bishop in lawn,
Plays a braver part than the bold little Pawn,"

—By "The Bold Little Pawn," from *Lads Mercury Weekly Supplement*.

Game No 475.

The New York Sun prints the following letter under the caption: "Plagiarism or Fraud Extraordinary in Chess?"

Sir,—Allow me to draw the attention of the readers of the Sun to the following extraordinary occurrence: About four or five years ago *La Monda Illustra* of Paris arranged an international chess tournament, in which all the games had to be contested by correspondence. The players were divided in sections, and Janowski, at that time not very well-known in European chess circles, was pitted against a certain Hungarian amateur of the name of Meyer of Temesvar. Their game happened to turn out such a gem of brilliancy that all the leading European chess periodicals reprinted the game from *La Monda Illustra*, in which the game at first appeared. *Wochenachsch*, *La Nouvelle Revue*, *Dagbl Schach*, *La Strategie* and other publications were among the number printing the

game, with copious notes and diagrams. In its issue of November 29th of this year, *Wochenachsch* prints the game again, stating that it was recently played at the City of London Chess Club between H. H. Cole and W. Ward. Here are the moves:

White—H. H. Cole. Black—W. Ward.
WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1 P K4 P K4 9 Kt QB3 Kt K-q
2 Kt KB3 Kt QB3 10 P QKt3 P QB3
3 B Kt5 Kt B3 11 B R2 P Q4
4 Castles KtP 12 Q R5 P R Kt3
5 R K-q Kt Q3 13 R 2P P x Q
6 KtP Kt Kt 14 BxRP ch Kx B
7 R x Kt ch B K2 15 R x RP ch K Kt3
8 B Q3 Castles 16 Kt B4 Mate.

To make a long story short, it is sufficient to say that this game, with all its moves, from beginning to end, is the game contested between Janowski and Meyer four or five years ago, and that Janowski detected the Cole Ward game in *Wochenachsch* when looking through that paper at the Manhattan Chess Club the other day.

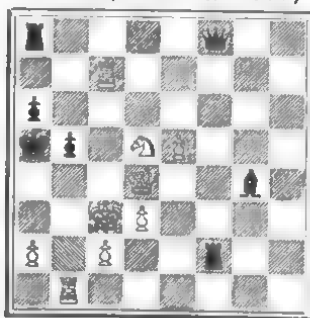
Cole is a well-known London amateur of the first class. Ward is also known as a player of strength and good repute. It is difficult to explain it. Either Cole arranged with Ward to play the game with him, in which case Ward deliberately submitted to defeat in order to enhance his friend's reputation, or each played from unconscious memory. In the latter case it will prove to be an instance of plagiarism of that sort which casts all previous well-known cases utterly in the shade.

CHESMAN.

END GAME.

A finish of Mr. Lasker's at Cheltenham recently.

BLACK.—(F. Forbes-Robertson)



WHITE.—(E. Lasker.)

1—R takes P ch! 1—P takes R
2—Q to R7 ch! 2—R takes Q
3—R takes K mate

NOTES.

The Brooklyn Chess Club has adopted a new plan by which the team for the next cable chess match with Great Britain may be selected. A circular has been prepared and addressed to the leading chessplayers and all persons who have taken a prominent position in the game in the United States, requesting them to name the strongest ten players, in their opinion, in the country. This ballot will be carefully examined by the officers of the club.

Janowski gave a simultaneous exhibition of play at the Cosmopolitan Chess Club on 31st December, and in two hours and eleven minutes finished eighteen games, winning sixteen and losing two. This is a record performance.

The following from the Nashville *Star* is of special interest:—

"The betterment of Chess-notation is a matter of frequent comment in these days. It is admitted that the Germanic naming of the squares is superior to ours. With us each square has two designations, with them but one. Thus, White's Q R square is A 1 in the German code, in the English it is for White Q R square and for Black is Q R8 losing in distinctiveness and also the number of letters used. On the other hand, our notation of the moves is a little simpler than theirs, as, for instance, our move P—K4 is recorded by them E 2—E 4. When we have to note moves on the King's or Queen's wing, we save nothing; thus our move, P—Q R 4, is marked by them A 2—A 4.

"A blending of the two would produce a perfect system. A German and American, residents of this city, on coming together and having a few informal games, agreed to a more formal match. But there a difficulty occurred. The German didn't know the English method and the American

didn't know the German, so they agreed on a new code based on each. The German plan of naming White's first row after the first eight letters and the other squares by figures, and the English method of naming the piece moved, was adopted. Thus P—K4 in the English and E 2—E 4 in the German code became P—E 4, and P—Q R 4 in English and A 2—A 4 in German became P—A 4. The simplest notation ever used in English is Lowenthal's edition of Morphy's game. Besides other forms, he dropped the dash between the letters, which if misplaced, as it often is by the compositor, will stop any but an experienced player." This notation is the one used by the *Japan Mail*.

END GAME.

By W. B. Mason, Tokyo.

We gave the Diagram in a previous issue. This is how White draws:—

WHITE. BLACK.
1—P to B4 1—B takes P.
2—R to K R 7 ch!

If K takes R, stalemate immediately follows; if K moves, White continues, R to Kt 7 ch; and similarly stalemate whether the R is taken by K or R. Should Black decline to capture the proffered Rook, White draws by perpetual check. A pretty and instructive variation arises from Black playing: 1—B to Q3, when the play proceeds as follows:—

2—P takes R 1—R to Q3
3—P takes P. 2—B takes R.
3—B takes P.

and White can draw even after the loss of his pawn at R3, Black being unable to dislodge the K from R 2 in order to Queen his pawn. The other variations require lengthier play, but White should draw in every case.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	F. Feb. 5
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Su. Feb. 5
Hongkong	M. N. Co.	Sydney	W. Feb. 8
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	F. Feb. 10
Canada, N.C.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	M. Feb. 13
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Feb. 13
America	T. K. E.	Nippon Maru	M. Feb. 13
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	W. Feb. 13
Hongkong	T. K. E.	Hongkong Maru	Th. Feb. 16
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. Feb. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	Th. Feb. 22

- 1 Left Kobe on the 2nd inst.
- 2 Left San Francisco on the 17th Jan.
- 3 Left Hongkong on the 18th Jan.
- 4 Left Hongkong on the 2nd inst.
- 5 Left San Francisco on the 18th Jan.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Feb. 4
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Feb. 5
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Tu. Feb. 7
Shanghai	N. Y. E.	Kobe Maru	W. Feb. 8
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Feb. 13
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of Japan	M. Feb. 13
Hongkong	T. K. E.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Feb. 14
Europe, via B'hal.	M. N. Co.	Sydney	W. Feb. 15
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	F. Feb. 17
America	T. K. E.	Hongkong Maru	Sa. Feb. 18
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Feb. 22
Canada, N.C.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	F. Feb. 22

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 29th Jan.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 25th Jan., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Sweeney, 27th Jan.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 7th Jan., Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truthidge, 27th Jan.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 25th Jan., Mails and General.—Doddwell & Co. Ltd.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 27th Jan.—Shanghai via ports, 21st Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, E. W. Hawell, 28th Jan.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Elginshire, British 4-masted barque, 2,038, John

G. Hannah, 30th Jan.—New York, 11th Aug., 1898, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
 Robert Rickmers, German 4-masted barque, 2,217, H. Bandelin, 30th Jan.—Cardiff, 14th Sept., Coal.—M. Raspe & Co.
 W. F. Pirrie, British 4-masted barque, 2,516, Jenkins, 30th Jan.—New York, 12th August, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
 Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, C. Vaquier, 31st Jan.—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 29th Jan., General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
 Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 31st Jan.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 30th Jan., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
 Komoro, British steamer, 2,412, Ellis, 1st Feb.—New York via ports, Kobe, 30th Jan., General. C. Illies & Co.
 Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, H. Nunome, 1st Feb.—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 31st Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantan, 26th Jan.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
 Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 27th Jan.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
 Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 27th Jan.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
 China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 28th Jan.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
 Sarnia, German steamer, 2,052, Ehlers, 29th Jan.—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.
 Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, J. Rowley, 29th Jan.—Kobe, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
 Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, C. Vaquier, 1st Feb.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
 Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 1st Feb.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. E. Palmer, 1st Feb.—Hongkong (Direct) Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Rev. C. H. Brown, Mr. T. B. Pink, Mr. J. Pope, Prof. C. Macaulay, Mr. W. W. G. Ross, Mr. A. S. Silver, Bishop McKim, Mrs. C. H. Evans, Mr. A. R. Owen, Mr. T. Meyerhans, Mrs. W. T. Payne, Mr. E. Blum, Mr. C. R. Morse, Mr. T. B. Abenheim, Mr. G. Hood, and Mr. J. Thibaud, in cabin; 8 intermediate, and 455 in steerage.

Per American steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. S. Guggenheim, Mr. and Mrs. Iwahara, Mrs. Goodall, Rev. N. Tamura, Rev. H. G. Linnie, Miss K. Yamada, Mr. W. Lawler, Mrs. M. E. Tucker, Mr. E. W. Griffith, Mr. H. W. Howe, Mr. R. Arai, Mr. F. T. Parrott, Mr. F. E. Barte, Mr. B. L. Crow, Mr. E. M. Suttiff, and Miss Tucker, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mrs. Haywood, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. Gelus, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Thompson, Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. H. Gunn, Miss H. K. Strain, Miss P. Osgood, Mr. J. C. Epperly, and Mr. F. D. Cheshire, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Lieut. W. G. Hannum, U.S.N., Ensign C. McCauley, Jr., U.S.N., Capt. J. E. Boyes, U.S.N., Mr. Jno. Deiby, Mr. W. P. Samy, Mr. L. W. Buskett, Mrs. A. B. Snow and 2 children, Mrs. Irving Hale, Mr. G. W. Greene and family, Mr. A. M. Pepper, and Mr. E. A. Tomlinson, in cabin.

Per French steamers *Tonkin*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Palmer, Mr. Fujita, Mr. Okuma, Mrs. Matsuoka, Mr. Collen, Mr. Pescio, Mr. Misuine, Mr. Ginguard and boy, Mr. Harup, Mr. Kologashi, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Kellogg-Cravens, Mr. Chaine, Mrs. Ballard, Mr. and Mrs. Holm, Mrs. Voigt, Mr. Neubert, six sisters, and one Chinese, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. C. Nair, Mr. Buxton Forman, Mr. Anderson, Miss Nair, Miss M. J. Moir, Capt. Thomsen, and Mr. W. F. Baldeu, in cabin; 8 Chinese, 1 Japanese, and 1 Indian, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kagoshima Maru*, from Bombay via ports:—Mrs. Vogel, Mrs. Koike, Mrs. K. Nishimura, and Mr. R. Nishimura in cabin; 5 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.—Capt. W. H. Crawford, General

Turner Cummins, Mr. A. J. Leboy, Mr. J. Pope, Mr. A. S. Silva, Mr. R. H. Smart, and Mr. Algenon Stracey, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Haywood, Mrs. Gelm, Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Thompson, Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. H. Gunn, Miss H. K. Strain, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Edwards, Miss P. Osgood, Mr. F. D. Cheshire, Mr. J. C. Epperly, Lieut. N. G. Hannum, U.S.N., Captain J. E. Boyer, U.S.A., Mr. A. M. Pepper, Mrs. Irving Hale, Mrs. A. E. Snow and two children, Mr. E. A. Tomlinson, Mr. E. McCauley, Jr., Mr. E. N. Greene and family, Mr. A. P. Samy, Mrs. H. R. Carpenter, Rev. H. B. Johnson, Mr. W. C. Duncan, Mr. Geo. Philip, Mr. W. B. Clayton, Mr. C. Woolsey, Mr. Young Saw Ng, Mr. J. W. Capmann, Mr. Kemorsky, Mr. Fed. Pouts, Mr. W. A. Harrison, Captain Lunaschloss, Mr. O. H. Bragaglio, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Mr. T. J. Barrowes, Mr. Henry Joy, and Mr. von Leungeke, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, for Marseilles via ports:—Baron d'Aethan, Mr. Alnizo Azevedo, Mr. E. Takagi, Mr. K. Yamamoto, Mr. M. Kono, Mr. M. Ise, Mr. S. Echigo, Mr. R. Kuno, Mrs. Ryon, 3 children and servant, Mrs. Ballard, Mrs. J. Komor and child, Miss de Bouquer, Mr. and Mrs. Bernstein, Mr. and Mrs. Elranger, 2 children and small, Mr. Lauré, Mr. J. Sam, Mr. A. Gysin, Mr. K. Gysin, Mr. A. C. Massin, Mr. W. H. Crawford, Mr. J. W. H. Wilson, Mr. J. Burns, Mr. E. Nonomiya, and Rev. Father Alph. Scandell, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business remains in much the same position as last week. The higher prices asked check transactions. Business is reported in some lines, but there is no general movement.

COTTON FIRM GOODS.

Grey Shirts—11 1/2, 38 1/2 yds. 35 inches	Per Piece
Grey Shirts—11 1/2, 38 1/2 yds. 35 inches	\$2.35 to 2.85
1. Cloth—7 1/2, 24 yds. 35 inches	2.85 to 3.35
Indigo Shirts—12 yds. 35 inches	2.80 to 2.00
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds. 35 inches	1.60 to 2.30
Cotton—Italians and Sattins Black, 35 inches	3.00 to 3.75
	0.14 to 0.15

WOOLLENS.

Flannels—11 1/2, 38 1/2 yds. 35 inches	Per Piece
Italian Cloth, 10 yds. 35 inches	\$0.30 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine—10 yds. 35 inches	0.28 to 0.40
35 inches	0.15 to 0.24
Cloths—Pile, 51 1/2 35 inches	0.15 to 0.30
Cloths—President, 51 1/2 35 inches	0.60 to 0.74
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 35 inches	0.40 to 0.85
Blankets—Scotch and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0.95 to 0.67

Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 35 inches	Per Piece
Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 35 inches	7.50 to 8.94
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds. 35 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 lb. 24 1/2 yds. 35 inches	1.40 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 to 4 lb. 24 1/2 yds. 35 inches	2.50 to 3.54

COTTON YARNS.

No. 16 24, Singles	Per Piece
No. 16 24, Singles	\$34.50 to 36.50
No. 18 32, Singles	Nominal
No. 38 42, Singles	40.00 to 44.00
No. 32, Doubles	41.00 to 45.00
No. 42, Doubles	44.50 to 45.50
No. 50, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
No. 50, Plain	70.00 to 77.00
No. 50, Plain	97.00 to 99.00
No. 50, Gassed	70.00 to 75.00
No. 50, Gassed	84.50 to 90.00
No. 50, Gassed	110.00 to 115.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	Per Piece
American Middling	\$8.50 to —
Indian Broach	18.25 —
Chinese	18.25 —

MILLS.

The high prices prevailing in the home markets continue to have a restrictive effect on transactions. Quotations are nominally as last week.

Round and square 4 inch. and upward	Per Piece
Round and square 4 inch. and upward	4.00 to 4.35
Iron Plates, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Sheet Iron	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.75 to 11.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.05 to 6.35
Fin Plates, per box	6.20 to 6.50
Pig Iron, 10 lb.	2.08 to 2.10
Loop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.35

KORUKNR.

The market is steady with an upward tendency.

American	\$2.00 to 2.10
Russian	2.00
Langkat	2.05 to 2.10

SINGAP.

The market is steady, without much change as compared with last week.

Brown Taka	Per Piece
Brown Taka	Nominal
Brown Manila	\$5.30 to 6.55

Brown Daitong	4.20 to 4.25
Brown Canton	3.90 to 3.75
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 6.80
White Itahed	7.75 to 8.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A large business has been doing both with America and Europe, and prices are well maintained.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Kata, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Kata, Coarse	\$980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 14, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 14, Coarse	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	980 to 990
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	980 to 990
Re-reels—No. 14	980 to 990
Re-reels—No. 2	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakadas—Extra	900
Kakadas—No. 1	870
Kakadas—No. 14	840
Kakadas—No. 2	840

WASTE SILK.

The market is still very quiet, holders being unwilling to sell at present prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Noahi—Filature, Best	Per Piece
Noahi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noahi—Oahu, Best	110 to 117
Noahi—Oahu, Good	100 to 110
Noahi—Oahu, Medium	Nominal
Noahi—Shimizu, Best	67 1/2 to 72 1/2
Noahi—Shimizu, Good	64 to 67 1/2
Noahi—Bushi, Best	110 to 115
Noahi—Bushi, Good	105 to 110
Noahi—Bushi, Medium	80 to 85
Noahi—Joshu, Good	55 to 70
Noahi—Joshu, Fair	50 to 55
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 85
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 25

TKA.

The market is quite inactive.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choicest	no stock
Finest	no stock
Fine	25 to 26
Good Medium	23 to 24
Medium	21 to 22
Good Common	19 to 20
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 2nd.

Silver from London 1/4 higher; no alteration in sterling quotations from China, and rates all the same as yesterday, with less doing.

Sight—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/2 to 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2 to 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2 to 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/1 1/2 to 1/2
On Fanto—Bank sight	360
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	264 to 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49 1/2 to 50
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2 to 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.10 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.14 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	44 1/2 dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	6 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	77
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
Re Silver (London)	87 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

(Messrs. Bissat & Urr's List.)

Yokohama, February 2nd.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations today:—Buyers of H. & S. Banks at 28 1/2 per cent, premium, Sellers of National Banks at 32 1/2, Sales of China Fires at \$53.50, Sellers of Hongkong Fires at \$53.00, and Sales of the following:—H. & W. Dock at 305 per cent, premium, H. & K. Wharfs at \$85, Douglas at \$57.50, Indo-China at \$64, Penjom Mines at \$6.50, Hongkong Lands at \$78, Union Insurance at \$230, China Traders at \$65, and H. C. & M. Steamboats at \$27; buyers of Raub Mines at \$53 and Straits Insurance nominal at \$7.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Iron Works can be had at yen 330 cum dividend. Japan Brewery old shares are offering at yen 390

and new at yen 130. Grand Hotels are steady at yen 225. Club Hotels can be had at yen 100 and Oriental Hotels at yen 105. Offers are wanted for Oriental Hotel Founders' shares and Nagasaki Hotels—the latter can be procured at yen 40. Brokers—sellers at yen 9.50 and buyers at yen 9. North & Ross are wanted at yen 200. Langfield's can be had at yen 225; offers for shares are wanted. Debenture stocks are unchanged at quotations.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., 5%	290 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., 5% Old	290 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 20 (yen 40 paid up)	290 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., 5%	290 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., 5%	290 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., 5%	290 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Yokohama), 5%	290 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 200	290 S.
North & Ross, Ltd., 5%	290 S.
Scott & Co., Ltd., 5%	290 S.
Langfield & Co., Ltd., 5%	290 S.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd., 5%	290 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 5% Deb., 5%	290 S.
Kobe 1st 6%, Deb., 5%	290 S.
Yokohama United Club 5% Deb., 5%	290 S.
Scott & Co., Ltd. 5% Deb., 5%	290 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 5% Deb., 5%	290 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 5% Deb., 5%	290 S.
Reserve Fund.—1. yen 10,000 1/2, yen 1,000 equalisation of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property: 1. yen 17,770-80 1/2. 4. yen 16,258.44.	
N.B.—S. Sellers, R.—Buyers, St.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, B.—Bargains.	

Tokyo, February 2nd.

Redemption Loan Bonds	90.00
War Loan Bonds	94.01
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	96.30
Nippon Ginza—paid up yen 100	96.00
Japan Industrial Bank—aid up yen 30	47.30
Specie Bank—paid up yen 200	96.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	96.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 30	95.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 30	95.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 200	95.00
Tokoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	94.30
Japan Railway—paid up yen 30	90.00
Japan Railway, 5th issue—paid up yen 40	90.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 20	90.00
Kobe Railway—paid up yen 40	90.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 30	90.00
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 30	90.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 30	90.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 30	90.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 30	90.00
Hokkaido Railway, 2nd issue—paid up yen 30	90.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 30	90.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 30	90.00
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, new—paid up yen 30	90.00
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—aid up yen 30	90.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 30	90.00
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 30	90.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 30	90.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 30	90.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 30	90.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—aid up yen 30	90.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 30	90.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 30	90.00
Tokyo Merchants' Exchange—paid up yen 30	90.00
Tokyo Silver Exchange—paid up yen 30	90.00
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 30	90.00
Shingawa Electric Light—paid up yen 30	90.00
Tokyo Gas—paid up yen 30	90.00
Tokyo Gas, new—paid up yen 30	90.00
Japan Beer—aid up yen 30	90.00
Japan Beer, new—paid up yen 30	90.00
Kanagawa Cotton Spinning—paid up yen 30	90.00
Tokyo Warehouse—paid up yen 30	90.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard—aid up yen 30	90.00
Ishikawajima Dock Yard, new—paid up yen 30	90.00



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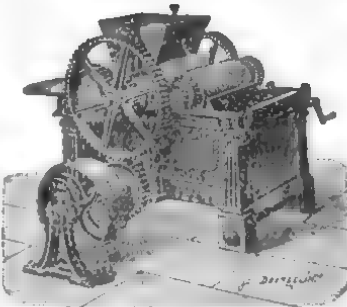
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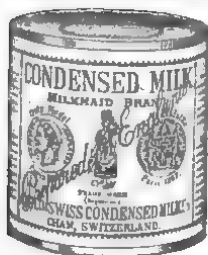
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 4.]

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YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 28TH, 1899.

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[VOL. XXXI.]

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	77
The Peace Conference	78
Lord Charles Beresford and his Entertainments	78
Deficiency of Revenue	78
An Inventor	78
Proposed Increase of Telegraph Rates	78
Japan's Export of Silk	78
The House of Representatives	79
Mr. Okuma's Party to Lord Charles Beresford.	79
Viceroys Chang and Education	79
"Nichi Nichi Shinbun" as a Conservative	79
A Bank Trouble	80
Kyoto Chamber of Commerce and Lord Charles Beresford...	80
French and Japanese Silk Fabrics	80
Constitutional Party and the New Taxes...	80
The Trouble in Kobe about receiving Lord Charles Beresford	80
Farmhouses	81
An Incident of the Tobacco Monopoly	81
Project for a New Eastern Cable	81
Pawnbrokers in Japan	81
New Postal Rates for Newspapers	81
Calendars, etc.	81
The late Count Kato	81
Fatal Fire in Hiroshi	81
Serious Charge against a Shanghai Resident	81
Leading Articles:—	
Lord Charles Beresford on the Harbin Treaty	83
Financial Finance	84
Extra-Settlement Leases in Kobe	84
An Electric Train	85
Monthly Summary of Japanese Current Literature	86
A Dangerous Pastime	86
Theft from a Godown	86
Imperial Diet	86
Lord Charles Beresford's Farewell	86
Correspondence:—	
The Meguro Lepers' Home	90
The U.S. Colonial Policy	90
News of the Week	90
Grand Hotel, Limited	93
Ladies Lawn Tennis Club	93
Yokohama Rowing Club	93
Strange Records	94
Kitchen's School	95
Mr. and Mrs.	95
Christ Church Subscription Dance	95
Telegrams	95
Chess	95
Latest Shipping	97
Latest Commercial	97
Supplement: Lord Charles Beresford at Tokyo and Yokohama; Chinese Notes.	

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS ADVIENNE QUE JOURNAL!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 28TH, 1899.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

With this number of the *Japan Weekly Mail* is issued the index for Vol. XXX.—July to December, 1898.

OVER 500 emigrants left Yokohama for Honolulu by the steamer *America Maru*.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR on the 25th sent a gift of money to the family of the late Count Kato.

THE Official Receiver in Bankruptcy reports Mr. Hoolay to be guilty of fraud and misconduct.

PRINCE LI CHUNG YAN, of Korea, who has been in England, returned to Yokohama on the

20th by the steamer *Hitachi Maru* and put up at the Nishimura hotel, Bentendōri.

A FIRE which broke out in Shimbashi station yard on Wednesday did damage to the extent of 4,000 yen.

THE trial trip of the steamer *Hongkong Maru* took place on the 20th off Kisarazu. Her speed was 17.25 knots.

A HEAVY fall of snow occurred in Yokohama on Tuesday night; the weather has since been bright and clear.

THE birthday of Kaiser Wilhelm II. was festively observed by the German community of Yokohama on Friday.

THE Yokohama Dock Yard Association held a general meeting on the 20th, and declared a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum.

TWO postmen belonging to the Hongo Post Office, Tokyo, were arrested on the 21st on a charge of stealing letters and newspapers.

THE Osaka traders have organized a guild in opposition to the Chinese traders in the City, whose business morality is complained of.

IT has been decided to build a detached palace at Nikko, for the summer residence of the Crown Prince. It will cost about yen 80,000.

IT is said that Lord Charles Beresford's fee from the Associated British Chambers of Commerce was £1,000, exclusive of all travelling expenses.

A WOMAN named Asami Ishi (40), living at Agano, Chichibu, Saitama Prefecture, has been arrested on a charge of murdering her child.

THE amalgamation of the Nara, Osaka, and Kansai Railway Companies is almost settled. The Imari Railway Company has wound up its affairs.

THE sittings of the Diet are marked by much placidity at present, all Government measures being adopted or revised by the various Committees.

WORK on the proposed electric railway between Koza and Oiso will commence within a few days. It will join with the Odawara electric railway.

ON the 21st instant, a *Saiki* named Kuroda Heikyu was arrested in Yokohama and sent to jail on a charge of threatening voters in the Municipal election.

AN aeronaut named Kajihara Kichijiro (34) fell from a balloon on the 21st at Muko Yanagihara in Tokyo. He was killed instantly, his skull being fractured.

THE *Temps* says the Sudan convention will entail the protectorate of Egypt; and counsels France not to quarrel over the inevitable, but to seek compensation.

THE decision of the Court of Cassation on the Dreyfus Case is expected shortly. The newspapers state it will report that the proofs of Dreyfus' guilt are insufficient.

AT the annual meeting of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, Mr. H. C. Litchfield was re-elected President, Mr. F. J. Hall, Captain; and Mr. Levedag was made Secretary in place of Mr. Schellenberg, who is going home.

THE convention signed by Lord Cromer and Suttos Pasha, defines the limits of the Sudan; includes Wady Halfa and Suakin in an administration which is distinct from that of Egypt; excludes the Sudan from the jurisdiction of the mixed tribunals; and provides for

the supreme power being vested in the Governor-General, to be appointed by the Khedive with the consent of Great Britain.

PRINCE TOKUGAWA KEIKI and others are stated to be contemplating the erection of a bronze statue of the late Count Kato in Ueno park, Tokyo, by the side of Saigo Takamori's statue.

THE application of Mr. Fukui Naokichi and others for permission to construct an electric railway at Enoshima was granted on the 23rd inst. The railway will probably be extended to Fujisawa Railway Station.

AN engagement is announced between the grand-daughter of Count Hijikata, ex-Minister of the Imperial Household, and Mr. Tanaka Ginnosuke, younger brother of Mr. Tanaka Heihachi, a wealthy merchant of Yokohama.

THE Mitani firm contemplate building a large Dock-yard in Kyushu. It is announced that the cost will be about yen 30,000,000, and a part of the capital will have to be supplied from abroad, and Government aid will probably be solicited.

ACCORDING to the report of the Financial Department, the exports during December amounted to yen 19,037,597.35, and the imports to yen 26,034,371.75. The export of bullion amounted to yen 1,458,422.99 and the imports to yen 1,373,899.82.

MR. W. F. MITCHELL, Chairman of the British dinner to Lord Charles Beresford, emphasized the fact that the British community were as anxious as the Japanese Government to smooth the way for the easy working of the new treaties.

IN consequence of the dispute over the Kingdom of Samoa, wherein the German Consul opposes the candidate proposed by Great Britain and America, three British warships from Australia and one American, from California, have been ordered to Samoa.

ON the 23rd inst. the Osaka Chamber of Commerce decided to make representations to the Government for the establishment of a bank to assist trade between Japan and China, and also for the abandonment of the proposed tax on dwelling houses. They elected a committee to push these objects. On the 24th the Nagoya Chamber of Commerce decided to resist the proposed tax on houses.

COUNT MURAVIEFF, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in a circular to the European Cabinets, states that although the horizon has been somewhat overclouded since his first communication, the convocation of a peace congress is still advisable. The proposals include the prohibition of submarine torpedo boats, of new and more powerful weapons or explosives or other new warlike inventions and also of ships with prohibited arms. The *Times* regards the scheme as visionary and impracticable.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD was entertained in Tokyo last week by Mr. Okuma and by the Oriental Society; and was received in audience by the Emperor. On Monday he was the guest of the British residents of Yokohama, speaking at a dinner given at the Oriental Hotel. On Tuesday he went down to Yokohama on the cruiser *Takaraka Maru*, specially sent to convey him. On Wednesday he was entertained by Mr. Otani Kahei, Chairman of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce at Yokohama, at a farewell breakfast, and he left for America at noon.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

The world seems to have made up its mind pretty conclusively as to the Czar's proposals for a Peace Conference. According to the best intelligence obtainable, the attitude of the Western Powers towards the scheme may be described as one of either ridicule or reticence. Mr. W. T. Stead's intrusion upon the scene does not tend to increase its air of reality. Mr. Stead, however, has been the first to present to the public a succinct statement of the Czar's proposals. It is true that nothing coming from the author of "Modern Babylon" can be implicitly credited, for though no one doubts Mr. Stead's honesty of purpose, every one has learned to regard him as a man whose emotions are apt to take charge of his judgment. Still, when reporting the facts of an interview with the Czar, he may probably be trusted to speak accurately, and these are the proposals which he professes to have been told by the Emperor himself:—(1) That there should be declared a truce of God for five years; (2) that during that period the Governments should not increase their expenditure on armaments beyond the figure stated by them at the conference as the maximum of their needs; (3) that some international agreement should, if disputes arise between the signatories of this pact, bind them always to invite the mediation of neutral powers before appealing to the sword. "Now nothing in the world is easier than to read sinister or self-seeking motives into all the acts and sayings of others, and nothing in the world is commoner. The more despicable a man's instincts, the more disposed is he to suspect others of evil purposes and contemptible designs. It is not surprising, therefore, that many critics should have professed to see in the Russian Sovereign's project nothing but a subtle scheme to gain breathing time for Russia until she can put her finances in order and consolidate the huge additions that she has recently made to her empire. But no one has any right to impugn His Majesty's motives. We ourselves believe him to be perfectly sincere in his desire to find some means of lightening the cruel burden under which the nations of Europe are labouring to-day. That would certainly be a greater triumph for him in the eyes of historians than any victory he could win in war. But we have to consider His Majesty's proposals by the light of the interests they affect, and it must be confessed that to people in the Far East the project of "a five years' truce of God" bears a peculiar aspect just at present. For a peace lasting five years is precisely what Russia wants to consolidate herself in Manchuria. She has planted her foot there, and if she could be assured of five years' undisturbed possession, she might thereafter defy the world to put her out. We do not suggest that any such consideration influenced the Czar when he conceived the plan of a Peace Conference, but we do say that the position which Russia has just taken in China makes a coincidence most unfortunate for the credit which His Majesty seeks to gain for his project. On the whole, however, there is not much occasion to discuss the question. It will never enter the sphere of practical politics, and all that the Czar will gain is the honour of having made a noble effort in the cause of humanity.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD AND HIS ENTERTAINERS.

The Chairman of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, Mr. R. D. Robison, gives in our correspondence columns, a timely explanation of the arrangement made for welcoming Lord Charles Beresford. His lordship's wishes were not definitely known in Yokohama until Thursday morning. Long before that time, the management of the affair had passed out of the hands of the General Chamber of Commerce, and the British residents having decided, at a meeting held on the preceding Monday, that the welcome should take the form of a dinner, it was found that no time remained for a change of programme, since such a step must have received the preliminary approval of another meeting which could not have been held before Friday evening at soonest. There can be no doubt that the British residents would most gladly have sought the co-operation of other nationalities had the idea of a reception only been originally entertained, but from the moment when a dinner was decided upon, an inevitable limit imposed itself, there being no hall in the Settlement large enough, or even approximately large enough, to accommodate a dinner party including all nationalities. It is a pity that the objects which Lord Charles has in view could not have been better served, and it would be doubly a pity if any impression were created that a sentiment of exclusiveness animated the British residents. With reference to the complaint that a French hotel was preferred to an Anglo-Saxon, we understand that there was no opportunity for choice. The Grand Hotel, however excellent its cuisine, does not offer sufficient accommodation for a dinner party of the size contemplated, and to overcome that difficulty it would have been necessary to resort to very inconvenient expedients, whereas the new salons of the Oriental Hotel lend themselves excellently to such a purpose.

A paragraph appears in the *Japan Herald* charging us with "dishonestly changing the direction of the letter" from the Chairman of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, published in our issue of the 24th instant, "in order to make it appear that the letter was addressed to ourselves," whereas in reality it was merely a copy of a letter addressed to the *Japan Herald*. The charge is entirely baseless.

DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE.

The Government has submitted two Bills to the House of Representatives providing for a part of the deficiency of revenue caused by the latter's reduction of the proposed rate of the Land Tax. One is a Bill for imposing a house tax; the other a Bill for increasing the tax on soy, and the estimated proceeds are 2,860,000 yen and 1,500,000 yen, respectively, making a total of 4,360,000 yen. It is stated that the remaining deficiency will be made up by augmenting the rates of postage, and that the revenue thus obtained will be 1,900,000 yen. At present the postal charges for letters are 2 sen for 2 momme, and 2 sen for every additional 2 momme; 1 sen for post cards and 5 rin for newspapers up to 16 momme. The minimum charge for letters under the new

scale will be 3 sen, which will carry a letter up to 4 momme, and 3 sen must be added for every additional 4 momme. Post cards will be 1½ sen, but the newspaper rate will be cheapened to 5 rin for 20 momme. All this, it must be noted, is only rumour. Another statement is that the railway and telegraph rates will be raised so as to produce an increased revenue of 1,800,000 yen and 300,000 yen, respectively, which, however, will be used not for general purposes, but for developing the two services. The present cost of telegrams is 15 sen for the first 10 characters, and no charge is made for the names and addresses of the sender and recipient. The new rate will be 10 sen for 5 characters, the name and address of the recipient being free, but the name and address of the sender being charged for if it exceeds 5 characters.

AN INVENTOR.

Another inventor is claimed by Japan in the military field. We have heard of Mr. Shimose's smokeless powder and Colonel Arisaka's quick-firing field piece, and we now hear of a new kind of pontoon bridge, devised by Captain Suwa Chikayoshi of the Imperial Artillery. It is claimed that the bridge can be thrown across a river at the rate of 240 yards in less than two hours, which is certainly a remarkable feat. We gather that the excellence of the system has been recognised for some years, and that it was practically proved in the war of 1894-5, though few opportunities of testing it on a considerable scale offered during that campaign. The matter seems to have been brought to public notice at the present juncture by a formal act of recognition on the part of the Fortification Bureau, which has forwarded to Captain Suwa a letter of thanks and a present of 300 yen.

PROPOSED INCREASE OF TELEGRAPH RATES.

In Japan the minimum charge for a domestic telegram is 15 sen, the message not exceeding ten Kana syllables plus the addressee. In England 12 words can be sent across the wire for 24.6 sen; in Germany, 15 words for 23½ sen; in France, 10 words for 20 sen; and in Italy, 15 words for 20 sen. It is not easy to make an exact comparison between the charges in European countries and those in Japan, as words are the units in one case and syllables the units in the other. Some estimates assign five Kana syllables as the equivalent for one English word, but that seems to us an extravagant calculation. A Japanese is careful to use the shortest possible combinations of syllables in telegraphing, and it is probable that the words in his messages do not average more than four Kana syllables, if as much. On that hypothesis twelve English words would represent 48 Kana syllables, for which the charge would be 45 sen at least, or nearly double the English rate, and much more than double the German or the Italian. Yet there is talk now of increasing the Japanese rates. To be sure, the additional revenue thus obtained would be devoted to improving the service, but the *Fiji Shimpō* appears to have full warrant for its criticism that no margin offers for raising the rates, and that their reduction should, on the contrary, be considered.

JAPAN'S EXPORT OF SILK.

An expert whose opinion is of the highest value takes exception to the view recently expressed in these columns with regard to the export trade in Japanese silk. We stated our opinion that, in consequence of the establishment of filatures in China, the silk of that country is likely to supply a large part of the demand which would otherwise have turned to Japan, and that the market for the latter's product will thus become comparatively limited. Our critic admits that our forecast would probably be correct if the Chinese understood how to work their filatures, and if they made a really intelligent and resolute effort to improve the quality of their silk. But they have neither understanding nor earnest purpose. The filatures within reach of foreign supervision from Shanghai may turn out an article superior to Japanese silk, but the produce from the provinces will probably continue to show the old defects, and there is consequently no apparent reason why the export of the Japanese staple should not reach a hundred million *yen* annually. As to the idea that Japan will by-and-by work up her silk instead of exporting it in the raw state, our informant thinks that many a year must elapse before anything of the kind occurs. In the very light classes of silk fabrics where manual labour counts for much, Japan has a great advantage, which has already asserted itself in the rapid growth of her export of *habutai*; but with regard to heavier grades of fabrics the case is different. There the English and French manufacturers have developed processes of which the Japanese are still ignorant, or which they are still unqualified to practise, and it is consequently possible at present to export the raw material, work it up into satins, velvets, and so forth in Europe, re-export the fabrics thence to Japan, and sell them in this country at cheaper prices than those charged for the inferior satins and velvets made in Japan from the same silk. It is not easy to believe, however, that the clever, nimble-fingered Japanese will experience any insuperable difficulty in acquiring technical processes which are calculated to increase their profits and improve their industrial status. Possibly the first step in the new movement will be the establishment of factories under foreign direction in Japan. It is easy to conceive some American capitalist, for example, setting up the necessary machinery in Kyoto where cheap labour waits to be employed and where the raw material can be had at the door. The Japanese may be said to owe their present export trade in raw silk mainly to foreigners—a trade which puts about 50 million *yen* annually into their pockets. The Government's wise and far-seeing policy in establishing a filature at Tomioka and converting it into a training school, where silk-growers from various districts received practical instruction from French and Italian industrialists—that policy did much to improve the quality of the country's product and has been the means of adding immensely to the nation's wealth. There is still great room for improvement, and we discover little hope that the necessary progress will be made until fresh recourse to foreign assistance establishes the standard which the Japanese lack in this field, as in so many others. Possibly the opening of the country next July may induce

foreign experts to engage in this enterprise also. If so, there would be little occasion to regard Chinese competition with serious apprehension. Foreign coöperation is, indeed, Japan's great desideratum, but unfortunately her mood is to be prematurely self-sufficing.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The conduct of the House of Representatives at present is in striking contrast with its behaviour in any previous session. The Opposition seems to have abandoned the field altogether. There are virtually no debates. A monotonous unanimity is the attitude of the members towards every measure proposed by the Government. One or two Bills have been passed despite the condemnation of the Government Delegate, but they were measures of trifling importance. None of the lively scenes of former days is repeated. There is no badgering of the Government Delegate; no attempt to compel the attendance of Ministers of State; no presentation of frivolous questions for the sake of the opportunity they afford to make violent anti-Cabinet speeches. Docility and discipline are the order of the day. The Special Committees examine, with apparent diligence, the Government Bills entrusted to them and amend them more or less, but never present hostile reports. The majority in the House accepts the Committees' recommendations approvingly and endorses them without fail. In the session on the 25th instant a member seemed to awake suddenly from the general torpor of acquiescence. He rated the committee-men for want of originality, and called them mere slaves of officialdom. But the speech elicited no rejoinder or protest. The House was evidently quite content with its own gentleness.

MR. OKURA'S PARTY TO LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

Mr. Okura's dinner-party in honour of Lord Charles Beresford on the 19th instant was a very brilliant affair. Several Ministers of State, the Governor of Tokyo, many of the leading business men of the capital, some prominent bankers of Yokohama, the President of the Foreign Chamber of Commerce in Yokohama and Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at that port were among the guests. Dancing performances of various kinds, on quite a magnificent scale, took place after dinner, and the entertainment may fairly be called unique as an example of Japanese hospitality in its most refined sense. Lord Charles doubtless congratulated himself on being relieved from a task which, however great his aptitude for discharging it, must have become by this time somewhat irksome—the task of delivering a set oration. There were indeed some more or less formal deliverances. Thus Mr. Okura spoke a few words of welcome, to which Lord Charles replied, expressing his pleasure at meeting Mr. Okura, of whom he had heard much; Mr. Shibusawa also spoke briefly, saying how sorry he was that Lord Charles' stay could not be prolonged, but comforting himself with the reflection that since such a man could see and understand things in a shorter time than ordinary mortals, his visit would be practically much longer

than it seemed arithmetically, and finally Mr. Bevis, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, speaking on behalf of the Yokohama guests as well as of himself, thanked Mr. Okura for the delightful evening he had enabled them to spend. But there was nothing that could be called a set speech. It must be confessed that Mr. Okura does a great deal towards bringing foreigners and Japanese together. It is not given to every man to be a millionaire, nor is it given to every man to have the knack of carrying his hospitable instincts into graceful practice. The majority of us must be content to form units of a pleased and appreciative audience, and to express our admiration for a disposition which sees in wealth not a mere instrument of selfish enjoyment, but a means of promoting useful ends.

VICEROY CHANG AND EDUCATION

The Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has applied to the Japanese Government for the services of two experts to prepare a system of elementary education for the districts under his jurisdiction. Tokyo newspapers say that Mr. Furuyama Tsunesaburo, now connected with educational work in Saitama Prefecture, and one of the staff of the High Normal School in Tokyo will probably be sent, and that they will start at the end of this month or the beginning of next. Such a measure on the part of the Viceroy can not be reconciled with recently circulated reports that his progressive tendencies are bitterly resented by the Throne, and that his impeachment is imminent, if not already resolved. It must seem to any thoughtful Japanese an extraordinary subversal of immemorial conditions that China should come to Japan in search of an educational system; China, at the feet of whose literati Japan sat fourteen hundred years.

The 21st was certainly the coldest day in the year, though it was one day too late for that distinction, according to the Japanese almanack. A bitter wind blew in Tokyo, and wherever the sun's rays could not penetrate, the thermometer marked several degrees of frost. It was an inauspicious day for the thirty-seven Chinese students to make formal entry into the institutions where they are to receive their education, and very miserable the youths looked as they drove through the streets, their *jinrikisha*, with those of the three gentlemen sent to take charge of them and their Japanese friends, making a formidable string of vehicles. These youths, as our readers may remember, have been sent to Japan by the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, and among them is the grandson of the Viceroy himself. Thirty-three of them are to be taught strategy, tactics and military science in general, for which purpose they have entered the Seijo Gakko, under the presidency of Viscount Kawakami. Two have received admittance to the Normal School to receive a scientific education, and four are to be specially instructed in jurisprudence and politics. The Viceroy's grandson has been placed in the Nikkwa-gaku-do at Koishikawa, from which we infer that the study of language will be his first care.

"NICHU NICHU SHIMBUN" AS A CONSERVATIVE.

We observe with regret that the *Nichu Shimbun* lends its powerful voice to support the argument in favour of denying to foreigners the privilege of holding shares in railroads, or owning land or engaging in the coastwise trade. Briefly summarized, our contemporary's view is that, although countries like the United States, Australia, and so on may find their account in extending these privileges to aliens so as to attract immigrants without whose coming the resources of the land could not be developed, the case is quite different with countries already fully populated, above all when there exist conditions of which foreign capitalists might take advantage to obtain a dominant voice in spheres that should be strictly under national control. England herself, the *Nichu Shimbun* adds, did not rescind the veto upon alien ownership of land until a date less than 30 years ago, nor throw open her coastwise trade until comparatively recent times, and it is much wiser for Japan to move slowly and circumspectly, so as to avoid the embarrassments that America and Australia are now experiencing as a result of ill-considered liberality in the past.

Stated in these general terms the argument sounds plausible, but we suggest to our contemporary the advisability of a detailed analysis, showing what particular form of disadvantage might result from permitting foreigners to own real estate, or hold shares in railways, or engage in the coastwise trade. No one has ever succeeded in demonstrating the precise nature of the risk which Japan's timid conservatives warn her to avoid.

The *Nichu Shimbun's* immediate object is to insist that foreign capital must not be introduced on the strength of a general pledge, such as the removal of all the restrictions alluded to above, but that it shall be obtained by a special pledge of the nature contemplated by Mr. Kaneko Kentaro's scheme for the establishment of an industrial bank. We believe that there is only one way of obtaining foreign capital at present, namely, on the Government's security.

A BANK TROUBLE.

The Heian Savings Bank is said to be in difficulties. "Heian" is the old name for Kyoto, and it will therefore be rightly inferred that the Bank has its head quarters in that city. Beginning with a capital of only 50,000 *yen*, half of which was paid up, it established branches in 16 localities, and managed to win the confidence of the public, so that its deposits gradually rose to 170,000 *yen*. Recently, however, it fell into difficulties of some kind—no clear explanation is given—and on the 17th instant the shareholders decided to wind up the business. Their decision appears to have led to some complications, and a good deal of disturbance is said to have been caused in financial circles in Osaka. Tokyo, however, is not affected, and in view of the petty nature of the Bank's transactions we do not see that Osaka can be much hurt. Most of the depositors seem to have withdrawn their money before the end came.

KYOTO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND LORD CHARLES BERESFORD

The Chairman of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce has been as good as his word. He promised to invite from the Chamber an expression of opinion about the project that Lord Charles advocates, and it appears that he did so at a meeting of the Chamber on the 19th instant. The meeting was held with closed doors, but is said to have passed resolutions recommending, first, an Anglo-Japanese alliance, and secondly an alliance of the four Powers, Japan, America, Germany and England. Copies of the resolutions have been sent to the Ministers of State, and presumably to Lord Charles Beresford also. It is much to be desired that other Chambers should adopt the same course; not Japanese Chambers alone, but foreign Chambers also. Newspapers express chiefly the views of their editors, but a vote of a Chamber of Commerce represents the opinion of a body of business men, who, of course, carry great weight collectively. We are all ready enough to find fault with what we call the *laissez-faire* policy of the Home Government, but when the opportunity arises to take some action ourselves, we do not show much greater activity than the Government.

FRANCE AND JAPANESE SILK FABRICS.

It is alleged by the *Fiji Shimpō* that the Japanese plenipotentiary who negotiated the Revised Treaty with France, was informed by the French Government that discrimination would have to be exercised against Japanese manufactures, inasmuch as the cheapness of labour in Japan constitutes an unfair advantage for its products, and that he addressed to the Cabinet in Paris a letter admitting the justice of the principle contended for by the latter. Hence the action recently taken by the French Government with respect to raising the import duty on silk stuffs other than *habutai* from Japan. The *Fiji* severely condemns the negotiator—Mr. Sone, now Minister of Agriculture and Commerce—and declares that there could scarcely be a greater diplomatic blunder than that made by him. It asks, also, what was the use of such a farcical procedure as the insertion of a most-favoured-nation clause in the Treaty, if the Japanese nation was to be subsequently shocked by the discovery that a secret arrangement existed exposing Japan to be made the victim of discrimination.

Our own information is very different from that on which the *Fiji* relies. The French Government did indeed propose, we believe, to insert in the Protocol a statement in the sense that, in view of the great difference in the cost of French and Eastern labour, special rates might have to be imposed on extra-European silk fabrics. To that proposal the Japanese Government consented, provided that it was supplemented by a declaration that nonewrights were thereby created; in other words, provided that the principle of the most favoured nation was not disturbed. Subsequently the Treaty was concluded, and the proposed statement did not appear in the Protocol. Hence, so far as concerns Japan, she is in no way bound by pledge or promise. Mr. Sone's alleged "admis-

sion of the justice of the principle asserted by France" is limited to a despatch in which he simply "notes" the assertion. He did not endorse it, unless to acknowledge the receipt of a letter is to endorse its contents. As to the general question, it appears to be beyond all discussion that, by concluding a treaty which promises to Japan most-favoured-nation treatment, and provides that no departure can be made from that promise without twelve months' notice, France completely incapacitated herself to take the action now ascribed to her. The Treaty was concluded, it must be noted, after her proposed insertion of a special clause in the Protocol had elicited a conditional assent from Japan, and the insertion of the clause, when thus modified, was not pressed and did not take place. The question has no margin for doubt that we can perceive.

CONSTITUTIONAL PARTY AND THE NEW TAXES.

The parliamentary members of the Constitutional Party held a general meeting on the forenoon of the 21st instant to consider the new taxes proposed by the Government for making up the deficiency of 5,700,000 *yen* that still remains in the revenue for next year. The House Tax was first discussed and pronounced unsuitable. The increased tax on Soy was then debated, and accepted as a proper measure. The meeting also declared in favour of increasing the rates of postage, and suggested that they might be still further raised if necessary. Concerning the Government's project of raising the charges for telegrams and the fares on railways, it was noted that the Diet's consent need not be sought as a preliminary to such measures, the Administration being competent to take them on its own authority. Moreover, the object is not increased revenue for general purposes, but to obtain funds for the improvement of the two services.

THE TROUBLE IN KOBE ABOUT RECEIVING LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

We have received several communications with reference to the treatment given to Mr. C. Pfoundes by the local English press in Kobe in connexion with his attempts to organize a public welcome to Lord Charles Beresford. The matter is not one to which we have paid much attention, but it must be confessed that, even accepting their own version of Mr. Pfoundes' action, the journalistic utterances of his assailants were somewhat rough. On the other hand, no member of the foreign community, whether in Kobe or Yokohama, is entitled to arrogate the position taken by Mr. Pfoundes. He appears to have assumed his own right to act as the whole Settlement's representative and spokesman, and of course no such assumption was likely to be tolerated. The initial mistake was his, a most tactless and exasperating mistake, and such being the case, the public is not likely to concern itself though the measure of his punishment may have been a little excessive. It is not our business to offer advice, but we venture to say that the wisest course Mr. Pfoundes can now take is to efface himself as quickly and thoroughly as possible.

FORESHORES.

The reclamation of foreshores is becoming a fashionable enterprise in Japan. Several works of the kind have been undertaken of late years, and their financial results are understood to have been generally successful. The latest reclamation project concerns the Kanagawa foreshore. An area of about forty acres will be recovered from the sea, at the expense, of course, of some of the bluffs of Kanagawa-dai, and there can not be much doubt that the operation will bring large gains to the projectors. The outlay should not exceed 15 *yen* a *tsudo*, and the land will be worth 30 or 40 *yen*. The Yokohama community may well feel a little thrill of expectancy as it sees these enterprises coming to the threshold of its sanctum. If anything be certain, it is that the present Bund will cease, one of these days, to mark the dividing line between sea and shore. The facilities for reclamation at the Bund are not great. They do not bear comparison with the facilities at Kanagawa, where practically nothing need be done except to tumble a few of the hills at the back into the sea in front. But the question at the Bund is simply one of some additional expense. Most assuredly the harbour will not be left in permanent possession of land which, if reclaimed, would be worth at least a hundred and twenty thousand *yen* an acre. By whom is the enterprise to be undertaken? If it is not undertaken by foreigners it will certainly be undertaken by Japanese in the not-very-distant future. Some people think that the owners of the present Bund lots have a right of water frontage, and could successfully oppose any work of reclamation that did not amply compensate their claims. We should not like to see the question submitted to a practical test, and the best way to dispose finally of such troublesome problems as well as to secure to foreign residents a part, at any rate, of the profits resulting from the enterprise of reclamation, would be the formation of a mixed company of foreigners and Japanese to carry out the work. If it be left until the Settlement barriers are swept away next July, the strong probability is that Japanese projectors will take the initiative.

AN INCIDENT OF THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

An extraordinary story comes from Iino in Yamana-shi Prefecture. According to newspaper reports, Mr. Kawara, the Manager of the Tobacco Monopoly Station in that town, announced that tobacco would be sold to only a limited number of dealers. The consequence was that, from the evening before the sale, which was announced for 8 a.m. on the 18th instant, people began to flock to the station, 1800 collecting there at sunset, and the crowd swelling to 3,000 by 1 a.m. It seems incredible that such a multitude of dealers should be present in so small a place, but that is the story. At 6 a.m., 300 of the waiters were admitted to the station, and the rest were informed that no sales could be made to them. Naturally they lost their tempers, and from shouting and yelling took to stone-throwing and smashing furniture, fences and windows. The police and gendarmes interfered, but were unsuccessful. Several more or less severe injuries were suffered, and how the riot ended we have no information.

PROJECT FOR A NEW EASTERN CABLE.

In the *Yokohama* we find a strong article urging that the time has fully arrived when an alternative line of telegraph should be laid for bringing the West and the East into communication. Such a line is projected, and an American agent recently spent some time in Japan endeavouring to secure the co-operation of the Japanese Government. The scheme he had been instructed to promote was a cable from the United States, *via* Hawaii and Japan, to the Philippines, and he seems to have been tolerably successful in his endeavours. Our contemporary gives an interesting table showing the annual development of the outlay on account of cablegrams from Japan to the Occident since 1891:—

	<i>Yen</i>
1890	355,750
1891	307,601
1892	434,625
1893	524,505
1894	556,070
1895	1,012,064
1896	1,126,633
1897	1,379,945
1898	1,639,433

There is a curious feature in this table. The sudden leap from half a million in 1894 to a million in 1895 is perhaps, accounted for when we remember that the war with China broke out in July 1894, though the same cause ought to have produced a proportionate expansion in 1894 as compared with 1893. But how is it that the increase has continued ever since? In 1895 as compared with 1894 we have a growth of nearly 100 per cent., and in 1898 as compared with 1895 we have a growth of over 50 per cent., whereas from 1890 to 1894 the growth was only 56 per cent. of a much smaller figure. We presume that the explanation is to be sought in the remarkable expansion of Japan's foreign trade during the past four years.

PAWNBROKERS IN JAPAN.

One of the Bills introduced in the House of Representatives on the 19th instant illustrates a curious phase of every-day life among the lower orders of Tokyo. The Pawnbrokers' Law now in force forbids a pawnbroker to levy a higher interest than 1 *sen* per month for a loan not exceeding 25 *sen*. Thus a pawnbroker may obtain 12 *sen* a year for a loan of 25 *sen*; or he may even obtain 12 *sen* a year for a loan of 12 *sen*. Such charges seem high enough, in all conscience. Nevertheless the Bill to which we allude denounces the restrictions of the present Law as unduly limiting the pawnbroker's gains, and consequently tending to prevent the people obtaining useful accommodation. The explanation of an objection so singular at first sight is to be found in the circumstances under which these small loans are made. Many folks, men and women, who subsist by manual labour in Tokyo, find themselves constantly without sufficient funds to buy their dinner. They can pay for their breakfast, but money to get a dinner is wanting. It is their habit, then, to put some of their cooking utensils in pawn, thus obtaining means to pay for their dinner; and when they receive their day's wage in the evening, they are able to redeem the pledged article and also to procure their supper

that night and their breakfast and bath the following morning. The pawnbroker, therefore, has to perform thirty transactions monthly in the nature of taking pledges and paying and receiving money. The sum involved each day is very small, and the interest, as we have seen, may be anything from 100 to 48 per cent., but, on the other hand, a charge of one *sen* per *mensem* for such troublesome services is certainly not exorbitant.

NEW POSTAL RATES FOR NEWSPAPERS.

There is likely to be some agitation against the Government's proposal to change the postal rates for newspapers. At present, the minimum charge for a newspaper or periodical is 5 *rin*, which sum carries it to any part of Japan provided that the weight does not exceed 16 *momme*, or a little over 2 ounces. According to the new schedule the minimum charge remains unaltered, but the weight is raised to 20 *momme*, or over 2½ ounces. Moreover, there is a new provision which allows several newspapers to be sent in the same wrapper for 1.5 *sen*, provided that the weight does not exceed 30 *momme*, or 4 ounces. For single copies every additional 20 *momme* of weight requires an additional 5-*rin* stamp, and for a parcel of papers every additional 30 *momme* requires an additional 1.5 *sen* stamp. Against all that there can be no objection. But now comes a peculiar feature. At present, for postal purposes every publication issued at least once a month is regarded as a newspaper or periodical. If issued less frequently, it becomes ordinary mail matter. The new law, however, defines a newspaper or periodical to be a publication issued thrice a week or oftener. If it does not satisfy that definition, it becomes ordinary mail matter. Nearly all periodicals are thus excluded, and it is against that discrimination that Tokyo editors are now beginning to agitate. The question is of great importance to weekly papers or ordinary magazines, for, as ordinary mail matter, they would have to pay much more than they do as journals.

CALENDARS, &c.

We have received a particularly artistic calendar and also a very useful and handy little pocket book, from Messrs. Charles Wilkinson and Company, for whose celebrated "gold medal liqueur whiskey" Mr. John Hall is the Yokohama agent. Prettily designed calendars have also reached us from the North German Fire Insurance Company of Hamburg, represented in Yokohama by Mr. H. Grauert; from the Palatine Insurance Company Ltd., whose Yokohama agents are Messrs. Hutchison and Company; from the Caledonian Insurance Company, whose Yokohama agent is Mr. W. J. S. Shand; from the Ocean Accident Company of which Mr. F. Kiene is agent; and from Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., agents for the Alliance Marine and General Assurance Company, which was founded in 1824 and has a capital of one million sterling. Finally, we beg to acknowledge the receipt of a very serviceable calendar and diary combined from the Yokohama Piano and Organ Warehouse (Mr. J. G. Doering).

THE LATE COUNT KATSU.

With the demise of Count Katsu, which took place on the 19th instant at his residence in Tokyo, Japan loses the last of the brilliant band of men whose names were on everybody's lips in the time of turmoil and trouble immediately before the fall of the Tokugawa Regency and the resumption of administrative power by the Emperor. We are not using a mere figure of speech. If any Japanese, versed in the modern history of his country, were asked to indicate the greatest figures on that stage of stirring events, he would have no hesitation in naming Okubo Ichio and Katsu Awa on the side of the Bakufu; Mitsuoka Hachiro and Haseba Kanyemon in Yechizen; Yokoi Heishiro in Higo; Komatsu Tatewaki and Saigo Takamori in Satsuma; and Katsura Kogoro and Takasugi Shinsaku in Choshu. Death has now carried off the last of these celebrities. The great Saigo, hearing of Katsu's reputation, went to measure moral swords with him, and in describing, in a letter to his friend, Okubo Toshimitsu, the result of the encounter, said, with characteristic honesty:—"I have had my first meeting with Katsu and am astounded. I went with the intention of smashing him, but had to bow my own head. The ability of the man is not to be gauged. To far greater capacities than those of Sakuma Shozan he adds the demeanour of a hero." Beside Saigo's testimony that of any other Japanese will sound small, but it is now recalled that the afterwards renowned Sakamoto Riuna of Tosa, when he became Katsu's pupil, thus announced the fact in a letter to his elder brother:—"I have become the pupil of the greatest man in Japan." Yet with these high qualities to distinguish him, Katsu Awa-no-Kami retired at a comparatively early stage from public life. It is now exactly a quarter of a century since he held his last administrative post, *Kaigun Kyo*, or what we should to-day call, "Minister of State for the Navy." He was then only 52 years of age, and being a hale man, should have had a long spell of useful life before him. We shall probably know, by and by, what considerations induced him to turn his back upon the world and become thenceforth a mere name, "the Sage of Hikawa." It will be said, doubtless, that the changing of the old order was too abrupt for his fancy. We think it far more likely, speaking from personal knowledge of the man's character, that he found it hard to stand high among the ranks of an officialdom from which his former patrons and friends were excluded. Count Katsu did not come of a noble family. His father was a farmer, and his great-grandfather, Otani, was little better than a mendicant. The career of this Otani is recalled with interest. A blind youth of 17 or 18, he found his way from Echigo to Yedo, his whole worldly possessions represented by 300 cash. Caught in a violent snow-storm, he sank exhausted at the gate of a doctor's residence, who had compassion on him and took him in. Gambling was an amusement in the household of this Ishigaki Sotetsu, and Otani soon had occasion to lend his 300 cash at high interest. In a few days, he amassed a sum of 14 *ryo*, and Ishigaki admired his financial capacity so much that he doubled the amount. Otani went on from little to big, and after a time his transactions had assumed such dimensions that

he could lend 700,000 *ryo* to the Daimiyo of Mito; a sum representing from 4 to 5 million *yen* of modern money. It is related of this Otani that he never wore a silk garment, nor ever used a cotton one for more than a day, giving it away thereafter to the poor. On his death-bed he summoned his children, and in their presence burned all his debtors' notes, so that the young people might work their way as he had done himself. Among the men thus left without heritage was Katsu's grand-father. Katsu himself was adopted into the house of a Hatamoto, and succeeded, at 17, to a load of debt which all his early years were devoted to discharging. It is related of him that he used afterwards to class as his three greatest friends his creditors, who spared him, a merchant of Kuramaye, who lent him two *ryo*, and the man who taught him military science. In youth he had the name of Tsusho Rintaro. Of his early life we know nothing, but in 1855, when he had reached the age of 32, he was ordered to Nagasaki to learn navigation, and on his return to Yedo he became a teacher of gunnery, having studied it under the Dutch. In 1859 he took command of the first ship sent abroad by Japan in modern times, the *Kanrin Maru*. In 1862 we find him appointed to the post of *Gunkan Sojusho*, which would correspond with the Vice-Ministership of the Navy at present, and shortly afterwards he was raised to be *Gunkan Bugyo*, or Minister of the Navy. We need not, however, follow his career from point to point, but may pass at once to the act which won for him undying fame, namely, his solitary opposition, in 1866, to the idea entertained by all the other Tokugawa leaders that the entry of the Emperor's forces into Yedo must be resisted to the death. It is generally believed that the Tokugawa would have had French assistance had they adopted a fighting policy, but however that may be, there can be no doubt that Katsu, by an extraordinary display of courage and foresight, averted a sanguinary war and saved Tokyo from destruction. In 1887 Count Katsu was raised to the peerage, and the Emperor subsequently bestowed on him the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun, promoting him to the First Grade of the Second Official Class just before his death. His end was comparatively sudden. A slight cold which developed gastric symptoms, and an apoplectic stroke brought him to the "valley" in a few days. Just before sinking into unconsciousness from a state of apparent health and strength, he recognised that the end had come, and said to the Countess:—"The old man is going to die." Count Katsu is said to have been very careless in the management of his affairs. He habitually impoverished himself to support his former clansmen, and he died without making any formal arrangements as to his successor, though he had lost his only son. He had, however, expressed a wish to be succeeded by the twelfth son of the last *Shogun*, Keiki. This Mr. Tokugawa Sei is a lad of 12 years, and it has been arranged that when he comes of age he shall marry the grand-daughter of Count Katsu.

The funeral took place on the 25th, leaving the Hikawa residence at 9 a.m., and proceeding to the Aoyama cemetery. The Count's will was characteristic. He desired that his obsequies should be of the simplest character, without flowers or display of any kind, and the money thus saved is to be given to the poor.

FATAL FIRE IN HIROSAKI.

About midnight on the 18th inst. fire broke out at the rear of the residence occupied by Rev. R. P. Alexander, at Hiroasaki. By the time the servants were aroused by the noise of the conflagration, it had assumed such proportions as to render escape difficult. The cook's wife, hastening to the upstairs room where Mr. and Mrs. Alexander, with their little boy, were sleeping, roused them with difficulty. They thought there was time to dress, but this proved a fatal delay. Before the devoted couple were aware of it, escape by the staircase was impossible. Mr. Alexander, in the darkness, put the little boy out on the roof of the portico and went back for his wife. She did not answer his call and in searching through the smoke he fell out of the window to the ground below. Though bruised and burned he climbed up the portico post and rescued the child, but his wife had evidently made an attempt to escape by another way and succumbed to the flames. Both Mr. Alexander and the child were badly burned about the head, neck and hands; the father's left hand being in an especially bad condition, while his back was bruised by the fall.

Everything was consumed, even to the most necessary clothing, though Mr. Alexander succeeded in breaking through his study window and saving two drawers, filled with important papers. It is a terrible disaster, but the stricken one, in the midst of severe suffering and grief, is sustained by an unwavering trust in God. The faithful servant, to whose warning it is due that any of the family escaped, jumped from a second story window, seriously injuring her back. Her recovery is doubtful.—GIBSON F. DRAPER.

On the 20th fire broke out at Otake village, Uda gori, Kumamoto Prefecture, and destroyed 80 houses. Three lives are known to be lost, and three infants are missing.

On the 19th fire broke out at Kurohane village, Gumma Prefecture, and destroyed the whole of the buildings in the place.—*Asahi Shimbun*.

On Tuesday, at 1.50 a.m., a fire broke out in a goods car at Shinbashi Railway Station, Tokyo. The car and the goods contained in it, valued at over *yen* 4,000, were destroyed. The cause of the fire is not known.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A SHANGHAI RESIDENT.

On Thursday afternoon, Jan. 19th, in the British Police Court, Shanghai, before Mr. Burrows, sitting for the first time as Police Magistrate, Mr. J. W. H. Burgoyne, formerly of Messrs. Dodwell, Attil & Co., was brought up on a charge of obtaining from the Russo-Chinese Bank the sum of Tls. 85,000 on false pretences. Mr. A. P. Stokes (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Mayer) appeared for the prosecution, and from his statement, and the evidence called, it appeared that the false pretences counted in the accused having obtained the sum stated on four godown orders, which he gave to the Bank, representing that the cargo mentioned in the godown receipts was in certain godowns, whereas during that period and up to the present time there was not and had not been since any such cargo. The witnesses examined consisted of Mr. M. Speelman, of the Russo-Chinese Bank, who proved that the accused obtained the sum of Tls. 85,000 on the representations; Mr. O. Messer, of the firm of Messrs. Dodwell and Company, Ltd., and two god. women, who were called to prove that Mr. Burgoyne did not have between the 26th of March and the 10th of October, 1898, the dates in question, or up to the present time, any such cargo as was referred to, which was represented as being skins and piece-goods.

In answer to the statutory caution the accused replied he had nothing to say beyond the fact that he was guilty. He was then committed for trial. He was admitted to bail in the sum of Tls. 10,000—himself in Tls. 5,000, and two other sureties in the sum of Tls. 2,500 each.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

LORD CHARLES BRESFORD AND THE REVISED TREATIES.

IN the speech delivered by Lord CHARLES BRESFORD at the meeting of the Oriental Society on the 21st instant, the following statements occur:—

In England, we had our personal liberty long before we got our political liberty. I do not know how it is with you in this country. If we arrest a Japanese for some offence in England we endeavour to allow him counsel, let him see his friends, and render him assistance, especially if he cannot speak a word of the English language. In England we hold that a man is innocent until you have proved that he is guilty. I don't know exactly what your rules are in Japan, but if you arrest a man and do not allow him the advantage of counsel, do not allow him to see his friends, then you are holding him guilty until he has proved himself innocent. It is the English and Americans who are in predominant numbers among the foreigners in Japan, and it is English and Americans who hold those principles of justice which I have referred to. I may ask—I put it forward only as a suggestion—would it be possible for the Japanese Government—not to alter the treaty—but to take the case into consideration whether there should not be some reciprocity with regard to the matter, so that Japanese should pursue towards English and Americans in this country the course English and Americans pursue toward them in their own. (Applause). I say this most respectfully, gentlemen. I find no fault with the treaty, but I merely say I want to do all that within me lies to make this country and the country I have the honour to belong to cement a strong friendship for each other, and I find there is this feeling, and after the extraordinary kindness and courtesy I have received from you I don't think it would be honest and straight for me if I did not tell you this feeling exists.

There appears to be a slight misapprehension in the above. It is true that Lord CHARLES says, "I do not know exactly what your rules are in Japan," but his interpretation of the rules is evidently based on information furnished to him in this country, and as his numerous speeches have proved that he possesses remarkable accuracy of observation and exercises great care in collecting facts, we must presume that, in this instance, the error is on the side of his informant. The criminal procedure of Japan does not altogether deprive a person of the advantage of counsel or cut him off from his friends during preliminary examination. The 85th Article of the Code provides that "an accused person, unless he is in secret confinement, is permitted to receive, in the presence of an official, visits from his relatives or connexions, his friends or his counsel, in conformity with the prison regulations." A Bill now before the House of Peers proposes to elide the words "unless he is in secret confinement," but the elision has no practical importance for the purposes of our present argument, inasmuch as the same Bill proposes to add a clause empowering the judge to order the prisoner into separate confinement and to segregate him, while so confined, from his relatives, his friends, and his counsel. However, under any circumstances the fact remains that, as a general rule, a prisoner is allowed to receive visits from his relatives, friends and counsel. In that respect Lord CHARLES BRESFORD seems to have been misinformed. But a prisoner is not allowed to have the advantage of counsel while

actually undergoing preliminary examination. That is an inevitable restriction so long as the law is based on the French system; in other words, so long as the *procès verbal* constitutes the chief feature of the preliminary examination. The great difficulty under which we labour in discussing this question is that, when we condemn the criminal procedure of Japan, we are condemning the criminal procedure of some of the most civilized countries in Europe. On the other hand, reason and humanity alike concur in endorsing the English procedure as superior to the French, and we fail to see why Japan should be content to have reached a higher plane than that on which she formerly stood while a still higher remains to be attained. All prejudice apart, the *procès verbal* must be pronounced a cruel, even an inhuman, system. Looked at closely, it is seen to rest on the vicious doctrine of mediæval times that the confession of an accused person must precede his conviction. From that to torture is only one step. Japan has abolished torture so far as the use of instruments for inflicting pain on the body is concerned. But the *procès verbal* is essentially a form of torture. To many people it is the worst kind of torture, and when it is supplemented by the power of ordering a prisoner into solitary confinement, and thus inducing a condition of nervous prostration which quite unfits him to support the ordeal of subtle and insistent questioning by a trained judicial expert, we find ourselves in the presence of a system which is only one degree better than the rack and the thumb-screw. The spirit of the English procedure is, "better that two guilty men should escape than that one innocent person should be convicted," and it assumes every prisoner innocent until his guilt is proved. The spirit of the *procès verbal* system is, "better the conviction of two innocent persons than the escape of one guilty," and it assumes every prisoner guilty until his innocence is established. Can there be any doubt as to which system is the more enlightened, the more civilized? Lord CHARLES BRESFORD made an adroit and moving appeal to the Japanese. He urged that as the Anglo-Saxon element largely preponderates in the foreign community, and as Japanese subjects visiting Anglo-Saxon countries receive the benefit of the humane procedure of Anglo-Saxon criminal law, some corresponding concession should be made to Anglo-Saxons in Japan. That is a most reasonable suggestion, but, for our own part, we do not venture to endorse it. We can not pretend to think that any invocation of sentiment will persuade the Japanese to do for strangers what they are not prepared to do for themselves. What we say, therefore, and what is said by the foreign resident in general, is that the Japanese nation, for the sake of moral principles and

for the sake of its own reputation, should aim at the highest standard of jurisprudence, and should not rest at the half-way house which it reached seventeen years ago. Innumerable amendments of laws are submitted to the Diet year after year by the Government, and in every case it is considered a sufficient argument that the original law, having been enacted ten, twelve, or fifteen years ago, has ceased to be in touch with the progressive spirit of the time. Is the Code of Criminal Procedure alone beyond the range of that argument? We may be answered that the question is unjust, since the Government has just proposed certain amendments. We give the Government full credit, but we find that its amendments are half-hearted and inefficient. What is the use of abolishing the *mise au secret* if a judge is endowed with power to order the accused into a segregated cell, where he is cut off from intercourse with everybody? That seems to us like taking away with one hand what is given with the other. May we not hope that the House of Peers will evince a genuine spirit of reform by depriving the Judge of all competence to subject to the ordeal of solitary confinement a man who may be wholly innocent of crime? If the House takes that step, it will earn the nation's gratitude. Then there is the matter of bail. Yokohama has heard a great deal of talk about the *habeas corpus*, and some habitual critics of ours persist in asserting that because we do not acknowledge the necessity for that particular method of procedure, we condemn the principle underlying it. As justly accuse us of denying the superiority of cooked food to raw if we said that turnspits were not an essential article of kitchen furniture. Our claim is simply that the objects contemplated by the framers of the *habeas corpus* statute may be fully achieved by some other expedient of criminal procedure. The compilers of Japan's Codes thought that they had achieved those objects. But experience has proved that they were mistaken, and the House of Peers has now an opportunity of correcting the defect. The Government suggests giving to an accused person the right of appeal from a refusal on the part of an examining Judge to grant bail. That is something. But there is a good deal more wanted, and without venturing to make any definite suggestion, we entertain an earnest hope that in one House or the other of the Japanese Legislature, some solid reforms of the Code of Criminal Procedure will be effected, not for the sake of foreigners, but for the sake of the Japanese people and of the Japanese nation's reputation. The abolition of the *procès verbal*, and its replacement by the system of open examination relying on witnesses only, the accused being entitled to testify on his own behalf if he pleases, would be one of

the most signal steps of advance ever taken by Japan. We do not see why she should hesitate. She ought to be able to trust herself; for the transition, which she made without any difficulty, from her own old system to the new Criminal Code of 1881 was even more radical than the further change she might now make with so much advantage.

FINNIKIN FINANCE.

THE Government's proposal to put a tax on houses in order to make up a part of the deficiency of revenue, is evidently destined to encounter much opposition. Even the *Chuo Shimbun*, the organ of the National Unionists, condemns it as an impost of vexatious character and difficult to collect. The *Chuo* thinks that a better plan would be to raise the postage rates, which are cheaper in Japan than in any other country. In proof of that assertion our contemporary gives the following table, which is not without interest:—

RATES FOR LETTERS.

Germany	Up to 4 momme in weight.....	5 sen.
Belgium	do do	4 sen.
Switzerland	Irrespective of weight	4 sen.
France	Up to 4 momme	4 sen.
Austria	do 5.3 momme	5 sen.
Spain	do 4 momme	6 sen.
Portugal	do do	5 sen.
England	do 7.5 momme	4 sen.
America	do do	4 sen.
Japan	Per 2 momme	2 sen.

RATES FOR POST CARDS.

Germany	2½ sen and 5 sen for return cards.
Belgium	2 " 4 " "
Switzerland	2 " 4 " "
France	4 " 8 " "
Austria	2 " 4 " "
Spain	4 " 6 " "
Portugal	2 " 4 " "
England	2 " 4 " "
Japan	1 " 2 " "

In the matter of post cards Japan is certainly cheaper than any other country, but her charges for letters, weight for weight, are not cheaper than those in Belgium, Switzerland and France, and are not so cheap as those of England and America. It is an important point, however, that the minimum charge for a letter in Japan is fifty per cent. lower than the minimum charge in any other country, the facilities of the post being thus brought within reach of the poorer classes. That is a point upon which Japan may fairly congratulate herself, and nothing could be more regrettable than a change in the sense of higher rates. But the unpractical and emotional conduct of the House of Representatives is driving the Treasury to expedients of a distinctly retrogressive character and is also having the effect of greatly impairing Japan's credit. The *Asahi Shimbun* shrewdly contrasts England's condition with that of Japan. In England the House of Commons trusts the Cabinet to exercise the utmost economy in all branches of the administration. If waste of public money or other financial abuses are suspected, careful scrutiny is exercised, but the House never approaches the Budget in a bargain-driving spirit, nor does the Go-

vernment, on its side, think of putting the estimates at a higher figure than is absolutely necessary. In Japan, on the contrary, the Budget has come to be treated as a kind of trade transaction, one party beating down prices as a matter of course, and the other protecting itself by adding a reducible margin. A result of this is that the credit of the country is gradually becoming impaired in the eyes of foreigners. The House of Representatives will not consent to any increase of taxation unless the Treasury's condition can be shown to be almost desperate; the Government is therefore obliged to represent the financial situation in its worst light, and the Opposition, when any bill for increasing the revenue comes up for discussion, does not hesitate to declare that the people's burden is already greater than they can bear. At the present moment we have the Government in apparent perplexity to find an additional income of five or six hundred thousand pounds sterling, a veritable bagatelle; and we have the House of Representatives treating this paltry question as though it were some great economical problem. No wonder that the public learns to consider Japan at the end of her resources; no wonder that a prominent London banker recently compared her financial condition to that of Italy. How much justice there is in such a comparison we can see at once from simple arithmetic:—

AMOUNT OF PUBLIC BURDENS PER HEAD OF POPULATION.				
Army & Navy Expenses.		Administrative National Expenses.		Total.
Yen.	Sen.	Yen.	Sen.	Yen.
Italy	4,177	9,902	6,633	20,712
Japan	1,467	1,999	0,771	4,237

In truth the assertion, so freely made of late by correspondents of home journals and by foreign writers in this country, to the effect that Japan is in economical straits and can not see her way ahead, is emphatically contradicted when we come to examine figures. Here, for example, is a very simple forecast, the figures being millions of yen:—

	1900-1.	1901-2.	1902-3.
Revenue according to the present programme.....	224½	223	214½
Expenditures according to the present programme.....	201½	192½	176½
Excess of Revenue	13	30½	38½
	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
Revenue according to the present programme.....	205½	203½	203½
Expenditures according to the present programme.....	165	162	160½
Excess of Revenue	40½	41½	42½

Certainly there is here no evidence of financial difficulty. Nor is there much more accuracy in the common assertion that Japan has undertaken a scheme of armaments which exceeds her economic competence. In the fiscal year 1890-1, her expenditures on account of her Army and Navy absorbed 27.85 per cent. of her annual income, and she was then considered to be exceptionally moderate in the matter of unproductive expenditures. Since then she has adopted a large programme of armaments expansion, so that, in 1905-6, her military strength will be

more than the double of what it was in 1890, and her Navy will have swelled from 33 fighting ships—the best of them second-class cruisers—with an aggregate displacement of 63,719 tons, and 23 torpedo boats, to 67 ships with an aggregate displacement of 258,300 tons—including six line-of-battle ships and 6 armoured cruisers of 9,200 tons each—together with 11 torpedo-destroyers and 89 torpedo-boats. But her expenditure on account of the two services will be only 30.14 per cent. of her revenue. In short, she will have made such increases to her armaments as will entitle her to rank with first-class Powers, and the additional annual outlay will be only 2.29 per cent. of her revenue. Such figures do not justify us in asserting that she is exceeding her financial strength in the matter of unproductive outlays, for if she was well within her strength in 1890, as could not be denied, an additional expenditure of 2.29 per cent. can not be held to overtax her competence. From the moment when we come to examine actual figures, all cause for uneasiness vanishes, yet such are the apprehensions created by the excessively timid, finnikin conduct of the House of Representatives that the outside world has gradually become imbued with a conviction of Japan's impecuniosity. Nothing was wanting to deepen the conviction but a proposal that another farthing should be charged on every letter passing through the post, in order to raise a petty revenue of one or two hundred thousand pounds sterling.

EXTRA-SETTLEMENT LEASES IN KOBE.

LET us suppose that the leasing of land by aliens is forbidden within the limits of a certain state in America. Let us further suppose that, in consequence of diplomatic intervention, the veto is withdrawn, and the Governor of the State publishes a notice to the effect that "foreigners and American citizens may in future make agreements between themselves and at their own convenience for leasing lands or houses." Is it for an instant conceivable that such a concession could be read as authorizing American citizens to ignore the laws of their country in leasing lands or houses to foreigners, although they are obliged to observe those laws in similar transactions between themselves? This hypothetical case is practically parallel to the arrangement made with regard to extra-settlement leases at Hyogo in 1868. The Governor of Hyogo announced that, in consequence of an agreement concluded between the Japanese Government and the Foreign Representatives, "foreigners and Japanese might in future make arrangements between themselves and at their own convenience for leasing lands or houses" within a certain extra-Settle-

ment area which he then proceeded to define. In other words, he announced that foreigners might enjoy within that area the same privilege of land leasing as that enjoyed by Japanese subjects within the same area. He did not and he could not exempt such leases from the operation of the laws of the empire. If either then, or at any future time, the laws of the empire forbade leases in perpetuity, then leases in perpetuity would be illegal within the extra-settlement area at Hyogo, whether Japanese subjects alone or Japanese subjects or foreigners were parties to them. Of course, had the diplomatic agreement forming the basis of the Governor's communication created a privilege independent of the laws of the empire—as was the case with regard to land-leasing within the Foreign Settlements—the situation would have been different. Or if, even in the absence of such a special agreement, the practice followed with respect to similar extra-settlement areas elsewhere could be adduced as sanctioning perpetual leases in despite of the laws of the empire, then, again, something like a valid plea could be urged in behalf of the practice at Kobe. But the agreement created no such special privilege, and the practice in extra-settlement areas elsewhere—as in Niigata and Tokyo—was entirely against perpetual leases. On these grounds we have affirmed and we now repeat that the Japanese Government was strictly within its rights when, in 1884, it enacted a law limiting the duration of leases between foreigners and Japanese within the extra-settlement area at Hyogo, the limit being equally applicable to leases between Japanese subjects, and being also in accordance with the general legislative principle adopted by Japan at that era.

These facts seem perfectly clear. They have already been stated by us in simple, dispassionate language, and have evoked some very rude and abusive journalistic rejoinders in Kobe, but not one argument of the smallest intrinsic value has been adduced in contradiction. We therefore dismiss that phase of the discussion, and address ourselves briefly to the contention that the Japanese Government, under pressure of remonstrances made by Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Tokyo, has acknowledged the action taken by it in 1884 to have been a violation of the Treaty; has cancelled the instrument of that action, and has restored to foreigners the privilege of leasing land in perpetuity within the extra-settlement area at Hyogo. Every point of that contention has been denied by us more than once, but our opponents, though absolutely without evidence to support their assertions, have persisted in their false interpretation of the Japanese Government's action. We have therefore obtained an official state-

ment of the facts and we now translate it, placing it side by side with the journalistic allegations made in Kobe:—

The Kobe Allegations.

Official Statement of the Japanese Government.

During January, 1898,

an English subject by name Thornicraft made an agreement with a Japanese subject to leave a plot of land from the latter for 50 years within the *Zakkyo-chi* at Kobe, and application was made to the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture to have the lease registered. But since the terms of the lease exceeded the period fixed as the limit of such transactions by Notification No. 122 of the same prefecture, issued in 1884, the Governor refused to register the lease. A protest against that refusal was subsequently made by the British Representative in Tokyo, but the Japanese Government declined to entertain the protest and approved the Governor's action. Inasmuch, however, as the new Civil Code, which went into operation in July, 1898, contains all necessary provisions with regard to the periods of letting and hiring as well as of superficies, the provisions of the Hyogo Prefectural Notification referred to above became superfluous. At the time when the Notification was issued, the laws of Japan did not contain any definite provisions with regard to letting and hiring and superficies, and those matters had, therefore, to be specially dealt with by Notification; but so soon as the new Civil Code supplied the deficiency, the Notification ceased to serve any useful purpose. Consequently, in November, 1898, the Japanese Government instructed the Governor of Hyogo to rescind the Notification. Such being the facts, the rescinding of the Notification is not in the smallest degree based upon any objection made by foreigners (*migi no shidai naru ni yori gai-tasshi no haishi wa go mo gwaikoku-jin no hoshō ni motowasu taru ni arazu*), but is simply due to the fact that, as a result of the operation of the Civil Code, the Japanese Government saw no necessity for preserving the Notification (*Mimpo jishi no kekka Nikon Seifu ni oite kore wa sanzai seshimuru no hitsuyō nahi mo mōtometaru ni yoru nari*).

After this, we shall presumably hear no more about the Japanese Government's "recognising the injustice" done by the Notification, about the "prefectural decree having been clearly proved to be an infringement of the Treaties," and about "smiles of amusement" at the expense

of the *Japan Mail*. If the issue of the Notification of 1884 was a contravention of the Treaty, since it restricted the period of land-leasing within the extra-settlement area, then the substitution of the Civil Code for the Notification is equally a contravention of the Treaty, since the Civil Code also restricts that operation. But the truth is that the communication made to the Foreign Consuls by the Governor of Hyogo in 1868 did not create any privilege superior to the laws of the empire, then or thereafter enacted, and the Japanese Government, in bringing the extra-settlement leases within the purview of the Civil Code in 1898, endorsed and repeated the procedure adopted by the Governor of Hyogo in 1884. Foreigners are just as effectually interdicted from obtaining perpetual leases within the extra-settlement area at Hyogo today as they were interdicted a twelve-month ago. In the particular case of Dr. THORNICRAFT, since, as we have often pointed out in the face of obstinate contradiction, the Civil Code permits the contracting parties to fix their own period for a superficies, he has doubtless obtained what he wanted, namely, a fifty years tenure. But, so far from admitting that the Treaty was infringed in 1884, the Japanese Government has now deliberately re-adopted in another form the very procedure which is journalistically denounced, and was publicly condemned by the memorialists in Kobe as an injustice and an infringement of international agreement. The complaint in the Memorial on this particular point had not received either in Downing-street or in Tokyo the recognition so confidently asserted in the paragraph quoted above.

AN ELECTRIC TRAM.

The first electric railway in this quarter of Japan was opened on the 21st instant. It runs from Kawasaki to the celebrated temple of Daishi, whither great numbers of pilgrims flock, especially at festival time. The fare from Kawasaki to Daishi is 5 *sen* first class, and 3 *sen* third class. The fact that such a line has been constructed at Kawasaki gives additional prominence to the extraordinary backwardness of Tokyo, where no street railway of any kind exists as yet. The *Mainichi Shimbun* has a good deal to say about the Mayor of Tokyo, whose responsibilities, especially in the matter of entertaining foreigners, it views in a very strong light, adducing the example of the Lord Mayor of London, and pointing out that the *Shichō* is really the representative of the metropolis. That is all very true, but it seems to us that the best plan for Tokyo at present is to efface itself as much as possible, instead of urging the Mayor to do its honours. The Mayor could only find himself embarrassed if he had to play the part of host in a capital which is far behind the general standard of the country's progress, and which, in some important respects, can not be ranked higher than a town in the backwoods of America. •

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE
CURRENT LITERATURE.

In No. 95 of Dr. Katō's "Hundred Short Essays," published in the *Taiyō*, the growth of the democratic spirit in Japan is discussed. Dr. Katō thinks that the utterance of Louis XIV., "I am the state," though not applicable to any modern European monarch, describes accurately the position occupied by the Emperor of Japan. In Japan, says Dr. Katō, no revolution involving a change in the reigning dynasty is conceivable. No party, however strong, would ever dream of trying to set up a rival to the lawful sovereign. Dr. Katō regrets that in speeches and newspaper articles things are said that savour of democracy. He thinks that to the young and inexperienced there is much that is dazzling in the history of democracy and constitutional government given in Western treatises, and that not a few may be tempted to think that republicanism is the best form of government for any and every nation, but this is not the opinion of the majority of thoughtful Japanese. To them patriotism and loyalty to the crown are but two names for the same thing. Dr. Katō quotes the report of Count Ōkuma's address to the Tōhōkyōkai given by Opposition newspapers, which, it must be remembered, is alleged to be most inaccurate, and also refers to Mr. Ozaki's speech, of which so much was made for political purposes, and goes on to say that such expressions as *Fijū naikaku no ranhen* (The Abuse of Power by Chamberlain-Cabinets), published in the *Seikai-no-Nihon*, are disrespectful and improper. Dr. Katō thinks that the men who write in this strain have not studied Japanese history to any purpose and have no conception of the depth of Japanese loyalty to the crown.

* * *

One of the many changes which the operation of the new treaties will usher in is discussed by the *Taiyō*, namely, the curtailment of Japan's right of translating foreign works without the permission of their authors, a right that has been exercised to the full in past years. The *Taiyō* regards the subjection of Japan to international copyright laws as an entire mistake, but thinks, that since the State has taken this step, it should adopt active measures for supplying the nation with translations of important foreign works. The Government, says the *Taiyō*, has hitherto been far too indifferent in the matter of translation. There is no denying that there has been much that was compulsory in the adoption of Western civilisation by the nation. The Government has always taken the lead, and the people *volens volens* have been forced to follow. Now a perusal of standard foreign works rendered into our own language is the best way of getting to understand the real nature and significance of the system of civilisation to which we are wedded. To place the means of doing this within the reach of its subjects is one of the plainest duties of the state. One has only to travel through the country and converse with the people in order to see how superficial and imperfect is the acquaintance with Western civilisation possessed even by the fairly educated section of the nation. Accustomed to look to the Government for guidance in the paths of progress for three decades, it is not to be supposed that the people generally will make head-

way unaided. Having conducted the nation to the portals of the great fabric of western life and thought, the Government should certainly introduce them to the interior and enable them to admire for themselves its many beauties. Still more imperative is this task in the view of the near approach of mixed residence. There are plenty of men fully qualified to undertake the work of translation, and the expense would be insignificant.

* * *

The New Year Number of the *Taiyō* contains an unusual array of interesting articles. Dr. Katō Hiroyuki reviews the great events of the world during his lifetime (64 years). Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō writes on "The Tendency of Thought in Japan;" Dr. Ariga Nagao on "The State of Political Parties in Germany;" Mr. T. Soyeda on "Schemes of Finance and Economy and the Principles they involve;" while a variety of miscellaneous subjects are treated by other well-known writers. Dr. Inouye's essay is still unfinished. In the first part of it, which lies before us, he institutes an interesting comparison between the tendency of thought in Germany, England and Japan. The conclusion that he reaches is that Japan agrees with England in her love of the practical and the experimental, and that she has never taken kindly to speculation and metaphysics of the German type. Dr. Inouye reviews the history of philosophic thought in Japan and shows how in the Tokugawa era Buddhist philosophy and metaphysics had to give place to Confucianism, and how such Buddhist priests as Fujiwara Seiga, Tani Jichū, and Yamazaki Ansai turned their backs on their own abstruse philosophy and became earnest advocates of that form of Confucianism known as *Shushi gaku*. Every nation, says Dr. Inouye, has its dominant tendency; and thought moves in this direction or that according to this tendency. Philosophy of the practical type has special attractions for the Japanese, and hence it was that Confucianism obtained such a hold on their minds. It is a mistake to think that Chinese philosophy has been adopted in Japan without modification. The process of harmonising imported ideas with prevailing national tendencies of thought has always gone on. The dualistic principle of Sung (宋), who maintained that all things were to be traced to two sources, one transcendental, which he named *理*, the other physical, which he named *氣*, was not accepted in its entirety by many of our leading philosophers, says Dr. Inouye. They were not prepared to acknowledge the existence of any transcendental origin of the universe. They were simply concerned to trace out the physical train of nature's many sequences. Such well-known men as Hayashi Razan, Yamaga Sokō, Nakaye Tōju, Ito Jinsai, Kaibara Yekiken, Miura Baiyen, Satō Issai, and Hōaishi Banri took this view. And there were men, like Sorai, who maintained that it is quite impossible to infer from nature what rule of life should be followed. A moral code must be elaborated by wise men and must be founded on experience. In asserting that it is only the approved actions of mankind which furnish a standard of right and wrong, and that all transcendental ethical theories have no solid basis, the Japanese philosophers were following in the footsteps of the English philosopher Hobbes. It is a noteworthy fact that the leaders of philo-

sophic thought in the Tokugawa era were not men who champion the Confucian philosophy without knowing the Buddhist. They were deeply versed in Buddhist lore, but they preferred Confucianism, because it was founded on experience of real life, and not on mere speculation. Coming to modern times, the two leading men of the day in the world of thought are undoubtedly Mr. Fukuzawa and Dr. Katō Hiroyuki. Mr. Fukuzawa can hardly be called a philosopher, but he may be said to be a champion of Utilitarianism. As for Dr. Katō, he is undoubtedly a philosopher of great power, whose knowledge has been mostly derived from German sources. Evolution is his favourite theme, and his conclusions are not far removed from materialism. These two thinkers agree in keeping to what is experimental or practical. They are good specimens of the typical Japanese mind. The set of the current of Japanese philosophic thought has always been in the same direction. It is gratifying to know that not even the introduction of Western learning has altered our national proclivities. It is something for a nation to have an all-prevailing tendency of this kind. It is not so with all nations. In Europe, though the characteristics of German and English thought have been for a long time clearly marked, French prevailing thought is ever changing and is altogether disconnected at the present time with the history of the nation. There is no such thing in France as philosophy that is strictly and exclusively French in character. Their philosophy is polygenous and lacks the continuity of systems of thought that have grown out of the histories of nations or have been the product of the most highly developed typical minds. There are people who say that we Japanese resemble the French. What likeness there may be is of a very superficial kind. In a far deeper way we resemble the English. The two nations are alike in that steady persistence in attachment to the actualities of life and in the high regard in which they hold the deeds and the thoughts of their ancestors. Is it the island life that the two nations have lived that enables them to preserve their identity and distinctiveness in a degree that Continentals find it hard to equal?

* * *

The *Taiyō* contains a review of the tendencies and principal characteristics of Japanese literature during the year 1898, from which we cull the following facts and opinions. During the month of January most of the leading newspapers began to publish novelettes, instead of the *Kōdan*, or lectures, that used to appear. Among novels and novelettes those of the witty kind were most popular. In February, in addition to the already existing Art Societies, the Kaiga Kyōkai, the Bijutsu Kyōkai, the Hakubakai, and the Meiji Bijutsukai, the Nihongakai was established, with Dr. Suyematsu as President. It aims at striking a middle course between the conservatism of the Bijutsu Kyōkai and the radicalism of the Kaiga Kyōkai. In this month the necessity of choosing exhibits to be forwarded to Europe led to a warm discussion of the comparative merits of Eastern and Western art. In February Japan lost one of her best sculptors, Kano Matsuo. The question of the nude in art was very much to the front at this time. In March the subjects which engaged most attention were the reform of our written language, the literary style of our novelists, and the

commotion connected with the Bijutsu Gakkō. In April interviews with actors and performers and the publication of personal details connected with them became a distinctive literary feature. In May the stagnancy in the literary world was discussed and causes ascribed for it by various writers. In June the discussion on stage acting and its reform, which had been going on so long, ceased. In July Mr. Ozaki's *Yaye-dasuki* (父重だすき) appeared and proved a great success. In this month the *Yorozu Chōhō* commenced its article on "Concubinage," which contained a number of personal allusions and hence caused a great stir. At this time it was, too, that grave doubts were expressed as to the trustworthiness of many publishers who collect subscriptions for books in advance. In August there appeared in the *Hanrei Zasshi* a long poem by Mr. Doi Buusen entitled *Busen no Yume* (A Dream of Battle), the chief hero of which is Napoleon I. In August, too, one of Japan's famous modern painters Noguchi Yūkoku, died. In September linguistic reform was the principal subject discussed. In some quarters an earnest request for the production of political novels was made. October was the month of art exhibitions. In November the *Chiyoda Shimbun* and the *Ippitsu Shimbun* both saw the light. New learned societies cropped up here and there; the Shakai-gakkai, the Bungaku Club, the Kokuhon-gaku Kenkyu-kai, and the Kyoiku-gaku Kenkyu-kai. In this month Suzuki Chōrei, the well-known writer of old style poems, passed away.

Reviewing the past 12 months, there is no denying, says the *Taiyō*, that there has been a grievous want of activity in the literary world. This is ascribed by some writers to tradal depression or agricultural distress. The demand regulates the supply, say these authorities. The people have not the money they used to have to spend on books, and so on. It seems, concludes the organ we are quoting, that their own deficiencies as the cause of limited success are the last thing thought of by the numerous penmen who undertake to explain how the present stagnancy has been brought about.

The *Taiyō* comments on the want of Japanese works giving a history of Japan's arts and artists. It is surprising, says this organ, that in a country where the arts have received so much attention no attempt should have been made to prepare an exhaustive work of reference on painting, sculpture, architecture and music. Existing Japanese literature on this subject is most meagre and unsatisfactory. Last year a book by Mr. Kosugi, entitled *Nihon Bijutsu-Shi* (A History of Japanese Fine Art) made its appearance. But it was a most imperfect affair. The Hakubutsu Kan have a work in hand that is to be sent to the Paris Exhibition next year, which promises to be better than anything that has appeared hitherto. The reasons given for the dearth of literature on art by the *Taiyō* are (1) Lack of constructive ability in Japan. (2) The poor education which many artists have received. (3) The paucity of well-informed art critics. While we find that in England, France, and Germany learned works are published bearing on the arts of every country in the world, the Japanese are not yet alive to the importance of their possess-

ing a reliable and minute history of their own art. But it is not only in the matter of art that Japanese literature is deficient. In regard to Indian and Chinese philosophy and religions the same thing may be affirmed. We have to sit at the feet of Occidentals. Even in the compilation of Japanese grammars, a foreigner, Mr. B. H. Chamberlain, has no rival. In a minute knowledge of Japanese art, in investigations of the Aino language and customs, and a variety of other subjects foreigners take the lead, and we are content to quote their works. What greater proof could there be of the slenderness of our resources as compilers and of the limited extent to which the scientific spirit is cultivated by us? For elaborate histories of Japanese art we have to consult the works of Gouse, Anderson, Rein, Bowes, and others whose names even many of us hardly know. The care, taste, and thoroughness displayed by some of these foreign works are quite astounding. We cannot but feel it to be an anomaly that we should have to rely on aliens for an exhaustive and accurate history of our own achievements.*

The *東亞時論* *Tō-a-jiron* (The Eastern Asia Contemporary) is a magazine that has only been in existence a few months. It represents the joint efforts of two Societies, the Tō-a-kai and the Dōbun-kai (同人會), both of which were founded with the object of giving a stimulus to Chinese study, and which have now been amalgamated under the title of the Tō-a-Dōbun-kai, with Prince Kinoye as its President. The *Tō-a-jiron* aims at collecting and publishing information bearing on China. Among the articles published in the first two numbers are one on "Schemes for the Reform of China," by Mr. Ito Shinsaku; one on "The extension of our trade with China," by Mr. Ariga Nagahumi, and one on "The Means of Awakening China," by Mr. Uchida Kō. Leung Keichiu, the editor of the Yokohama *Seigihō*, contributes a letter of thanks for the help given to the cause of reform in China by the Tō-a-Dōbun-kai. Mr. Ikebe Kichitarō asks whether it is reform or a revolution that is needed in China. He criticises Marquis Ito's speech on China, delivered at the Imperial Hotel some weeks ago, observing that it was too commonplace and failed to show the enormous difficulties to be encountered by the Chinese in the path of progress. The tone of Marquis Ito's address was, according to Mr. Ikebe, too despondent.

The *清議報* *Seigihō*, mentioned above, is a magazine that has been started in Yokohama by Leung Keichiu and others for the purpose of ventilating Chinese topics. Its design is to enlighten Chinamen as to the condition and perils of their own country. It receives assistance from Japanese writers and though its circulation in China will no doubt be forbidden by the wary Empress Dowager, copies of the magazine will be sure to find their way to the homes of certain progressive Celestials.

* It may be some comfort to the writer of the article in the *Taiyō* to know that it by no means follows that the best histories are written by persons who share the nationality of the people described. Gibbon's great work may be cited as a case in point. And Taine's "History of English Literature" is pronounced to be the most readable book of its size ever published on the same subject.—(Writer of the Summary.)

The *Shina Shinron* (A New Treatise on China) is a work covering some 300 pages, written by Mr. Satō Kōshi and published by the Yao Publishing Company. The book is divided into eleven chapters. We briefly indicate the subjects discussed. Chap. I. deals, with the present state of China's army, navy, education, finance, trade, industry, agriculture, transport, and prevailing customs. Chap. II. treats of the Court and its relation to the people. Chap. III. gives an account of the various reform parties. Chap. IV. discusses the renovation of China. Chap. V. deals with the Russian advance and the seizure of Manchuria. Chap. VI. discourses of Russia's movements in various other Northern provinces. Chap. VII. discusses Russian policy. Chap. VIII. treats of England's designs. Chap. IX. considers the main features of the policy pursued by the great powers. Chap. X. considers Japan's attitude in reference to that policy. Chap. XI. goes minutely into the question of Japan's future policy in reference to China. The view taken by the writer is that it is quite possible for China to be saved from partition if her leading men will but stir themselves. The editor of the *Nippon Shimbun*, Mr. Kuga, praises the work, and says it is absurd to think that a government that has lasted 7,000 years will crumble to bits even in the presence of the destructive forces to which it is now exposed, and adds that to Mr. Satō belongs the credit of having shown in the *Shina Shinron* that, if China plays her cards well, she has nothing to fear from either England or Russia.

Lieut. Ogasawara Chōsei, a naval officer, has published a "History of the Imperial Japanese Navy." The only other history of the kind that exists is Mr. Ishihara's *Kaigun-Yenkaku shi*. The scope of the latter work is very confined, and is altogether surpassed by Lieut. Ogasawara's book, which is modelled on the lines laid down by Captain Mahan in his "Influence of Sea Power on History," though of course it is only a very imperfect imitation of that great work. The volume is published by the Shunyō-do and sells at one yen per copy.

Mr. Sasa Masakazu, of the Second Higher School, is the author of a little book covering 150 pages on "Leading Features in the History of Japanese Literature," which is highly praised by the *Teikoku Bungaku*. According to the review of the work which appears in this organ, Mr. Sasa's object in writing it was to give a more full account of the literature of comparatively recent times than is usually done in books of this class, and to make clear to ordinary students the nature of the changes which literature has undergone within the past few hundred years. Verses of every kind have received special attention. The work is designed to be used as a class book in Middle Schools.

No 11 of the *Gwaibō Jihō* discusses many of the current topics of the day. The articles on foreign affairs are mostly from the pen of Dr. Ariga. Bismarck's treatment of opposition political parties, the German Emperor's Palestine Tour, the Fashoda Affair, and other subjects of the kind all receive notice at the hands of the indefatigable editor, but the article

of most interest to readers in this part of the world is one entitled *Shina Hōsenron* (The Preservation of China). The writer observes that there are two ways in which a nation may be saved from collapse. It may be saved by reliance on its own strength or it may be saved by the help of other powers. He goes on to show that China cannot stand alone, that she is quite dependent on outside help. There are two forms that this help may take. It may be given in the form of a guarantee by alliance (*dōmei tamō*), or it may be vouchsafed by what is called a collective or combined guarantee (*rengō tamō*). Now the difficulty connected with the adoption by China of the first-named policy is that by allying herself with certain powers, say England and America, for instance, she would stir up the enmity of the non-allied powers, Russia, France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, and, perhaps, Japan. Such an alliance would be sure to increase the chance of war, as it would intensify the rivalry between the Great Powers. The only safe method for China to pursue is to endeavour to induce the chief Powers concerned to unite in preserving her integrity. The adoption of this plan succeeded in the Balkan peninsula and there is nothing to prevent its succeeding in China if it be given a fair chance. This collective guarantee, if it could be effected, would put a stop to all secret treaties and understandings between China and individual nations and would enable each country concerned to compete in a fair manner for its share of China's trade. It seems to me, says Dr. Ariga, that as a final settlement the plan of a collective guarantee, in which all the Powers concerned are included, must be adopted. If China should ally herself to two or three Western Powers and thereby force on war with other Powers, after the fighting is over, both sides will have to come to some agreement as to their future attitude to the Chinese nation, and a collective guarantee of China's integrity and independence would be the most probable result of such a war. It would save expense and bloodshed if this arrangement could be effected at once. And if some of the leading Powers would take the initiative in seeking to bring about this solution of the present difficulty, the majority of the nations concerned would, I venture to think, fall into line. Those which refused to do so could effect little against so formidable a confederacy as the one under consideration. In discussing this question there is one sentiment that we cannot get rid of, says Dr. Ariga, and that is, that Asia should be kept for Asiatics. There is something entirely wrong in the idea of a Concert of European Powers settling the affairs of the Far East. But with things situated as they are, the best method for China to adopt is to favour an arrangement whereby the Powers will be a curb on each other, while they all combine in preserving her independence.

Professor Terao, in the pages of the *Gwaikō Jihō*, gives an account of the part that he and a Mr. Takahashi played at the International Conference held at the Hague last September. He says that nothing could have exceeded the attention that he received while in Holland, and that his paper on "The relations between Europe and Japan down to the middle of the Nineteenth Century," delivered in French, was listened to with

considerable interest. Professor Terao attended the Conference as the representative of the Japanese Diplomatic Society called the Nihon no Kokusai-hōgakkai. He is desirous of establishing closer relations between this Society and foreign Associations having similar objects in view.

In No. 180, the *Fūsoku Gakō*, writing on provincialisms, gives an instance of no less than 13 variations for the same idea. The words applied to clothes cut too short for the wearer are as follow:—

Tōkyō, Tenteraten*	Kiō, Tsunatsuratsun
Osaka, Chenchōchon	Huashima, Tsunatsuruten
Tajima, Chouchokochon	Omi, Chapinchopin
Izumi, Tongatonga	Okayama, Chouchoko
Hariu, Chopin	Awa, Chinchikorin
Chikuzen, Chochonkorin	Kii, Sutteko
Owari, Chinchokorin	

Under the title of the *Nihon Kyōiku Gakufu* (學風) no henssen, Mr. Tanimoto Tōshi discusses in an essay, 30 pages in length, the underlying principles of Japanese education in past ages and at the present time. We can pretend to do no more than give the gist of the article. It may be well to state that Mr. Tanimoto is a well-known writer on the subject of education and that his writings are characterised by fervour and lucidity. In all times there has been in Japan, says Mr. Tanimoto, some leading principle that may be called the *ethos* of the time, to which the opinions of individuals have been subjected. The earliest recognisable principle Mr. Tanimoto calls the 天真爛漫主義 *Tenshinram-man Shugi*, "The principle of being true to nature, pure and simple." The youth of very early times was taught how to obey and to revere his parents and ancestors. Then came the introduction of Chinese literature, and with it a desire for ornament sprang up. Things were no longer described in simple language, but presented in a pompous form. The general effect of the introduction of foreign literature and the study of foreign ways was the prevalence of luxury, specially in the Ashikaga age. As a reaction from this, and yet contemporary with it, there came into existence that code of honour and manners known as the *bushidō*, which was in every way superior to any rule of life that existed in those days, and there was also a high class refinement of taste and manners among a small section of the community which exercised a very beneficial influence over certain minds. This principle Mr. Tanimoto calls *Gashu* (雅趣) *Shugi*. Then came the dark ages, when the one object of those in power was to make good soldiers. How to produce energy was the great question of that time. Under the Tokugawa rule Chinese ethics were keenly studied, and exercised a predominating influence over the educational policy of the Government. Combined with the prominence given to ethics, and in many respects as a result of this, there was an enormous amount of constraint and hampering of thought. Men were only allowed to think in grooves. Moreover, science was held in contempt, and, notwithstanding all the political morality taught, there was no development of public spirit. With the Meiji era came foreign learning and the illumination which accompanies it. For a while, that is, speaking roughly, down to the 15th

* *Tentsuruten* and *tsunatsuruten* are, we are told, also used in Tōkyō to express the same idea.

year of Meiji, Japan's educational policy may be said to have been European. But after that Nationalism began to assert itself and an enormous impetus was given to it by the Imperial Rescript on Education published in the 23rd year of Meiji, which in the plainest terms based the educational policy of the country on nationalism. This return to nationalism, says Mr. Tanimoto, at the close of the 19th century, is no other than the re-adoption of the principle of our early ancestors, faithfulness to nature pure and simple. To make the needs and the welfare of the nation the basis of our system of education is the only true principle to be followed.

A DANGEROUS PASTIME.

Superintendent Okada, of the Bluff Police Station, desires to call attention to the dangerous practice now so common with European boys in Yokohama, of shooting with air guns and parlor rifles. The Superintendent states that he has made it a rule, on observing lads shooting in the public streets, to send a constable to complain to their parents, but apparently his caution has had little effect, for the nuisance flourishes in vigour. It is only a few weeks ago that two accidents which might have had very serious results occurred, and the Superintendent considers that it is important that the amusement should be stopped before some fatality happens. We have been shown one of the bullets picked up by a constable, and though it probably would not cause a dangerous wound on the body it could easily make a very serious face wound. We are informed by one resident that he actually saw a lad fire a parlor rifle (not an air gun) at one of the miserable dray horses on the Bluff. The pellet penetrated the horse's skin, and made the blood flow, greatly pleasing the little savage, who laughed cheerily at the remonstrance of the driver. The degree of sensibility in a Yokohama dray horse, used to kicks and blows from its earliest years, is probably not much higher than that of a sponge or sea-anemone, it may even be conceded that it would feel strange and uncomfortable if not ill treated. But in the case of a high-spirited animal the results of such a flea-dash trick might have been very serious. The public which was so horrified over the fate of the celebrated Sapporo pig has not, apparently, brought its telescopic humanity to bear on matters nearer home, but we trust that giving publicity to Superintendent Okada's warning will draw attention to the matter, and lead to the wholesale confiscation of these dangerous toys, or at least to a restriction of their very common use.

THEFT FROM A GODOWN.

The Yokohama District Court had before it on Monday the case against Shimada Motokichi, charged with stealing seventeen bales of yarn from the godown of Messrs. C. J. Strome and Co. Four other Japanese were charged with assisting to dispose of the stolen goods, and one Hirota was charged with purchasing them. Shimada stole the goods on the night of Nov. 17th, and sold them to Hirota for 28 yen, dividing the proceeds among the other four men. Fujita, Nagashima, and Haseono (for helping Shimada in disposing of the stolen goods) were sentenced each to four months' imprisonment with a fine of ten yen, and ordered to be placed under police surveillance for six months. Mami (who also rendered assistance to Shimada) and Hirota (who bought the goods) were sentenced each to two months' imprisonment with a fine of ten yen, and ordered to be placed under police surveillance for six months. Judgment against Shimada was reserved.

IMPERIAL DIET.

THURSDAY, 19TH JANUARY.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m.

COPYRIGHTS.

A Government Bill embodying a project of Copyright Law was read for the first time. The Government Delegate explained that as Japan would join the International Copyright Union in July next, when the Revised Treaties go into operation, it was necessary to enact laws suitable for that purpose.

Mr. Kubota Yuzuru objected that Japan, being still in the translation period of her modern progress, would be greatly inconvenienced by the enactment of law forbidding her to make free use of foreign publications. She was importing all the civilization of Western countries, and should have unrestricted access to the literature embodying that civilization. What object did the Government seek to attain in enacting such a law?

The Government Delegate replied that Japan's entry into the International Copyright Union was one of the conditions of Treaty Revision. It was possible that the measure might be attended with disadvantages, but to raise objections to it now was too late.

Mr. Kubota expressed surprise at such an answer. Was the House to understand that the Government had deliberately pledged itself to a course which would prove disadvantageous to Japan?

The Government Delegate suggested that the query had better take the shape of a written Question to the Government, and the Bill was handed to a Special Committee, as were also three other Bills, one for amending the present Patents Law, one for protecting Designs, and one for protecting Trade Marks.

CARE OF THE INSANE.

A Government Bill was then read embodying a lengthy project of Law for the better Care and Supervision of Persons Mentally Deranged. In the Statement of Motives it was explained that under the very defective system now in vogue, the treatment of lunatics was not under proper control, and society suffered not a little in consequence. Statistics for 1897 showed that there were 21,104 demented persons in the empire. Of these the number receiving treatment in hospital was 2,923, and among them 938 were fettered. Those cared for in the houses of relatives or friends aggregated 18,181, of whom 3,823 had to be kept in chains. It further appeared that there had been 708 suicides and 297 attempted suicides by persons of unsound mind; that 1,305 persons had received bodily hurt at the hands of lunatics, that 112 conflagrations had been caused by them, and that property had been injured in 77,134 cases, the total losses resulting from these destructive acts being 14,876 yen. The necessity of enacting some better system of control was therefore quite evident.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

GOVERNMENT BILLS.

The following Government Bills, sent up from the House of Representatives, were then read for the first time and handed to the same Special Committee:

Three Bills for including the Tobacco Monopoly among the ordinary State Industries, instead of keeping it as a separate undertaking, and for transferring its fixed capital and working-capital funds to the accounts of the State Industries instead of making them matters of special account.

Bill empowering the Government to make issues of Public Undertakings Bonds and Railway Bonds in advance of the time fixed by Law, if the condition of the money market made such a course advisable.

Bill empowering the Government to make drafts upon the Indemnity in lieu of issuing Bonds, should such a course seem advisable; provided that the amounts of the drafts be subsequently restored to the Indemnity out of the proceeds of Bond issues.

Bill empowering the Treasury to temporarily draft portions of the Indemnity into the Ordinary Revenue, provided that the monies thus drafted be subsequently restored.

Bill for abolishing the system of Special Account with regard to Consolidated Bonds, the whole issue having been already floated.

Bill for increasing the Working Capital of the Mint.

Bill for amending the system of Accounts of Government Railways in Hokkaido.

Bill for including in the Government Undertakings Accounts a sum of 4½ million yen, being the Permanent Working Capital of the Iron Foundry.

The House rose at 11.30 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SŌUL-CHEMULPO RAILWAY SYNDICATE LOAN.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., and proceeded to discuss Supplementary Budget No. 3 for the fiscal year 1898-9, proposing an appropriation of 1,800,000 yen to be lent to the Sŏul-Chemulpo Railway Company. Mr. Sakatani, Government Delegate, explained that the concession for the Sŏul-Chemulpo Railway had originally been obtained by Mr. J. K. Morse, an American citizen, who had expected to obtain the funds necessary for its construction from American capitalists. Failing in that expectation, however, he had offered to sell the concession in Japan, and a syndicate for its purchase had readily been formed, the country being, just at that time, in the height of its mania for industrial enterprise. It had therefore been agreed that the Syndicate should take over the railway when completed at a million dollars (American gold). Some delays had occurred, however, in the construction, especially with regard to the bridge over the Han River outside Sŏul, the railway contractors and the Syndicate entertaining different views as to the height that should be given to the road-way of the bridge in order to provide against danger from floods. Finally it had been agreed, that though the work was not completed, the line should be taken over as it stood, the Syndicate paying 1,800,000 yen. But the Syndicate found it quite impossible to obtain the money in the present state of the market, and had consequently petitioned the Government to lend its assistance. The Government believed that the interests of the country would be promoted by such a course, and the House's consent was now asked for a loan of 1,800,000 yen to the Syndicate, the conditions being that the Syndicate should complete the work of construction, and should pay interest at the rate of 5 per cent. on the loan provided that the net earnings of the line amounted to 5 per cent. of the paid-up capital.

In answer to questions, Mr. Sakatani explained that about 7½ miles of the road were finished, and that the cost of carrying it to completion would be about 750,000 yen. The Government was to have the line hypothecated to it as security for the loan. The original agreement with Mr. Morse had been concluded in May, 1897, and in October of the same year, the Specie Bank had made to him an advance of a million yen on account of the Syndicate.

Mr. Hoshi Toru questioned the Delegate closely as to this transaction with the Specie Bank, his object being to show that Count Okuma, who was Minister of State for Foreign Affairs at the time, had authorized the Bank to lend the money, thus making the Government responsible without obtaining the consent of the legislature.

The Government Delegate admitted that the advisability of making the advance had been suggested officially to the Bank, but showed a disposition to avoid the issue raised by Mr. Hoshi.

Mr. Inoue Kakugoro said that, as one of the promoters of the Syndicate, he was acquainted with all the circumstances, and would disclose them if it was deemed expedient.

At this stage the Government sent a message asking the House to go into secret session, which was done at 1.40 p.m.

At 3.35 p.m. the doors were opened, and it was announced that the debate had ended in the House's endorsement of the necessity of the steps taken by the Government. The Budget was therefore passed.

OTHER MATTERS.

Supplementary Budget No. 6 for 1898-9 was then taken. It provides for an appropriation of 37,102 yen to extend the storage accommodation for inflammable substances, such as kerosene and alcohol, at Yokohama. The House voted the Budget unanimously.

A Government Bill, sent down from the Peers, for altering the Prefectural Boundaries of Chiba and Ibaraki, was then passed.

A private Bill then came up for debate. It provided that with the exception of cases specially dealt with by law or ordinance, all administrative abuses of private rights should be judiciable by an Administrative Court. The object of the measure, as explained in the *exposé* of motives, was to extend the sphere of private rights and to dispense with superfluous procedure.

The Government Delegate opposed the Bill, but the House passed it, and handed to a Special Committee a correlated Bill relating to the carrying of complaints before an Administrative Court.

The Special Committee reported in favour of a private Bill for amending the Barristers Law, in the sense of providing that judges or prosecutors who had been retired on the ground of old age or inability to discharge their function, should not be permitted to practise as barristers.

This Bill was opposed by the Government Delegate, as involving a violation of private rights, and was rejected by the House.

The President announced that two Bills had been received from the Government, one providing for the imposition of a House Tax, the other for an increase of the Tax on Soy.

The following two Bills were handed to Special Committee:—

A private Bill providing for the organization of Agricultural Guilds, experience having shown that mutual consultation and co-operation on the part of farmers are often necessary for putting various essential measures into practice.

A Bill for amending the Pawnbrokers' Law, in the sense of rescinding all legal limitations of the rate of interest, and empowering Prefectural Governors to impose any restrictions suggested by local conditions or the state of the money market. The Law now provides the following maxima for rates of interest charged by pawnbrokers:—

For loans not exceeding 25 yen, 1 yen per cent. per month.
For loans not exceeding 1 yen, 4 per cent. per month.
For loans not exceeding 5 yen, 3 per cent. per month.
For loans not exceeding 10 yen, 2½ per cent. per month.

In the *exposé* of motives attached to the Bill it was stated that, in times like the present, when the rate of interest on money rises high in the market, the above restrictions, so far from protecting the people, prevent them from obtaining from pawn brokers accommodation which is often most serviceable in the affairs of their daily life.

The House then unanimously adopted a Representation similar to that introduced some days ago in the House of Peers by Viscount Tani for granting a sum of public money to effect improvements at the Miyazaki and Sano shrines on the occasion of the great festival of Jimmu Tenno next April.

The House rose at 5.05 p.m.

On the 20th instant neither of the Houses sat, the members being engaged in Committee work.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

HOKKAIDO ABORIGINES.

The House met at 10.20 a.m., and proceeded to read for the first time a Government Bill (sent up from the House of Representatives) for the better Protection of the Hokkaido Aborigines. The Government Delegate, in answer to questions, said that the number of the abo-

rigines did not now exceed 17,000, though it had been three or four times as large 50 years ago. Recent statistics did not show any marked diminution, yet that the race was dying out could scarcely be doubted. The children of the aborigines, when educated side by side with Japanese children, did not betray special inferiority in general studies, but were conspicuously deficient in aptitude for mathematics. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGETS.

The President announced the receipt of two Supplementary Budgets for 1898-9 from the Lower House; one providing an appropriation for increased warehousing accommodation for inflammable substances at Yokohama; the other sanctioning a loan of 1,800,000 yen to the Sôul-Chemulpo Railway Syndicate. He said that the Government wished these Budgets to be treated as urgency measures, and the House proceeded to debate the nature of the instruction that should be given to the Budget Committee as to the time occupied in examining the Budgets. Viscount Soga and other members of the Opposition objected to any special expedition, and after a short but animated debate, the House decided by 76 votes to 75 that the Committee should be instructed to present its report as soon as possible.

QUARANTINE.

The Second Reading was then taken of the Bill for amending the system of Medical Inspection at ports of entry for ships coming from Southern China, in the sense of making the system continuously operative. The Bill was passed without opposition.

THE SÔUL-CHEMULPO RAILWAY.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Budget Committee, asked permission to report on Supplementary Budget No. 6, handed to the Committee a short time previously, for granting a loan of 1,800,000 yen to the Sôul-Chemulpo Railway Syndicate. The Committee unanimously recommended the Budget for approval, and the House went into secret session to debate the details, finally passing the Budget almost unanimously.

BANKS.

Two Bills for amending the Bank Regulations so as to bring them into accord with the new Civil Code, were then carried through their Second and Third Readings without debate.

ALCOHOL, SAKÉ, &c.

The Second Reading of the Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) amending the Statutory Tariff in the sense of increasing the import duties on alcohol, tobacco and Sake, was then voted, but the Reading was not taken at once.

EDUCATION.

A Representation for increasing the High Schools and the Universities stood next on the Order. Its signatories urged that whereas the number of Middle Schools had increased from 82 in 1894 to 157 in 1897, and the number of students attending them from 22,000 to 52,800, the accommodation at the High Schools and the Universities had not been extended in any way. There were only 5 High Schools just as there had been ten years ago. The consequence was that thousands of youths had to stop their education half-way. For example, 3,170 students had presented themselves for admission to the High Schools in 1898, but only 1,590 had been admitted. The need for more High Schools, and consequently for increased accommodation at the Universities, was clamant. The House adopted the Representation without any dissenting voice.

THE BUDGET.

Viscount Tani, as Chairman of the Budget Committee, stated that the Committee ought to present its Budget report on the 24th instant, but had commissioned him to ask for an extension of time until the 7th of February. The House assented, and rose at 3.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.25 p.m.,

THE HOUSE TAX.

A Government Bill providing for a Tax on Houses was read for the First Time. The Bill

provides that each house shall pay a tax of 5 per cent. of the renting value, except in the case of houses whose renting value is below 5 yen per annum, such houses being altogether exempted. For the purpose of determining the rental value, an Examining Committee is to be elected in each urban or rural district, the Committee to consist of 7 members where a district has upwards of 1,000 houses; of 5 members where the number of houses is less than 1,000 but not less than 500, and of 3 members where the houses fall below 500; the tax to become leviable from April 1st, 1899.

The House showed a capacious disposition towards this Bill, several members vehemently demanding some proof that the proposed tax would not be a direct addition to the Local House Rate already levied, although such a duplication of imposts is forbidden by law. The Government Delegate promised that full explanations would be given in the committee room, and the Bill was finally handed to a Special Committee of 27, as was also a Bill for doubling the tax upon Soy, a measure which is expected to yield an additional revenue of 1,590,000 yen.

FOREIGN LOANS.

A Bill was then read empowering the Government to have recourse, if expedient, to the foreign money market for raising loans already sanctioned by law. The bonds thus issued may have their denominations stated in terms of the currency of the country where they are sold, and the details as to ante-redemption period, method of issue, redemption interest and, etc., are to be determinable by Departmental Notification, provided that redemption must be fully effected within 55 years from the date of issue.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo seized this occasion to attack the Government. He declared that all these Bills for increased taxation and loans showed the Cabinet to be possessed with a spendthrift mania and to be without any sense of its financial responsibility. Four or five million yen a year might easily be saved if official corruption were effectually checked. Had the Government any genuine intention of putting the finances in order?

Baron Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, replied that it was precisely for the purpose of putting the finances in order that these various bills were introduced.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

LETHAL WEAPONS.

A Government Bill for amending the Law for the control of Lethal Weapons, Gunpowder and other explosives, was read for the first time, and the Government Delegate having explained that the law now in force for the Control of Arms, &c., had not been changed since 1872, or the law for the Control of Gunpowder since 1884, the Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

FORMOSA APPEALS.

The next Bill on the Order was a Government measure giving to litigants or persons accused of crime in Formosa the right of Appeal to the Supreme Court in Japan. At present an appeal can not be carried beyond the local appeal court, and no tribunal can be invoked to determine whether an error of law has not been committed. The Bill was handed to a Committee, as was also a Bill (Government) for amending the Law of Registration so as to bring it into accord with the new Civil Code.

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

The Second Reading of the Private Bill for the Organization of Associations of Medical Practitioners was then taken. Several members denounced the measure, first as an unwarrantable interference with the rights of the individual, from the point of view not only of the medical man who would be compelled to join the associations, but also of the person employing him whose freedom of choice would be circumscribed; secondly, because the associations would enable their members to combine, as monopolists, for exploiting the public; and thirdly, because a majority of the best men would be too busy to attend the meetings of an

association, so that the great power vested in it would be exercised by the unemployed and least competent members of the profession. Mr. Shimada Saburo read letters from various parts of the country, objecting to the measure, but the House voted for the Second Reading by 160 to 61.

FIRE DAMAGE.

A Private Bill for amending the Civil Code was introduced. The purpose of the amendment is to abrogate the provisions which render a householder liable for the damage which other people may sustain owing to a fire breaking out on the premises occupied by him. The introducers of the Bill contend that to impose such liability is entirely contrary to the custom of Japan and to the principles of humanity, for the breaking out of a conflagration can scarcely ever be provided against, inflicts the greatest loss on the people of the house where it occurs, and should entitle a man to the compassion of his neighbours instead of exposing him to their demands. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

SUBSIDIES.

The House then adopted, for presentation to the Government a Petition praying that the annual subsidy of 6,000 yen now granted for a steam-boat service to Oshima and other islands in Kagoshima Prefecture be increased to 24,000 yen.

The House rose at 4.05 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 23RD.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not sit, the Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TOBACCO.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., and received the Special Committee's report on the Government Bill for empowering the Authorities to include imported tobacco in the State monopoly. The majority of the Committee favoured the Bill, but the House decided to postpone the Second Reading.

LAW COURTS.

A Government Bill for establishing new Law Courts in various places which have hitherto been within the jurisdiction of distant tribunals—as the Bonin Islands, Rinkiu, &c.—was then passed through its Second and Third Readings without debate.

POSTAGE RATES.

The next Bill on the Order was a Government measure for increasing the rates of postage. Two principal reasons for this measure were given; one, that since the present rates were fixed the prices of commodities and consequently the cost of the service had greatly appreciated; the other, that owing to the marked change which has been taken place in the gold-price of silver, the postal rates of foreign countries, which had been taken as a basis in compiling the Japanese schedule, now represented the double of their original figures, when converted into Japanese currency. The Government considered, therefore, that to raise the rates by 50 per cent. would be a legitimate means of obtaining funds to make up the present deficiency of revenue. The proposed schedule is:—

LETTERS.

Weight 4 momme or less	...	...	3	sen
For every additional 4 momme	Post Cards	3	sen	
Single Post Card	...	...	15	sen
Return Post Card	...	...	3	sen

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

Up to 30 momme	.....	15	sen.
For every additional 30 momme	.....	15	sen.
Publications issued 3 times a week or oftener at fixed time, for every single number up to 20 momme	.....	0.5	sen.
For every additional 20 momme	.....	0.5	sen.

It is expected that the revenue obtained by these changes will amount to 1,580,000 yen. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

A number of Government Bills seeking *post-facto* approval for various expenditures and appropriations in the fiscal years 1896-7 and

1897-8 were then handed to a Special Committee, and the House, after passing a Representation urging that a special office be established for the superintendence of Shinto affairs, rose at 2.25 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE REVISED COMMERCIAL CODE.

The House met at 10.15 a.m., and proceeded to read the Revised Commercial Code a second time, finally passing it as presented by the Government.

INCOME TAX.

The Second Reading of the Revised Income Tax Law (sent up from the Lower House) was then taken. Mr. Mizuno proposed amendments in the sense of a minute classification of incomes from 30,000 yen upwards, and the lowering of the minimum taxable income from 300 yen to 250 yen annually. The House adopted the latter proposal, but rejected the former, and voted the other clauses of the Bill as amended by the Special Committee.

LOCAL BOUNDARIES.

A Government Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for changing certain local boundaries in Chiba and Ibaraki Prefectures was next passed.

LAW COURTS.

On coming to the Second Reading of a private Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for extending the Jurisdiction of Administrative Courts, the Government Delegate opposed the measure, pointing out that the principle of generalization on which it was based was in advance of the degree of civilization attained by Japan. Austria was the only European country where that principle was adopted as a basis for instituting suits, and in Austria special arrangements existed. Elsewhere the principle of specification held, and the Government considered the latter more suitable in Japan. The Cabinet contemplated introducing a Bill next session for the purpose of amending certain features of the existing law, but without any change of basic principle.

A proposal to postpone the discussion of the Bill was negative, and it was handed to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 2.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House did not meet.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.10 p.m., and discharged the following business:—

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

A Resolution was unanimously adopted that the condolences of the House should be sent to the family of the late Count Kato.

BUDGETS AND OTHER BILLS.

Two Supplementary Budgets, No. 3 and No. 5, for the fiscal year 1898-9 were passed as amended by the Budget Committee.

The Second Reading of the Bill for imposing a Tonnage Tax was passed.

The Government Bills for amending the Newspaper Regulations (in the sense of permitting foreigners to engage in journalistic enterprise); for amending the Law of Security in Civil Suits; for amending the Chemists' and Druggists' Regulations; and for abolishing the System of State Purchase of Sugar in Okinawa Prefecture, were all passed.

The following Bills were handed to Special Committees:—

A Government Bill (sent down from the House of Peers) for amending the Banking Regulations so as to bring them into accord with the Revised Commercial Code.

TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of the Monopoly of Leaf Tobacco was then taken. Amendments were proposed for the purpose of removing the restrictions

which certain clauses of the Bill seem calculated to impose on dealers in tobacco, but the House rejected these proposals, and passed the Bill as recommended by the Special Committee.

MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

The Special Committee on the Medical Associations Bill having reported favourably, and the Government Delegate, Dr. Hasegawa, having spoken in support of the Bill, its Second Reading was voted. (The purpose of this Bill has already been explained.)

FIRE DAMAGES.

A private Bill for changing the system of responsibility enacted by the new Civil Code in the case of conflagrations was then read for the first time and handed to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 3.05 p.m., the President announcing that a majority of the members being engaged on committee work, there would be no sitting until the 29th instant.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD'S FAREWELL.

A JAPANESE RECEPTION.

Lord Charles Beresford left Yokohama for America on Wednesday by the Toyo Kisen Kaisha steamer *America Maru*.

At 9.30 his lordship was present at a reception given by Mr. Otani Kahei, the well-known Yokohama merchant, in his pretty villa at Isayama. There were present: Baron Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies to His Majesty the Emperor; Governor Asada of Kanagawa Kencho; Mr. Minakami, Superintendent of the Yokohama Customs; Messrs. R. Kinsura, F. Watanabe, T. Aoki, S. Tanaka, and T. Okada (Secretary), representing the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, of which Mr. Otani is President; Mr. Konosuke Otani, President of the Eastern Japan Trading Company; Mr. G. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama; Mr. R. Ruoye, Secretary of Kanagawa Kencho; and Mr. S. Sugiyama, Councillor of the Kencho. The foreigners present were the Marquis C. de Nemhrini Gonzaga, of Kanagawa Kencho; Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, British Consul; Mr. J. P. Mollison, Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. H. M. Bevis, and Mr. Robin Gray (Lord Charles's Secretary).

After the reception the guests were invited to partake of a cold collation served in one of the large Japanese-style rooms of Mr. Otani's residence.

The Mayor of YOKOHAMA spoke a few words welcoming the visitor in the name of the City, and Mr. OTANI then made a short speech in Japanese, of which the following is a translation:—On behalf of the Committee of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce I beg to tender our warmest thanks to Lord Charles Beresford for the great honour he has conferred upon us to-day by his presence at this small gathering. We understand your lordship has said that Great Britain and Japan have both the same interests in the Far East politically and commercially, and that consequently closer relations must be drawn between the two countries. We can assure your lordship that we take great interest in what you said. After your enquiries into the commercial conditions of our neighbour China on behalf of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Great Britain, we should be very glad on this occasion to hear a few words from your Lordship as to our trade. Your lordship's mission will greatly benefit the commerce and trade of the Orient. Although your stay in Japan has been very short and your lordship has been all this time very busy, you have been gracious enough to honour us, previous to your departure, with your lordship's presence which we very highly appreciate. We wish your lordship a happy and successful journey to your country.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD, in reply, said:—Mr. Otani, your Excellency, and Gentlemen,—I am very grateful for the remarks that have been made. You said, Mr. Otani, that my visit here was a very short one. That I am sorry to say is the case as far as I am personally concerned, but I have been here quite long enough

to do what I intended to do when I made up my mind to return by Japan. That was to make out from the Chambers of Commerce, as well as some of the leading men, what the Japanese view of the question of future trade in China was. Therefore I am perfectly pleased and satisfied with my visit as far as that goes. From the personal point of view I am extremely sorry I cannot stay longer, as I should have had the opportunity of learning more of your country and of extending my enjoyment of the civilities and courtesies which have been so freely offered me. But the main point is, what are the views of this country as represented by its Chambers of Commerce and its representative men. I am extremely sorry, gentlemen, that I could not stay longer in order to obtain more fully the views of your Chamber, but I have seen representatives of the Chambers of Commerce of Kobe, Kyoto, and Osaka, and I may say Tokyo, and I have a very fair idea of what their views of the matter are. It is a matter of supreme satisfaction to me to find that the views I have held are very much those held by your Chambers of Commerce, and that is that the interests of Great Britain and Japan are absolutely identical, and if we wish to continue the condition of trade as it is in China, and wish to develop it as it should be developed, we must hold together and stick together as tight as ever we can in the future. In saying that, gentlemen, I do not at all wish it to be inferred that that is a threat to other countries, but we read history, and we observe motives, and there is no doubt that the policy of some other countries is to take territory, and, when that territory is taken, to put tariffs on. If we have a clear good understanding, if we have a clear and positive policy, then the other countries will understand what we would do in certain eventualities, and I think if they understood that, you would find that those eventualities would not occur. This proposal, gentlemen, tends towards peace, which is the greatest interest we can have in carrying on trade and commerce in China. I have to thank you most warmly, Mr. Otani, for receiving me here, and you, gentlemen, most warmly for your kind welcome and for the appreciation of the ideas which I have had to offer in this country.

MR. ROBISON, in the name of the Yokohama community, expressed the gratitude of all foreigners for the views expressed by the Japanese on the occasion of Lord Charles's visit.

A general interchange of compliments followed, and the healths of both host and guests were honoured.

At the conclusion LORD CHARLES BERESFORD said:—

Before I go I wish to express my gratitude and my thorough appreciation of the honour Mr. Otani and the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce have paid me personally by asking me to come here. I understand that the Japanese Chamber of Commerce is one of the most practical and one of the most powerful in the whole of your Empire, and that there is a great deal of sympathy between the Japanese and the Foreign Chambers. I am sure it that sympathy continues and becomes even more strongly cemented it will be to the benefit of the trade and commerce of Yokohama in particular and of the Empire generally.—(Applause.)

The party then broke up, most of the guests accompanying the noble guest to the Hatoba to see him off. Baron Sannomiya was, it is understood the bearer of a farewell message from the Emperor.

At the Hatoba, in addition to the gentlemen mentioned above, were His Honour Judge Wilkinson, Mr. James Dodds, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, and the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine. His lordship was accompanied on board by Mr. Mitchell, the Rev. E. C. Irvine, Mr. Dodds, Mr. Robison, and Mr. Bevis. Speaking at the last moment he urged again the necessity of a fourfold alliance; the international union was like a haystack and a lighted fuse; it was easy enough to quench the fuse, but not so easy the haystack, and after the conflagration there would be no haystack left.

He was rejoiced to learn that his stay had largely conduced to the growth of the good feeling which had sprung up lately between Great Britain and Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MEGURO LEPER'S HOME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Some response has come to the appeal recently appearing in the *Japan Mail*, in which aid was requested for the Leper's Home in Meguro, at least to the extent of the purchase of a bicycle for the manager, who is obliged to take almost daily, walks into the city, but for whom in the non-robust state of his health, much walking is particularly injurious. As a start has been made for this worthy object it seems a pity that it cannot be completed. The *Japan Mail* will kindly receive funds from those for whom it is more convenient than to forward to Meguro direct.

H. F. P.

THE U.S. COLONIAL POLICY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The appended article is much talked about, and lauded by the "expansionists" as an unanswerable exposition; while even those adverse to "expansion" seem ready to acknowledge that it is the strongest presentation of the "imperial" policy. To me it appears feeble and unconvincing—the talk of a theorist who is wholly ignorant of practical Oriental conditions. If it is the best argument that can be made on that side, there is mighty little logic to support President McKinley.

You may not have noticed one singular incident in the political development at Washington. The Democratic Congressmen were absolutely arrayed against the Treaty with Spain, and meant to oppose it bitterly; but Bryan—late Democratic candidate for President—suddenly appeared in Washington, and by personal exhortation brought many of them to promise acquiescence in the Treaty itself. Not that Bryan believes in adopting the Philippines. He is dead against it. But he wants the Treaty accepted, leaving the future of the Philippine question to be dealt with by Congress—an odd situation, but explicable, perhaps, on solid grounds of statesmanship. What Hoar and the other Republican antagonists of Philippine annexation will do, we have yet to see.

Yours truly,

H.

PROF. DAVIDSON FOR IMPERIALISM.

THE NOTED AUTHOR AND LECTURER REPLIES TO THE ARGUMENTS AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND PRESENTS POINTS IN ITS FAVOUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE WORLD."

Will the anti-expansionist *World* permit an expansionist to enumerate and briefly answer the leading arguments against expansion and then to present a few points in its favour?

So far as I have seen, the arguments are these:—
1. In expanding we abandon our traditional policy, laid down in Washington's Farewell Address.

Answer.—All progress means, more or less, the abandonment of tradition. Democracy itself is the abandonment of nearly all the past political traditions of the race. In a profound sense we prepare for the future by impiety to the past. Socrates, Jesus, Paul, Luther, Washington, were guilty of this impiety. Let us imitate them, firmly convinced that we understand our times and needs better than they did or could do. It is a pedantic formalism calling itself consistency, a conservative dogmatism, that clings to the letter that killeth and neglects the spirit that maketh alive. No constitutional or other formula, however logical can direct the march of human history. "Law is mighty, mightier is Need," says Goethe.

2. By expansion we entangle ourselves in foreign politics, thus jeopardizing our peace and comfort.

Ans.—This is a chimerical argument. We must not walk in the world's streets or highways for fear of getting into quarrels! We do not teach our boys this—hardly even our girls. No commercial, cosmopolitan nation can sequester itself. We are

out in the great world now, and a few towers of refuge on its broad bosom can only add to our safety. Does any one seriously think of contesting new possessions with us?

3. By assuming to govern inferior races we belie our fundamental principle that all government must be with the consent of the governed.

Ans.—At no time in our history has this principle been really carried out. When it was written down our country contained many myriads of slaves, and to-day our Indians, Alaskan, Chinese and women are governed without their consent.

4. Since our new acquisitions cannot for long become States or even Territories, they must be governed as colonies, and for such the Constitution makes no provision.

Ans.—So much the worse for the Constitution, if colonies are desirable. Since it was not, like the Koran (!), created for all eternity, let us alter it if necessary. But it is not so, as is clear from the fact that we govern Alaska now as a colony, and many regions of the United States were at one time so governed (see December *Atlantic Monthly* pp. 735-742). The Constitution is not a fetter.

5. Our civil service, thanks to the want of a sitting aristocracy, is such that we produce no men, as Great Britain does, fit to govern inferior races. Witness our troubles with negroes and Indians.

Ans.—Britain produced few such men, notwithstanding her aristocracy, till she needed them to govern colonies. It is largely to her colonies that she owes her uncorrupt civil service and her great statesmen. If our democracy fails to produce pure men, then let us either return to Britain's bosom a colony ourselves or else let us import an aristocracy. We can get plenty of English lords for the asking. It is futile to cite negroes and Indians. The people of our new acquisitions are far superior to both. The mass of the Filipinos are cousins to the Japanese and to the Javanese, who have proved such good colonists under Dutch rule. After all, England has trouble even with Ireland, and yet she can govern colonies.

6. Even if we could produce men fit to operate colonies, life in the tropics would enfeeble and demoralize them.

Ans.—The British, from whom we do not differ find no difficulty in spending large portions or even the whole of their lives in the tropics—in India, Ceylon, Central Africa, &c. And such life does not seem to demoralize them.

7. Our colonies will render necessary a large navy and standing army, entailing great expense and liable to be used in the interest of capital to defeat the just claims of labour.

Ans.—With or without colonies it is not safe for a great commercial country to be without the means of protecting its foreign markets, so liable to be endangered by the selfishness of illiberal nations. To leave to Great Britain alone the task of keeping the "open door" is neither generous nor just. On the other hand, while universal suffrage lasts labour is as likely as capital to find an ally in the army. I conclude, therefore, that there is no valid reason against expansion. In its favour the following points may be urged:

1. It affords an opportunity which we ought not to shrink of doing our part in the elevation of the lower races. If we neglect this duty we may find them, in other hands, inspired with an ideal hostile to ours. We, the freest of the nations, ought to be the missionary nation, and in dealing with other peoples we ought to consider their advantage, at least, as much as our own.

2. The expansion of our influence means so much advance toward universal peace, which can never be realized save under Anglo-Saxon influence.

3. We need colonies to widen the horizon of our people, to be schools for statesmen, to accustom us to the thought that not all men are fit for democracy and political power, as well as to the true method of dealing with those who are not. They will help to unteach the foolish notions that moral and political manhood is determined by years and that all men are born free and equal. The world of the twentieth century will perhaps be divided into teacher peoples and pupil peoples.

4. Our power to govern colonies in their interest will increase the prestige of democracy and help to remove the suspicion with which it is still regarded in many quarters. It is a sad reflection on democracy if it is inferior in governing power to aristocracy, if we cannot do what England can do.

5. Our extended sway will increase our national prestige, and security to our commerce, carry light into dark places and give us a home all the world over.

THOMAS DAVIDSON.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

H.E. Yu Keng, the ex Chinese Minister to Tokyo, has been made a member of the Tsung-li Yamèn.

The *Osaka Mainichi* reports that off Kaminoseki in Yamaguchi prefecture a junk of 144 *koku* capacity struck the bow of the steamer *Glenogle*, and rapidly sank. The occupants of the boat were picked up by the steamer and brought on to Kobe. One of the men in the boat was seriously injured in the left leg at the time of the collision.—*Hogo News*.

The Secretary of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, in a letter to *The Times*, says that the Directors of the Company are totally unaware of the ground for the unusual proceeding taken by the Board of Trade in the case of the steamship *China*. The Directors, in replying to the Board of Trade, state that the Board's action simply appears to involve a grave censure on the British Resident at Aden and also on the officers composing the Court of Enquiry and the Bombay Government which confirmed the judgment.

At the monthly meeting of the Committee of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, a letter from the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, dated the 28th December, was considered. The Singapore Chamber wished to know whether, in view of the annexation of the Philippine Islands by the United States, the Hongkong Chamber proposed to make any representation in favour of the fiscal policy for those islands under the *regime* being, as far as practicable, in the direction of Free Trade, how it intended to act, and suggested that the two Chambers should work in unison. After some discussion, it was decided to address the Foreign Office, through the local Government, on the subject, and to inform the Singapore Chamber of the steps to be taken.

The *Asahi* states an aquatic growth has recently been discovered to have caused considerable damage inside the Yokohama breakwater, while the blocks of concrete forming the outside for a distance of about 240 yards have been very much damaged by the action of waves. The officials of the Kanagawa Kencho intend to commence the work of repair as soon as milder weather sets in. The dredging works are going on very slowly. Since the opening of the Bureau of Harbour Works, an area of 120,000 *tsubo* has been dredged, out of a total area of 1,700,000 *tsubo*. In the course of the last year, only 16,000 *tsubo* were cleared.

At the Yokohama Saibancho, two Chinamen were charged, the one with theft and the other with having assisted in disposing of stolen articles. The former, Liao Chang-lung by name (age 21), living at No. 137, Settlement, was found guilty of various thefts, among which was the stealing of a lady's gown from the residence of Miss Lee, No. 127, on January 5th, and also of sundry goods from the office of Mr. P.M. Abdulla, No. 146, on the night of January 9th. He was sentenced to five months' hard labour and police surveillance for six months. Ho Teng, who helped to sell the goods, was sentenced to one month's imprisonment, a fine of 3 yen, and police surveillance for six months.

Forty friends of the Doshisha met at the Kyoto Hotel on the 22nd inst. under the presidency of Mr. Ban Naonosuke, to discuss the affairs of the Association. In consequence of the resignation of the old trustees, the following were elected to fill the vacancies:—Messrs. Ozaki Hiromichi, Ukita Kosutami, Kishimoto Nobuta, and Kawamoto Junzo. These names are now to be submitted to the American Mission Board, whose reply will be considered by the Japanese supporters of the school with every desire to cement the relations between themselves and the American Mission Board.—*Hogo News*.

GRAND HOTEL LIMITED.

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Grand Hotel, Limited, was held at the Hotel on Monday afternoon, Mr. F. J. Lowder presiding.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.
The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1898, accompany this Report.

The net profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 30th June, 1898, and after providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, interest, and depreciation, and after writing off bad debts, amounts to \$28,064.60 which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In payment of a dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year 15,000.00
Balance to new Account 13,064.60
\$28,064.60

The falling off in the amount of profit available for the payment of dividend, as compared with previous periods comprising the second half of the year, is due to the enhanced price of market produce and imported household necessaries, and more particularly to the very remarkable decrease in the number of persons visiting Japan during the half-year.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 24th day of January, when the warrants will be issued.

J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.
JAMES LOWDER, }

Yokohama, January 9th, 1899.

ASSETS.		Yen
Chartered Bank of I. A. and China ...	23,543.55	
Cash in hand	363.78	
Fire Insurance Policies	1,367.25	
Ground (Estimated Value Oct. 1897, Y. 85,000)	60,000.00	
Buildings (Estimated Value Oct. 1897, Y. 170,000)	133,557.12	
Furniture (Estimated Value, Oct. 1897, Y. 58,900)	48,836.36	
Electric Light Plant	12,000.00	
Steam Launch	6,301.14	
Wines in Stock	5,903.00	
Provisions in Stock	3,689.40	
Bills receivable	6,631.50	
	306,193.07	

LIABILITIES.		Yen.
Stock, 2,500 Shares, at \$100	250,000.00	
Debitures, 30 at \$500	15,000.00	
Bills payable	13,128.40	
	278,128.40	
Balance, Profit	28,064.60	
	306,193.07	

DR.		Yen.
To General Expenses	28,277.42	
Fire Insurance	1,447.25	
Interest	226.65	
Directors' and Auditor's Fees	1,150.00	
Bad Debts written off	146.65	
Balance, Gross Profit, Y. 28,064.60		
To be dealt with as follows:		
Dividend at the rate of yen 6 per share	Y. 15,000.00	
Carried forward to new account	Y. 28,064.60	28,064.60
	Y. 59,312.57	

CR.		Yen.
By Balance, brought forward from June 30th	6,384.08	
Working Account	51,962.73	
Rent Account	655.00	
Share Transfer Fees	5.00	
Share Warrant Fees ... ..	.50	
Sales of old Material	305.26	
	59,312.57	
By Balance	13,064.60	

E. & O. E.
Yokohama, December 31st, 1898.

J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.
JAMES WALTER, }

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

O. KEIL, Auditor.

Yokohama, January 9th, 1899.

The CHAIRMAN, commenting on the report, said—Gentlemen, I think with your permission we may as well take it that you have read the report and accounts, and that you do not want them read over again. You will notice that the liabilities under the head of debentures have been reduced from 20,000 yen to 15,000 yen. That 5,000 yen which has been paid off has been written off the furniture and electric light plant, which altogether have been reduced by that amount. You may notice also that apparently a large amount is carried forward to the new account. That may be accounted partly in one way and partly in another. We had some expenses to meet during the latter part of the last year which had to be met in the early part of the following half and for which provision had to be made. The remainder would have been allowed for depreciation in the ordinary course of things, but our assets have been written down very low indeed, and your directors could not find any assets from which they could write off any more. I regret we are not able to offer you as much dividend as we have been in the habit of doing, but that is explained by the great falling off in the passenger-traffic as compared with 1897. There was a falling off of 5,943, and of that number 3,841 are to be attributed to the last half of the year, which of course makes a great difference on the takings. A similar conclusion will be arrived at by looking at the working account and comparing it with the Working Accounts for the last half of 1896, 1897, and 1898. In 1846 it was 61,800 yen odd, in 1897 57,500 yen odd, and in 1898 51,900 yen odd. The expenses on the other hand were 25,000 yen odd in 1897, and in 1898 increased to 28,200 yen odd. That of course owing to the price of household necessaries and other things having gone up. Although we have not been able to give you so good a showing as we have done, I think, taking all the circumstances into consideration, that the half year has been very satisfactory and I can congratulate you, gentlemen, on having as large a dividend as six per cent. for the half year. If any shareholder would like to ask questions they will be answered and if the accounts are satisfactory perhaps some shareholder will move a resolution to that effect.

Mr. HOWES proposed and Mr. McDONALD seconded the adoption of the report, and it was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—And I presume the dividend proposed is also satisfactory. That is all the business before the meeting and I am obliged to you for your attendance.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Lowder and the Directors, on the proposition of Mr. McDONALD, seconded by Mr. RUSSELL.

LADIES' LAWN TENNIS CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting of the Ladies' Lawn Tennis Club was held at No. 8, Bluff on the 18th January. The following is a statement of receipts and disbursements during the past year:

THE LADIES' LAWN TENNIS CLUB IN ACCOUNT WITH THE HONORARY TREASURER.

Accounts for the Year ending 31st Dec., 1898.

Disbursements.		
Due Treasurer	4.28	
Ground rent	150.00	
Wages & Sundries	622.70	
Tennis Balls	277.83	
Stationery, &c.	18.00	
Collector's commission	32.00	
Prizes, &c.	40.50	
Repairs	114.25	
Croquet Set	30.00	
Tea & Sugar	19.90	
Balance at Bank	185.25	
Cash in hand	2.97	
	1,497.68	

Receipts.		
Balance brought forward	105.18	
Subscriptions	1,306.00	
Handicap fees	40.50	
Sale of old balls	38.00	
Gate money	8.00	
	1,497.68	

E. & O. E.
(Signed) H. Syme Thomson,
Hon. Treas. L.L.T.C.

The ballot for the new Committee resulted in the election of the following ladies, who have kindly consented to act:—President, Mrs. Thomas; Hon. Treas., Mrs. Mitchell; Hon. Sec., Mrs. Harland; Committee, Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. J. Walter.

YOKOHAMA ROWING CLUB.

The annual meeting of this Club was held on Tuesday evening at Keil's Building. Mr. H. C. Litchfield, the President, was in the chair and there was a good attendance.

THE REPORT.

The President, after remarking that the large attendance was a gratifying evidence of continued interest in the Club, read the report as follows:—

In presenting to the Members the annual report of the Club, the Committee take pleasure in being able to record a successful year.

ACCOUNTS.—These show a balance in favour of the Club of yen 837.44.

The Profits on the Bar amount to yen 778.15.

ROWING.—The interest in rowing has been well sustained at the Spring and Autumn Regattas. In the Spring the K. R. & A. C. sent up representatives as usual, but only succeeded in winning the race for pair oars; the three other events falling to the Y.A.R.C.; the Rowing Clubs of Hongkong, Shanghai, and Nagasaki were invited to take part in this regatta, but, unfortunately for us, were unable to do so. The Hongkong Victoria Recreation Club kindly invited us to take part in their Regatta in December, but it was found impossible to get a crew together, although at one time this had almost been done.

SWIMMING RACES AND AQUATIC SPORTS.

These were quite up to the average; both produced some good contests, while the latter, in addition, gave the spectators some amusement. Additional interest was lent to swimming this year by a contest—over 100 yards, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile—between representatives of our Club and of the Sui-fu-yu Otaha Dai-Nippon Yurijo of Tokyo. Our opponents won the rubber with the 100 yards (won by Mizoguchi Motomoto with a foot or so to spare) and the $\frac{1}{4}$ mile (won with ease by Mizoguchi Motoki) to their credit; while the Y. A. R. C., represented by H. V. Irvine, was successful in the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. Considering the numbers that the two Clubs had to select their representatives from, the Y. A. R. C. has no cause to be ashamed of its defeat, and it is worthy of note that the second string of our opponents finished last in all three races.

BATHING BARGE AND LANDING STAGE.—With reference to the remarks in last year's report about the Barge, it was found, on examination, that the work done by the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works in 1895 was still in good order and that the leakage was due to the state of some of the side planks. To make the Barge fit for relaunching the Committee had to expend the sum of yen 300. By the kind permission of Dr. Hoskyn, the Barge and the Landing Stage have been hauled up for the winter on the beach under the British Naval Hospital, under the supervision of Mr. Clausen. This gentleman has examined both the Barge and the Stage, and reports, with regard to the latter, that the pontoons are badly worm-eaten in places, and that some of the iron fastenings want renewing; and with regard to the former that she is in a fairly good condition, considering her age, but that the annual beaching and launching are apt to strain her unless the work is carefully done. To remedy this as much as possible, Mr. Clausen recommends that the Barge be fitted with athwart-ship beams to work on rollers.

BOATS—FOUR-OARED.—The five new boats have proved satisfactory during the past season. They gave some trouble in regard to stretchers, and the rowlocks in some cases would not carry the oars ordered last year, but this has been remedied to a great extent and, with the last consignment of oars received, the boats should suit our men very well. The old Black and White boats have been out frequently; the latter being still a great favourite. The Green appears to be quite neglected. These old boats are getting rather cranky, as may be expected after their lengthy service.

PAIR-OARED.—Three new boats built by Mr. Sim in Kobe on the lines of the K. R. & A. C. boats have been utilized during the past season. They are slightly heavier and higher rigged than the old ones. We did not have suitable oars for them, but four sets have now arrived from home and will be available for next season, when the boats should be more popular. Mr. Sim kindly built these boats for cost price, and the best thanks of the Club are due to him for the trouble he took in the matter. The old pair-oared boats are showing their age a good deal and are constantly requiring tinkering up.

DOUBLE SCULLS.—These also are always requiring repairs. The Tern does not yet steer straight, although some efforts were made to remedy that defect. The slides of both boats appear to be pretty well played out.

SIX-OARED—This boat has served the Club well for years and is still good for another year.

SCULLS, ETC.—These boats are in a fairly good state of preservation.

OARS—With new consignments of three sets of four and four sets of pairs which have not yet been used there should be plenty of good serviceable oars for the ensuing season.

PROPERTY AND HOUSE.—The water from the bath-rooms having in course of time rotted much of the woodwork (including some of the supports of the building in their neighborhood), repairs costing *yen* 190 had to be effected; this sum included the cost of lining the bath-room with sheet zinc. A proper W.C. was also fitted during the year and the Committee room was slightly enlarged. The wooden piles supporting the larger of the two slips have been replaced by concrete pillars and the slip itself extended a few feet further towards the French Harbour.

During the year under review, the Committee invited the Governor of the Ken, the Harbour Master, the Secretary of the Kencho, the Commissioner of Customs, the Chief of Police, and the Chief of the Water Police, to become Honorary Members of the Club.

With their best wishes for the continued prosperity of the Club, the committee place their resignations in the hands of the Members.

H. C. LITCHFIELD, President,
F. J. HALL, Captain.
M. SCHELLENBERG, Hon. Sec.
G. C. ALLCOCK, Hon. Treas.
W. GODDARD,
H. E. HAYWARD,
JOHN MCARTHUR, } Committee.
H. ROSE.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the Committee had added to the value of the prizes at the Regatta, which he thought was a good thing as long as the Club could afford good prizes, and this he was happy to say was the case at present.

The R-V. E. CHAMPNETS IRVINE called attention to the statement in the report that in the swimming contests "the second string of our opponents (Japanese) finished last in all three races." He believed that was not so, that in one race the Japanese were before the Yokohama competitors.

The error was amended, and the report was then adopted.

The election of officers then took place. A ballot was first taken for the Captain and President, and resulted as follows:—Captain, Mr. F. J. Hall; President, Mr. H. C. Litchfield.

The result was received with applause.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that with regard to the election of Hon. Secretary he was sorry to say the Club would lose the services of Mr. Schellenberg, who was returning to Europe, and would therefore be unable to continue the duties. Mr. Schellenberg had rendered most efficient services during his term of office, and he (the Chairman) had never known a more conscientious, cordial, and "nice" secretary, who did the work so well, or who assisted in keeping the tempers of the members better. (Laughter and applause.) He proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Schellenberg.

The vote having been accorded, Mr. SCHELLENBERG, in reply, said he thanked the Chairman most heartily for his kind words. His work had been a pleasure to him, and he should always remember the happy times he had had with the Club. He wished it every success and prosperity.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that Mr. Levedag would be willing to accept the Secretaryship, though he did not in any way wish to limit the choice of the members.

The ballot resulted as follows:—Secretary, Mr. Levedag, Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. C. Allcock.

The Committee was elected as follows:—The Rev. E. C. Irvine, Messrs. W. Goddard, H. Rose, and H. E. Hayward.

STRANGE RECORDS.

A correspondent sends us the article quoted below, and remarks:—"I think your readers will like to look at this. It sounds startling, yet there is every reason to think that it may be true, and probably is. The book of Rolf Boldrewood—one giving the history of Bully Hayes—and the remarkable reports of the new South Sea writer (Louis Becke, I believe his name is) show that this sort of thing is happening all the time. It would be a good thing if an international row should come of this particular incident:—"

(SPECIAL TO THE "SUNDAY WORLD.")

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 8, Seattle, Dec. 9. The British auxiliary ship *Mildura* has arrived in Vancouver after the most extraordinary cruise of which even the dark and bloody isles of the Pacific have ever been the witness.

In the course of less than six months she has chased a French ship over coral reefs and thus perhaps displaced the *Fashoda* incident as a subject of international ill-feeling and possible conflict.

She has rescued an island princess and scores of other women from most horrible slavery, avenged the cruel murder of a British colonial Governor, stormed a stronghold of escaped French convicts, and witnessed many scenes of bloodshed, desolation and misery.

This is the story as told by Capt. Leah, of the *Mildura*, with corroborative details furnished by the people of the Australian steamship *Miwera*, just arrived from Sydney. The facts have been collected exclusively for the *Sunday World*:—

The *Mildura* left Sydney, Australia, very suddenly six months ago, and was shortly followed out of the harbour by the French cruiser *Eure*.

The object of their cruise was accidentally learned by a Sydney reporter. It was to put down the traffic in native girls said to have been carried on by white officers of merchant ships and even of naval vessels patrolling the Pacific.

After leaving Sydney the *Mildura* steamed direct for New Hebrides and made Noumea her headquarters. The day after her arrival she was joined by the *Eure*. It was then definitely learned that the two men of war would work together in putting down the horrible traffic in native girls which was becoming so prevalent among the islands.

While at Noumea reports were received by Capt. Leah, of the *Mildura*, that scores of girls had been stolen and taken aboard French ships during the preceding three months from the island of Aoba. Together the two ships set out to investigate.

They found that the report was true, and that an awful vengeance had been wrought upon the white Governor, who, though guilty of the crimes that had maddened the natives to revolt, has been massacred.

White dealings with South Sea natives are short and sharp.

The English and French warships opened fire. The village, which had a population of about 500, was soon in flames, and the inhabitants fled to the hills.

Then the British and French tars rowed to the island and captured many natives. Among them was Chief Omoo, whose village was on the other side of the island.

The next morning this chief, with a number of his warriors, paddled to the *Mildura*.

"What have you done with Gov. Duncan?" demanded Capt. Leah.

"Where is my daughter?" retorted the chief. "Is there no punishment for white men, and for our burned villages and our young men slain?"

"I know nothing of your daughter."

"It is true," said Omoo. "Last night she was bathing with her women in the sea and they were all stolen before morning."

"Your child shall be rescued," said Capt. Leah. "They cannot have gone far. First let us hear about the murder of Gov. Duncan."

A LATE SAVAGE RETRIBUTION.

Capt. Leah says he has no doubt Duncan's murder was due to the anger of some native whose daughter had been stolen by Frenchmen.

Like many Governors of small islands, Duncan was also a trader. With a number of his wife he was trading with a chief several miles inland on Aoba, with whom he had been dealing for upward of seven years. He placed such confidence in this chief that he had on several occasions taken him on board his cutter for a cruise among the islands a privilege accorded only to natives of supposed reliability.

Duncan was in the chief's tent making some entries in a book, while the chief was sitting opposite him. Without a moment's warning the native seized a tomahawk and aimed a blow at Duncan's head.

The Governor ducked, but received the edge of the tomahawk on his forehead, cutting it to the bone. Although partly stunned, he reached for his revolver, which was lying at his side, when the chief, seizing a knife, stabbed him twice in the back. The wounds were not deep, and Duncan secured his revolver. The chief, seeing his danger, sprang like a flash for the doorway, only to receive a shot, fired point blank into his body.

Duncan's companions, at the sound of the revolver shot, rushed into the tent, only to find the

chief dead and the Governor in a dying condition. He was carried back to the coast, and had hardly told the story of the attack when he breathed his last. His death and that of the chief was followed by a general revolt, in which several whites were slain.

THE CHASE OF THE "PORT DESPOINTE."

It now remained to chase the French cutter that had taken away Chief Omoo's daughter and nineteen other girls of Aoba. An extraordinary coincidence now occurred which may lead to international complications.

After shelling Aoba, the French cruiser *Eure*, Capt. Lecuyer, steamed away to Segou, one of the stations of the French New Hebrides, to put down a revolt of escaped convicts. She left word for the *Mildura* to follow as soon as possible. It thus happened that Capt. Leah was left to chase the *Port Despointes* alone.

The little cutter was still cruising in the vicinity. The *Mildura* gave chase. The *Port Despointes* was no match for her in speed and ran in close to a small island. The *Mildura* followed at a high rate of speed and was almost within firing distance of the cutter when a horrible grinding sound told Capt. Leah he was in dangerous waters. The cruiser had run over a hidden coral reef and had, strange to say, sustained no other damage than to have two of her plates sprung.

By this time she was close upon the *Port Despointes* and a shot fired across the cutter's bow brought her to a standstill. Capt. Leah, with twenty blue jackets, immediately boarded her.

He found on board the Aobian Princess and twelve of her girl companions. He demanded their immediate release, and First Lieut. Couillard, who was in charge of the cutter, made no demur. This officer is supposed to have authorized the capture of the girls.

The Princess was found in her cabin sleeping. She is described by Capt. Leah as a beautiful girl, almost as fair in complexion as a European. When awakened she protested against leaving Lieut. Couillard, but Capt. Leah was obdurate.

Then followed a strange scene like a modern version of the story of the stolen Sabine women.

GIRLS HAD LEARNED TO LOVE THEIR CAPTORS.

The beautiful girl, clad only in a lava-lava of gaudy calico, "made in Germany," hesitated but for a moment. All savage people are accustomed to the idea of rude wooing and she was already reconciled to her captor.

With a cry of despair she threw herself at the feet of Lieut. Couillard and raised her hands to him in mute appeal.

Two tars levelled loaded guns at the Lieutenant's head, while Capt. Leah led the girl gently to the cutter's rail, where lay one of the *Mildura*'s boats. It was unnecessary. The Lieutenant made no move but watched the stirring scene with a cynical Parisian smile. A suit of old clothes was thrown over the Princess and she was lowered into the boat. Her companions, beautiful young girls, some as young as thirteen and none over twenty, were as loath to go as she, but they obediently followed, leaving their sailor lovers. They were absolutely without clothes of any kind and were from eighteen to twenty years old. The French sailors had chosen the prettiest of the native princess's followers for themselves.

Before he left the cutter Capt. Leah held an informal investigation. Lieut. Couillard made no secret of what he had done. He said it was a common practice to steal the native girls and if he suffered for such a proceeding some of his countrymen high in the French South Sea Navy might not escape. He declared that the traffic in native girls was not confined to French vessels and cited cases where British merchantmen had stolen whole boat-loads of girls.

The captives, he said, were generally effected while the girls were bathing in the sea and unprotected. They were surprised, bound and carried on board ship before the tribe knew anything about it.

When the sailors got tired of them they generally, he said, put them on the first convenient island they came to.

Hundreds of native girls, he declared, had been treated in this manner during the past year.

Capt. Leah was received with a royal welcome when he returned to Aoba, and bonfires were lighted in honour of the man who two days before had been shelling the village and killing its dusky defenders. Then, while the young girls rested to the tribe were alone unresponsive to the general rejoicing, Capt. Leah followed the *Eure* to Segou.

KITCHENER'S SCHOOL.

[Being a translation of the song that was made by a Mohammedan schoolmaster of the Bengal Infantry (some time on service at Suakin) when he heard that the Sirdar was taking money from the English to build a Madrisa for Hubshees—a college for the Sudanese.]

On Hubshees, carry your shoes in your hand and bow your head on your breast!

This is the message of Kitchener who did not break you in jest.

It was permitted to him to fulfil the long appointed years.

Reaching the end ordained of old over your dead Buis.

He stamped only before your walls, and the Tomb ye knew was dust:

He gathered up under his armpits all the swords of your trust:

He set a guard on your granaries, securing the weak from the strong:

He said:—"Go work the waterwheels that were abolished so long."

He said:—"Go safely, being abused, I have accomplished my vow."

That was the mercy of Kitchener. Cometh his madness now!

He does not desire as ye desire, nor devise as ye devise:—

He is preparing a second host—an army to make you wise.

Not at the mouth of his clean-lipped guns shall ye learn his name again,

But letter by letter, and many letters, at the mouth of his chosen men.

He has gone back to his own city, not seeking presents or bribes,

But openly asking the English for money to buy you H-kims and scribes.

Knowing that ye are forfeit by battle and have no right to live,

He begs for money to bring you learning—and all the English give

It is their treasure—it is their pleasure—thus are their hearts inclined.

For Allah created the English mad—the maddest of all mankind!

They do not consider the Meaning of Things; they consult not creed or clan.

Behold they clap the slave on the back and behold he becometh a man!

They terribly carpet the earth with dead, and before their cannon cool,

They walk unarm'd by twos and threes to call the living in school.

How is this reason (which is their reason) to judge a scholar's worth,

By casting a ball at three straight sticks and defending the same with a fourth?

But this they do (which is doubtless a spell) and other matters more strange,

Until, by the operation of years, the hearts of their scholars change;

Till these make come and go great boats or engines upon the rail;

(But always the English watch near by to prop them when they fall)

Till these make laws of their own choice and judges of their own blood;

And all the mad English obey the Judges and say that the law is good.

Certainly they were mad from of old; but I think one new thing.

That the magic whereby they work their magic—wherefrom their fortunes spring—

May be that they show all people their magic and ask no price in return.

Wherefore, since ye are bound to that magic, O Hubshees make haste and learn!

Certainly also is Kitchener mad. But one sure thing I know—

If he who broke you be minded to teach you, to his Madrisa go!

Go, and carry your shoes in your hand and bow your head on your breast,

For he who did not slay you in sport he will not teach you in jest.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

MR. AND MRS.

The difference between Mr. and Mister is curious. No one feels flattered at being accosted with a "Hi! Mister!" and no one would care to have his correspondence addressed to "Mister." So and-so. The unobtrusive "Mr." on an envelope displeases no one. Godwin, indeed, did not like to be so addressed. His daughter, Mary Shelley, writing to Leigh Hunt on one occasion,

asking him to direct to her at her father's, added: "Pray put William Godwin, Esq., since the want of that etiquette annoys him. I remember Shelley's unspeakable astonishment when the author of 'Political Justice' asked him, half reproachfully, why he addressed him 'Mr.' Godwin." But Godwin was a philosopher, and we are not all philosophers, thank goodness!

The conventional Mr. and the vulgar Mister are both contractions of the Latin "magister," a more ancient title than the "esquire" after which the son of the philosopher longed, and which has long ceased to have any significance whatever. But "magister," save its contracted form, survives only in the title of "Master" as applied to boys in the nursery and schoolroom, and in secluded rural districts to farm labourers and cottagers generally.

The answer to the question, Who is legally entitled to be addressed as "esquire"? is one which involves much legal lore. Through a natural confusion about the meaning of the term's Latin equivalent "armiger," which is properly armour-bearer, but was often interpreted as one bearing arms in a heraldic sense, it used to be said that a man who was entitled to coat armour was alone qualified to be styled "esquire." This notion is now exploded; but much confusion exists in the minds of antiquaries, and many divergent views are held, as to who can legally claim the title. In ordinary practice, however, the question has ceased to have any importance, as for years past the appellation has become a mere conventional suffix to the surname.

But despite the broad-cast use of the title, there are still honest souls who strive hard to maintain the distinction between "Mr." and "Esq.," not from any old-fashioned respect for memorial bearings—not from any knowledge, indeed, of the legal or historical side of the matter—but simply from devotion to class distinctions. This kind of thing flourishes in Suburbia. In suburban subscription-lists for churches, or chapels or charities of any kind esquires are very plentiful, indeed, while the "Mr." only appears occasionally. A like investigation will show that the bearers of this supposedly humbler designation are the local tradesmen. In Suburbia the vein of trade is entirely a matter of locality. Jones, the local grocer, is "Mr.," of course, and so are all his local colleagues; but Smith, who owns several grocery shops in town, is "Esq.," on the strength of the villa to which he returns every evening, and so far the same reason is Brown, who runs a "hotel" in a frowsy corner of Lambeth, and so are many other London going tradesmen. The local traders neither admire nor appreciate these subtle distinctions, but regard them as part of the price they pay for the business of Suburbia.

It is odd that any one should turn up his nose at the venerable and dignified title of "magister," and hanker after the mediæval "esquire," which has long been one of the most meaningless of titles; but the tribe of Godwin is very large. Troubles of this kind are no new thing. In a *Spectator* paper, written by Estace Budgett in 1711, the author, remarking that a man of sense would endeavour to keep the medium between a lop and a sloven, quotes a writer who "advises his son to appear in his habit rather above than below his fortune; and tells him that he will find a handsome suit of clothes always procures some additional respect." "I have, indeed, myself observed," adds the essayist, "that my banker ever bows lowest to me when I wear my full-bottom wig; and writes me Mr. or Esq., accordingly as he sees me dressed."

"Mrs." is also a title with a history. It is neither a graceful-looking nor a pleasant-sounding title; and one may be forgiven for wishing that the custom might be revived of using, in speech, the unabbreviated form of the word—that is, of saying "Missus" at full length, a custom which survives only in Scotland. But the tendency nowadays in every direction is towards abbreviation and condensation rather than expansion, and the ungraceful "Missis" is likely to maintain its ground.

For many years past the title has been reserved for married women, with occasional exceptions in favour of elderly spinsters, who sometimes claim a kind of brevet title to the supposedly more dignified form of address. This, however, is really a modern innovation. A hundred and sixty years ago, and earlier, Mrs. was the title of unmarried ladies, and matrons were addressed as Madam, while girls, so long as they remained of childish years, were Miss. One of the old essayists notes that no woman after reaching the known age of 21 should presume to allow herself to be called Miss, unless she could fairly prove that she was not out of her sampler.

Even very young children were sometimes dubbed "Mrs." In the parish registers of St.

Margaret's, Westminster, the burial of an infant daughter of John Milton, who died at the age of five months, is recorded as that of "Mrs. Katherine Milton," and the name is followed by a small "c" to show that a child is meant. But this was probably an exceptional use of the title. It was much more generally given to women whose childish days were past.

In those delightful love-letters which Sir Richard Steele wrote from so many coffee-houses and taverns to the lady who afterwards became his "dear Prue," he continually addresses her as "Mrs. Mary Scurlock." = Dear, lovely Mrs. Scurlock," he begins one well-known epistle; and the lady's waiting maid is spoken of more than once as "Mrs. Warren. Very indignant that good but somewhat exigent woman, Mary Scurlock, would have been had her lover addressed her otherwise; for those day "Miss," except as applied to quite young girls, was a word of very doubtful reputation. The ill-repute once connected with the title has since been transferred to the word "mistress"; and the fact the "miss" was once a term of reproach, as "mistress" is now, accounts, no doubt, both for the old custom of styling respectable unmarried women "Mrs.," and for the present pronunciation of the title.

It is doubtful when the change of custom took place, but probably it was gradual. So late as 1777, when "Humphry Clinker" was published, we find the Tabitha Bramble of that delightful book, inveterate spinster, more than once styled "Mrs.," and yet more than twenty years before Tobias added to the gaiety of nations, the heroines of Richardson's long-winded romances had been familiar to the world as Miss Clarissa Harlowe, Miss Harriet Byron, and so on. There was probably a period of some length during which the old practice died hard.

CHRIST CHURCH SUBSCRIPTION DANCES.

Mrs. G. Syme Thomson sends us for publication the following statement of accounts of the Subscription Ball and Children's Party held on the 6th and 7th January, 1899, in aid of the funds of Christ Church:—

SUBSCRIPTION BALL.		YEN.
By 402 tickets sold ... ..	...	805.00
By profit at bar ... ..	...	69.64
Total ... ..	...	874.64
By expenses ... ..	...	97.72
By balance ... ..	...	776.92
Total ... ..	...	874.64
CHILDREN'S PARTY.		YEN.
By admission ... ..	...	200.00
By profit at tea ... ..	...	34.82
By profit at stalls ... ..	...	37.62
Total ... ..	...	272.44
By expenses ... ..	...	15.00
By balance ... ..	...	257.42
Total ... ..	...	272.42
Nett result... ... ..	...	1,034.34

TELEGRAMS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

MR CHAMBERLAIN AT WOLVERHAMPTON.

London, Jan. 20.

Mr. Chamberlain, in his speech at Wolverhampton, quoted statistics against the Little Englanders, showing that commerce follows the flag. He referred to the removal of several sources of irritation with France, mentioning the Niger and the withdrawal of the French claims for the extension of the settlement of Shanghai. He added that the questions concerning Madagascar and Newfoundland might disturb friendly relations with France unless settled.

THE GORDON COLLEGE AT KHARTOUM.

At the meeting of the General Council

of Gordon College it was announced that the total fund had reached £118,119.

London, Jan. 21.

The convention signed by Lord Cromer and Sutoras Pasha, defines the limits of the Soudan; includes Wady Halfa and Suakim in an administration which is distinct from that of Egypt; excludes the Soudan from the jurisdiction of the mixed tribunals; and provides for the supreme power, being vested in the Governor-General, to be appointed by the Khedive with the consent of Great Britain.

London, Jan. 23.

The decree has been signed at Cairo appointing Gen. Lord Kitchener Governor-General of the Soudan.

The *Temps* says the Soudan convention will entail the protectorate of Egypt; and counsels France not to quarrel over the inevitable, but to seek compensation.

COUNT ESTERHAZY'S RETURN.

London, Jan. 20.

Count Esterhazy has returned to Paris.

London, Jan. 25.

The Court of Cassation has examined Col. Count Esterhazy.

TROUBLE IN SAMOA.

London, Jan. 21.

In consequence of the dispute over the Kingship of Samoa, wherein the German Consul opposes the candidate proposed by Great Britain and America, three British warships from Australia and one American, from California, have been ordered to Samoa.

London, Jan. 23.

The German Press is very reserved over the Samoan situation, while awaiting official reports.

The Washington Cabinet has decided to propose a conference to be held between America, Great Britain and Germany over the Samoan question.

THE HOOLEY CASE.

The Official Receiver reports Mr. Hooley to be guilty of fraud and misconduct.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

London, Jan. 24.

The Nicaragua Canal Bill now before the Washington Congress provides that the United States guarantee neutrality of the canal, that the cost of its construction should not exceed \$15 million dollars, and that it should be completed within six years. The Bill also requires of the President the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer, or any other treaty, interfering with the construction of the canal.

EARTHQUAKES IN GREECE.

EXTENSIVE DAMAGES IN SOUTH-WEST.

There were incessant earthquakes throughout last Sunday in Greece, the shocks being the severest in the south-west, where several towns and many villages were damaged and destroyed.

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE AT BIRMINGHAM.

London, Jan. 25.

The Duke of Devonshire, Lord President of the Council, speaking at Birmingham, said that kinship and common interests between Great Britain and the United States imposed upon them a common policy in facing the world. He also said that Great Britain's firm assertion of her rights brought her into closer relations with Germany, Italy, and perhaps even with Russia.

FOR THE BORNEO RAILWAY.

A leading financial house is despatching

to North Borneo two engineers to survey the coast between Gaution and Teumo with a view to extending the railway.

(FROM "LE COURRIER DE SAIGON.")

FRANCE THE PEACE-KEEPER

Paris, January 2.

M. Felix Faure (President), receiving the Diplomatic Corps, said that the chief desire of France at all times was to maintain peace. During the year 1898 she had shown the sincerity of her efforts and the value of her co-operation.

REINFORCEMENTS.

The *Cachar* left Marseilles on the 1st inst. for Tonkin, with 600 marine infantry.

MARITIME DISASTERS.

Paris, Jan. 3.

Serious disasters are reported along the coast of France.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Peking, Jan. 23.

About ten thousand rioters have risen near Chei-chow, in Anhui. Their disturbance is gradually increasing. Military men formerly in Government service are assisting the rioters. The Government has despatched soldiers from various provincial centres to put down the rebellion.

FRESH RIOTS.

Peking, Jan. 23.

More disturbances have occurred in Yeichow-fu, Anhui Prefecture. The new outbreaks are connected with the riots in Kwangtung Province. Soldiers from Pechili and Shantung prefectures have been despatched to the spot to repress the rebels.

KIAO CHOW RAILWAY.

Work on the Kiao-chow Railway between the Bay and Chei-nam is to be commenced next month.

THE YU-MANTZE REBELLION.

Peking, Jan. 25.

The rebels under Yu-mantze have been defeated, and have surrendered to the Government. The Rev. Father Fleury, the French Missionary, who had been captured, has been delivered up to the French Consul.

The influence of the rebels in Hunan Prefecture is increasing. They have devastated parts of two provinces.

AN ASSASSIN.

The Chinese Government has despatched an assassin to kill Mr. Kang Yu wei, who is now in Japan. His name is Ting.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	M. Jan. 30
Hongkong	M. N. Co.	Tonkin	Tu. Jan. 31
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	F. Feb. 5
America	P. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Feb. 5
Hongkong	C. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Th. Feb. 9
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	M. Feb. 13
America	T. K. E.	Nippon Maru	M. Feb. 13
Kobe	N. D. Lloyd	Hobensollen	W. Feb. 18
Hongkong	T. K. E.	Hongkong Maru	Th. Feb. 26
America	P. M. Co.	C. R. de Janeiro	Tu. Feb. 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of India	Th. Feb. 23

- 1 Left Nagasaki on the 26th inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 26th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 26th Jan.
4 Left San Francisco on the 27th Jan.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of China	F. Jan. 27
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. Jan. 28
Europe, via S'hal.	M. N. Co.	Tonkin	W. Feb. 1
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Baiko Maru	W. Feb. 1
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Feb. 4
Hongkong	C. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Feb. 6
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	W. Feb. 8
America	P. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Fa. Feb. 12
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	M. Feb. 13
Hongkong	T. K. E.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Feb. 14
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hobensollen	F. Feb. 17
America	T. K. E.	Hongkong Maru	Sa. Feb. 26

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

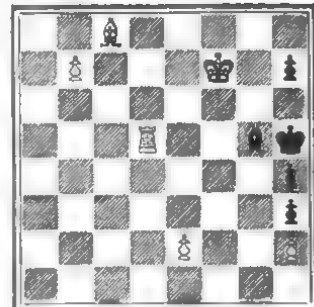
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 404.

Key-move, R to K B 2.

PROBLEM No. 407.

By OTTO WURZBURG.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 471.

THE JANOWSKY-SCHWARTZ MATCH.

THIRD GAME.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Showa ter.		Black—Janowsky.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q 4	P Q 4	25 K R-q	P K5(a)
2 P Q B 3	P R 3	26 Q x P	R R 4
3 Kt Q B 3	Kt K B 3	27 Q Kt-q	P K6(f)
4 Kt B 3	P B 4(a)	28 B K 2	R R 5
5 B K 5	B P x P	29 B K 4(x)	R x R
6 K Kt x P(b)	P K 4	30 R x R	Kt Q 6
7 Kt B 2	P Q 5	31 B x Kt	Q x R
8 Kt Q 5	P R 3	32 Kt B 2(h)	Q B 4
9 P K 4	B K R 3	33 Kt x P	Q Q 5
10 B x Kt	P x B	34 B B 4	R Q B 4
11 B Q 3	R Kt-q	35 P K R 3	R B 6
12 Castles	Kt Q 2	36 Kt B 4(i)	Q x Kt
13 P B 4	B Q 3	37 B 4	Q x B
14 B B 5	B x Kt	38 P Q 6	K Kt-q
15 K P x B	Q Kt 3	39 Q Q-q	K B 5
16 P Q Kt 4(c)	Castles	40 Q R-q	Q B 3
17 P B 5	B x P	41 Q K 7(k)	Q B 8ch
18 P x B	Kt x P	42 R R 2	Q B 8ch
19 R Kt-q	Q Q 3	43 K R-q(l)	Q B 8ch
20 B B 4	R K 5	44 K R 2	Q B 8ch
21 Kt R 3	P R 3	45 K R-q	Q B 8ch
22 R B 2	R(Q Q) Kt	46 K R 2	Q B 8ch
23 R Q B 2(d)	K Kt-q	47 Drawn game.	
24 R(B 2) K 2	K R-q		

Notes (abridged) by Emil Keman, in *The Ledger*, Philadelphia.

(a) In the first game of the match Janowsky played B to K 2. The text move is more aggressive.

(b) Preferable is Q takes P. The text move enables Black to advance the K P, and the centre Pawns become threatening.

(c) Well played. Black can not answer B takes P, for R to Kt 5, followed eventually by P to R 3, would win the Bishop. Black is pretty nearly obliged to sacrifice a piece, for if he plays Q to Q 5 or B to B 5, White, with P to B 6, obtains an overwhelming advantage in position.

(d) This move, in connection with B to Kt 2, causes loss of time. White, though a piece ahead, had by no means an easy game. Instead of B to Q B 2, White might have played B to B 4, followed by Kt to B 4. White then would be enabled to make counter demonstrations on the Queen's wing.

(e) A highly ingenious move. Black sacrifices the Q P in order to open the diagonal for his Queen.

(f) A powerful play, which threatens Kt to K 5 and Kt to Kt 6 mate. White hardly has another defense than B to K 2 attacking the Rook.

(g) Which loses the exchange. White, however, had no better play.

(h) Better was Kt to B 4. The text-move enables Black to play Q to Q 7, which should win a piece and the game. Black, however, failed to make the proper reply, and the game becomes equalized.

(i) This gives up the piece. White was obliged to adopt this play. Had he moved Kt to Kt 4 Black would have answered Q takes P, threaten-

ing R takes K ch, as well as Q takes B P, and he would have obtained the better game.

(k) The play, of course, leads in a draw, Black having a perpetual check on hand.

(l) K to Kt sq was not any better. The moves were repeated three times, after which the game was drawn.

GAME No. 472.

THE JANOWSKY-SHOWALTER MATCH,
FOURTH GAME.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Janowsky.	Black—Showalter.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3
3 B K15	Kt B3
4 P Q3	P Q3(a)
5 Kt B3	B K2(b)
6 P KR3	B Q2
7 Kt K3	Kt QR4(c)
8 B Bch	Qx8
9 Kt K3	Kt B3
10 Castles	KR3(d)
11 P Q4	Cls. QR(e)
12 P Q5	Kt QKsq
13 B K3	P R3
14 P B4	P KK4
15 P OK4	P K15
16 P xP	QxP
17 Kt Q2	R(QQ) Kt
18 QxQch	Kt xQ [q]
19 Kt B5	B QxQ(i)
20 P B5	Kt xB
21 Kt K5	R K13
22 P xP	P xP(g)
23 R(B-q)	QBxqch K Q2
24 Kt B5	B K4(h)
25 Kt B4	BxR(i)
26 Rx8	R Qsq
27 Kt K6ch	K Ksq
28 R B7	P QR4
29 R K7ch	K B-q
30 P K15	B B3
31 RxK P(h)	K K1sq
32 Kt K7ch	K R2
33 Kt B6	R KK1sq
34 Kt xKt	R B5 (i)
35 Kt B4	R xKP
36 Kt xQP	R Q5
37 RxPch	K K13
38 Kt B6(m)	Resigns.

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny, in *The Ledger*, Philadelphia.

(a) This move, though pretty generally adopted, leads to a rather slow development.

(b) P to Kt 3, followed by B to Kt 2, might have been played.

(c) In order to force the exchange of Bishops. The play is inferior, and Black loses two moves. Better, perhaps, was Castles.

(d) Loss of time. He should have moved P to Q or Castles K R.

(e) Considering White's rather obvious P to Q 5, B to Kt 3, P to B 4, etc., continuation, the Castles Q R is a very poor play. P takes P should have been played, in order to prevent the P to Q 5 move. Black then might have continued Castles K R.

(f) Much better was B to B sq, for it would have temporarily stopped the advance of the Q B P.

(g) He could not well play R takes P, on account of Kt to B 4, winning the K P; for this reason the R to Kt 3 move of Black was inferior. He should have played B to Q 2.

(h) With the intention to prevent White from Kt to B 4. The move, however, proves a failure. Instead of B to Kt 4, Black might have played P to Kt 4, followed eventually by B to Kt 4 or B to Q Kt 3.

(i) B to Q sq was better; after the text move Black's game becomes hopeless.

(k) Threatening R takes Kt, followed by Kt to Q 7 ch and K takes R.

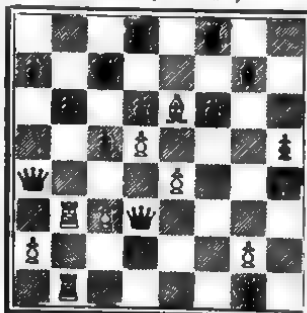
(l) Had he moved Kt takes Kt, White would have answered Kt P takes Kt, followed by P to B 7 and P to B 8 (Q), winning easily.

(m) Causes Black to surrender. He can not play R takes P, for Kt to K 7 ch and Kt takes B would follow.

END GAME.

The following delightful anecdote is contributed to the *China Mail*:—

BLACK.—(Amateur.)



WHITE.—(Mr. Blackburne.)

The above end-game, which occurred in a blindfold stance at Witney, is a very apt illustration of Mr. Blackburne's humorous treatment of such contests. This quality, combined with his preeminence as a player *sans peur*, not only makes

Mr. Blackburne's performances attractive to the onlookers, but gilds the pill which his victims must swallow. On this occasion Mr. Blackburne continued with Q to B 2, and on the next round his adversary gave his reply, as B to Q Kt sq. The sightless performer immediately called "R takes P." This was at first sight so obvious an oversight, that the teller (who was probably amused at Mr. Blackburne's way of doing things) asked for the move to be repeated. Again "R takes P" echoed through the room. A whispered colloquy around the table showed the unanimous opinion to be that Mr. Blackburne had thrown away the game; but as a last chance the teller once more called for a repeat, receiving still the same reply, "R takes P." Meanwhile the amateur had clutched the queen left on prise, the teller remonstrating. "But he can take your queen." "Can he?" said Mr. Blackburne, in a dubious kind of way. "Yes, he can," was the answer. But does he?" asked the blindfold player, as if preparing to accept the inevitable loss. "Yes, he does," was the teller's reply. "Then I mate him in three moves!" Mr. Blackburne instantly retorted. The dismay of his adversary and the peal of laughter following may be left to the imagination. The moves are 1—R to B 6 ch, K to Q—Q; 2—R takes R ch, K to K 2; 3—R to B 7 mate.

Notes.

In the course of some remarks on the influence of patrons on the vitality of chess clubs, the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"Patrons themselves should see that their patronage is used as a means of helping sound and healthy effort, organized on a democratic basis, if they wish to do lasting good and not to supplant that effort, as unfortunately is only too frequently the case. Our remarks apply in particular to the news recently received that the City of St. Petersburg is at this moment without a chess club. The St. Petersburg Chess Society had to close their doors for want of funds to meet expenses. In no part of the world was there a chess society whose patrons have so liberally endowed a club as St. Petersburg. The quintangular match, the Tschigorin-Tarrasch match, Lasker-Steinitz match, correspondence matches, and many other chess enterprises, were undertaken by the club on the most magnificent scale, but the club itself made no effort at organization on a proper democratic basis, the result being that as soon as the few patrons who sustained all this lavish expenditure, will fully or otherwise, withdrew their patronage, one of the greatest chess clubs (to all appearance) of the world had to close its doors."

The above remarks may apply to the Yokohama Chess Club, the little interest members are taking in the game hardly justifying the support given to the club by the many patrons who are yearly called upon to pay their subscriptions.

In Watertown, New York, when Pillsbury the American Champion gave the first exhibition outside of New York City, he played six games of Chess and one game of checkers without seeing the boards, and, at the same time, took a hand in a game of duplicate whist. He lost only two games of Chess, and won everything else. The next day he played in Saucra Falls, New York, six games of Chess simultaneously, in the afternoon, and ten at night, losing but one out of the sixteen.

The *B. C. M.* is rather hard on Mr. Franklin K. Young's "Grand Tactics of Chess," when it says:—"Grand Tactics" is a book that should be taken as read. On the table or shelf it can do no harm. But, at best, it must be useless to the Chess player—in *esse* or in *potest*—so far as the matter of Chess is concerned."

It has been reserved for enterprising lovers of chess in Hungary to evolve the most novel variant of the game. This game was played upon a billiard-table, and was called a "drinking" game. It appears that a billiard-table was marked off into 64 squares, and that the pieces were bottles of wine. The king was very suitably represented by a bottle of champagne, the queen by a bottle of Bordeaux, the next three pieces by various kinds of wine, and the pawns by bottles of the ordinary wine of the district. The game was played by four young men, two on each side, and whenever a piece was taken the mover had to empty the bottle of wine thus removed. The game did not last very long; in fact, by the time that the pawns had been advanced, the players were lying under the table. So far as it went, it was a noble game, and the town of Upper Hungary in which it was played is proud of the four players.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hilachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,800, C. H. Hillcutt, 20th Jan.,—London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Zantais, British steamer, 2,200, W. F. Hannah, 20th Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 19th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Bentley, British steamer, 1,481, Robt. Fairclough, 20th Jan.,—London via ports, Kobe, 19th Jan., General.—Cunnes & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 20th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 19th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, N. Ohno, 20th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, 14th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sensai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, M. J. Cunnow, 21st Jan.,—Kobe, 20th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Sakuno, 21st Jan.,—Kobe, 20th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ito Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 22nd Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 21st Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, K. Kato, 22nd Jan.,—Kobe, 21st Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,536, R. W. Horton, 22nd Jan.,—Osaka via ports, 17th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Kan (38), Japanese Cruiser, 4,227, Captain Hayasaki, 22nd Jan.,—Yokosuka, 22nd Jan.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Muramatsu, 23rd Jan.,—Hakodate, 21st Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,265, W. H. Cupe, 23rd Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 22nd Jan., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 24th Jan.,—Moji, 21st Jan., Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 24th Jan.,—Kobe, 22nd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kiukiang, British steamer, 1,240, C. F. Arnold, 24th Jan.,—Shanghai via Kobe, 22nd January, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 24th Jan.,—Shimonoseki, 21st Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 24th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, S. Yoshizawa, 25th Jan.,—Kobe, 23rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarnia, German steamer, 2,052, Eilers, 25th Jan.,—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 18th Jan., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, J. McGillivray, 25th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 23rd Jan., Mails and General.—Dudwell, Cairll & Co.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, J. Rowley, 25th Jan.,—New York via Suez Canal and way ports, Kobe, 24th Jan., General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, G. Sakuno, 25th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 24th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Pantou, 25th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 9th Jan., Mails and General.—Dudwell & Co. Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Rednorshire, British steamer, 1,880, Vyvyan, 19th Jan.,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hohenollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Waltersdorf, 20th Jan.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nachi.

Ito Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 20th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Natuna, Danish steamer, 458, Prahl, 20th Jan.,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, S. Yoshizawa, 21st Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Shimozono, 21st Jan.,—Osaka via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otari Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibaltis, 21st Jan.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,797, T. Tsumi, 21st Jan.,—Marseille, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, G. Sakano, 22nd Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sandai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, M. J. Curran, 23rd Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benladi, British steamer, 1,481, Robt. Farquhar, 24th Jan.,—Mojji via Kobe, General.—Comes & Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, W. F. Hannah, 24th Jan.,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 24th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F. W. Horton, 24th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tahsago Kan (38), Japanese Cruiser, 4,227, Captain Hayazaki, 24th Jan.,—Yokosuka.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, E. P. Bishop, 25th Jan.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, R. T. L. Cook, 25th Jan.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,265, W. H. Cope, 25th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, N. Ohno, 25th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, J. McGillivray, 25th Jan.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carll & Co.

Kluhiano, British steamer, 1,240, C. F. Arnold, 25th Jan.,—Otaru, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 25th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Y. Oda, 25th Jan.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,827, C. H. Hillcoat, 26th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Hitachi Maru**, from London via ports:—Mr. Ye Chun Young, Mr. and Mrs. Fuller, Major Kakizaki, I. J. A., Mr. S. Taniyama, Mr. A. R. Oimiston, and Mr. A. A. Vandenkolle, in cabin; Mr. T. Okubo, Mr. T. Nomura, Mr. M. Suzuki, Mr. Chung Cheh Show, Mrs. Chung Wan Pok, Mr. Ye Chung Sak, Mr. Abe, and Mrs. Hida, in second class; 3 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Satsuma Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. A. K. Rhodop, Master Washington Deubigh, Mr. Saito Umakichi, Mr. Tsuchiya Motosaku, Mr. Terada Fusataro, Mr. Fujita Masuzo, Mr. Kondo Katsunosuke, and Mr. Yawawa, Tataro, in cabin; Mr. John Makins, and Mr. John J. Calmon, in second class; 7 Japanese and 5 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **America Maru**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. Poate, Captain Housheer, Capt. Andrews, Capt. Luneschlo, Mr. T. Yatsui, Mr. Chas. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. E. Rogers, Mr. V. Mastorcy, and Mr. G. Vemier, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. G. G. Barrett, Capt. Farrell, U.S.A., Mr. A. Cohn, Miss Hoy Sam, Mr. E. Rittenhouse, Lieut. Aloe, U.S.A., Mr. H. H. Winer, Mr. R. C. Kingley, Mr. S. R. Phillips, Dr. J. J. Guisti, and Mrs. Fong Lee Shee, in cabin; Mr. J. A. Williams, Mr. H. Stephens, Mr. J. Siney, Mr. W. Doyen, Mr. W. D. Mikel, Mr. M. Ingerson, Mr. R. E. Cunningham, Mr. E. Snyder, Mr. H. Hulbert, Mr. A. C. McIlraith, Mr. L. C. Hixon, Mr. J. P. Higgins, Mr. E. F. Stanley, Mr. A. Jackson, Mr. J. Hutchinson, Mr. W. H. Hite, Mr. T. Nasou, Mr. S. Sanderson, Mr. M. J. McDonough, Mr. W. J. Aiche, Mr. C. Feis, Mr. G. S. Kidner, Mr. E. P. Siney, and Mr. H. B. Smithers, in Cabin.

Per British steamer **Glenogle**, from Hongkong via ports:—Capt. McCafferty, Mrs. Parsons, Mrs. Dobeck, and Miss Parsons, in cabin; 168 in steerage.

Per American steamer **Victoria**, from Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. F. B. Woodruff, and Miss H. Anderson, in cabin; 6 Japanese in steerage. For Shanghai:—Miss B. E. Takken, Miss G. H. Wood, Miss Maggie Johnston, Miss F. L. Morris, Miss Elsa C. Johnson, Miss Fay St. Clair, Miss Erminie Austin, and Miss Millie Mullet, in cabin. For Hongkong:—72 Chinese, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer **Hohensollern** for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Paul Schramm, Miss T. Locke, Mr. J. T. Richardson, Mr. L. Robison, Mrs. E. Voigt, Mr. and Mrs. Lohr, Mr. Th. Meyerdicks, Mr. Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Holm, Mr. A. Biffar, Mrs. Arnold, and Mr. Eugen George, in cabin; 3 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Kamakura Maru**, for London via ports:—Mr. M. W. Foster, Mr. A. K. Owen, Mr. James Woodlave, and Mr. Arnold, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hansen, and Mr. Isam. Oka, in second class; 21 Japanese, and 3 Europeans in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Satsuma Maru**, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. M. Thomson, Mr. W. O. Plant, Mr. H. G. Simmel, Mr. Geo. H. Bailey, Mr. P. A. Nicolle, Mr. A. Nicolle, and Mr. Tsui Lihuan (Chinese Legation), in cabin; Mr. Jiro Mayeshima, Mr. John Kelly and Mr. John Makins, in second class; 15 Japanese, and 7 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer **Rosetta**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. Wallace and native servant, Mr. R. K. Rhoden, Mr. A. R. Woodson, Mr. Ng Wing Ket, Mr. Chan, Mr. Pow Yui Sang, Mr. W. Waters, Mr. Evans, Mr. Whittaker, and Mr. Voder, in cabin; 4 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer **Malacca**, for London via ports:—Mr. Willner, Miss Dunsdale and daughter, Miss Mary Edis, Mr. Backhouse, and Mr. W. F. Balden, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **America Maru**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. Cohn, Mr. B. Riego de Dios, Mr. R. Rivers, Mr. W. N. Danbury, Mr. M. Annot, Mr. R. C. Kingley, Miss Hay Sam, Mrs. Fong Lee Shee, Lieut. Commander Rees, U.S.N., Mrs. Rees and son, Lord Charles Beresford and valet, Mr. Phillips, Mr. J. Wile, U.S.N., Mr. F. W. Baker, U.S.N., Mr. H. H. Winn, Mr. Z. Horikoshi, Lieut. Walter Nannemann, Mr. H. Kobayashi, Mr. G. Okada, Capt. O. W. Farenholt, Mr. R. Grey, Mrs. Barrett, Dr. J. J. Guisti, Captain Farrell, U.S.A., Lieut. Aloe, U.S.A., Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Bagnall and son, Mr. J. W. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Young, and Mr. E. E. Rittenhouse, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer **Hohensollern**:—

	RAW.	WASTE.
	Option France Austria Italy Eng'd Switz'd	
Sieber, Brenwald & Co.	103	25
Nabholz & Co.	30	—
Otto Reimers & Co.	—	16
	15	16

Total—158 bales Raw Silk; 99 bales Waste Silk.

Following were the silk shippers per T. K. K. S. S. **America Maru**, for San Francisco, Jan. 25:—

	Bales.
Bavie & Co.	177
Herbert Dent & Co.	128
Vivanti Bros.	107
Middleton & Smith	5
Kiito Kaisha	223

Total—640

Per British steamer **Rosetta**, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 231 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 75 bales.

Following were the silk shippers per P. & O. steamer **Rosetta**, for Europe, Jan. 25:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	26
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	43
Siber, Brenwald & Co.	59
Dell'Oro & Co.	87
China and Japan Trading Co.	14

Total—231

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

The Manchester market is "way-up," and things are rosier for Yokohama importers than even the most sanguine imagined. Business is reported in grey shirtings, but yarns show no improvement. For fancy cottons and woollens there is little demand, dealers being slow to respond to the higher prices required by importers.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirtings—8½ yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.35 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—4½ yds, 38 yds, 45 inches	2.85 to 3.35
1. Cloth—7½ yds, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.80 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.60 to 2.30
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 30 inches	0.14 to 0.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.28 to 0.40
Menssling do/Lino—Cray, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.13 to 0.24
Cloths—Pilots, 51 yds, 36 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—President, 51 yds, 36 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 yds, 36 inches	0.40 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5½, per lb	0.55 to 0.67½
Velvets—Black, 33 yds, 24 inches	7.50 to 8.98
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 inches	0.60 to 1.30
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0½, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.40 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.0 to 4½, 24 yds, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
No. 16, 24, Singles	\$34.50 to 36.50
No. 28, 32, Singles	Nominal
No. 38, 42, Singles	48.00 to 44.00
No. 32, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
No. 42, Doubles	41.50 to 45.50
No. 2, 60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
No. 2, 80, Plain	70.00 to 77.00
No. 2, 100, Plain	97.00 to 99.00
No. 2, 60, Gassed	70.00 to 75.00
No. 2, 80, Gassed	84.50 to 90.00
No. 2, 100, Gassed	112.00 to 115.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
Americas Middling	\$18.50 to —
Indian Branch	18.75 —
Chinese	18.25 —

MARKETS.

No transactions of importance are noted, business being checked by the high prices prevailing in the home markets.

	PER POUND.
Round and square ½ inch. and upward	4.00 to 4.35
Iron Plates, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Sheet Iron	5.00 to 5.20
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.75 to 7.50
Wire Nails, assorted	0.95 to 1.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.20 to 6.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.80 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (1 to 1½ inch)	5.00 to 5.25

KNOSHER.

	PER POUND.
The market is unchanged.	
American	\$2.00 to 2.10
Russian	2.00
Langkat	1.09 to 2.10

SUGAR.

Values are slightly easier; for Manilas the price is 25 ¹⁰⁰ lower. The market for white, refined is quiet and unchanged.

	PER POUND.
Brown Taked	Nominal
Brown Manila	\$5.30 to 6.55
Brown Dailong	4.20 to 4.25
Brown Canton	3.90 to 5.75
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 6.80
White Refined	7.75 to 9.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market has continued very active, stocks being rapidly reduced. Filatures, coarse size, have advanced 30 yen per picul.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Katra, Fine	\$980 to 990
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	980 to 990
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	920 to 930
Re-reels—No. 1½	900 to 910
Re-reels—No. 2	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 3	Nominal
Kakadas—Extra	900
Kakadas—No. 1	870
Kakadas—No. 1½	870
Kakadas—No. 2	840
Kakadas—No. 2½	840

WASTE SILK.

The market is still very quiet, holders in face of the large business doing in raw silk being unwilling to part with their stocks at present prices.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER POUND.
Noshi—Filature, Best	\$110 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 117
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	67½ to 72½
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 67½
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 150
Noshi—Bushu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshu, Good	55 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	50 to 55
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filature, Seconda	80 to 85
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 25

TEA.

The market is very quiet. The few on hand offer

are firmly held. The total settlements up to date are 207,721 against 213,912 last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	} Nominal no stock
Choice	
Finest	
Fine	
Good Medium	
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	23 to 24
Common	21 to 22
	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 26th.

Silver from London $\frac{1}{2}$ lower and China sterling unaltered without affecting rates, quotations being somewhat irregular for the mail per S.S. *Empress of China*.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2
— Bills on demand ...	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 4 months' sight ...	2/1
— Private 4 months' sight ...	2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2
— 6 months' sight ...	2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2
On Paris—Bank sight	259 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 60
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ...	264 to 5
On America—Bank Bills on demand ...	49 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 50
— Private 4 months' sight ...	51 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.10
— Private 4 months' sight ...	2.24 to 15
On Hongkong—Bank sight	48 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 10
— Private 10 days' sight ...	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 10
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75 $\frac{1}{2}$
— Private 10 days' sight ...	77 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 77
On India—Bank sight	159
— Private 30 days' sight ...	156
Bar Silver (London)	27 $\frac{1}{2}$

[Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, January 26th.

Iron Works have buyers at yen 217.50. Japan Brewery old shares can be had at yen 320 and new shares cum yen 40 paid up at yen 130. Grand Hotels we quote steady with probable buyers at yen 225. Club Hotels are obtainable at yen 100. Offers for Nagasaki Hotels are wanted. Oriental Hotels are offering at yen 105. Offers for Founders' shares are invited. Bratts have buyers at yen 9 and sellers at 50 yen over that price. North & Roes are in demand at yen 200. A few Langfeldts are procurable at yen 235. Japan Brewery Debentures can be secured at yen 108 and Oriental Hotel Debentures at yen 110 ex interest as usual.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd. \$50 ...	207.50 So.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. \$500, Old	320 So.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 40 paid up. ...	130 So.
Grand Hotel, Ltd. \$100	225 So.
Club Hotel, Ltd. \$100	100 So.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. \$100	105 So.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Ydro.) \$100	105 N.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd. yen 100	105 So.
North and Roes, Ltd. \$100	200 So.
Bratt & Co., Ltd. \$100	9 So.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd. \$100	235 So.
Illgo Uen Co., Ltd. \$100	170 So.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 5% Deb. \$100	130 So.
Kobe Club 6% Deb. \$50	50 So.
Yokohama United Club 5% Deb. \$100	100 N.
Bratt & Co. Ltd. 5% Deb. \$100	100 So.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 5% Deb. \$100	120 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 5% Deb. \$100	120 N.

Reserve Fund.—1, yen 10,000; 2, yen 3,000 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property; 3, yen 17,770-80; 4, yen 10,208.44.

N.B.—S. Sellers, B. Buyers, So. Sales, St.—Steady; N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Enquiries.

960



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YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 21ST, 1899.

月三十五年二十治明

Vol. XXXI.

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	49
Lord Charles Bessford	51
Lord Charles Bessford and the Japanese Press	51
Government Purchases of Public Bonds	51
The Weather	52
Colonel Arisaka	52
New Japan-China Bank	52
Japanese Chamber of Commerce and the Quadruple Union	52
The Financial Deficit	52
An Arrested Conflagration	52
The United States Military Expansion	52
New Anglo-Japanese Bank	52
Partial Accident	52
The Streets of Tokyo	52
Mr. Maenijima and the Tokyo Municipality	52
Japanese Silk Fabrics and the French Government	52
Political Outrages in the North	52
The Formosa Railway	52
Railway Fares	52
The Preliminary Examination of Suspects in Japan	52
Newspapers' Troubles	52
Wedding in Tokyo	52
This Year's Addition to the Japanese Navy	52
The late Princess Sada	52
Devotion to the Emperor, Kinno	52
Leading Articles:—	
Standard	56
Kobe and the Revised Treaties	56
Russia in Eastern Asia	56
Foreign Trade of Japan	56
Interpreters in Courts of Law	56
Translation of the Tariff	56
The unlovely "Kinshu Maru"	56
Spirit of the Veraciter Press	56
Imperial Diet	56
Fatal Fire at a Mission House	56
The Collision near Kobe	56
Fatal Accident at the Japan Brewery	56
Foreign Auctioneer and a Japanese Buyer	56
Devotion to the Emperor, Kinno	56
Correspondence:—	
The Religious Aspects of the Single Tax	56
The Doshisha	56
A Correction	56
The "Glenavon's" Sale	56
A Contrast	56
Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce	56
The Hooksett	56
Chinese Matters	56
Not near Nin-jo	56
The Collision in Moji Harbour	56
News of the Week	56
The Literary Society	56
International Convention for the Protection of Copyright	56
German Notes	56
The Philippine Crisis	56
Telegrams	56
Chow	56
Latest Shipping	56
Latest Commercial	56

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 21ST, 1899.

DEATHS.

At Baleskin, near Ruyers, Liverpool, KATHERINE BURTON, aged 75; dearly beloved wife of the late John Hill Burton, LL.D., D.C.L. Oxon, &c., and eldest daughter of Professor Cosmo Innes.

At Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A., on December 9, 1898, KATHERINE LYRA, beloved wife of William Elliott Griffin, Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Christ, Ithaca.

MARRIAGE.

On Wednesday, January 18th, 1899, at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Tokyo, by the Rev. Father Edward, EDITH LUCY, daughter of Dr. EDWARD DIVERS, F.R.S., Professor in the Imperial University, Tokyo, to Captain VICOMTE DE LABRY, Military Attaché to the French Legation, Tokyo.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE plague has re-appeared at Calcutta.

PRINCESS SADA was buried with full honours on Tuesday.

THE weather has been bitterly cold this week.

In Yokohama skating has been indulged in after sundown.

THE Toyo Kisen Kaisha will declare a dividend of 4 per cent.

THE death is announced of Mr. Dingley, author of the Dingley Tariff.

OWING to successful experiments, France is building six submarine torpedo boats.

HRER JUNKER's second grand choral and orchestral concert is arranged for Monday, the 30th inst.

MR. CHOATE, the well-known lawyer, is the new American Ambassador to the Court of St. James.

THE debates in the America Senate on the Philippines are revealing strong Anti-German feeling.

THE certificate of Capt. Pithie, master of the lost steamer *Glenavon*, has been suspended for a year.

A PROTEST meeting of Britishers at Johannesburg, at which many Boers were present, ended in a free fight.

COLONEL NIENSTADT, for some time in the Korean service as a drill-instructor, died in Kobe this week.

THE Tokyo Fire Insurance Company at its general meeting declared a dividend of 14 per cent. per annum.

On the 13th Mr. Furusawa was appointed Governor of Yamaguchi prefecture and Mr. Mizobe Governor of Tochigi.

A TERRIFIC gale swept over England on Thursday. Immense damage was done and telegraphic communication is interrupted.

THE Russian Minister in Tokyo has intimated to the Japanese Authorities that Mr. Rusopoff has been appointed an *attaché* of the Legation.

VICOMTE DE LABRY, military *attaché* of the French Legation, was married to Miss Divers in the Roman Catholic Cathedral, on Wednesday.

THE *Amagi Kan* collided with the Pacific Mail steamer *City of Peking* in the Kii Channel last Monday morning, but fortunately little damage was done.

THE Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club defeated a team sent from two P. & O. steamers this week, in association football, by nine goals to nothing.

By the collapse of some excavated work at the Japan Brewery, Yokohama, last Saturday, one coolie was fatally injured and others received severe cuts and bruises.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha has decided to declare a dividend of 6 per cent. per annum. The general meeting is to be held on the 23rd inst. at the Osaka Hotel.

THE Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Company is to hold its general meeting on the 11th proximo. A dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum will be declared.

WORK on the Seoul-Jinsen Railway has, it is announced, been already taken over by Japanese. Its construction is expected to be completed by September this year.

AN American commission sails for the Philippines at the beginning of February, and will remain for an indefinite period as general advisory board to President McKinley.

FROM telegrams appearing in Shanghai papers, it appears that Aguinaldo is growing restive, declining to acknowledge American authority and calling upon the Filipinos to "strike for liberty."

clining to acknowledge American authority and calling upon the Filipinos to "strike for liberty."

LORD CHARLES BESSFORD is to be entertained at the Imperial Hotel on Saturday by the Oriental Association. He dines with the British residents of Yokohama on Monday evening.

IT is reported that a Bill regarding the Hokkaido Bank will shortly be introduced into the Diet. The capital of the Bank is to be yen 3,000,000, one million to be provided by Government.

On the 11th inst., Mr. Kumai, manager, and Messrs. Katayama and Shimizu, clerks of the Tokyo Abattoir Company, and Mr. Kurokawa Namai, veterinary surgeon of the metropolitan police station, were arrested on a charge of embezzling trust money.

A FORMOSA despatch of the 12th reports that at Kwanteibyo, in Tainan prefecture, 4 cases of plague appeared on the 7th and one case on the 9th inst. In another city in the same prefecture several cases have appeared, and two persons have died.

A MARINE Court of Inquiry held at Nagasaki has exonerated the master and crew of the P. & O. steamer *Brindisi* from all blame in connection with the recent disaster at Moji, when the *Yayoi Maru* ran into the P. & O. steamer.

AT a crowded meeting of the Anti-Bounty League held in London, at which all the sugar-producing colonies were represented, a resolution was adopted requesting the Government immediately to conclude a convention with Germany, Austria, Belgium, and Holland, abolishing the bounties on sugar.

AT a meeting on the 14th the Ministers of State decided, in order to make up the deficiency of revenue, to increase the duty on houses, tobacco, and *shoyu*. Bills in this sense are to be introduced within a few days into the House of Representatives. The Ministers previous to their meeting held a consultation with Messrs. Hayashi and Hoshi, and were assured of their support.

A SOUL correspondent reports that the citizens have contributed about yen 20,000 in support of Mr. Pak Yongho. The movement was, however, vetoed by Imperial Ordinance. Recently His Majesty sent a lengthy telegram to the Russian Czar, but details can not be ascertained. Since the dispersal of the People's Party, troops have been guarding the capital, and it is rumoured that fresh disturbances are likely to arise. The harbour construction at Mokpo is to be commenced shortly, at an expenditure estimated at about yen 100,000. In the vicinity of the capital, robbers are carrying on depredations day and night.

THE extraordinary and disappointing slackness in the import market continues; grey shirtings and yarns are neglected, and there is only a small demand for Turkey Reds and Woollem Italians. In metals fairly large transactions are noted in galvanized iron sheets, and some contracts are reported in bars, iron plates, American wire nails, and tin plates. The kerosene market is steady at a slight decline for American and Russian petroleum. China sugars are dearer; Manilla show decline. The market for white refined indicates a downward tendency. As to exports, in raw silk there has been a large business doing, both with Europe and America. The waste silk market is quiet, with an upward tendency. In tea the only demand is for medium to common grades, and the season may be regarded as virtually closed.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

Saturday, Jan. 14.

The coming of Lord Charles Beresford is anticipated with considerable enthusiasm by the vernacular press. There will, of course, be numerous entertainments offered to his lordship, though the fact that he is coming in a private capacity will prevent the Government from taking any official steps to welcome him. Some Japanese publicists refuse to believe that Lord Charles' mission is primarily connected with commerce. They are disposed to think that the commercial aspect is only ostensible, and that he holds a commission from the Foreign Office in London to ascertain the drift of British opinion in the Far East, and possibly to influence it. Others, however, take the more rational view that the soundest basis on which any union for preserving the integrity of China can rest is a commercial basis, and that Lord Charles really aims at finding such a basis. The *Yomiuri*, which is a strong and persistent advocate of the quadruple alliance—Germany, America, Japan and England—thinks that the presence of Lord Charles in Japan will be a unique opportunity for consummating that project, and remarks, shrewdly enough, that what Lord Charles will desire far more than any display of hospitality is to obtain a clear exposition of the views held by Japanese statesmen and the trend of Japanese public opinion. The *Nippon* makes a similar point. It speaks of his lordship's coming as the advent of rain-clouds in a time of drought, but fears that he may be disappointed if he expects to find the Japanese people well informed about foreign politics, or Japanese statesmen provided with any hard-and-fast policy. It is quite plain, however, that the Japanese attach much importance to the visit of his lordship, and that his words will be listened to with profound interest. After all, he may be said to be the first British statesman who has come to Japan under circumstances enabling him to speak freely. Mr. Curzon, on both occasions of his coming, confined himself strictly to investigations, and, moreover, had not yet become a prominent figure in British politics. Earl Spencer came and went as the most ordinary private individual might have done, so far as concerned political questions. But Lord Charles Beresford is avowedly on a species of political tour. It is as though the British communities in Japan and China were now, for the first time, brought directly within the circle of home politics, and invited to listen to the views of one of their country's statesmen and to make him the repository of their own views. Japanese officials may not conveniently make any signal display in connexion with the event. Lord Charles can not be dissociated from his very frank utterances in China, and Japan will naturally be careful not to take any steps which might be construed as a governmental endorsement of his words. But there will be opportunities to give his lordship a clear insight into the policy of this country, and we are persuaded that they will be utilized.

Monday, Jan. 16.

Lord Charles Beresford was entertained at luncheon by the merchants of Osaka on the 14th instant, covers were laid for 130, and the Governor of the City was among the

guests. According to telegraphic reports, Lord Charles said that the object of his coming was to study the state of affairs in Japan with a view to future action. From various points of view he found a great resemblance between Japan and England. In both countries the population was large in proportion to the superficies, and there seemed to be little doubt that Japan, like England, would by-and-by devote herself to commerce and industry, becoming dependent upon foreign lands for her supply of food stuffs. Like England, too, Japan would find her population growing beyond the limits of sustenance, and would be driven to seek new outlets in colonial expansion. It might be safely predicted that commerce and industry would ultimately become the pillars of the Japanese Empire. He believed that the mission of Japan, England, and America was to promote the growth of the world's commerce and industry. The alliance that he advocated was based on these considerations, not on military or diplomatic objects. The great aim of Japan should be to develop her trade and manufactures.

Tuesday, Jan. 17.

It may be presumed that every Englishman in the Far East has followed Lord Charles Beresford in the newspapers from point to point of his tour, and has perused all his speeches carefully—excellent speeches they are too, straightforward, comprehensive, and eminently comprehensible. But it may also be presumed that very few of these interested observers and readers have arrived at a clear understanding of Lord Charles' object. A commercial union between the four Powers, America, Germany, Japan, and England, is the definite declaration of his lordship. But what is a commercial union? In the ordinary sense of the term it means a combination of States for the mutual promotion and expansion of trade under special conditions—tariff conditions, for example. But that is not what Lord Charles Beresford means. He does not suggest that the United States should modify its tariff in favour of England, Japan and Germany, or that the whole four should surround their common field of commerce with a cordon for excluding foreign competitors. The purposes of the commercial union contemplated by him are two: first, to keep the trade of China open to all the world, and secondly to preserve the integrity of the Chinese empire. How is that to be accomplished? How is the union to achieve those purposes? There is only one way, though Lord Charles prudently avoids putting it into explicit language. It is that the four Powers should enter into a compact to combine their naval and military forces against any State attempting to encroach upon Chinese territory, or seeking to impose restrictions upon freedom of trade by foreign nations in the Chinese empire. We may call that a "commercial union" if we want to deal in euphemism, but it is something more, much more, than a commercial union, especially when there stands already in the arena a great Power which is busily engaged not only in assimilating Chinese territory but also in imposing restrictions upon freedom of foreign trade in the Chinese empire. Russia is doing both of those things. Indeed she may be said to have accomplished the first on a vast scale by virtually absorbing Manchuria, and the second to a more limited though even less

equivocal extent, by closing the Liaotung peninsula to all nations, by vetoing British railway enterprise eastward of Shan-hai-kwan, and by asserting exemption from the customs dues which all other nations have to pay. So, then, the members of the "commercial union" would have to say to Russia, "Step back and hands off!" We may as well understand the thing clearly. It is a practical plan that could not fail, since Russia's obedience to a behest backed by such force may be taken for granted. Therefore we must all applaud Lord Charles Beresford's wisdom when he predicts that such a union would make for the maintenance of peace as surely as did the celebrated *Dreidand* in Europe. It is, indeed, the only peaceful solution of the problem. But we miss one factor in the arrangement. Where does China come in? Why should not China be a party to a compact for the preservation of her own integrity? Her exclusion from the combination is singular. One of the great difficulties of the situation is China's extraordinarily invertebrate and pusillanimous conduct. She does whatever she is asked to do; bows to every menace; concedes every demand. If she is to be perpetually thrusting her neck under Russia's feet while the Four Powers labour to hold her erect, the task of the Union will not be as light as it might be. Of course Lord Charles Beresford sees this as plainly as any one else can see it. We suggest that he should openly add China to the Union, for if her great potentialities of defence are not to be utilized, her capacities for mischief must be checked at all events.

Fate draws strange events from its lottery. Only four years have elapsed since a combination of Western States drove Japan out of Liaotung and Manchuria. It looks as if she herself might now become one of a combination of States to rescue Manchuria and Liaotung from the leader of the Powers that then coerced her. We have often thought that she was fortune's favourite.

Friday, Jan. 20.

It is understood to be the wish of Lord Charles Beresford that the reception planned for Monday next in Yokohama should have a cosmopolitan character. In fact, when his lordship accepted the invitation addressed to him by the local branch of the China Association, which is a cosmopolitan body, he doubtless did so on the assumption that the affair would not be confined to British subjects. Lord Charles' mission is not to British subjects. Neither his visit nor his speeches, great as has been the attention attracted by both, were necessary to rouse British subjects in the Far East to the fact that some resolute policy is necessary if they are to be secured in the enjoyment of the trade privileges which their country has won for them at no small cost of blood and treasure. The object his lordship evidently has in view is to create a sense of that necessity among the other nationalities whose interests are threatened, and, above all, to obtain some tangible evidence that such a sense exists? Hence if British subjects are anxious to cooperate with him and to further his purpose—as they undoubtedly are—their obvious plan is to take the initiative in organizing a reception which shall include all nationalities. It may be taken for granted that this view of the question presented itself from the outset to the British promoters

of next Monday's demonstration; but they were probably deterred from giving effect to the wider scheme, first, by the idea that their welcome to Lord Charles must take the form of a dinner, and, secondly, by the impossibility of finding any place in Yokohama capable of accommodating more than 150 people at dinner. It does not appear at all necessary, however, that a dinner should be given. A meeting is all that is required, and there should be no special difficulty, even at this eleventh hour, in changing the character of the demonstration in the former sense. Three days amply suffice to publish notices that, in deference to Lord Charles Beresford's wishes, a reception will be held at the Public Hall in lieu of a dinner at the Oriental Hotel, and that the presence of all nationalities is invited. Arrangements for refreshments can easily be made if desirable. In fact, the dinner preparations, which have probably been already carried some way towards completion, might be utilized for the new purpose. That is a trifling matter, however. The sole point of importance is to adopt whatever course seems best calculated to serve Lord Charles Beresford's purpose. In connexion with this we venture to add another suggestion. It is that the purpose of the meeting should not be limited to presenting an address from the community and hearing a speech from Lord Charles, but that a resolution should be proposed and passed of such a nature as to strengthen the policy which his lordship advocates. There has been time enough to arrive at a perfectly clear idea of the course recommended by our visitor, and if we sympathise with that course, we should endeavour to assist Lord Charles in urging it for the approval of the Home Government. Some explicit declaration of public opinion in Japan is the most effective weapon we could place in his hands, and the opportunity to furnish that weapon would be a meeting of the kind alluded to above, and a resolution unanimously adopted at the meeting.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

Lord Charles Beresford is not to be regarded merely as a commercial delegate. We shall not be greatly mistaken if we consider him also in the light of a representative of British official opinion. It is our hope, therefore, that his coming will be made the occasion for something more than mere superficial civilities. He will have an opportunity of observing the real state of our trade and industry, the condition of our military and naval preparations, the degree of our national capacity, the position we hold and the prospects before us, and he will thus obtain materials for submitting a really useful statement to his own Government. It is quite unnecessary now to offer any demonstration of the fact that England and Japan have common interests in the Far East. Public opinion is already agreed as to that. Hence the two countries ought to march abreast, and it is owing to the latter conviction that so many publicists have been induced to advocate an alliance between them. An alliance is very easy to talk about, but very difficult to carry into practice. We may compare it to a marriage in private life. The bride and bridegroom are perfectly willing, but questions of settlements have to be discussed, and the views of

relatives have to be reconciled. In England there are men opposed to any scheme of alliance, and in Japan also there are persons that entertain the same notion. We should be in error if we imagined that anything like a formal alliance exists, but we should be equally in error, perhaps, if we denied the existence of any secret understanding. Such matters must be left to the management of those whose official duty it is to deal with them. It is not wise for outsiders to talk much. Apart from their want of intimate knowledge, their indiscretion is apt to arouse the suspicion and ill-feeling of other nations. Leaving on one side, then, the question of an actual alliance, we may confine ourselves to the statement that, looking at the relations which now exist between the two countries, estimating the probable course of future events, and having regard to community of interests in the Far East, an occasion may arise when it will be essential that England and Japan should move together. From that point of view, constantly increasing intimacy between the two nations is to be desired, and in order that they may be drawn close together, nothing is more important than that they should have accurate knowledge of one another's conditions. Hence it is that we regard the coming of Lord Charles Beresford with special satisfaction, and trust that every means will be afforded to him for obtaining a clear insight into the state of affairs in Japan. It is our earnest hope that through his agency the peoples of England and Japan may become better known to each other and may be drawn closer together.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

The state of affairs in the East is disquieting. For our own part, we do not advocate any definite alliance, whether between Russia and Japan, or between England and Japan, or between England, America, Germany, and Japan. But in our humble opinion England's interests in the Far East, especially in China, are almost identical with the interests of Japan. Thus the leaders of thought in both countries are agreed that the integrity of China should be preserved, and that her commerce should be thrown open to the whole world, and upon that conviction they base the policy that should be adopted towards her. Hence the coming of Lord Charles Beresford is an excellent opportunity for the people of Japan to disclose their views, and to discuss the future of the Far East. We trust that the welcome given to him will be hearty and general.—*Shogyō Shimpō*.

The disposition to welcome Lord Charles Beresford is very commendable. But it must not be confined to mere ceremonial and display, as was the case when receiving Sir Edward Reed and General Grant. His lordship visits Japan not to look at her pretty scenery, or to examine her works of art, or to investigate her customs, or to taste her viands. His object is to obtain materials for forming a just estimate of her national condition such as may serve as a solid basis for the policy which he advocates, namely, an alliance between England and Japan. Therefore in welcoming him we must make no mistake about his real purpose. He is a very different person from the poet Arnold, and should be treated differently. We must open our hearts to him, and show him, not the forms of conventional

courtesy, but the sentiments that really animate us.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

Lord Charles Beresford is a most distinguished Englishman. (Here follows an epitome of his lordship's career.) If we rejoice at his coming and welcome him heartily, it is not merely because he holds such a prominent position as an officer, or because he was the author of the Bill for increasing the British Navy, but because he stands forth as the advocate of the policy which we advocate, an Anglo-Japanese alliance. Lord Charles preaches the doctrine of an association of the four Powers—England, America, Germany, and Japan, and, since his views include ours, his arrival in Japan affords us lively satisfaction. If the plain truth be told, the Japanese are in favour of an Anglo-Japanese alliance. Therefore when we welcome the representative of a quadruple union, the dual union is always in our thoughts. National affairs, above all a nation's foreign affairs, know no distinction of political parties. We must receive Lord Charles Beresford as a united people and show him our feelings as a united nation.—*Kokumin Shimbun*.

GOVERNMENT PURCHASES OF PUBLIC BONDS.

Up to 1896 only one method of redeeming public loan bonds existed in Japan: the bonds to be redeemed were determined by lot, and the Treasury handed their full face value to their holders. But in 1896 a law was enacted, empowering the Government to purchase bonds in the open market, according to the convenience of the Treasury; in other words, to redeem them at their market prices. Since that law went into operation, the Treasury's purchases of various kinds of public bonds—irrespective of the special purchases made by the Bank of Japan last year—have aggregated 19,987,700 yen in face value, and the price paid for them was 18,479,031 yen, so that the net result of the process has been a gain of 719,668 yen to the State. It appears from these figures that the Treasury's purchases were made at an average of 96½. We may observe, *en passant*, that the substitution of the method of purchase in the open market for redemption at face value, though certainly profitable to the State, is in fact a removal of one of the buttresses that helped to sustain the market price of these securities. The possibility of a certain quantity's being redeemed at any time at par must have exercised more or less effect upon the price.

THE WEATHER.

The weather has behaved in a most orthodox manner this year. On the 5th instant the season of great cold (*Kan*) set in, according to the almanack, and the reality has agreed most accurately with the theory. In Tokyo and Yokohama bitter cold has been with us ever since, and from all parts of the country come reports of a winter such as has not been experienced for years. In Nagano the snow has been deep enough to stop the running of the trains, and Hiroasaki, Yamagata, Fukui, Yokkaichi, Matsuyae, and so on have been visited by snow-storms of extreme violence. The period of *Kan* lasts for thirty days, coming to an end on February 3rd.

COLONEL ARISAKA.

It would appear that Colonel Arisaka's visit to Europe is not to procure machinery for the manufacture of his new quick-firing field-pieces in Japan, but to superintend their manufacture in Europe. The Colonel is the object of warm eulogies by the Tokyo press. He had been employed for many years—ever since 1880, in fact—on the coast-defences, and had done highly meritorious work in that branch, before he turned his attention to armament improvements. In the latter field his first signal achievement was a conversion of the Murata magazine rifle. He reduced the capacity of the magazine from ten cartridges to five, but he simplified the mechanism enormously, greatly lessened the weight of the weapon, and otherwise modified it so as to increase the muzzle velocity, flatten the trajectory, and signalily improve the accuracy. His new-pattern Murata was sealed in 1897, and is believed to be a splendid weapon. Now he comes again to the front with his rapid-firing field-piece, for which high merits are claimed. Side by side with Colonel Arisaka's exploits as an inventor, reference is made to Mr. Shimose's smokeless powder. As to the nature of this we know nothing. When the discovery was announced in 1897, and when one of the Shinagawa forts was assigned to Mr. Shimose by the War Department for the purpose of manufacturing his powder, we could do no more than announce the bare facts. Smokeless powder is nothing new, of course. A variety of it has long been manufactured in China, and, so far as the public knew, the powder made in Japan was similar to that which the Chinese had been taught to make; that is to say, not a really smokeless powder, but only a comparatively smokeless. The difference is very important, for the process of manufacturing the nitroglycerine smokeless powder requires special training and special machinery. Mr. Shimose's powder is supposed to be absolutely smokeless, but the method of manufacturing it is kept a profound secret. The *Yomiuri Shinbun* classes the inventive success of Mr. Shimose and Colonel Arisaka with the discoveries of Dr. Kitasato in the bacteriological field, and welcomes them as an earnest that there is no truth in the criticism once uttered that the Japanese race was "imitative but not original."

NEW JAPAN-CHINA BANK.

We read in the *Shogyo Shimpō* that it has been definitely decided to establish a new Bank called the Nis-shin Ginko, or Japan-China Bank, in order to improve the commercial facilities between the two countries. The Bank will have its head office in Kobe, and will establish agencies at Fusan, Jinsen, Newchwang, Tientsin, Chefoo, Shanghai, Foochow, Hongkong and Amoy. Our contemporary adds some interesting figures to show the development of trade between the two empires during the past six years:—

TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

	Imports to Japan.	Exports from Japan.	Total.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
1893.....	23,403,294	25,364,046	48,767,340
1894.....	25,013,468	26,511,224	51,524,692
1895.....	27,497,912	31,063,333	58,561,245
1896.....	32,789,744	30,478,208	63,268,042
1897.....	46,715,359	41,293,043	88,008,402
1898.....	55,061,607	40,378,741	95,440,348

JAPANESE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND THE QUADRUPLE UNION.

We shall be very curious to see whether Mr. Hamaoka, the Chairman of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce, will carry out the pledge he has given to Lord Charles Beresford. When addressing the citizens of Kyoto who had assembled to welcome him in the city hall, Lord Charles said that the most agreeable *souvenir* he could carry home would be an assurance that his project of a triple union had received the endorsement of the Japanese Chambers of Commerce. We observe, *en passant*, that since his arrival in Japan Lord Charles has ceased to speak of a quadruple union. He has dropped Germany out of the account, and confined himself to America, Japan, and England. Possibly he is incorrectly reported. If not, the omission invites surmise. To return to Kyoto, however. Mr. Hamaoka is alleged to have replied that he would take an early opportunity of bringing the matter to the notice of a meeting of the united chambers. We hope he will. The Japanese people are a great deal too reticent, not to say too timid, in these matters. They always wait for a lead from the Government, whereas it is their business to give the Government a lead. Without pretending to hold up England as a pattern, we nevertheless seem to be justified in saying that in no country does the system of parliamentary representation and free speech work in a manner more conducive to the successful conduct of foreign affairs than in England. Yet it is characteristic of England's public men that they boldly declare their views, and frankly invite the Government to promote them. The result is that at every season of crisis the Government has no difficulty in ascertaining how the pulse of the nation beats, and is able to be sure that, in following a certain line of policy, it will have the people at its back. In Japan, on the contrary, the aim of publicists, as a rule, is to abstain carefully from any kind of declaration about foreign politics, and, as for her statesmen, they may be said to live with sealed lips. Compare such reticence with the explicit outspokenness of Mr. Chamberlain, Lord Rosebery, Lord Charles Beresford, and so on.

THE FINANCIAL DEFICIT.

The deficit of 5,700,000 *yen* in the revenue will be made up, as already stated, by obtaining 3 millions from a house-tax and 2,200,000 *yen* from an increase of the rates under the tobacco monopoly. Also by postponing the abolition of export duties, another sum of half a million will be secured. A great deal of doubt is expressed in some quarters about the feasibility of a house-tax fixed on a basis of renting value. An important distinction is made between buildings used for trade purposes and buildings used for residential purposes in assessing rental value. But in Japan it is the common custom for merchants to use the front of an edifice as a shop and the back as a residence. How can the rental value of such buildings be assessed, ask the critics? We do not appreciate that particular difficulty ourselves. It seems to us that a shop is a shop, whether the owner resides there or elsewhere. But there is no question that the house-tax will be very unpopular.

AN ARRESTED CONFLAGRATION.

The Tokyo fire brigades did a smart piece of work on the 17th instant. At half-past twelve in the afternoon, smoke was observed issuing from the western face of the big ungainly structure forming the third storey of the former Tokyo Hotel. A strong wind was blowing at the time, and in a very brief interval flames were playing along the eaves of the roof. The whole edifice is of wood, and it seemed at first that not only the hotel but the small Japanese houses clustered at the back, and even those on the other side of the road, were doomed. Within ten minutes of the outbreak, however, five steam fire-engines were pouring streams of water on the roof and through it, for the fire-men succeeded in tearing away portion of the zinc covering, so that they were able to direct the hose against the beams and rafters inside. It was a stubborn fight for about forty minutes, and few people imagined that any better result could be obtained than the limiting of the conflagration to the hotel. But by half-past one the flames were completely under control, it was then seen that the injury had been confined to the roof of the third storey. Of course the whole building was deluged, but as it serves at present for a Japanese club, the furniture and appurtenances were scanty, and the total damages will probably not exceed twelve or thirteen hundred *yen*.

THE UNITED STATES MILITARY EXPANSION.

There is a great difference of opinion as to the forces that America will need to establish her sway and preserve order in her new territories. The Cuban commission, that is to say, Generals Wade and Butler and Admiral Sampson, were reported as saying that Cuba alone would require an army of 50,000 men, and General Miles was supposed to put the number at 25,000. But when General Miles appeared before the House Committee on Military Affairs, he gave it as his opinion that the Philippines must have 25,000 men, Cuba 10,000, Porto Rico 2,000, and Hawaii, Guam, and other outlying ports, 3,000. In other words, 40,000 men are suddenly required for service abroad by a country which, a few months ago, had not a soldier on duty beyond the sea and was content with a regular army of 27,000 men. The idea now is to raise the regular army to a strength of 100,000 men on the peace footing, and to abolish the militia, men serving in the latter being given the option of enlisting in the regular army. As to the dimensions of the scheme there may be difference of opinion, but there can not be much doubt that a militia is an unsuitable force for a country to rely on when military operations in foreign lands may have to be undertaken. Of course the cost of the expansion excites some comment. The pay of the American soldier is \$13 (gold) a month. An increase of 20 per cent. was given during the period of the war with Spain, but it is freely predicted that 20 per cent. will not suffice to obtain men for service in the Philippines or Cuba, and that 50 per cent. will have to be offered. If that forecast prove correct, the pay alone of the army on the new footing will be over 23 million dollars, and the total

expenditure on account of the army can not fall short of 100 millions, or 20 millions sterling. With regard to naval expansion there does not appear to be any second opinion. The country is evidently agreed that there shall be added to the fleet three first-class battle-ships of 13,500 tons; three armoured cruisers of 12,000 tons; three protected cruisers of 6,000 tons, and six cruisers of 2,500 tons. Considering that America is already engaged in building eight first-class battle-ships, four monitors, and a number of torpedo-boats and torpedo-destroyers, it is apparent that her navy will soon be very powerful.

NEW ANGLO-JAPANESE BANK.

The talk now is of an Anglo-Japanese Bank, which is have a capital of 10 million *yen*, 4 millions subscribed by Japanese and 6 millions by Englishmen. The idea is that three Englishmen and two Japanese should form the board of directors, and the *Asahi Shimbun*, which announces the project, says that 3 millions of the capital have been subscribed in Yokohama. We do not attach great importance to the story. Such a scheme is, of course, feasible enough, but the affairs of the bank would have to be conducted on a basis of absolute confidence between the directors, the Japanese branch of the business being entirely beyond the ken of the English directors, and the foreign branch beyond that of the Japanese directors. There are plenty of Japanese worthy of that amount of trust, large though it must be, and there are plenty of Englishmen certainly not less worthy. But how many Englishmen are there, and how many Japanese, who believe each other worthy in that sense, and who are prepared to subject their belief to the test of a pecuniary risk?

With reference to the subject of banks, the *Fiji Shimpō* notices an interesting feature, namely, the remarkable paucity of branch banks in Japan as compared with the number of principal establishments. The figures for the four years ended 1897 are:—

1894—Banks ... 628	Branches 193
1895—Do 789	Do 302
1896—Do 878	Do 384
1897—Do 1,005	Do 428

Our contemporary attributes this unsatisfactory state of affairs to the very small capital with which most of the banks work. They do not command public confidence and their deposits are so scanty, especially in provincial districts, that no inducements exist for establishing branches. The *Fiji* advises amalgamation on an extended scale. The complaint is hackneyed, but its iteration will do no harm.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

Two steamers of the Union Tug Company of Osaka were towing 28 cargo-boats, each carrying 20 tons of rice and miscellaneous goods, when, at half-past seven on the evening of the 13th, on emerging from the *Aji-kawa*, a violent wind and head sea were encountered. The tow-ropes parted, and 15 of the cargo-boats were carried away, only 13 arriving safely, 8 at Kobe and 5 at Osaka. The fate of the 15 is not known, but ten corpses have been found in Tempo-zan Bay, and it is feared that the boats are a total loss. The boats and the cargo were partially covered by insurances effected with three offices.

THE STREETS OF TOKYO.

At last there is a reasonable prospect of tolerable thoroughfares being constructed in the capital of Japan. It is stated that the Mayor and the City Council have decided to ask the Assembly for a sum of a million *yen* to be expended on road making. The outlay will be spread over a period of 5 years, and it is calculated that, according to the proposed system, each *tsudo* (36 square feet) of road will cost 35 or 36 *yen*. The idea is to lay a thick stratum of broken stone six inches below the surface, and to spread earth over it with a superficies of fine gravel. Experiments of that kind have been made on the Yotsuya-kaido, and are said to have given excellent results. Nothing is stated as to the *provenance* of the broken stone, though that has always been the great difficulty in Tokyo. The work will be commenced from April 1st, but streets traversed by tramways will be excluded from the scheme for the present. This last condition strikes us as peculiar. Why should the tramway streets be excluded? They are among the very worst in Tokyo, and they were among the very best before the laying of the trams. The tram company, pocketing a dividend of over 30 per cent. annually, tears the streets to pieces and spends virtually nothing on their repair. There is not a more scandalously irresponsible procedure in the whole of Japan than the procedure of the Tokyo Tram Company. If the municipality had decided that the company must be called on to put the new system of road-making into practice at its own charges in all the streets traversed by its vehicles, the citizens might feel that justice was being done. However, it is permitted to hope that these streets will seem so execrable in comparison with the new roads as to be beyond endurance. The *Fiji Shimpō* has been prominently active in rousing the municipality to a sense of its road-making duty and we offer it our compliments.

MR. MASUJIMA AND THE TOKYO MUNICIPALITY.

Our readers remember, of course, that Mr. R. Masujima, the well-known barrister, presented a pretty stiff bill of costs to the Tokyo Municipality for services rendered in connexion with the notorious water-works scandal, and that the Municipality endeavoured to put him off with a mere fraction of his demand. Mr. Masujima persisted. He expressed himself willing to defer to the wishes of the Municipality provided that certain conditions were complied with to save his professional honour, but the Municipal officials tried to carry matters with a high hand, and finally Mr. Masujima had recourse to the law. On the 28th of last month, the case emerged from its final stage, Mr. Masujima obtaining a verdict for 13,900 *yen*. He appears to have employed remarkable expedition in giving effect to his success. The *Yomiuri* says that the city officials having shown a disposition to palter with the matter, he at once sent bailiffs to levy a distraint upon the property of the Municipality, and the latter found itself in the agreeable predicament of having its offices and archives held for debt. Of course the money had to be paid over, a step which the Municipality might have taken more wisely long ago.

JAPANESE SILK FABRICS AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

Several Tokyo Journals discuss the recently received announcement that France contemplates imposing an import duty of 9 francs per kilo. on Japanese silk fabrics, with the exception of *kabutai*. Hitherto the duty has been from 2 to 6 francs, and, of course, this sudden and sharp increase creates a great deal of uneasiness. The Nishijin Silk Weavers addressed a memorial to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs on the subject, and it is understood that Mr. Kurino, the Japanese Representative in Paris, has been instructed to enter a protest. The *Yoroku Choho* alleges that he did remonstrate, but that the arguments employed by the French Government convinced him, and he withdrew his objection, which action the *Yoroku* denounces as a flagrant diplomatic blunder. We find difficulty in crediting our contemporary's version. Japan is explicitly entitled to most favoured-nation treatment at France's hands, whereas the proposed tax would be an unequivocal discrimination against her. There is no attempt on France's part to deny or palliate its discriminatory character. The reason assigned by her for subjecting Japanese fabrics to heavier taxes than the corresponding products of other countries, is that such a step is necessary in order to compensate for the superior advantage which Japan derives from her command of cheap labour. That is discrimination of the plainest kind. There is an article in the Treaty securing to each of the contracting parties the right to abrogate the most favoured-nation clause provided that a year's notice be given. We have not heard of any notice being given by France. Possibly her intention is to have the principle of the tax endorsed by the chamber, and then to put it into operation a year subsequently. If that be her programme, the Conventional Tariff which she has just been at some pains to conclude will *de facto* cease to be operative simultaneously with the imposition of the discriminatory duty, and we may look to see a war of rates between the two countries. The matter is of vital importance to Japan, for the future of her export trade depends, in great measure, on her success in finding a market for her manufactured goods, and France is one of her best customers for silk fabrics. Indeed the question is of greater moment than would appear at first sight. For though Japan's chief staple of export at present is raw silk, the time will certainly come when the competition of other silk-growing countries and a sense of the advantages to be gained by utilizing the artistic instincts and cheap manual dexterity of her people, will lead her to manufacture the silk before exporting it, and everything tending to postpone that consummation is most prejudicial to her interests. She would certainly be justified in resorting to every legitimate means of either averting or reversing such action on France's part.

POLITICAL OUTRAGES IN THE NORTH.

The Liberal organ (*Yimmin*) published a strong condemnation of the behaviour of the Progressist partisans in Awomori. Baron Suyematsu, who was to have proceeded thither in the interest of the *Kensei-to*, learning that some 300 *Soshi*

had been assembled in the town by the other side, abandoned his intention of holding a political gathering, and announced that he should go to Awamori merely on a visit of pleasure. He was nevertheless met at the entrance of the town by men carrying buckets of filth, which they discharged at him without effect. One of them, seeing this failure, made "a break" for the Baron, who, however, hurled him back and went on his way. Subsequently 30 or 40 youths effected an entry into the inn when he was staying, and made themselves very obstreperous. During the whole of these doings neither policeman nor gendarme put in an appearance, and their failure to preserve order is strongly criticised. In the evening a crowd gathered outside the inn, and there was talk of an assault, but, the police being now present in force, the rioters were over-awed.

THE FORMOSA RAILWAY.

We stated in a previous issue that a further extension of time had been granted to the promoters of the Formosa Railway, the period for completing arrangements being thus prolonged to February 28th. It now appears, however, that their object in seeking an extension was, not to prepare for taking up the charter, but to get ready for dissolving the Company. If the earnestness of their effort to carry the enterprise to completion may be inferred from their reluctance to abandon it, no charge can be brought against their sincerity. It is of course necessary to have a plausible pretext for their final abandonment of the field, and the pretext they allege is that, since the Government has resolved to float Formosan Public Undertakings Bonds and to carry on various enterprises of expansion in the island under official auspices, there is no place for a private company. They add, however, that should the Diet refuse to approve the Bill for floating Formosan Bonds, the Company may find reason to reconsider its decision. We are bound to say that this pretext seems very inartistically chosen. The Government has given every possible encouragement to the Company, and has extended the preliminary period of its charter again and again—so often indeed that the iteration of the performance became a little farcical. Moreover, if the Government now steps into the field, it is because the Company has displayed incapacity to occupy it. There is consequently an inversion of facts when the Company professes to be driven out by the Government.

RAILWAY FARES.

Fares are to be raised on the State railways. They have been already raised on private lines to the extent, in some cases, of fifty per cent., the reason alleged being the great appreciation of commodities. It is true that, of late, commodities have shown a steady tendency towards decline, but their average is still fully fifty per cent. above the normal figure, and the Government thinks it fair to take cognizance of the fact in fixing railway rates. There is not to be any change in freight charges: they will remain as before. But fares for passengers will be increased by one-third, approximately; that is to say, the third-class fare of 1 *sen* per mile will become 1.3 *sen*. It is expected that the additional revenue resulting from this change will be over a million *yen*.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF SUSPECTS IN JAPAN.

There is evidently some misunderstanding about one of the reforms which the Japanese Government has asked the Diet to sanction in the system of criminal procedure. The following comments on the matter have been published by a local contemporary:—

As reported in the proceedings of the House of Peers on Saturday last, there is one item which may have possibly escaped our readers' attention, but which nevertheless would seem to demand it. Mr. Kiyoura, Minister of Justice, introduced a bill to amend the Law of Criminal Procedure. It appears by what was stated that there is a secret cell known to the Authorities to which "obdurate prisoners" are committed in order to "extort confessions" during preliminary examinations. It is proposed to do away with this cell and to substitute a solitary one for it. The Minister stated that by the change it is not proposed to do away with all physical means of eliciting information from prisoners.

Now it seems to be tolerably certain, by this official confession, that the application of torture has not been abolished, as pretended, for the application of physical means to extort confession from obstinate prisoners, as expressly stated, is still to be continued. That this vicious practice is frequently resorted to in the "secret cell" is not now to be doubted, and why should it be concealed from the public, by being done in the privy manner it appears to be, except for the purpose of hoodwinking the foreign Ministers who have been assured, time and again, that the infliction of physical torture is illegal.

It has always been a matter of much surprise to us to find that Japanese prisoners were so prone to confess their crimes, but the secret is now out, for it appears that they are physically maltreated to compel them to do so.

The above observations are very misleading, not only with regard to the system hitherto in force but also with regard to the system which it is proposed to substitute. According to the procedure adopted by Japan in 1881, a Judge conducting a preliminary examination is competent to order the prisoner into solitary confinement for a limited period, if he deems such a course essential in the interests of justice. That is the French method. In fact, the Japanese Code was modelled on the French, and the French term—*mise au secret*—being literally translated into Japanese, the cell for solitary confinement became *misshitsu*, or "secret room." The Government now proposes to abolish the *misshitsu* altogether. The Minister of Justice, Mr. Kiyoura Keigo, introducing in the House of Peers the Bill embodying this change, made use of the following words:—

The system of secret confinement (*misshitsu kankin*), as you are aware, is resorted to in preliminary examinations when such a course seems essential for eliciting the facts. Some publicists, however, condemn the system even to the extent of calling it a relic of feudalism, and certainly, when examined by the light of our 15 years' practical experience, the results obtained by it seem small in comparison with its questionable propriety. Legislation must keep pace with the progress of society and the advance of the time, and we are therefore of opinion that it will be much better to abolish *in toto* such a cruel form of procedure. Hence the amendment proposed under this heading in the Code of Criminal Procedure.

It will be observed that the Minister, whose words we have translated verbatim from the stenographic report, spoke simply of secret cell altogether. He made no such reservation as that attributed to him by our local contemporary quoted above, namely, that "it is not proposed to do away with all physical means of eliciting information from prisoners." We are unable to conjecture the origin of this error unless it be attributable to careless reading of the epitomized report published in

our own columns on the 16th instant. Summarizing the proceedings in the House of Peers and taking our summary from the necessarily brief synopsis furnished by our own Japanese reporter, we wrote:—

The second amendment is the abolition of the "secret cell" (*misshitsu*) as a means of obtaining a confession from a suspect at the preliminary examination. It is not considered desirable, however, to do away with all physical means of eliciting information from a person under examination. Hence the proposal is to substitute the "solitary cell" (*doku bo*) for the secret cell in cases where there appears to be a necessity for obtaining information.

This was our own version of the proceedings, and by what misapprehension it was put into the mouth of the Minister of Justice we need not pause to speculate. But we are certainly confronted with extraordinary ignorance of the Japanese system, which has been in operation for 16 years, and of the French system on which it is based, when we find a newspaper alleging, at this juncture, that the "secret cell" is a device for "resorting to the vicious practice of torture." Indeed it is scarcely possible to conceive that our contemporary's remarks are made in good faith, for in addition to ignorance so profound as to be almost incredible, they exhibit a use of terms which, if accidental, must be called phenomenal, and if intentional, is singularly dishonest. We allude to the words "obdurate prisoners" and to "extort confessions," which, though purely inventions of the newspaper employing them, are put in inverted commas and represented as statements officially made in the House of Peers—an "official confession" our contemporary calls them. No words of the kind were employed in the House, nor was the slightest hint given that "the application of torture" is resorted to in the secret cell as "a physical means of extorting confession."

Another point has to be elucidated, however, namely, the form of procedure which is in future to be adopted. Our report spoke of substituting a "solitary cell" (*doku-bo*) for the "secret cell." That, too, does not convey an accurate idea of the proposed system, and, as the matter is of importance, our readers will permit us to give a somewhat detailed explanation. The 87th, 88th, and 89th articles of the present Code of Criminal Procedure run thus:—

87.

At any stage of the preliminary examination, the judge is competent, if he deems it necessary for discovering the truth, to order, whether at the instance of the procurator or of his own motion, that the accused who has been placed under warrant of detention shall be put in a secret cell (*sema mis au secret*).

88.

Secret confinement carries with it isolation and interdiction from communicating with any one, or from receiving or sending correspondence, papers, money, or other objects, without the authorization of the judge of instruction.

89.

Secret confinement can not continue for more than ten days consecutively, unless the order be renewed every ten days. In case of such renewal the judge of instruction shall make an explanatory report to the president of the court. The judge of instruction must question the prisoner twice at least in each period of ten days.

It is proposed to abolish these Articles; to expunge them from the Code, and, if the amendments stopped there, we should be in no doubt as to the fact that the system of *mise au secret* had finally come to an end. But the amendments do not stop there, and in order to explain this point we must quote another Article of the Code, namely, the 85th. It stands thus at present:—

85.
An accused person, unless he is in secret confinement, is permitted to receive, in the presence of an official, visits from his relatives or connections, his friends or his counsel, in conformity with the prison regulations. Letters, books, and other written documents must not be transmitted between the accused and persons outside the prison, until after they have been examined by the judge of instruction or the procurator, who may retain them provisionally.

In the above article two amendments are introduced, an elision and an addition. The words "unless he is in secret confinement" are elided, and the following clause is added:—

The judge of instruction, when he considers it necessary for the purpose of eliciting the facts, may segregate the accused's cell (*hikokunin no kango wo betsurei shi*), and may forbid him to hold communication with persons outside or to transmit to, or receive from, them books, documents, or articles, and may retain such books, documents or articles temporarily.

What are we to understand by the above? The system of *mise au secret* has certainly been abolished, but it would appear from the newly added clause that the judge has competence to put the accused in a separate cell and to cut him off from all communication with outsiders. So, at all events, the clause would be interpreted by ordinary readers. The Government Delegate, however, being asked by Viscount Niwa to explain that very point, answered thus:—"The 85th Article simply gives power to segregate the accused's cell and does not create any special new feature. Segregating the cell sounds like solitary confinement, but it has not that meaning. It simply amounts to separation from other accused persons. (*ta no hikokunin to betsu ni suru to iu dake no koto de aru*)." Doubtless that explanation was given in all good faith, but we question whether the judges will read the Article in such a sense. To men of ordinary intelligence the provision certainly confers on a judge power to order an accused person into solitary confinement. If it is not intended to bear that construction, the Special Committee of the House of Peers, now engaged in examining the Bill, will do well to make some amendment so as to correct the ambiguity. The system of preliminary examination in criminal procedure, though justified so far as French precedents are concerned, is much in want of amendment and the Diet would greatly add to its reputation by introducing the necessary reforms instead of waiting for the Government's initiative.

NEWSPAPER TROUBLES.

The Public Procurator has instituted a suit against the *Yorozu Choho* for libelling an official. Count Kahayama is the chief object of the journal's attack. He is charged in the most explicit and offensive terms with corruption, the amount of the money obtained by him and the manner of obtaining it being definitely stated. We have, of course, no right to suspect that this accusation is inspired merely by a desire to gain notoriety. The *Yorozu Choho* has long been conspicuous for publishing scandals, and perhaps it honestly counts itself a censor of public morals. But there is in Japan a small band of journals, headed by the *Yorozu*, conspicuous above all things for a lack of any sense of responsibility in dealing with the affairs of private individuals. These journals seem to have no sort of compunction about assailing the reputation of prominent persons and deliberately accusing them of

conduct which, if proved against them, should cause their ostracism from society. Unfortunately the victims of such foul scandals refrain from instituting legal proceedings, and the result is not merely that newspaper licence remains unchecked, but also that newspapers themselves tend to become objects of contempt in the eyes of the public. How much the *Yorozu Choho* and its congeners have contributed to lower the status of journalism in Japan we do not venture to estimate, but in the interests of Japanese progress we have no hesitation in expressing satisfaction that this suit has been instituted, and in adding a hope that the losing side will be duly penalized.

The *Nippon* has committed a still graver offence in the eyes of the law. It has published an article which can only be described as an incentive to disturbance. The *Nippon* labours under the strange hallucination that the land tax is an impost on the agricultural class alone, and, being therefore convinced that to increase the land tax is a grossly partial exercise of legislative power, it fulminates against the Government, and calls upon the farmers to rise against such tyranny. The Minister of State for Home Affairs has considered it necessary to institute legal proceedings against the journal for inserting matter calculated to disturb the public peace, and the sale of the offending number has been stopped. It is a pity that such steps should have to be resorted to. To outsiders their expediency does not seem very clear, for under a parliamentary system the legislature, which consists of the people's nominees, is responsible for the imposition of all taxes, and to incite the people to rebel against their own representatives, as the *Nippon* does, is a species of silliness that can scarcely be hurtful to anything except the newspaper indulging in it.

WEDDING IN TOKYO.

On the 18th instant Miss Divers, eldest daughter of Dr. Edward Divers, F.R.S., was married to Captain Viscount de Labry, Military Attaché to the French Legation. The religious ceremony, conducted by the Rev. Père Evérad, took place in the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Tsukiji at one o'clock. The Rev. Père Péri presided at the organ, and vocal music of an exceptionally excellent character was contributed by M. André, of the French Legation, and by the Rev. Fathers Mugabure and Balet. The Cathedral, prettily decorated for the occasion, could scarcely afford space for the great crowd of friends who assembled in evidence of the affectionate regard universally felt for the fair bride, who may almost be regarded as a daughter of Tokyo, having lived there from her early girlhood. Miss Divers wore a handsome and becoming dress of white satin trimmed with chiffon and orange-blossoms, and draped with rich lace. She was given away by her father, and was attended by six bridesmaids, the daughters of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, of the French Minister, of Prince Lobanow, of Archdeacon Shaw, of Mr. Molison, and of Mr. Carcer. Four of the bridesmaids wore white felt hats and white dresses trimmed with blue silk and dark brown fur, this delicately toned combination taking the form of charming Kute-Greenaway costumes in the cases of the two youngest; and the sixth was dress-

ed in pink monochrome, a somewhat startling note of colour among the gentle tints. Mademoiselle Harmand and Miss Aoki had gold brooches set with diamonds, and the other four bridesmaids, gold brooches set with pearls, the gift of the bridegroom. Mr. Suavedra, Secretary of the Spanish Legation, and Mr. Andréw, Second Secretary of the Russian Legation, acted as Groomsman. After the service, at which Father Evérad delivered an eloquent and feeling address, a reception took place at the Hotel Metropole and was attended by nearly all the principal people in Tokyo and many from Yokohama. Baroness Sannomiya assisted Dr. Divers to receive the guests, among whom were the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Viscountess Aoki, the Minister of State for War, the Minister of State for Education, Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima, the President of the Imperial University, the Russian Minister and Baroness Rosen, the Belgian Minister and Madame d'Anethan, the French Minister, the Italian Minister, the German Minister, the British Minister, the Spanish Minister, the Portuguese Minister, the Minister for Brazil and Madame Lisboa, the Austro-Hungarian *Chargé d'Affaires* and a number of other distinguished personages, civil, military and naval. No attempt could be made to provide sitting accommodation for so large an assembly, but excellent arrangements had been effected for refreshments. The health of the bride and bridegroom was proposed by the British Minister, Sir Ernest Satow, in a few well chosen words, and the happy couple drove off at 3 o'clock to Shimobashi, whence they proceeded to Dazushi where the honeymoon will be spent. Perhaps we should add for the benefit of our lady readers that the bride wore a going-away dress of dark blue cloth, relieved with white, and a black hat trimmed with white velvet and feathers.

THIS YEAR'S ADDITION TO THE JAPAN'S NAVY.

In the columns of our Tokyo contemporaries we read that Japan's Navy will be augmented by four ships and seven torpedo-destroyers in the course of the present year. The ships are:—

	tons,	knots
<i>Chitose</i> , Belted cruiser	4,836	23½
<i>Kuaghi</i> , " "	4,978	23½
<i>Asumi</i> , Armoured cruiser	9,855	20
<i>Tokima</i> , " "	9,855	20

The torpedo-destroyers, which are all of the same tonnage (306) and the same speed (31 knots) are the *Murabumo*, *Yugiri*, *Ikasuchi*, *Inazuma*, *Shinonome*, *Akibono* and *Shiranui*.

THE LATE PRINCESS SADA.

The obsequies of the late Princess Sada took place on the 17th instant. The funeral cortege left Aoyama Detached Palace at 9.30 a.m. on that day, and proceeded by Otowa-machi to the temple Gokoku-ji. Owing to the Princess' extreme youth, Court mourning was not prescribed, but on the day of the funeral mourning was observed throughout Tokyo in the usual manner, all music and theatrical performances being suspended. The two Houses of the Diet, of course, addressed messages of condolence to the Throne, and suspended their sitting on the day of the obsequies.

STANDARDS.

WE have undertaken to explain our statement that, Japan having prematurely dispensed with foreign assistance in her adoption of foreign systems, and having thus undertaken to walk alone before furnishing herself with high standards, her tendency will be to lose much of her rate of progress. In our original reference to this subject we used the word "retrograde," and we observe that the *Japan Times* is disposed to draw somewhat large conclusions from the fact that for "retrograde" we subsequently substituted the less emphatic form of expression "lose much of her rate of progress." Indeed, our contemporary goes so far as to accuse us of "an attempt to explain away our meaning," and attributes to us "a reluctant confession that we have been guilty of an over-statement." It is unfortunate that such a tone should be imported into a discussion on such a subject, but we prefer to pass by that phase of the matter, and to explain briefly what we meant when we spoke of "retrogression," and what we mean when we say that the expression, if left unqualified, over-states our idea. For that purpose we can not do better than quote the illustration taken by the *Japan Times* itself:—"Because a ship steaming, say, 20 knots reduces her velocity to 15 knots, the *Mail* would have us believe that she is backing." The fault of that illustration is precisely the fault which lies at the root of the trouble, namely, a defective standard. Just as the *Japan Times*, by calling "recourse to foreign aid" "going under foreign tutelage," seemed to furnish an example of the very mood which is proving mischievous to Japan at present, so now when it fails to see that a reduced rate of advance may be practical retrogression, it betrays the defective standard of appreciation to which we originally alluded. For the progress of a country that has entered the comity of nations must be calculated not from the zero point of rest, but by comparison with the rate of its competitors' advance. The vital question for Japan is whether she keeps abreast of the countries with which she has entered into rivalry. If she does not keep abreast of them, then, though she may herself be moving forward, she is actually falling behind in the race, and her progress, measured by their rate of advance, becomes a negative quantity. We speak from the stand-point of foreign countries. We measure Japan's progress by theirs, and we say emphatically that her present tendency is to drop behind in the race. In other words, her tendency is to retrograde.

Another prefatory note must be added here. Having said that Japan's "tendency" is to retrograde, we declined to be interpreted as saying that she is "doomed" to retrograde. The *Japan Times* attributed to us the latter form of expression, and

now charges us with "endeavouring to confuse the point at issue by insisting on trivial differences in the meaning of words." Again we observe that the importation of such a tone into a controversy on such a subject is unfortunate. Apart from the question of tone, however, we assure our contemporary that among English-speaking people "doom" and "tendency" are radically different words. A disease may "tend" to become worse without being "doomed" to become worse; a country's finances may "tend" to fall into confusion without being "doomed" to do so. We have faith in Japan's "destiny," but we nevertheless think that its fulfillment is likely to be postponed by her present "tendency."

What then are the "standards" of which we spoke? Concrete examples will serve better than a general definition to elucidate this point, and in choosing such examples we do not wish to be understood as selecting them according to their order of importance.

Lying before us at the present moment are two Magazines printed partly in English and edited by Japanese writers. They are well known periodicals, occupying a prominent place in the field of Japanese contemporary literature. Now not one page of the English essays in these publications is free from solecisms of construction and syntax. Often, indeed, the solecisms amount to a burlesque. We refrain from quotations, because our comments are concerned with generalities, not with individuals. How does it happen that the writers of these essays complacently perpetrate the solemn farce of offering their thoughts to the public in a foreign garb which they are not competent to handle without flagrant blunders? The simple explanation is that they do not possess any standard of the English language. They have not learned to distinguish accurately between good English and bad English. Yet they imagine that they have learned, and are thus betrayed into displays of ignorance which they would bitterly lament were they conscious of them. Some folks attribute such displays to conceit. "The Japanese," say these critics, "imagining that they have attained perfection, engage complacently in enterprises from which people less self-contented would shrink." That theory does not commend itself to us, for our experience of the Japanese people is entirely opposed to the idea that they are conceited. In demeanour and in everyday intercourse they are essentially modest, nor do the writings of the newspaper press, which may probably be regarded as the most trustworthy reflection of a nation's mood, offer any evidence of a self-satisfied disposition. Japanese students think that they can write English because they have not learned to appreciate the difficulty. It ought to occur to them, one imagines, that if no Occidental

attempts to write Japanese, there is a good reason for the reluctance, and that if Englishmen never dream of editing periodicals in German or French, just as Frenchmen and Germans shrink from a similar essay in English, it is because obstacles virtually insuperable lie in the way. But perception of that kind can hardly come until the nature of the obstacles is recognised, and the Japanese have apparently failed to reach that point in their knowledge of Western languages. They are not equipped with an adequate standard.

This illustration is less effective for the purpose of our contention than the more concrete example of postal and telegraphic management. Quite recently there came under our observation a monograph by a Japanese writer containing the declaration:—"The management of the posts and telegraphs in Japan excites the admiration and surprise of foreign observers." The writer was perfectly sincere. He frankly believed that in respect of rapidity and punctuality of transmission letters and telegrams fare extraordinarily well in Japan. His standard of comparison was defective. We need scarcely say that the postal and telegraph services in Japan do not appear worthy of encomium in foreign eyes. They are highly creditable by contrast with the state of affairs existing thirty years ago, but their progress during the past decade has been imperceptible, and they are very far indeed from exciting Western admiration. It would be easy, of course, to point to a time when the condition of these same services was very defective in European countries, and their progress towards improvement painfully slow. But that was when European nations had to grope their way to better things; when they, too, were without a standard. The difference is that, in Japan's case, if she employed foreigners freely and entrusted them with administrative responsibility, she might very quickly attain by their aid the standard which they have laboriously worked out, and which, without their aid, she will have to work out laboriously for herself.

The same remark applies to her railways. They seem, indeed, to satisfy the ordinary requirements of such means of communication. They convey passengers at a leisurely rate of speed, with a fair approximation to punctuality and without any excess of casualties. But, with rare exceptions, they have not benefited at all by modern improvements, and the organization of their goods traffic is egregiously defective. If the Japanese public enters no protest, and if Japanese engineers and traffic-directors feel no compunction, it is because neither the public nor the experts have a proper standard of comparison.

The city of Tokyo abounds with flagrant examples of the fact we are asserting. If the citizens had any conception of what

is meant by efficient municipal control, they would not for a moment endure the abuses of which they are now the victims. The method of repairing the streets is mediæval, and their condition in general is painfully bad. Private tram companies are allowed to reap enormous gains while grossly neglecting public responsibilities. Civil engineers are permitted to waste years over works of vital importance to the city's hygiene, comfort, and security, and are moreover allowed to discharge their duties in a manner which would be counted conclusive proof of incompetence in an Occidental country. Facilities of transport are conspicuously deficient because the profit to be gained by supplying them is so keenly desired that no one section of the citizens will consent to another's enjoying it. If Tokyo knew what it is to be well governed, would its inhabitants tamely submit to these disgraces and discomforts? But they have no standards, and therefore remain happily unconscious of defects.

There is scarcely a factory in the country that does not add its testimony to support this arraignment. The organization involves a waste of labour which would be ruinous were not labour still very cheap in Japan, and the condition of the machinery betrays great economical imprudence. The Japanese are an industrious people, a careful people, and a thrifty people. If their industrial organization is wasteful and their treatment of foreign machines imprudent, it is simply because they lack standards.

We refrain from carrying our theme into the region of science and philosophy, though equally forcible and even more important illustrations may be found there. It will, of course, be clearly understood that these criticisms are not intended to suggest any innate incompetence on the part of the Japanese. It is merely a question of premature independence. On routes which their feet are accustomed to tread the Japanese have reached goals of remarkable achievement, and if foreigners essayed to follow the same routes, they would have to serve a long apprenticeship to Japanese experts. But many Japanese seem to think it a reflection on their natural ability that they should not be able to carry foreign systems to perfection without the aid of the foreigners who perfected them. If the plain truth must be told, that phantasy discredits Japanese intelligence much more than it could ever be discredited by recourse to foreign assistance. The wise man avails himself of every factor that can help him to success. To adopt foreign systems of administration, of legislation, of science, of commerce, of communications, and of education, yet to shrink from employing the foreigner who evolved those systems, is to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel. We have watched Japan's progress from the first

and built great hopes on its permanence. Hence the evidences we now detect of comparatively arrested advance can not be passed in silence.

KOBE AND THE REVISED TREATIES.

AFTER the somewhat ill-considered and, in one instance, unjustified language of the Kobe Memorial, addressed to Lord SALISBURY last year, the speech delivered by Mr. A. H. GROOM, in his capacity of chairman of the local branch of the China Association, at the Lord CHARLES BERESFORD luncheon in Kobe, is pleasant reading. Mr. GROOM is thoroughly English. He was among the foremost and stoutest opponents of Treaty Revision so long as any chance of postponing that unwelcome experiment remained; but now that the die is irrevocably cast, he is prepared to devote his strength to minimizing what he regards as an evil and a misfortune. DAVID is the most conspicuous historical example of that kind of common sense. He wore sack-cloth and put ashes on his head so long as the breath of life remained in his child's body, but when the hand of death had fallen, he washed his face and went about his royal business as usual. The old extraterritorial system was a darling child; the offspring of racial superiority and Christian pride. From a selfish point of view, there is not one of us that would not gladly have prolonged the existence of the little prodigy for ever and ever. But that was not to be. Its days were numbered. The sands of its life have now nearly run out. For our own part, we do not pretend to have been a bit less partial to the old system than any one else is. It was very delightful to live beyond the range of the tax-collector's troubling; to feel that neither policeman nor magistrate figured in our lives, and to be accompanied everywhere by a consciousness of elevated aloofness. Where our views parted company with those of our fellow-nationals was, first, that we recognised the inevitability of Treaty Revision, and, secondly, that we were convinced of the expediency of effecting it quickly, because the sooner it was effected, the better the terms obtainable. We invite any one of our readers to take a calm retrospect of the course of the negotiations since 1885, and to say whether such a review does not confirm the soundness of our judgment from point to point. Suppose that Count INOUE's proposals had been frankly accepted, what would be our position now? Should we not have foreign experts sitting on the Japanese bench and possessing a dominant voice in every case where foreign interests were concerned? Should we not have the prisons in the hands of the Central Government, and the prison system regulated so as to be

beyond complaint? Should we not have the right of owning real estate? Take a step forward, then, and suppose that Count OKUMA's proposals had been accepted. Should we not have all these advantages, *except* the first and not the least important, namely, the foreign judicial experts, who, instead of sitting in a majority in every collegiate court before which a foreigner appeared, would be sitting in the Supreme Court only, to which access could be obtained on a point of law alone? In a word, Count OKUMA's proposals reduced to a mere shadow one of the most vital of Count INOUE's concessions. Now take another step forward, and see what happened during the next stage of the negotiations. Did not every one of the great concessions disappear? If it occurred to us to write these words now for the first time, we should stay our pen. It would be too like a case of windom that follows the event. But we have been writing them again and again and yet again ever since 1884. We have written them *ad nauseam*, and we have the indisputable right now to say that our warning is justified by events, and that had our advocacy of timely Revision been successful, the transition from the old order to the new might have been accomplished in such a way as to remove all grounds of uneasiness. "We are looking," said Mr. GROOM, "we are looking with some anxiety to the experiment of being placed under a Code of Laws that is practically untried by, according to Western ideas, an inadequately remunerated judiciary and by judges who must necessarily be inexperienced in the newly-framed laws." Yes, we are looking forward with some anxiety. But how different it might have been! However, we shall not dwell upon that phase of the subject, for what we set out to do was to congratulate Mr. GROOM on his eminently sensible utterances:—"We feel confident that Lord CHARLES BERESFORD's visit to this country will materially assist in advancing that good understanding between the Japanese and foreigners which it is the desire of all present to see. It is absolutely necessary, however, to a continued good understanding that the new Treaties should work smoothly, and on my part—and I speak for the members of the Association—I can promise that we shall do all we can to promote good feeling between foreigners and Japanese." We detach these words from their context in order to bring them specially to the notice of our Japanese contemporaries. The Englishman has fought his battle stoutly. He stood to his guns as long as there was a plank under his feet. He knows the value of good laws. He knows, above all, the value of a good judiciary. He knows what it has cost to elaborate the laws and educate the judiciary of which he is justly proud and in which

he places well warranted confidence. He spared no effort to retain the inestimable privilege of being governed by such laws so administered. But now, the fight being over, he will not waste time in fruitless regrets, or add to the dangers of the new era by approaching it in a captious, implacable mood. On the contrary, he strikes his hand into the hand of Japan, and says:—"You have won the day, and I mean to aid you with all my strength in carrying out the new system. I would gladly have averted it, but, since that has proved impossible, I shall certainly not try to justify my fears by increasing your difficulties." We call that a fine example of practical English common sense, and of the proverbial English spirit of fair play.

RUSSIA IN EASTERN ASIA.

NO one can be surprised to learn that Mr. PAVLOFF, while passing through Shanghai *en route* for Sôul, where he is to represent Russia, took occasion to deny the recently published statement that Port Arthur and Talien are to be opened to foreign trade. We asserted at the time our total disbelief in the story, and, judging by the silence with which it was universally received, the public had a similar feeling of incredulity. Russia is doing exactly what any vigorous, resolute and self-relying Power would do under the circumstances: she is making every conceivable effort to strengthen her position in Manchuria so that the task of dislodging her will soon be too formidable for serious contemplation. No sensible Englishman should have a word to say against her far-seeing practicality, however masterful it may seem, and however indefensible from a moral stand-point some of the preliminary steps of her procedure must be pronounced. It seems to us that, as between Russia and England, the difference may be very simply stated; the foreign policy of the one is modern; that of the other, mediæval. The Russian Government is responsible only for the results of its acts: it is not answerable to any one for its methods of reaching those results. The English Government, on the other hand, has to take every step under the full glare of a public opinion which insists that certain definite moral canons shall be observed. Which of the two is the more immediately efficient mechanism for purposes of imperial expansion, there can not be much question. Russia's armoury of diplomatic instruments is more extensive than England's because she continues to include in it some weapons which advanced civilization has pronounced obsolete. Morality, after all, is chiefly a matter of opportunity. Human nature is not endowed with any elementary repugnance to crooked devices. It would never become conscious of such repugnance without the educating effect of social usages. An

autocratic ruler who is absolutely unlimited in his choice of agencies, and whose sole responsibility is towards his own programme, has, in all the initial stages of a competition, immense advantages over a body of statesmen who labour under the necessity of shaping their course according to the indications of ethical signposts. We have accustomed ourselves to think that in the day of inevitable collision between these two policies, victory must rest with the one which is backed by the united force of the nation whose conscience it has consulted. But East-Asiatic affairs are still in their initial stage, and as such we have to consider them. Russia is making the most of her opportunities. She is not restrained by any scruples or deterred by any criticisms. Why should she be deterred or restrained? Manchuria has dropped like a ripe plum into her lap, and her present imperial duty is to guard it. It appears quite clear that the CZAR entertains with regard to China precisely the same views that his great-grand-father and name-sake entertained with regard to Turkey forty-six years ago. He considers that China is moribund, and that no time should be lost in making arrangements for the disposal of her assets. NICHOLAS the First explicitly invited Lord ABERDEEN to coöperate in a scheme for constituting Great Britain and Russia legatees of the Sultan's domains. He received a rebuff which preluded the Crimean war. NICHOLAS the Second was not likely to risk a similar rebuff by a similar invitation to Lord SALISBURY with regard to China. He appointed himself to succeed to such portions of the inheritance as might be conveniently appropriated, France agreeing to occupy the position of residuary legatee. England, on the other hand, has undertaken to try to keep China alive, and, at all events, to refrain from despoiling her until after her death. The two policies now present themselves to the world as plainly as though they had been written up on gigantic posters by the statesmen directing them. Russia can not be accused of want of frankness in the late stages of her procedure. She has demonstrated in the most unequivocal manner that Manchuria is her sphere of influence, and that no industrial or commercial enterprise by foreign races shall be permitted there without her sanction. The demonstration is quite complete. Its steps have been the acquisition of exclusive privileges in districts to which all the Powers had an equal right of access by treaty; the vetoing of any hypothecation of railways within Manchuria to foreign capitalists; and, in general, the treatment of all concessions obtained from China as political. Yet Russia gives no evidence of a belligerent mood. On the contrary, her aim seems to be pacific. She is persuaded that, sooner or later, England will be forced by the

exigencies of the situation to endorse the partition programme, and she is doing what she can to lead the British Government as quickly as possible to a conclusion which she herself regards as the only peaceful solution of the problem. It seems like an abuse of language to apply the term "peaceful" to a course which amounts to nothing more or less than the vivisection of a huge empire. But when we say "peaceful" we mean simply "non-belligerent." China counts for nothing in Russian eyes. She has to be cut up; and by undertaking the operation resolutely and expeditiously, Russia thinks that it can be accomplished without bloodshed. We are firmly persuaded that Russia, in consideration of a free hand in Manchuria, would at any moment gladly conclude, and loyally endeavour to implement, a compact with England securing to the latter as large a slice of China as the most ambitious Britisher deems his country capable of digesting. England, however, is morally precluded from entering into such a compact. But if things continue in their present groove, the day will certainly come when she will have to choose between joining the scramble to take what she can get, and forcibly driving the Russians from positions where they will by that time be strongly, almost invulnerably, posted. Russia believes that England will choose the former alternative, and it must be admitted that the belief is solidly based on England's acquiescence in the closure of Talien and Port Arthur and on her occupation of Wei-hai-wei. In truth, all present appearances indicate that events are marching in the direction desired by Russia, and that, while avoiding any actual collision with her rival, she will by-and-by be able to rest her case on the strongest form of logic, the logic of accomplished facts. There is no visible obstacle to such a consummation. The one point of danger in Manchuria is Newchwang. England virtually monopolises the trade of Newchwang. She has a settlement there, and Japan also will soon have a concession of her own on the banks of the Liao. If Russia makes any bluntly arbitrary effort to replace Chinese sovereignty at Newchwang by her own, there will be trouble. But that is not Russia's way. Gradually and by almost imperceptible methods she can create for herself in Manchuria a position so commanding that the commerce at Newchwang will come to be dependent on her mood, if, indeed, the whole trade of the region be not diverted to Talien, where neither British subject nor Japanese is or will be represented. Russian merchants look forward to establishing cotton factories in Manchuria, at an early date. Already the necessary machinery has been ordered by them in England. Given the Russian official paramount from the valley of the Liao to the valley of the Ussuri, and it is easy to conceive a course of procedure which, without

ever affording a pretext for armed interference by a foreign Power, would nevertheless eventually render Newchwang and every part of Manchuria an impossible place of business for any foreigner not bowing to Russian supremacy. In short, Russia seems to have gained everything she wants, for the present at all events. She has established herself behind an impenetrable curtain in Manchuria, and the world will be denied any full view of the stage until she has collected there all the properties she needs for the last act of the drama and trained all the characters in the cast.

The gist of this is that Russia in Manchuria does not constitute any immediate menace to the peace of the East. If the steps by which she planted herself there did not provoke foreign opposition, the processes of her subsequent growth will be still less provocative. The more anxious she is to preserve her own sphere of influence intact, the more scrupulous she will be to avoid trespass upon England's sphere. A great deal has been said about the Peking-Hankow Railway. It is to be built by a Belgian syndicate which is supposed to be under the influence of France and Russia, and if it were connected with the Trans-Siberian Railway in Manchuria, Russia would have overland access to the Yangtze valley, which access is spoken of as likely to give her the complete control of that region. There are a great many hypotheses here. There is the hypothesis that the Peking-Hankow line will fall into Russian hands; there is the hypothesis that the Peking-Shanghai line will fall into Russian hands; there is the hypothesis that the Peking-Shanghai line will be prolonged to Liaotung in Russian hands; and there is the hypothesis that access to the Yangtze by a solitary railway thousands of miles long would give to Russia, in the valley of the great river, a position superior to that held by England, who has direct access to the same valley by a water route which she absolutely commands. So many hypotheses constitute a chimera. In the event of China's dismemberment, the Yangtze valley will fall to the lot of the mistress of the seas, whoever that may be at the moment. The Russian spectre looms gigantic in some imaginations, but that its shadow should reach to the banks of the Yangtze is beyond sober conception.

It is on the side of France that the chief menace of trouble seems to be coming in sight. If one could imagine a great nation—the most refined and logical nation in the world—suddenly visited by an access of vertigo which removed the acts of its people beyond the range of all rational calculation, that would appear to be France's case to-day. The DREYFUS affair derives its importance, not from the probability that there has been a terrible miscarriage of justice which military partisanship refuses to redress, but

from the fact that it reveals to us one after another of France's prominent citizens in the character of men who have thrown all their moral ballast over-board, and are drifting at the mercy of every wind of passion and prejudice. In the presence of such a mood it is impossible to tell what a day may bring forth, and when we add that the French are burning with resentment against England in consequence of the Fashoda affair, and that the vertigo of which the DREYFUS scandal has furnished so many examples, found another illustration in the extraordinary demands recently preferred by France at Shanghai, we have sufficient materials for uneasiness. Russia in the Yangtze valley is a mere bogie, but France seems bent upon getting there. On the one hand, she seeks to divert the trade of the upper Yangtze to Tonquin via Yunnan; on the other, she appears resolved to utilize every pretext for the purpose of gaining an extended foothold in the valley itself. It is with France that a collision seems most imminent, and in casting up its eventualities we may at least comfort ourselves with the reflection that Russia is not at all likely to move a ship or march a squadron in the interests of France's Yangtze ambition. One of these days the concession which a French syndicate has obtained for building a railway from Söul to Wiju will become an object of great value in Russia's eyes; but that day is not yet, and until she has consolidated herself securely in Manchuria, Russia will not make any sacrifices to French aspirations in the Yangtze Valley.

FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN.

THE following totals relating to the foreign trade of Japan during the past two years are published in the Customs Returns:—

	1898 yen.	1897. yen.	Increase. yen.
Exports.....	165,662,304	163,135,077	2,527,227
Imports.....	276,996,526	219,300,771	57,695,755
Total...	442,658,830	382,435,848	60,222,982

The total growth of the trade is the largest on record, the nearest approximation being the growth shown in 1894 as compared with 1893, namely, 52,758,011 yen. But in the year 1894 the increase was tolerably evenly divided between exports and imports, the increment in the case of the former being 24 millions, and the increment in the case of the latter, 29 millions, in round numbers. In 1898, on the contrary, exports showed a development of only 2½ millions, whereas imports increased by 57½ millions. These facts, however, must not be taken without analysis. Japan's export trade is made up of raw products and manufactured goods, in the proportion of 5 to 3, approximately. If we follow that division, the figures for the past two years become:—

	1898. yen.	1897. yen.
Export of Raw Products.....	106,197,206	117,771,632
Export of Manufactured Goods	59,465,098	45,363,445

It appears, therefore, that, whereas the export of raw products fell off by 11½ million yen, that of manufactured goods increased by 14 millions. Indeed, of the 12 chief staples making up the export trade in manufactured goods, only one failed to increase, namely, carpets, which fell from 973,871 yen in 1897, to 850,879 yen in 1898. Nothing is more interesting in Japan's foreign trade than the steady development of manufactured goods. We shall set down here the figures for 1898, 1897, and 1889, so as to show not only the growth in the past year, but also the growth that has taken place in a decade:—

Twelve Principal Staples of Manufactured Goods Exported.

	1898. Yen.	1897. Yen.	1889. Yen.
Habutere	9,595,596	9,595,596	804,149
Other Silk Piece Goods	513,531	186,000	2,204,480
Silk Handkerchiefs	3,350,246	3,350,246	243,574
Cotton Piece Goods	8,519,307	8,519,376	51,014
Carpets	850,879	973,871	1,137,087
Matches	6,271,372	5,041,993	1,057,087
Flowered Mitting	3,098,818	1,029,738	286,583
Cotton Yarns	8,225,671	23,400,177	1,499,888
Porcelain and Pottery	1,080,548	1,819,058	589,649
Lacquer	783,134	707,408	1,057,087
Straw Hats	5,281,218	3,181,973	26,008
Umbrellas	887,198	668,957	26,008
Total	50,456,948	45,363,445	6,594,140

It thus appears that the exported value of these twelve staples of manufacture increased nine-fold in a decade; and it further appears that whereas the ratio of manufactured goods to raw products in the export trade was 6½ to 55 in 1889, the ratio in 1898 was 33 to 55. The lesson taught by these figures has often been insisted on by us during the past few years, namely, that Japan's future will probably be industrial. On the other hand, if we look at the export of raw products, we find that it is made up of 7 principal staples, namely, Silk, Tea, Rice, Copper, Coal, Camphor, and Marine Products. The last, Marine Products, may be capable of great development. It is, perhaps, one of the fields where foreign enterprise and foreign capital might be profitably employed. But its growth during the past decade has been so insignificant that we need not consider it in this context. Taking the other six staples, we have the following figures:—

	1898. Yen.	1897. Yen.	1889. Yen.
Silk	44,673,342	58,683,102	29,250,052
Tea	8,215,991	7,860,460	6,136,728
Rice	5,919,233	6,145,249	7,434,653
Copper	7,267,074	5,776,774	2,879,335
Coal	15,229,960	11,545,801	2,337,804
Camphor	1,174,574	1,318,292	1,391,371
Total	82,480,180	91,329,678	49,449,943

The rate of development in this branch of the export trade does not bear comparison with the rate shown above in the case of manufactured products; the rate for the principal staples of raw products being less than 2 to 1; and that for the manufactured products, more than 9 to 1. Further, if we examine the items that make up the list, they do not seem to suggest any prospect of large increment hereafter.

Tea, Rice, and Camphor may be set aside at once: Tea because the market for it is limited and shows no sign of growing; Rice because the domestic demand will probably keep the quotation at such a point that profitable export will be impossible, except to supply the special need which exists in Europe irrespective of price; and Camphor because, whatever Japan's produce might become under careful husbanding, it tends at present, and has for many years tended, to diminish rather than to increase. With regard, then, to the remaining three staples, the figures for Silk seem, at first sight, encouraging. It used to be thought, indeed, that an almost unlimited field offered for the export of Japanese silk; but, of late, China, with her newly established filatures and her originally better product, has become a powerful competitor, and there is now reason not only to modify the hopes once entertained for the Japanese staple, but even to apprehend that it may be partly driven out of the arena. At all events, the trade in raw silk is shown by experience to be a delicate business, and the annual fluctuations are very heavy. For example:—

EXPORT OF RAW SILK DURING THE PAST 5 YEARS.	
Yen.	Millions.
1893..... 31,591,935	—
1894..... 42,892,751	Increase..... 11½
1895..... 50,928,440	Increase..... 8
1896..... 31,666,210	Decrease..... 19½
1897..... 58,683,102	Increase..... 27
1898..... 44,673,342	Decrease..... 14

Apparently the export of this staple reached its maximum in 1897, and we should scarcely be warranted in looking for any considerable development in the future. As for coal, it shows a substantial increase—from 2½ million *yen* in 1889 to 15½ millions in 1898. But the growth of manufacturing industry in Japan will involve a correspondingly increased domestic consumption of coal, so that the portion available for export will become more and more limited. According to what we know now, Japan is not rich in coal. New seams may be discovered, but experts allege that, even at her present rate of extracting the mineral, a fifty years' supply is not in sight. Coal, then, can not be regarded as a considerably expanding staple of export. Copper alone remains, and the same remark applies to it, that the sources of supply are comparatively small. On the whole we can not see that the future of the export trade in raw materials offers an encouraging prospect. The great hope seems to lie in manufactured products.

It might be supposed that the remarkable increase of imports, namely, 57½ million *yen*, was in anticipation of the high rates imposed by the New Tariff, which went into operation from the beginning of this year. But, whatever the influence of that factor may have been, it does not make itself conspicuously apparent in the returns. Here are the figures for the regular staples which ought

to be chiefly affected by an appreciation of import duties:—

	Yen. 1898.	Yen. 1897.	Millions.
Cotton Yarns.....	8,547,582	5,895,258	Decrease..... 2½
Shirtings.....	7,099,477	5,835,347	Increase..... 12
Other Cotton Goods.....	9,458,090	8,474,083	Stationary.....
Camlets.....	4,398,457	3,835,881	Increase..... 1½
Station Cloth.....	1,604,270	1,815,582	Decrease..... 1
Flannel.....	2,386,283	1,187,656	Slight Increase.....
Woollen Cloth.....	2,809,378	2,913,536	Increase..... 1
Watches.....	1,960,372	1,502,813	Increase..... 1

The total increase under these headings does not exceed 2½ million *yen*. It is to the following imports that the greater part of the growth in the returns must be attributed:—

	1898. Yen.	1897. Yen.	mil.
Raw Cotton.....	45,744,899	43,620,214	Increase 2
Sugar.....	28,256,359	19,799,092	" 8½
Rice.....	48,204,197	21,528,429	" 19½
Alcohol.....	2,698,039	969,360	" 1½

These five articles account for 32 millions of the increase. Among them rice is the most remarkable. The import of rice under normal circumstances ranges from 4 to 6 millions of *yen*, but the exceptionally bad harvests of 1896 and 1897 created an extraordinary demand which will, of course, disappear in the face of the fine yield for 1898. Should the rice crop in the current year be of average quality, we may anticipate that, under this heading alone, the imports for 1899 will show a diminution of fully 40 million *yen*. Increments of more or less importance appear in many branches of the import trade independently of those we have quoted, and they would indicate a healthy growth if the disturbing factor of the new Tariff did not appear in the account. But importers themselves are alone competent to say how much they have forestalled the Tariff. The Report of the Chamber of Commerce may, perhaps, give us some information about that subject. Meanwhile we shall probably be right in affirming that had not the course of trade been influenced by bad rice crops and an impending appreciation of customs duties, the imports would not have shown a total growth of more than 15 or 16 million *yen*, and the total development of Japan's foreign commerce would have been 18 or 19 million *yen*, approximately. That is not a very striking result. Indeed it seems a fair conclusion that the only essentially healthy feature is the growth of manufactured exports. We may also conclude that, in spite of two bad rice crops in succession, the people found themselves in very comfortable circumstances. The increased import of sugar from 19½ million *yen* to 28½ millions is an infallible indication in that sense.

INTERPRETERS IN COURTS OF LAW.

In the Budget for next fiscal year, the Government included an appropriation of 37,636 *yen* to defray the expenses of interpreters for twenty-five courts of law, in view of the imminent operation of the Revised Treaties. The House of Representatives cut down this appropriation to 25,707 *yen*. It will therefore be necessary to reduce the proposed number

of interpreters correspondingly. No serious inconvenience will necessarily result, for the interpreters can be sent to whatever Court they are required, there being no likelihood that more than two or three tribunals will be simultaneously occupied trying cases in which foreigners are concerned.

TRANSLATION OF THE TARIFF.

It is a perplexing and difficult matter to secure absolute accuracy in a document like a tariff where translations—especially translations from a language like Japanese—have to be relied on. Mr. Keil's compilation of the various tariffs is naturally a book on which reliance will be placed by the mercantile public, in view of the author's connexion with the Chamber of Commerce and his reputation. But even Mr. Keil's work does not appear to be free from error. Here, for example, are a few points:—

In the preface it is stated that modifications may have to be inserted when the Austro-Hungarian Treaty is at hand and published. But the Austro-Hungarian Treaty has been already published.

In several cases where the rates of duty are the same under the Conventional Tariff and the Statutory, he quotes the latter, forgetting, apparently, that the Statutory Tariff is liable to alteration, whereas the Conventional is unalterable. This, of course, is only a question of method.

Under No. 114, "Bromide of Potash" is shown, but "Other Bromides" are omitted, though they appear in the German Tariff.

Under No. 239, we find "Steel mild, Pig, Ingot, Plate and Sheet," the rate shown being 5 per cent. under the French Tariff. But the French Tariff mentions only "Pig, Ingot, and Slab."

Under No. 241, "Steel, Plate and Sheet" is put at 5 per cent., whereas it ought to be 7½ per cent. according to the British Tariff.

Under No. 258, we find "Blankets of all kinds, single or in piece," 7.458 under the British Tariff. But the British Tariff covers only "Woollen Blankets and whipped Blankets in piece."

Under No. 368, we find "Handkerchiefs, cotton, linen, or of linen and cotton, single or in piece," and the reference is to the British Tariff. But the British Tariff covers "Cotton Handkerchiefs in piece" only.

Under the heading "Perfumery" the exceptions made by the French Tariff, namely "Musk, Artificial Musk, and Grey Amber," are omitted.

We do not write in a critical spirit, but merely because importers may possibly be betrayed into erroneous calculations if these mistakes are left unnoticed.

THE UNLUCKY "KINSHU MARU."

FIVE MEN SWEEP OVERBOARD.

The *Kinshu Maru*, which seems to have an endless run of ill luck, had a rough experience on her voyage from Seattle. On the morning of the 31st December a stiff north-easterly gale blew, and there was a very high sea. The crew were engaged in securing hatch covers, and all moveable fittings on the after deck, when a very heavy sea broke on board and washed overboard one apprentice and four sailors, Chief Officer Laprack narrowly escaping the same fate. Capt. Brady put about, in search of the men, but, as might be expected, could not find them. Owing to the state of the weather, he hove to for 24 hours. The gale moderated at about 7 a.m. on Jan. 1st; and moderate weather was experienced the rest of the voyage. The ship received damage to her bulwarks.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Under the Shimonoseki Treaty Japan acquired the privilege of special concessions at various places in China, and practical effect has been given to that provision of the Treaty in the case of Tientsin, Hangkow and Foochow. Arrangements will soon be completed, also, at Amoy and Chungking. The only place that presents any difficulty is Shanghai, no space being readily available there. At Yingkow, too, negotiations for a settlement have been carried almost to a conclusion, not directly under the Shimonoseki Treaty, however, but on the plea of most-favoured-nation treatment. All these new settlements have been carefully marked out. But what about their occupants? As yet they are only hostleries for insects and nurseries of weeds. The commercial enterprise of the nation lags far behind its military and diplomatic achievements. The tenantless settlements will soon become a laughing stock.—*Asahi Shimbun*.

Is it worth while to help China, or is her doom irrevocably sealed? That is the first question to be answered by those that have to shape Japan's policy. Surely she is very sick, but, for our own part, we do not think her sick unto death. There is still time to succour her. But the talk of stretching out hands of aid in obedience to pure chivalry is empty rhetoric. If we help her, it must be primarily because we are deeply interested in her fate, and in a very secondary degree because, as her neighbour, we wish her well. What, then, should be the method of aiding her? There is but one: to induce her to throw her whole territory open to trade. Western countries, in their strong rivalry, are devoting themselves to establishing spheres of influence within her borders. If they continue to pursue that route they will inevitably come into collision. But among them there are some who share the view that her integrity ought to be preserved. With such Powers Japan must join hands. They are wrong who say that China offers no grounds for hope. She is enormous in size, wealthy in productions, and peopled by a vast population of clever, capable, and civilized persons. There is nothing the matter with her except that the poison of Confucianism circulates in her veins and that her Government is rotten. If she embraced Occidental civilization her future would be assured, and already she has a strong tendency in that direction. What inspires most uneasiness is her foreign politics. Her Government is quite impotent to preserve good order, and foreigners are exposed to frequent outrages which furnish pretexts for embarrassing demands. From that point of view, it is plainly essential that the government should be strengthened. The army and the navy must be properly organized. Not less important is it to reform the administration. Feudalism is in the grain of the Chinese and advantage should be taken of the fact. The power of the provincial governors should be extended. They should be entrusted with the duty of treating with foreign States and of providing for the protection of the districts they administer, and their responsibilities should be clearly defined. As for Japan, it devolves upon her to take steps for forming a league of Powers

to protect China. Happily the Chinese have begun to feel confidence in her. Care must be taken not to alienate their trust. Thus, while it is Japan's duty to give asylum to the political refugees who have fled hither from China, she should not show such favour to them as would alarm and offend her neighbour. Above all, she must definitely make up her mind whether she will help China or not, and having come to some resolve, must shape all her doings in accordance with it.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

Without pretending that legislative reforms were not essential and would not have been undertaken in any case, it can not be denied that much of our law-making has been inspired by the desire of fitting ourselves to assume jurisdiction over foreigners. With that object we have been content to frame laws which, in many respects, conflict with the customs of our country. Yet it seems that we have not done enough, and that now, on the eve of the operation of Treaty Revision, all sorts of changes have to be effected. Truly it might be better if we took the laws of foreign countries and adopted them wholesale. Be that as it may, however, we understand that among the proposed reforms, one relates to the treatment of foreign convicts. They are to be imprisoned in Kobe, Yokohama, Nagasaki, or Tokyo, and they are to have foreign food. It seems that for economical reasons bread is preferable to a mixed diet of rice and barley, to say nothing of other reasons. It seems, also, that if the Revised Commercial Code receives the Diet's consent, it will go into force from the 1st of July. Certainly we live in an era of reforms.—*Nippon*.

The House of Representatives does not sit for more than three months in the year at the outside. The business to be discharged by it during the present session is exceptionally large. Even if it worked unremittingly throughout its full period, it would have to leave several Bills undiscussed, and some of them may be very important measures in view of the near approach of the operation of the new Treaties. But the House is proceeding in the most leisurely manner imaginable. Not only have its daily sittings been short, but it rose on the 24th of December, and took a recess until the 16th of January, the sole reason of this lengthy vacation being that the party politicians wanted to stump the country. It does not appear that the House has any very vivid sense of its legislative responsibilities.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

The business capacity of the Japanese trader appears to be considerably below that of the Chinese. He has but a poor conception of the value of combination, and does not trust his *confrère* sufficiently to work in union with him. Then there is no to-morrow for him in his dealings. The profit of to-day suffices. He never looks ahead, never thinks of establishing his business on a really permanent footing. He is also essentially a spendthrift, squandering what he gains as fast as it comes to hand. There is no evidence that he possesses any effective desire of wealth, for he shows no disposition to accumulate capital. His pleasures, too, are paltry and demoralizing—*said* drinking and *geisha* buying. It is a pity that he can not strike out some

more elevating lines of amusement. And it is above all a pity that he seems to have no conception of the responsibilities of riches. The good example set by Mr. Okura Kihachiro unfortunately finds no imitators.—*Jinmin*.

There is a bad spirit of militarism now prevailing in the country. It has established itself in educational circles. Loyalty and patriotism are very fine things, but they may be perverted into abuses. They may become synonyms for feudalism, for national isolation, for military narrow-mindedness. They may lead to the adoption of a mistaken creed in everything. The men who are the slaves of these perverted ideas know nothing of the imperial policy which would found a great Japan. They shrink from the wholesome atmosphere of competition. Their sole idea is that a man must be ready to sacrifice his life if the country is in danger and the throne shaken. They have no conception of the main use of military and naval power, namely, to secure the maintenance of peace. The old notion of taking vengeance on an enemy is their main motive. They distinguish Liaotung by a special colour on the maps provided for schools, and they tell the lads that the loss of the peninsula must never be forgotten. There has been a case of a schoolmaster who sent his students out into the snow telling them they must prepare for the climate of Russia, so as to be able to fight their country's natural foe. Peace honourably guaranteed by constant readiness for war, is an idea which has not presented itself to these blundering patriots.—*Jinmin*.

Progress and liberality are supposed to be the bases of Japan's national policy. Unfortunately the fact is not discernible in our educational methods. Against technical education nothing need be said, but in the field of general education there is a good deal of the spirit of anti-foreign isolation. We are on the verge of Mixed Residence, yet the question as between a Japanese policy and a cosmopolitan policy is still discussed. Why should we be in any doubt about a standard? We have had our own precedents for the past 2,000 years. If any country can be said to have a national policy, surely the national policy of Japan from time immemorial has been the most liberal eclecticism. Can not our educationists appreciate the fact? It is a common saying that bigoted religionists make the worst possible men of business, they are so narrow-minded and so lacking in versatility. The same remark might be made of the teachers in Japanese schools. Prejudice and Conservatism are their dogmas, and they allow no departure from them. Youth emerges from their teaching with a conviction that the highest duty to a prince is to commit suicide at his bidding, and that the way to show patriotism is to throw stones at a foreigner. Thus are sown seeds that will one day bear a crop of disaster for Japan. Let the Educational Department look to it.—*Kokumin Shimbun*.

Once a fortnight there appears in Rome a journal called *Vox Urbis*. It is written entirely in Latin, and in this tongue discusses the most modern events. The Dreyfus case does not puzzle it in the slightest, and M. Clémenceau becomes "*ferox vehemensque homo*"; and *Vive l'Armée*, becomes *Bene emeritius*.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

Mr. J. P. Mollison, Chairman of the local branch of the China Association, has received the following telegram from Lord Charles Beresford, dated at Osaka:—

Accept dinner 23rd January with pleasure,
BERESFORD.

Mr. Mollison telegraphed the invitation to Lord Charles both at Nagasaki and Kobe, and two hours after receiving the above telegram a letter turned up, dated on board the *Coptic*, January 11th, and posted at Kobe on the 13th inst., which also conveyed his Lordship's acceptance of Yokohama's invitation.

We understand that the subscribers to the dinner—which will take place at the Oriental Hotel—now number 130, but as names will be accepted up to the last day we fully expect 150 will sit down. The project is evidently most popular.

At a meeting on Monday afternoon the following were elected as a committee to make arrangements for the dinner to Lord Charles Beresford: Mr. J. P. Mollison, Mr. W. W. Till, Mr. E. Flint Kilby, Mr. R. D. Robinson, Mr. J. Dodds, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Mr. F. Lowder, Mr. W. B. Walter, Mr. H. M. Bevis, Mr. Alfred Woolley, Mr. A. B. Wallford, Mr. G. Syme Thompson, and Mr. F. S. James, Mr. W. F. Mitchell was elected as Chairman and Messrs. Robinson and Dodds as Vice-Chairmen.

On the morning of Wednesday, the 11th inst., Lord Charles Beresford visited the Mitsu Bishi Company's Shipbuilding Yard and Dock at Tategami, and the Engine Works and Dock at Tategami, Nagasaki, Mr. Clark, Foreign Consulting Engineer to the Company, showing him everything that was to be seen. At Akunoura, Mr. Shoda also accompanied Lord Charles through the works. The recent extensions of the works both at Tategami and Akunoura have so much increased the area of the works as to make the survey of the whole in a single morning quite onerous. Lord Charles, however, examined everything with the keen interest of the expert, and was, the *Nagasaki Press* believes, considerably impressed with the docking, repairing, and shipbuilding facilities of Nagasaki.

After the tiffin at Kobe on Friday, the 13th, Lord Charles Beresford had a long conference at the Kobe Club with members of the local branch of the China Association. Later in the day he left for Osaka accompanied by Mr. Hall, H.B.M.'s Consul. Twenty delegates of various bodies met at the Station to welcome his Lordship. Mr. Nishizawa, Secretary of Osaka Fu, was also there to accompany him to the Osaka Hotel. On Saturday Lord Charles Beresford inspected different mills. He visited the Osaka Boseki (Cotton Spinning), Seitō Kaisha (Sagar Refinery), Seisui Kaisha (Match Factory) and Seigo Kaisha (Brick Factory.) An entertainment in his honour was held in the evening under the auspices of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, at which Major-General Oseko, Chief of the Staff Department of the Fourth Division, was present.

Lord Charles Beresford arrived at Kyoto on Jan. 15th at 11.06, from Osaka, accompanied by Mr. Hall, British Consul at Kobe. He proceeded to the Kyoto Hotel. After tiffin, he paid visits to the temples and other buildings, and at 5 p.m. proceeded to the City Hall, where Japanese citizens welcomed him.

Lord Charles Beresford arrived in Tokyo on the 17th inst. and proceeded to the British Legation. On Wednesday, the 18th he paid visits to Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Saigo, Minister of Home Affairs; Viscount Katsura, Minister of War; Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household; Viscount Aoki, Minister of Foreign Affairs; and Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of the Navy.

The members of the Toho Kyokwai (National Oriental Association) invite Lord Charles to the Imperial Hotel on the 21st.

IMPERIAL DIET.

SATURDAY, 14TH JANUARY.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 10.15 a.m., and the following Bills, presented by the Government, having been read for the first time, were handed to Special Committees:—

AMENDING THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

1. A Bill for amending the Commercial Code. This Bill was debated and passed by the House of Peers in its twelfth session, but failed to come up for discussion in the House of Representatives owing to the latter's dissolution. The Minister of Justice introduced the Bill in the present session, and explained that the amendments it embodied were chiefly owing to the necessity of bringing the Commercial Code into harmony with the Revised Civil Code. His Excellency added that the Law of Bankruptcy was still in the hands of the Revising Committee, but would be laid before the House in a few days.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

2. A Bill for amending portions of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The changes proposed by this Bill have reference chiefly to the assumption of jurisdiction by Japan over foreigners. According to the present law, all documentary statements made by an accused person or by the witnesses for the prosecution or for the defence must be signed and stamped. Foreigners, however, do not use stamps, nor, indeed, is any special benefit secured by requiring that a stamp shall be added to a signature. It is therefore proposed to amend the law in the sense that when the person making a statement has no stamp, his signature shall suffice; and when he can not either make a signature or employ a stamp, the document may be signed for him in his presence by a duly authorized substitute. The second amendment is the abolition of the "secret cell" (*misshitsu*) as a means of obtaining a confession from a suspect at the preliminary examination. It is not considered desirable, however, to do away with all means of eliciting information from a person under examination. Hence the proposal is to substitute the "segregated cell" for the secret cell in cases where there appears to be a necessity for obtaining information. The third amendment is the insertion of a provision that where an examining judge refuses to grant bail, the prisoner shall have the right of appeal to the Court under whose jurisdiction he is being examined.

3. A Bill for amending the Regulations relating to the lodging of Security in connexion with Appeals in Cases of Crime.

The Regulations, as they now stand, provide that a person accused of a crime who appeals from the judgment of a lower tribunal, must lodge a sum of 20 *yen* in Court as security for expenses; but that, if he is unable to find such a sum, the Court may relieve him of the obligation on receipt of a documentary statement of his impecuniosity signed by his district head-man. Inasmuch, however, as no district head-man exists in the case of foreigners, it is proposed to provide that, in their case, a statement by the Consul of their nationality, or, failing the Consul, by the police-inspector of the district, shall suffice.

BANKS.

4. Two Bills for amending the Bank Regulations so as to bring them into harmony with the Revised Commercial Code.

PARCELS POST.

The Special Committee then reported favourably on the Government Bill for amending the Postal Regulations in the sense of enlarging the limits of size for parcels sent through the post, and increasing the maximum sum sendable by post office order, from 30 *yen* to 50 *yen*. The Bill was read a second and a third time without opposition.

The Bill (Government) relating to security in certain civil procedure was then passed.

REVENUE MEASURES.

A favourable report having been presented by the Special Committee on the Bill (sent up

from the Lower House) for increasing the Statutory Import Dues on alcohol, tobacco, *sanshu*, &c., the Bill was carried through all its Readings.

ANCIENT TOMBS.

Mr. Kinoshita introduced a Representation urging the Government to take steps for the preservation of ancient tombs. He dwelt upon the fact that reverence for the memory of ancestors was a fundamental principle of Japanese morality. In many districts throughout the empire there were numbers of tombs which, though not identifiable as the burial places of special personages, were known by certain indications to be the sepulchres of members of the Imperial Family. The province of Yamato contained over eight hundred. Hinga was almost equally conspicuous, and Yamashiro, Kawachi, Izumo and Settsu had great numbers. Only a fraction of the tumuli were in the possession of the State, the majority being owned by private individuals, who did not hesitate to cut down the trees, and sometimes levelled the mounds to make barley-fields. Thus, in Nara Prefecture there were 742 tombs, of which only 283 were in the hands of the Government. The national sentiment was favourable at present to antiquarian and historical research, and it seemed particularly regrettable that these revered relics of a remote past, including perhaps, the sepulchres of the Emperor Jimmu and the Empress Kogo, should be suffered to fall into a state of dilapidation. Another consideration was that the places chosen for such tombs in old times had been elevated spots commanding fine prospects; just such places in short, as foreigners would desire to acquire for villa sites after the inauguration of mixed residence. That result was to be sincerely deprecated, for which reason the Representation urged the advisability of the State's purchasing all the tombs now in the possession of private persons.

It was suggested that direct reference to the names of the Emperor Jimmu and the Empress Kogo should be ruled out of the record, as wanting in respect, but the suggestion did not obtain support. The House voted the Representation unanimously, and rose at 12.15 p.m.

MONDAY, 16TH JANUARY.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m.

SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills having been favourably reported by Special Committees, with slight amendments, the House voted for their Second Readings:—

Bill for amending the Law of Registration.
Bill embodying a Project of Stamp-Tax Law.
Bill for levying Tonnage Dues.

The following Bills having been favourably reported on by Special Committees, their Second and Third Readings were voted at once:—

Three Bills for including the Tobacco Monopoly among the ordinary State Industries, instead of keeping it as a separate undertaking, and for transferring its fixed-capital and working-capital funds to the accounts of the State Industries instead of making them matters of special account.

Bill empowering the Government to make issues of Public Undertakings Bonds and Railway Bonds in advance of the time fixed by Law, if the condition of the money market made such a course advisable.

Bill empowering the Government to make drafts upon the Indemnity in lieu of issuing Bonds, should such a course seem advisable; provided that the amount of the drafts be subsequently restored to the Indemnity out of the proceeds of Bond issues.

In answer to questions with reference to this Bill, the Government Delegate explained that the residue of the Indemnity now in hand, in the form of ready money and securities, aggregated 132,310,000 *yen*, in round numbers,

and that, if the Bill were passed, the Government would probably employ 70,650,000 yen of that total during the fiscal year 1899-1900 instead of immediately issuing the Public Undertakings and Railway Bonds sanctioned under the *post bellum* programme. It was expected, however, that the amount would be made good within the course of the year.

Bill empowering the Treasury to temporarily draft portions of the Indemnity in the Ordinary Revenue, provided that the monies thus drafted be subsequently restored.

Mr. Kudo Kokan (Opposition) spoke strongly against this measure. He denounced it as calculated to remove the revenues and expenditures of the State beyond the supervision of the Diet, which would be entirely unconstitutional; and he declared that money in the hands of the present Cabinet was like meat set before a hungry tiger: the temptation to consume it was irresistible.

Mr. Hoshi Toru understood that this Bill had been drafted by the preceding Cabinet, of which Mr. Kudo's Party were supporters. Was that the case?

Mr. Kudo said that was a very strange question. It did not matter to him what Cabinet had drafted a measure. The measure was to be considered on its merits. He was not, like Mr. Hoshi Toru, a blind follower of persons rather than of principles.

Mr. Hoshi failed to perceive that his question had been answered. What he asked was simply whether or not the Bill now before the House had been drafted by the last Cabinet.

Mr. Kudo replied that he knew nothing about it, and quitted the rostrum.

Bill for abolishing the system of Special Account with regard to Consolidated Bonds, the whole issue having been already floated.

Bill for increasing the Working Capital of the Mint. According to the present system, gold bullion in the vaults of the Mint is stated in terms of coin without reference to the alloy which is added for purposes of coinage. Hence the account value of the bullion appears less than its real value by the weight of the alloy. The Bill provides that the difference shall be carried to the Working Capital of the Mint.

Bill for amending the system of Accounts of Government Railways in Hokkaido.

Bill for including in the Government Undertakings Account a sum of 4½ million yen, being the Permanent Working Capital of the Iron Foundry.

NEW BILLS.

The following Bills were read for the first time, and handed to Special Committees:—

Bill embodying a project of Nationalization Law (sent down from the Upper House.)

Bill for prolonging the operation of Law No. 63 of the year 1896—i.e. the Law conferring legislative power on the Governor-General of Formosa—(sent down from the Upper House.)

Bill for amending the Chemists and Druggists' Regulations—in the sense of permitting foreigners to engage in these occupations—(sent down from the Upper House.)

Bill for changing the Jurisdiction Limits of certain Law Courts (sent down from the Upper House.)

Bill for interchanging the Classifications of certain Districts (sent down from the Upper House.)

The President announced that there would be no session on the following day in consequence of the funeral of the Princess Sada, and the House rose at 3.05 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not sit.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m.

FORMOSA.

Mr. Numa Gogo, who recently returned from Formosa after a residence of 5 years there, presented a series of Questions with reference to the administration of the island, the development of its resources, the establishment of

order, the building of railways, the protection of the coasts against Chinese trespasses, and so forth. He spoke for over two hours.

BUDGETS.

The Chairman of the Budget Committee reported favourably on two Supplementary Budgets, embodying appropriations for the extension of the accommodation available for storing alcohol and kerosene in the Yokohama Customs, and for a loan to the Sōul-Chemulpo Railway Company. He moved that the Order be changed for the purpose of discussing these Budgets at once, but the House rejected the motion.

NEW BILLS.

The following Bills were then passed:—

Bill for the better Protection of the Aborigines in Hokkaido.

Bill for amending the Law relating to the relief of the Families of deceased officials.

The following Bills were handed to Special Committees:—

Bill (presented by the Government) for granting a measure of Aid from the Treasury to the Bank of Formosa. The Bank is already invested with power to issue 5 million yen worth of bills payable at sight to bearer, but the privilege has hitherto proved of little value, owing to the fact that the people of Formosa have not yet acquired confidence in the Bank, and Japanese capitalists show little disposition to invest money in local enterprises. The Government contemplated granting a loan of 3 million yen without interest, and introduced a Bill for that purpose in the 12th session of the Diet; but it did not come up for discussion. The present Bill provides that the Treasury shall purchase one million yen worth of the Bank's shares, pledging itself not to sell any of them for the space of one year, and agreeing not to receive any dividend on them for that time.

Bill (sent down from the Upper House, where it had been presented by the Government) for amending the Press Law in the sense of allowing foreigners to engage in journalistic enterprise.

Bill (sent down from the Upper House and presented by the Government) for amending the Law relating to security in Civil Procedure.

Bill (private) for exempting from urban, prefectural, or communal taxes all lands, rural as well as urban, which are to be brought under the operation of the increased Land Tax.

Two Bills (private) for amending the Organization of the Board of Audit, in the sense of providing that all disciplinary measures taken against the members of the Board, shall not be adopted by the Board itself, as is at present the case, but shall be decided by a special tribunal forming part of the Supreme Court; and that any member absenting himself from his duty for more than 90 days in consequence of sickness which offers no prospect of cure, shall be retired, as is the general rule with regard to officials.

Bill (private) for altering Divisional Boundaries in Yehime Prefecture.

Bill (private) for granting State aid to the extent of 150,000 yen in Agricultural Experimental Stations in cities and prefectures, in consideration of the fact that the burden imposed upon the communes by the increased Land Tax will render them unable to support these stations, the value of which has nevertheless been proved by experience.

The Chairman of the Petitions Committee asked permission to postpone the discussion of 9 petitions which had been placed on the Order, and the House rose at 4.15 p.m.

FATAL FIRE AT A MISSION HOUSE.

The Methodist Mission House at Hirotsuki, occupied by the Rev. R. P. Alexander and family, has been destroyed by fire. Mrs. Alexander received fatal injuries, while Mr. Alexander and their little son were also injured, though slightly. The cook's wife is said to have been so seriously burned as to be in danger of her life. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have a large circle of friends both in Japan and America.

THE COLLISION NEAR KOBE.

The *Kobe Herald* of Monday says:—The P.M. liner *City of Peking*, which arrived in harbour at 10 o'clock last night, from Yokohama, had a perilously narrow escape in coming up the Bay, a Japanese gunboat—the *Amagi Kan*, we believe—having run into her. Full particulars are not available at the time of writing, but from what we have been able to gather the gunboat was steering a very erratic course, first her red light, then the green, and then again the red being seen from the bridge of the *Peking*. When the collision occurred the mail boat was going astern, at least her engines had been put full speed astern, we understand, and to this, very possibly, is due in some measure her escape. The *Amagi Kan* struck the *Peking* right amidships, carrying away No. 34 deck and about 20 feet of the rail and indenting three of the plates. Luckily the plates were not cut through. The blow was a sliding one, thanks to the skilful handling of the two ships when within a few yards of each other. From passengers who have gone on to Hongkong by the mail boat we learn that the warship did not stop at all, a proceeding which certainly calls for some explanation and enquiry. For a time it was feared that the *Peking* was in immediate danger, and orders were at once given for the boats to be got out. The shock of the collision brought all the passengers and most of the crew on deck, and in a very few minutes all the boats' crews were at their stations and everything ready for the lowering of the boats. The passengers speak in the highest praise of the coolness maintained by Captain Smith and his officers, and attribute their escape in a large degree to his splendid seamanship. The *City of Peking* was able to proceed on her voyage and left next day for Hongkong, via Nagasaki and Shanghai.

The *Amagi Kan*, we hear, sustained no damage whatever.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE JAPAN BREWERY.

A serious accident occurred on Saturday morning about eight o'clock at the Japan Brewery, Yokohama. About a hundred coolies were engaged on the new cellar in course of construction when part of the framework, loosened by the heavy rain of the previous night, collapsed, together with a portion of the brickwork. Over a dozen coolies who were at work were buried in the debris, and one of them named Nakamori Seijiro, was so badly injured that he died shortly after being taken to the General Hospital. Superintendent Okada, the able and efficient Superintendent of the Buff police station, was apprised of the disaster, and with the assistance of some of his men the unfortunate coolies were extricated. It was found that two besides Nakamori were seriously injured, while five others had received less severe wounds. One was taken to the General Hospital, where he was treated, and the others who were badly hurt were conveyed to a Japanese hospital. The police are enquiring into the question of responsibility for the disaster. The contractor is Mr. Shimizu Mannosuke.

FOREIGN AUCTIONEER AND A JAPANESE BUYER.

The Yokohama Chihō Saibansho delivered judgment on Thursday in the case of Eytan and Watanabe. Defendant, an ironmonger, refused to take delivery of 330 lbs. of sheet rubber sold to him by auction on April 11th by Mr. Eytan, and owing to this default Mr. Eytan was compelled to temporarily pay his client the proceeds of the sale from his own pocket. The defendant still refusing to take delivery of the goods, they were sold, with the defendant's consent, for 89 yen on the 17th inst. The plaintiff claimed the difference between his advance to the original seller and the receipts of the second sale, amounting to 99 yen, and his commission for the last sale at the rate of 5 per cent. The defence was that the lower portion of the sheet rubber was inferior in quality to the upper part. Judgment for plaintiff.

DEVOTION TO THE EMPEROR [KINNO.]

The interesting essay which we publish below, from the pen of Mr. T. Kuroda, was written in French, and reached us in that language, but we have thought it wiser to translate it, with the author's consent, because in an English form it is better suited to an English newspaper, and is also calculated to reach a larger circle of readers. We do not wish to be understood as endorsing the opinions of the essayist in every respect. For example, it seems to us a somewhat extreme view to hold that the Diet "assumed the initiative power in bestowing upon the Emperor a portion of the Indemnity." Such a description of the Diet's course is scarcely consistent with the facts. What the Diet did was to pass a Representation to the Government embodying suggestions from both Houses that a portion of the Indemnity might be transferred to the Imperial estate instead of being spent for ordinary national purposes. The Emperor is the head of the Government. It was to the Emperor that the Diet's Representation went in the first instance, and by the Emperor's orders it was acted upon. In short, the transfer of the 20 millions was made by the Emperor's direction, and could not have been made without that direction. No violence was done, in form at any rate, to the principle that the Indemnity belonged to the Sovereign and could not be disposed of without his sanction. One thing, however, is quite certain, namely, that whatever theory may be formulated as to the Emperor's right of property in the Indemnity, His Majesty would never have entertained, or conceived, the idea of diverting so much as a *sen* of it to his own use had not a suggestion in that sense come from the Diet. If it was expedient that the Imperial estate should be enriched out of the Indemnity, only one way of effecting that end presented itself, namely, the way adopted by the Diet. To which consideration, then, should the greater importance have been attached, the practical desirability of making an addition to the Imperial estate, or the sentimental expediency of clinging to a principle which rendered such an addition impossible? The inauguration of parliamentary institutions has produced a great many changes in Japan, and it might often be found that administrative and financial impotence would result from attempting to observe old doctrines too closely under the new conditions. Nor are we by any means convinced that Mr. Kuroda's theory can be reconciled with history. For many centuries the Sovereign's financial authority was extremely limited in Japan. In the days of the Fujiwara and the Hojo the Throne's means of support were entirely beyond its control, and in the days of the Bakufu it received a regular yearly stipend fixed by the Tokugawa regents. It is probable that few Japanese of the present time would be found willing to deny Mr. Kuroda's theory, but the precedents furnished by the national annals certainly do not appear consistent with it. One word may be added about the peculiar and beautiful relation described by Mr. Kuroda as existing between the Sovereign and his people. If we look back to remote times in Japan, we find, not so much that an obligation devolved upon the Emperor "to manifest the

most constant care and beneficent vigilance for the welfare of his subjects," as that His Majesty occupied the position of the nation's high priest. It was for him to pray to heaven, and propitiate the gods, on behalf of his people. They were not required or expected to perform those functions for themselves. Out of that relationship the theory of mutual helpfulness and interdependence indicated by Mr. Kuroda may have grown, though democracy is scarcely the name we should have been disposed to apply to it.

Much is said in Japan, especially in recent days, concerning the spirit of devotion to the Emperor; and it has become in some sort a common belief that the phrase embodies an idea so uncontested that no person may presume to question any course of action, of whatever nature, with which it is associated. That it represents the highest duty of the people, and stands as the foundation of our social and political structure, is beyond dispute; but this does not warrant the assumption that the community must place itself blindly at the discretion of all who make use of it in support of their projects. To guard against misunderstanding, an inquiry may advantageously be made into the true meaning of the words, so simple in themselves yet so easily diverted from their just purpose.

When the principle of devotion to the Emperor is spoken of, the fact should be borne in mind that our Sovereign is the ruler of this Empire of Japan, and not of any other country or countries. Each nation has its own history and institutions, and each Emperor holds his own peculiar station, differing more or less from that of others, although the same title is given to all monarchs of imperial dominions. In Japan, from the time when the first ancestor of the ruling house founded his dynasty, his successors have continued to reign and govern, through all developments of history, and the promulgation of the Constitution has not only introduced no change into the political system, but has established and confirmed that system with additional strength and clearness. There can be no doubt that our Sovereign is the absolute head of the State. He holds in his hand the power to regulate, according to his will, everything that concerns the empire. The parliament is nothing else than his legislative organ, as the Cabinet is his administrative organ; this being an express provision of the Constitution itself.

There is one important and essential point to be considered in connection with the Emperor's possession of absolute and supreme control. This is, that the monarch who occupies the throne is immutably bound to be ever mindful, in the exercise of his power, of the obligation, inherited from his ancestors, to manifest the most constant care and beneficent vigilance for the welfare of his subjects. A vital moral principle is thus united with the political system by which Japan is governed; and it would be a grave error to judge the methods employed in ruling this country, by the standards of authority which prevail in the various nations of Europe and America. The relation between the Sovereign and the people, in Japan, is in a measure that of father and child. On both sides a moral sentiment is mutually recognized, as binding together the fabric of society; and it was one of the consequences of this moral sentiment, and the influences proceeding therefrom, that by the will of His Majesty the Constitution was decreed, a Constitution totally different in spirit and purpose from that of any foreign State.

While the Emperor of Japan is wholly absolute in sway, he fulfils at the same time the moral function of watchful and protecting guardianship over all who live under his rule. These two attributes of supremacy, entirely distinct, yet inseparable and happily united, have always guided the political history of the country, from the foundation of the imperial line through the numerous centuries of its unbroken descent. To their influence we trace the distinguishing conditions of our national existence—conditions upon whose faithful maintenance the future of the State depends, and the intelligent recognition of which is the first duty of all who are concerned in the direction of public affairs.

During the third of a century that Japan has sought to utilise the advantages of Western civilization, attempts to imitate whatever bears the stamp of Europe have been far too frequent, many having been carried even to the point of utterly disregarding the basis to our social and political constitution. While free and vehement expression is given to the feeling of devotion to the Sovereign, we find a common tendency to assimilate the posi-

tion of our Imperial house with that occupied by one or another of the ruling families of Europe. These efforts to apply a general rule to totally different conditions, never judicious, become grotesque when the sovereignty of Japan is treated as comparable with that of England, whose government has undergone so many modifications in the last three hundred years that the controlling power of the throne is now merely nominal. Such errors must not be too lightly judged. In my belief, they lead to public demoralization,—perhaps to the destruction of elements in which our national strength chiefly resides.

Within comparatively a few days, a striking example of these misapplied ideas has presented itself, under circumstances so extraordinary that the escape of those responsible for it from condemnation by the country at large can be accounted for only by the ignorance of the masses, by gross misconception, or, it may be, by the hesitation of individual members of society to publicly discuss so delicate a topic. I refer to the almost unanimous vote of Parliament, offering to the Imperial house the sum of twenty million *yen*, remaining from the indemnity taken from China. In justification of its motive, it was alleged to be a token of the sincere devotion of the people towards the Sovereign, and the measure was consequently passed without debate by the two Chambers.

Let us examine the true significance of this offer,—this sadly misnamed "grant,"—on behalf of the people. To whom does the money exacted from the defeated adversary belong, if not to the State and to the head of the State? Does any one dispute that the war was declared by the will of our sovereign ruler? Will it be gainsaid that the peace which followed was his act, with all its conditions and material results? The victory was his, in the sense of every conviction to which the souls of the Japanese people are pledged; and the fruits of the victory were his own, to be disposed of in conformity to his judgment and authority. That he would avail himself of the experience and sagacity of his chosen counsellors in making use of them for the best interests of the State is, no doubt, a natural conclusion; but the attempt of Parliament to assume the initiative power of bestowing upon him a portion of that which he already possesses by his prerogative, is an abuse of privilege from which the sober sentiment of the community will assuredly revolt, when reflection has demonstrated its real character. I have been amazed that, among the entire Parliamentary body, not a single member was alive to the duty of probing this question, and endeavouring to throw upon it such light as should enable the legislators to realize the imprudence of the course they were pursuing. Outside of Parliament, it is true that some dissentient voices were heard. A few newspapers spoke in disapprobation, but their objections were apparently suggested by mere expediency, and showed no appreciation of the principles which should be most solicitously guarded.

It is not my purpose to analyze the arguments presented in defence of this procedure. I think the time will come when the simple statement of them will be their most effective refutation. But I am tempted, incidentally, to touch upon the plea that the increased cost of commodities necessitates an addition to the funds of the Imperial Household, and to inquire why, if this augmentation were deemed essential, it was not proposed to meet the need by an appropriate amendment to the Budget. This would have been a legitimate means of providing for the emergency, supposing that the emergency existed; and by its adoption, Parliament would not have exposed itself to the censure of travelling beyond its proper sphere, as it has done in claiming the right to parcel out the indemnity. With regard to another plea, less offensive at first view to the dignity of the throne, though scarcely less unbecoming as a declaration of public opinion, some words of protest are more urgently called for, since it appears to have been accepted and supported by many who honestly believe themselves actuated by the true spirit of devotion (*Kinno*). We are told that in consequence of the development and growth of democratic ideas, expediency demands that the Imperial house be endowed with an abundant and substantial fortune; and especially that, as a means of maintaining its prestige, it should have ample provision for the exercise of charity on a bounteous scale. If any are misled by theories of this sort, it can only be because they do not rightly estimate the principles upon which our Imperial house is founded; for in our system of monarchy there is nothing incompatible with the development or growth of democratic ideas, and no misapprehension could be more groundless than to suppose that its prestige, so-called, can be affected by material acts of any description. It

should be evident, moreover, than in any case where the employment of funds for large beneficent purposes is thought necessary by the Emperor, he has only to command that such funds be supplied from the public treasury, without recourse to his private means.

It may be reasoned that among the royal families of Europe there are many that look with dread upon the progress of democracy, which they regard as hostile to the continuance of their power; and that the instinct of self-preservation leads them to impose restraints upon all popular movements of a social or political nature. This is not the case in Japan. The strength of our imperial house is sustained by the sentiment of eternal devotion that dwells in the hearts of the people, and the Sovereign governs by virtue of his constant and unchanging participation in the welfare or misfortune, the joys and the sorrows, of the entire nation. Upon this ground-work our form of government was created, and has been maintained for ages, to our pride and honour; and no departure therefrom is possible without imperilling the destinies of the country.

The lessons of universal history are not hard to read. Do they not teach us that the utmost efforts of the rulers of mankind have never succeeded, either by violence or dexterity, in arresting the gradual spread of democratic ideas? And shall we listen to those who would counsel even the first step in a course which has led to nothing but failure elsewhere, while, by adherence to the principles which have hitherto given us unity and strength, we may confidently hope for the lasting prosperity of our race? What our government has been, it must be, if our national life is to be prolonged. The moral influence of the Sovereign must dominate, and this will never be dependent upon the accumulation of wealth, nor upon the mere performance of superficial deeds which, though they may receive grateful acknowledgment, can add nothing to a loyalty so profound and ardent as that of the Japanese masses. The glory and majesty of the throne cannot be enhanced by riches, and the glitter of great possessions would awaken no fervour in the popular heart. What constitutes the claim of our imperial house to reverence and devotion is the knowledge that its existence is bound up with that of the people, and that it shares with every subject, however humble, the duties and the privileges of the State. To forget this would be to deny all that our ancestry held most sacred, and to renounce the faith we have been taught to cherish forever.

Devotion to the Emperor, finally, does not consist in empty forms and shallow protestations. It cannot find fitting expression in ostentatious material endowments nor in presumptuous proffers of charity funds. Least of all can it be harmonized with incessant and frivolous appeals to the highest source of national authority; with rude encroachments on the sanctity of the throne, or with audacious invocations of the august name by petty political and financial intriguers. It is a simple and noble sentiment, based—as I believe, and as I have endeavoured to show—upon a simple and noble law of our nature; and the power to inspire it, however it may have been transmitted to its earthly possessors, is as surely divine as any blessing ever conferred upon humanity.

TAKUMA KURODA.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RELIGIOUS ASPECTS OF THE SINGLE TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me a little space in your paper on the eve of my departure from Japan?

I think my friends will bear with me under the circumstances when I beg them to consider carefully and prayerfully the religious aspects of the Single Tax. It was not a political burden laid upon Mr. Garst's soul that caused him in overwork and made him moan in his last illness, "This is my body broken for you," and "the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up, over and over again. A man of intense sympathies, the physical misery of these Oriental nations had been a deadweight upon him for fifteen years, to say nothing of the anxiety he felt about the masses in so-called Christian and other lands.

To us the Single Tax, (or righteous land law) is Divine, and clear as any other law

of God stands out Lev. 25 23, "The land shall not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is mine, saith the Lord, and ye are strangers and sojourners with me;" (R.V.) and Psalm 115, 16, "The earth hath He given to the children of men;" and Eccles. 5, 9, "The profit of the earth is for all" (in other words the rest of the land belongs to the people). The lamentable torpor of the Church on this and kindred subjects of vital importance in bringing in the reign of righteousness hung over Mr. Garst like a pall day and night sapping his strength.

When Dr. Scriba said if his head could stand the strain he would recover, I thought the weight it was bearing from disease was as nothing to the terrible burden that it had borne for weary years. Some good Christian people even have affirmed that none need be poor if they would work—that poverty is the direct outgrowth of drunkenness and laziness. Let such open their Bibles and try to substitute the drunken and lazy in the beautiful promises God has given to the poor. If there is one thing that stands out distinctly in the Bible it is that God has an oppressed people on the earth, whose cause He espouses.

The well-fed comfortably housed Christian appropriates joyfully the sweet promises of God that as He feeds the birds and clothes the lilies so He will supply them, and reaptuously sings, *take time to be holy*. But how about the lilies when potted and the birds when caged—in other words, when they are both removed from their connection with God's earth? How about those so ground down by cruel toil for the soulless millionaire that they have no time or strength to consider God's love and do not sensibly appreciate His bounty? Shut a little child in a dark unwholesome room, give it little or nothing to eat or wear, and stand on one side and talk to it of the over-flowing wisdom and abounding love of its fond parents!

More than once Mr. Garst has been pained by the remark, "all right brother, you preach Single Tax and I'll preach the good old Jerusalem Gospel!" But the love that suffereth long and is kind, that thinketh no evil, that seeketh not her own, was his in an unusually large measure, and no unkind speech in return betrayed the suffering he endured. Sometimes after I have been out calling he has asked me what subjects were discussed in my hearing. Once I well remember I had to confess, with shame, that it was the *Carrot case*; another time—dress! "Yes," he said, "and if I had been there and mentioned the Single Tax, they would have exclaimed 'Why don't you preach the Gospel!'" Verily we are not always consistent!

John Baptist said, *Bring forth fruits meet for repentance*; Our Saviour, by *their fruits ye shall know them*; and it was as much part of the Gospel message to Mr. Garst to teach people what their sins were as to teach them to repent and be baptised.

I venture to say no missionary in Japan in an equal length of time has preached more sermons on the Resurrection or reasoned more faithfully on straight Gospel lines than Mr. Garst. With *waraji* on his feet and the word of God in suitable portions for ready distribution, he has tramped this Empire almost, sleeping and eating, often times, in places that few missionaries would enter.

During a recent visit in China I learned some of the suffering of the people there through landlordism. In some districts land is not rented unless the would-be-tenant has a water buffalo, farming tools, and sufficient to live on for two years. The landlord says if he has not that much he will steal, and then the landlord must be responsible for his depredations. Sixty per cent. of his crops go to the landlord, twenty to the idols, and if the paltry fraction left is lessened by famine of water or from untoward circumstance, he must sell his belongings and, when all is gone, beg, and thousands of people die outside the walls of Nankin every winter.

Do Christian workers suppose that such a state of affairs does not shut the hearts of millions against God, whom we preach as a God of

love, and breed atheism? It would lighten my burden of grief now if I could feel I had always been as zealous about this much needed reform as I should have been, and also if I could dare hope that many hitherto indifferent ones would take the trouble to investigate, especially reading Henry George's "Progress and Poverty," and Patrick Edward Dove's "Theory of Human Progression."

We do not claim that the Single Tax will prove a universal panacea for every ill, but a scheme that will "give to all the Father's children a seat at the Father's table" as some one has well put it, is worth considering. With most tender, grateful memories of Japan, and prayer for her prosperity and advancement in the highest and best sense,

Very sincerely yours,

LAURA DE LANY GARST.

Tokyo, January 14th, 1899.

THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 7th inst. you give prominence to the report that the action of the Trustees of the Doshisha in Expunging Christianity from its fundamental place in the school "would probably have escaped protest had not the quality of Mr. Yokoi's Christianity been open to doubt." Without waiting to consult any one I write to say that this report is without foundation. Such a fundamental change would have been opposed even though made by Dr. Niishima himself.

If this Doshisha agitation were simply a matter of doubt or dislike of Mr. Yokoi it would cease the moment he resigns his position. The fact that the representatives of the American donors will be satisfied with nothing short of the restoration of the "Fundamental Principles" of the school conclusively shows that there is no truth in the report that it is a personal crusade against Mr. Yokoi.

I am, truly yours, M. L. GORDON.

Kyoto, Jan. 9th, 1899.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the Monthly Summary of the Religious Press published in your issue of Jan. 7th, in quotations from the *Kirisutokyo Shimbon* and *Shinri*, the Lutheran Church is classed with the Unitarian, and spoken of as a representative of liberal as opposed to orthodox theology. Let some of your readers should be led astray by these statements, I crave your space for the insertion of this letter.

By the terms "The Lutheran Church," the writers of the statements in question referred to the work that has grown up under the Evangelical Protestant Missionary Society, with headquarters in Koishikawa, Tokyo. As applied to it the statements are doubtless true.

But it is a misnomer to call that work Lutheran. Acceptance of certain historic creeds is the distinguishing mark of Lutheranism; but the Evangelical Protestant Missionary Society repudiates every creed of the Lutheran Church. Moreover, the members of that Society do not speak of themselves as Lutherans, and they have no right to the name. The only representative of the historic Lutheran Church in Japan is the Evangelical Lutheran Mission (American) in Kyushu. As the above-named body prides itself in being "liberal," this body prides itself in being strictly orthodox. We stand firmly by what is termed nowadays "traditional theology"—the historic faith of the Church.

Should anyone think that the statements quoted from the *Kirisutokyo Shimbon* and *Shinri* represent our opinions, or the view of the Lutheran Church at large, he would greatly err. The Lutheran Church in the United States, which ranks third numerically among the religious denominations there, is a thoroughly evangelical body, jealous of its orthodoxy; and in this respect the Lutheran Church of

Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and a portion of that in Germany, does not differ materially from it. Lutheranism is by its nature and history conservative.

To avoid misunderstanding, the work of the German mission in Koishikawa should never be spoken of as Lutheran.

Sincerely yours, R. B. PEERY.
Saga, Hizen, January, 1899.

THE "GLENAVON'S" MAILS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I beg to inform the public, through the medium of your paper, that the mail matter for Singapore dispatched per steamers *Omi Maru*, *Coptic*, and *Empress of China* on the 15th, 19th, and 20th December, 1898, respectively were lost in the steamer *Glenavon*, which was wrecked shortly after leaving Hongkong for Singapore.

Yours faithfully,
K. YAGUI, Director.
Yokohama, Jan. 18th, 1899.

A CONTRAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Since taxation and land values are absorbing topics in Japan at the present time, the following facts may not be without interest to your readers.

A few years ago Mayor Swift, of the city of Chicago, appointed a special committee to assess the valuation of the real estate in the business district of that city, known locally as "downtown." One square mile of that district was estimated to be worth \$438,447,180. "This estimate includes the ground and improvements, and is exclusive of personal belongings of any kind." "This district comprises the area bounded by the lake on the east, the South Branch of the river on the west, the main river on the north, and Twelfth street on the south." Of this 438 million dollars of real estate Marshall Field owns \$22,000,000 and L. Z. Leiter owns \$16,000,000. The latter is the father of Lady Curzon of Kedleston, who presides over Government House, Calcutta.

According to the *Japan Mail* of June 5th, 1897, the total value of building land throughout the empire of Japan is assessed at 142,302,500 yen, of which 32 millions represent the taxable land in Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, and 38 provincial towns. This contrast reads like a story from the Arabian Nights. One square mile of real estate in Illinois that was used by Indians as hunting and fishing ground less than eighty years ago is now worth more than fourteen times as much as the total area of Japan's 41 largest cities. This well illustrates the marvellous growth of the cities in America.

Yours truly, WILL PATILLO.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

With reference to the Imperial Decree No. 385 of October 29th, 1897, relative to certificates of origin, as amended by Imperial Decree No. 363 of December 29th, 1898, the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce is in receipt of information as follows:—

The amendments provide that certificates will not be required in the case of Postal Parcels, nor in that of goods not exceeding one hundred yen in value, and that from places of shipment where there is no Japanese Consulate or Commercial Agency (which excludes Honorary Consulate) certificates of origin signed by Chambers of Commerce will be accepted.

It should be explained that a commercial agent is a paid official of the Japanese Government and not a merchant consul.

The effect of the decree in its amended form is consequently to give validity to certificates of origin attested by Her Majesty's Customs, Mayors, Magistrates or Chambers of Commerce at ports where there is no Japanese Consul de

carrière, and also to exempt Postal Parcels and shipments under Ten pounds (£10) in value from the necessity of being accompanied by Certificates of Origin.

Ten pounds (£10) or one hundred yen (yen 100) in value means the value to be declared at the port of entry, which includes cost of insurance and transportation as well as commission, if any exists, besides cost price.

IMPERIAL DECREE No. 385 OF THE 29TH OCT., 1897, AS AMENDED BY IMPERIAL DECREE No. 363 OF 29TH DEC., 1898.

(The Amendments are enclosed in square brackets.)

Art. 1.—If it is desired that goods imported into the Empire shall enjoy, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties, the benefits of the conventional Tariffs, they must at the time of importation be accompanied by Certificates of origin.

[Note.—Postal Matter coming under the Parcels Post, and goods not exceeding 100 yen in value, do not come under this rule.]

Art. 2.—A certificate of origin is a document certified by the Imperial Consulate or Commercial Agency, at the place of shipment, or, where there is no Consulate or Commercial Agency, by the Customs or other proper office [or Chambers of Commerce], and stating the marks, numbers, names, numbers of packages, and quantity, or weight, of the goods in question, the place of production or manufacture, and the place and date of shipment.

A certificate of origin is valid for the term of one year from its date.

Art. 3.—If a certificate of origin does not accompany the goods imported, or if it does so but the facts stated are incomplete or do not correspond with the actual goods, or are considered by the Customs to be incorrect, duties will be levied on the goods in question according to the Statutory Tariff. If, however, a correct certificate of origin is produced within six months after the date of importation, the amount of duty collected on the goods will be reduced to that leviable under the Conventional Tariff. January 1, 1899 is the date of operation of the decree in its amended form.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Day's Work, by Rudyard Kipling; Macmillan's Colonial Library; Yokohama, Messrs. KELLY and WALSH, Ltd.

MR. RUDYARD KIPLING'S new book *The Day's Work* has already reached its thirty-sixth thousand. It is not surprising, for although the stories which go to make up the portly volume have appeared in various Christmas numbers, serials, magazines, etc., during the past two years many admirers in that large reading circle Kipling now commands are, or will be, glad to have them in a collected form. For with the thousands of home-side readers can be included the even larger circle that patronize the "Colonial Library" reprints. What a huge blessing has the Anglo-American copy-right agreement proved to residents in the Colonies and the Far East! Not so many years ago the only means available for getting speedy possession of a popular book outside the old country was recourse to the pirated "Seaside" and other "libraries" of American publishers. Cheap and nasty in the extreme were these productions. The paper was as vile as the type was bad, while the utmost liberty was taken with the text to suit the exigencies of the American pirate. But now the Colonials are better served than dwellers in the home lands. The publishers of England outvie each other in producing tasteful, correct, and attractive reprints of the latest and best in the literary output of Great Britain, and for half—and even less than half in many cases—the price of the original work. It is a pleasure to read the books of this new era, and as pleasant to handle and collect them on our shelves.

The best stories in *The Day's Work* are undoubtedly those that deal with Indian subjects, such as "The Bridge-Builders," "The Tomb of His Ancestors"—a capital yarn dealing with hereditary and its effects on the morals and religious morbidities of an aboriginal Indian tribe;—"William the Conqueror," a tale of the great famine in

Southern India; and "The Brushwood Boy," though this comes back to England for its denouement. The marvellous faculty of sympathetic observation that forms such an illuminating side of Kipling's genius has here full sway. The stories dealing with animals—with which the Jungle Books familiarized us—are decidedly clever, and in "The Maltese Cat," the tale of how a polo pony won the Upper India Free For All Cup "off its own hat," to borrow a phrase from another branch of sport—the author reaches, perhaps, his highest level in this branch of his art. At any rate we like his talking animals better than his talking engines and steamships: though these show the wonderful assimilative powers of Kipling's mind. Yet this faculty of assimilation is responsible for the only unsatisfactory story in the book, "The Walking Delegate," a satire on the "delegates" who parade the States of the Old world as well as the New misapplying the gospel of the rights of humanity and the wrongs of the workers. The story is put into the mouth of a mob of farm-horses on a New England pasture and the dialect ranges from Kansas to Maine; but somehow it doesn't ring true.

We lay down the whole volume, however, with a feeling that Kipling's genius is as vigorous and capable as ever it was in days of his dauntless "Soldiers Three."

Her Memory, by Maarten Maartens; Macmillan's Colonial Library; Yokohama, Messrs. KELLY and WALSH, Ltd.

THIS is a very pleasant little story told with that quiet grace and rare literary refinement which we have come to associate with Maarten Maartens. Anthony Stollard, the second son of an English baronet of wide territorial possessions, loses his wife after ten years of married life. Their all too brief union had been as perfect as human character will permit, and the sudden blows stuns the sensitive, high-strung painter and dilettante, and drives him from the society of his fellow-men. With his little eight-year-old daughter he seeks refuge in Florence and devotes his life to her service, filling in his spare moments by painting a marvellous picture of his ideal of earthly love. The memory of the lost wife and mother colours all their actions, their outlook on life, and their meditations on the future, and Anthony Stollard is in danger of becoming a morbidly introspective dreamer and the spoiler of his daughter's character when the death of his elder brother forces him out of the life he had voluntarily chosen into one of the greatest activity and publicity—the life of a rich country gentleman of England with a seat in parliament and all the hereditary offices in county life that gradually cluster round an old family of means and more than average intelligence. Yet through all the changes of their lives father and daughter still find the hallowed memory of their long-lost one still hovering around them and insensibly influencing all their thoughts and actions. Gradually, however, it is brought home to Sir Anthony that his daughter requires a living mother's protecting care and the manner in which he brings himself to face the situation is admirably told. The book should appeal to a wide circle.

A Romance of Canvas Town and other Stories; by Rolf Boldrewood; Macmillan's Colonial Library; Yokohama, Messrs. KELLY and WALSH, Ltd.

IT is difficult, as the *Athenaeum* justly remarks, to know what to say about the stories in *A Romance of Canvas Town, &c.*, they are so elementary in construction that they almost defy criticism. In none of them is there the slightest suggestion of inventiveness; they are incidents which probably happened, told with some detail, but with very little point. None the less, as a social study, the book is interesting for its obvious insight into life in the Australian bush. Adventures at the gold diggings or out sheep farming, the difficulties of domestic service, and such like matters are

told with the air of a man who has experienced what he writes about, and are brought out clearly before the reader. It is just the same quality, although on a slightly different topic, that was displayed in "Plain Living."

That Little Cutty; Dr. Barriera and Isabel Dysart, by Mrs. Oliphant; Macmillan's Colonial Library: Yokohama, Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, Limited.

THE late Mrs. Oliphant was a past mistress in her craft and a most indefatigable one, too; but the three short stories that Macmillans have collected in this volume scarcely do her justice. Sooth to say, the last two are rather of the "shilling shocker" variety and the first is a very decided contrast to them. Still they should while away an idle hour pleasantly.

CHINESE MATTERS.

A Hankow dispatch received in Shanghai on January 8th and printed in the *N. C. Daily News* reports the discovery by the authorities of that port of a formidable revolutionary society, called the "Heroic Association" (*Ping-hsiung Hui*), the ramifications of which extend through the whole of the Liangkang and Hukwang provinces. The Heroic Association is said to consist entirely of young men, and is an outcrop of the *Kelao Hui* society, the members of the former hiding themselves to "do or die" for the aims of the parent society, instead of adopting the lethargic way of doing things that has always characterised the older *Kelao Hui*.

General Sung Ching was Junior Brevet Guardian of the Heir-Apparent, Premier Banton, and Provincial Commander-in-chief of Szechuen when the China-Japan war broke out. Owing to the defeats that he suffered at the hands of the enemy he had all these titles taken away, though, in accordance with Chinese usage, he lost none of the substance attaching to them—in grosser words, the salaries and the monetary perquisites. The whirligig of time has now brought back the lost honours, and on January 6th it was ordered by Imperial decree that the penalty of "degradation but to remain in office," hitherto placed against his name in the records of the Board of War, be erased. Further, the lucky General, in company with General and ex-acting Vice-President of a Metropolitan Board Yuan Shih-kai, are granted the privilege of riding on horseback within the precincts of the Western Palace gates, and are further allowed to ride in the Imperial barges in the lakes within the Palace precincts.

The French, says the *China Gazette*, are very reticent about their programme re the Ningpo Joas House and Settlement Extension, but we gather that all that the Tsung-li Yamén has conceded is that the French Municipality can take over control of Puh-sien-jao if they could arrange the business with the local officials, which, after all, may mean nothing or a very great deal, unless other Foreign Powers interested choose to have the dispute with the Chinese transferred to their own shoulders.

According to the Wuchang correspondent of the *Universal Gazette*, the Viceroy of the Liang Hu Provinces, Chang Chih-ang has ordered a large body of soldiers to proceed to Shanhi by steamer and march to Chang Yung through Yue Yang-kwan, in the district of Yie To, to quell the rebellion which is causing so much trouble there.

Six Chinese shops on the Seward-road, Shanghai, were destroyed by fire on Jan. 9. The outbreak occurred about 7 o'clock in the evening and somewhat interfered with the Engineers' dance at the Astor House, a number of ladies invited to this function having to wait until their escorts had been dismissed from duty at the fire.

News has reached Shanghai from Newchwang of the appearance near the latter treaty port of several thousand mounted bandits. So far they

have not threatened to raid the treaty port itself, but several outrages have occurred in the vicinity of the Chinese city of Newchwang, twenty-seven miles to the north of the port. There is, accordingly, quite a panic amongst native merchants in the latter place, most of whom have branch homes in the former town.

Major Bower, says the *N. C. Daily News*, has enlisted his first recruit, a Kiangsu Moham-medan, who is an excellent bugler.

Confirmation is found in Shanghai papers to hand by Thursday's mail of many of the Chinese telegrams we have printed this week. There is no doubt that Liu, the Viceroy of Nanking, has been denounced by Kang-yi, the rabid anti-reformist Manchou, and that he has been called upon to answer *seriatim* the charges preferred against him. Liu asked to be allowed to resign, but the request was not granted, his excuses being held to have been written in a sarcastic vein. Fears are expressed lest Kang-yi, who is thoroughly hated in Peking, be sent to Nanking—a strong cabal having been formed against him—and if this event comes off, the *N. C. Daily News* says it will "land the Empire before long in some disastrous predicament."

A dispatch from Shasi, printed by our senior Shanghai contemporary, reports a very gloomy outlook for trade in that new port. Owing, it is stated, to the rebellion in Szechuan the large import business from that province has of late been entirely stopped, while the import trade from other portions of Western Hupeh province, of which Shasi has always been the distributing centre, has also all but ceased, through the recent petty insurrections and the fear of more anti-foreign riots. In consequence of all this, many exporting hongcs and banks—several of very old standing—have had to close their doors. To make matters worse, the wealthy gentry and notables in Shasi and the neighbouring city of Chinchou have recently been calling in their deposits in the banks and pawnshops owing to the insecurity of the times, thereby making ready money still scarcer—almost in the vanishing point.

Says the *N. C. Daily News*:—The new Chinese regiment is to be an infantry one, armed with the Martini-Metford rifle, a weapon which has been highly spoken of as the result of experience in various parts of Africa. The men will be paid \$8 a month, and when the other advantages of the service are taken into account there should be little difficulty in obtaining a select body of men. Major Bower's first difficulty will, apparently, be that of securing accommodation for the new troops at Wei-hai-wei, for, at present, so far as can be learned, there is nothing ready in that respect. The uniform has not yet been settled, but in all probability it will be a picturesque but serviceable adaptation of the dress of the Chinese soldier. As to the fighting qualities of the men it is, of course, too early to speak with certainty, but, knowing the class from which they will probably come, Major Bower is sanguine that in due time he will command a really effective force. It is undeniable that Chinese troops at times have shown conspicuous bravery, and, if illustrations were needed of the power of British officers to make a good army out of the most unpromising material, no better one could be given than that of Egypt. In 1882, when the organisation was commenced, the Egyptians were looked upon as likely to make, at the best, but indifferent soldiers. How they have, under British guidance, won a most honourable record is too fresh in the public mind to need comment. If the new Chinese regiment—which starts with far more promise—only equals the Egyptians, the labour and expense will be well rewarded.

A telegraphic dispatch from Tientsin received by the Shanghai manderins, who—as the *N. C. Daily News* remarks—apparently love round numbers, reports that the Russian Government is pouring troops into Port Arthur and Talienwan under the pretence that the force now garrisoning those places is too small, in view

of the apparent discontent of the inhabitants of the Liaotung Peninsula, who have within the last two months risen against the Russians in thirteen different townships and districts. Further, that no less than 9,000 men have landed at Port Arthur within the past month or so, and that it is intended to add 25,000 men more before the end of the Chinese 1st moon, making a full strength Army Corps of some 36,000, in addition to the garrisons of 15,000 men for Port Arthur and 8,000 for Talienwan.

Over \$15,000 has been sent from Canton as a first contribution to the fund for relief of the sufferers by the Yellow River floods.

Mr. T. L. Bullock, late of the British Consular Service, in China, has been appointed Professor of Chinese at Oxford, in succession to the late Dr. Legge.

Mr. W. B. Pryer, whose death while on a voyage to England was reported a week ago by Reuter, was an old-time resident of Shanghai. He went out to China as bookkeeper for the firm of Thorne Bros. & Co. in 1864, and was an ardent naturalist and athlete. He was the first white man and Resident in British North Borneo when it was taken over from Mr. Torrey by Sir Alfred Dent and Mr. Overbeck, and passed the rest of his life in furthering the progress of that territory. His health failing recently, he started for home, but as he got worse he had to be sent to the hospital at Port Said, where he died in his 60th year, leaving a widow but no children. He was the son of Mr. Thomas Pryer, a well-known London solicitor, and was very popular with all during his residence in Shanghai.

Lieut.-Commander H. D. S. Watson, R.N., hoisted his pennant at Shanghai, at nine o'clock on Jan. 12th on board H.M.S. *Woodcock* in presence of Capt. Cochran, who represented the Reserve. Her crew consists of her commander, a doctor (W. M. Keich), and twenty-four men. The vessel left Tungkadoo a couple of hours afterwards, and was heartily cheered by the Britishers on their several vessels. She then moored off the Pootung Police hulk, taking in coal and stores preparatory to receiving orders from the Commander-in-Chief. This is Lieut. Watson's maiden command.

An Imperial Decree was issued at Peking on the 11th repealing the order that no more *Chao Hsin* Bonds were to be sold, and that no one who had subscribed for them and had not paid was to be asked for payment, so that there may be no more of the extortion and oppression that have been exercised in this matter.

Lieutenant Wood, son of General Sir Evelyn Wood, has been selected for service with the new Chinese battalion.

It is said by the *Universal Gazette* that the Provincial Treasurer of Chékkiang, taking into consideration the heavy expense it entails, has decided to abandon the scheme of erecting a smokeless powder factory in Hangchow, as was proposed some time ago.

RIOI NEAR NINGPO.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY OF THE PAO-WO MINING CO.

ATTACK ON THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Mr. J. E. Rennie, foreign manager of the Pao-wo mine at Ninakong, near Ningpo, has arrived in Shanghai with a thrilling tale of outrage and attempted murder. On Sunday, the 8th instant, the third attempt to open the mine was made, Mr. Rennie, the Chinese manager, Mr. Chu Tse-ping, two Chinese officials, and forty soldiers being present at the ceremonies, which included the propitiation of the guardian spirit of the mountain. The officials brought a hundred soldiers altogether, but sixty were lost a short distance off at Fungwo. There were about a hundred country people looking on, but there was no disturbance of any kind. After the ceremony was over, the Chinese officials went

away, unfortunately taking their troops with them, and Mr. Chu Tze-ping went away on business to Songau, a town near-by. Mr. Rennison returned at noon to the temple where he was staying, and where the stores, etc., for the mine, to the value of something under \$10,000, were deposited. About six o'clock, as Mr. Rennison was about to sit down to dinner, two soldiers, who had thrown away their uniforms, came rushing in for safety. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Rennison's boy came in, looking very scared, having armed himself with a chopper, and advised his master to take the carving knife—he had left his gun at Ningpo—as a mob of between two and three thousand men were coming up to attack the temple, and murder every one in it connected with the mine. Mr. Rennison, with his interpreter, a young fellow named Kang, who stuck to him most gallantly all through, declaring that if Mr. Rennison were killed he would die with him, barred the front gate of the temple, but at eight o'clock he was assured by Kang that it was hopeless to attempt to defend the temple, and they must fly to the hills. Mr. Rennison with his interpreter and his boy succeeded in scaling the back wall, about seven feet high, and getting to the hills, their movements being hastened by the noise made by the approaching mob. Kang succeeded by promises of a big *camshaw* in getting a native with a lantern to guide them. They soon lost the boy, but Kang struck to Mr. Rennison, and the two of them spent the night on the hills, hiding themselves in paddy fields or wherever they could find temporary shelter from the pursuit of the infuriated country people. In the morning, on their way down to the river, they got food in a native house, and met fourteen of the priests belonging to the temple, who reported that the mob had utterly cleaned it out, destroying or carrying away everything they found in it. Mr. Rennison and his interpreter got back to Ningpo in a boat, where the former, who has lost every scrap of his worldly gear except the clothes in which he escaped, laid the facts before Mr. Playfair, the British Consul, who is making the necessary claim for reparation on the Taotai. It is stated that a fight occurred between the soldiers and the country people, in which two of the latter were killed and several wounded.

Mr. Rennison's experience is a warning to foreigners who are sent up country to open mines or make surveys of any kind without sufficient escort, relying on the power of the Chinese officials to preserve them from injury at the hands of the ignorant country people. We may add that Mr. Rennison is very anxious to publicly acknowledge the courage and devotion of his interpreter, Mr. Kang.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE COLLISION IN MOJI HARBOUR.

COURT OF INQUIRY.

A naval court of inquiry was held in the British Consulate, Nagasaki, on Jan. 13, before H.B.M. Consul Mr. J. H. Longford, into the circumstances attending the collision in Moji Harbour on the 13th ult., between the P. & O. steamer *Brindisi* and the Japanese steamer *Yayayama Maru*, whereby the former vessel was considerably damaged, the latter being sunk. Captain I. F. Curtis, of the British sailing ship *West Lothian*, and Captain W. Fraser, of the British sailing ship *Glenlee*, acted as assessors. The owners of the Japanese steamer were not represented during the proceedings. The evidence of Captain Watkins; Mr. Vine, the chief officer; Mr. Randall, the chief engineer, a Malay quartermaster, and a Lascar A.B., of the *Brindisi*, showed that at the time of the accident the latter vessel was lying in the usual anchorage and was properly lighted. This evidence was also corroborated by Captain W. Black, an Inland Sea pilot.

The finding of the Court is as follows:—

That the collision was caused by the *Yayayama Maru* attempting to cross the bows of the

Brindisi while at anchor, without making sufficient allowance for the strong ebb tide.

That the *Brindisi* was well found and sufficiently manned; that she was securely anchored in a proper place; that her anchor lights were burning brightly; and that a proper and efficient anchor watch was maintained.

That no blame can be attached to the master, first mate, or crew of the *Brindisi* in respect of the collision.

That immediately on the occurrence of the collision all the officers and crew of the *Brindisi* proceeded to their stations, and that efficient discipline was maintained on board; and

That the measures taken by the master of the *Brindisi* subsequent to the collision were seamanlike and proper.

The Court considers that the conduct of the whole of the engine room staff of the *Brindisi* is worthy of high commendation for the promptitude with which they took up their stations below and continued to carry on their duties when their ship was making water and in a dangerous position; and also that the Master is worthy of commendation for the promptitude with which he ordered a ladder to be extended to the *Yayayama Maru*, by means of which the whole of the crew of the latter was saved.—*Nagasaki Press*.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We understand that the newly reconstituted Kobe Choral Society are putting Smart's "Bride of Dunkirk" into active rehearsal.

British makers are so full of orders, it is said, that the Indian Government contemplates buying several locomotives from the United States.

On the 16th at 6 a.m. Mr. Nakamura Shikwan, the famous actor, died from consumption, from which he had been suffering since the end of November last.

Mrs. Hatley and child, who were rescued from the *Glenavon*, left Hongkong for England by the German mail steamer *Prinz Heinrich*. For her passage home, Mrs. Hatley is indebted to the kindness of the agents of the "Glen" Line, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.

The property No. 89 Bluff, containing 659 *tsubo*, was sold by Mr. Jno. W. Hall on Monday afternoon at public auction for the sum of yen 12,000. Lot 214 was not sold, the bidding not reaching the upset price. Lot 42-3 was not offered, having been previously withdrawn.

The cruiser *Chitose*, built at the Union Iron Works, San Francisco, for the Japanese Government, has had her preliminary spin on the bay. The contract between the Japanese Government and the Scotts calls for a speed of 22½ knots, and it is thought the *Chitose* will make at least a knot better than that.

Supt. Morgan received an alarm of fire on Sunday afternoon from 213, Bluff. Six men of the Brigade were sent to the premises, but they found that the fire had already been extinguished by the occupant with the help of the neighbours. A wooden mantlepiece had become ignited, probably owing to the over-heating of the grate, but the damage done was very slight.

Colonel Nienstead's death was due to Bright's disease, from which he had suffered for some time. Some years ago he was in the service of the United States as Marshal to the Kobe Consulate, and afterwards went to Korea, where he was engaged as a drill-instructor. Returning to Japan a few months ago, he entered the service of Messrs. Vantine & Co., to superintend their Nagoya business. Deceased was about 47 years of age.

Details of the discovery of an active volcano in the Atlin gold district of British Columbia have been received. The volcano furnishes the miners with light by which to work their claims during the long darkness of Arctic winter. The

glare from the spouting lava is reflected against the sky, and resembles a continuous twilight. It was early in October when smoke was first seen issuing from the mountain, and in November it burst forth into flames.

A telegram to the *Times of Ceylon* dated Bombay, the 13th of December, confirms the news of the flight of the Mad Mullah to the Indus and Kohistan. He lost heavily in the late engagement with the Nawab of Dir, including six standards and one-hundred firearms; and is now entirely discredited by the Swatis. The Dir's forces have returned.

Admiral Correjeilles, the newly-appointed Commander-in-Chief of the French Squadron in the Far East, was obliged to give up the idea of going out in the new cruiser *Entrecasteaux*, which was to have been his flagship, in consequence of the repeated breakdown of the ship's engines. The cruiser is one of the largest ever built for the French Navy, but has never yet been able to complete her steam trials. She has gone into dock again.

The Queen has been pleased to grant permission to Dr. Edward Divers, Professor in the Imperial University, Tokyo, to accept and wear the Insignia of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure of the Second Class, and to Mr. Alexander J. Hare, the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun of the Fourth Class, conferred by the Emperor of Japan.

The writer of a book on cycling was so anxious to show the exact position of the bones when pedalling that he hired a skeleton, mounted him on a machine, and fetched a photographer to make the bony picture. The photographer fixed his eye upon the skeleton, pressed the button; and then, from mere force of habit, with a bow to the sitter, he remarked, "Thank you, sir."

At the North Borneo dinner held in London on 29th November, Sir Charles Mitchell referred to the excellent tobacco-producing capabilities of the colony, and expressed the opinion that the idea of fortifying one or two of the North Borneo ports must be relegated to the future. Fortified positions were very expensive. At Singapore £2,000,000 sterling had been spent. Labuan might in the future become a strongly fortified port, but it would have to wait until the completion of the arrangements for ports already agreed upon.

Consequent upon the promotion of Admiral Sir F. W. Richards, G.C.B., to be Admiral of the Fleet, already announced, the following promotions take place from the same date:—Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Edward Tracy, K.C.B., to be Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet; Rear-Admiral Cyprian Arthur George Bridge to be Vice-Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet; Capt. Henry Rose to be Rear-Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet. Rear-Admirals Richard George Kinahan, Francis Richard Blackburn, Richard Henry Napier, to be Vice-Admirals on the retired list.

It is evidently not for nothing, says a home paper, that the German Emperor showed such anxiety to conciliate his Roman Catholic subjects in Palestine on his recent tour. The new Reichstag shows a most formidable preponderance of the Centre or Catholic party. While the Conservative members number 52, the National Liberals 48, and the Social Democrats 56, not to mention the smaller factions, the Centrists are 106; and the Centrists can be depended upon to act together to a man, while they may generally count upon the support of 14 Poles and 10 Anti-Semites.

Which city in Europe receives the largest number of foreign visitors? This is a matter which M. Griesalich, a Viennese statistician, took upon himself to decide. He gives the result of his researches in the *Zeitung der Verins*, and, according to his remarks, it appears that Paris is still the centre of attraction. In 1884 Paris was visited by 684,000 foreigners; in 1897 the number reached 890,000.

In the same lapse of time the foreign visitors to Berlin increased from 268,000 in 1884 to 507,000 in 1897; and those to Vienna from 184,000 to 364,000. London is omitted from consideration.

American Lady (to shop assistant, the better to impress him with due admiration for her blue blood):—"Yes, we've had that farm for several generations; you may guess that, when our ancestors came over in the first steamer after the *Mayflower*."

In the name and on behalf of the Prince of Wales, who was nominated in Grand Lodge of Freemasons, on December 7th, for re-election as Grand Master, a motion was made expressive of the feelings of Grand Lodge on the melancholy occasion of the lamented death of the late Earl of Lathom, Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master. At the same meeting, Grand Lodge was recommended to grant five hundred pounds in relief of the terrible sufferings occasioned by the recent disastrous hurricane in the West Indies, such sum to be placed for distribution in the hands of Mr. John Locke, District Grand Master of Barbados, according to his discretion, but not to be confined to the families of Freemasons.

The trial of Lieutenant R. T. Wark, R.A., Woolwich, for having wilfully murdered a young lady of independent means, named Jane Yates, residing in Liverpool, by performing upon her an illegal operation, has concluded. The social position of the parties, and the sensational circumstances of the crime, excited wide-spread interest in the case. Counsel for Wark made the most of the fact that the prisoner had endeavoured to dissuade Miss Yates from undergoing the operation, whilst counsel for the prosecution pressed home the very ugly circumstance that only Wark benefited under the dead girl's will. The jury found the prisoner guilty, with a recommendation to mercy, and the Judge pronounced sentence of death. There is much sympathy for Wark, and the sentence is almost sure to be commuted.

A sample of Chinese iron made by ordinary native methods was analysed for the Chinese Government some months ago by Mr. Joseph Bedford, of Sheffield, the well-known steel expert. The sample of iron was sent from the arsenal at Foochow, with the request to Mr. Bedford to analyse and report as to its suitability for conversion into high-class tool-steel. Crude as was the sample, Mr. Bedford was struck by its purity, and had no hesitation in declaring it to be equal to the best Swedish iron coming into Sheffield. The analysis gave a result fully confirming the statement so freely made of late that China contains most valuable ore deposits. The iron appears to be thoroughly suitable for conversion into the best crucible-steel. Out of it Mr. Bedford made an engineer's turning tool, and had it employed in a 6 in. lathe turning steel cranks, forgings, &c., and also in general engineers' workshop work. The tool gave perfect satisfaction, and in the analyst's opinion was fully equal to one made of any Sheffield steel of the same character.

The late Mr. Ernest Hart's Japanese collection was so well-known among connoisseurs in that branch of art that, it goes without saying, the sale at Christie's attracted attention. The following are a few of the best specimens disposed of—a figure of Benkei, armed, kneeling, and using a shell as a war trumpet, by Ritano, seventeenth century, 44 gs. (Lever); a piece of old Satsuma, representing a kylin playing with a ball and cord, decorated with the rare blue enamel and other colours, inscribed "Made by Botan, when he was 68 years old," 10 gs. (Mason); a figure of Jurojin, finely modelled, in ivory crackle, fifteenth century, 18 gs. (Savage); a cake-box, in gold lacquer decorated with wisteria in relief, eighteenth century, £13 10s. (Salting); a pair of old Nankein blue and white jars, hawthorn design, £15 (Landsfort); and a chased silver incense burner decorated with chrysanthemums in relief and translucent enamels, £11 (Lewis).

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

The chief item at the last meeting of the Literary Society was a paper on "The Progress of the Genius of Tennyson" by the Right Rev. Bishop Awdry, D.D. The lecturer showed a firm grip of his subject, and illustrated his remarks by copious quotations from the poet, including his "Idylls of the King" and ending with the exquisitely pathetic "Crossing the Bar." Dr. Awdry pointed out that one of the characteristics of a great thinker or a great poet was that he was in advance of his time. He showed how Tennyson in his earlier work did not attain this point, but, tracing him through the whole of his long and noble life, pointed out that his later poems were of a grander, more comprehensive and more spiritual character. He dwelt on the tenderness, as well as the breadth of view, shown in their greater of the late Laureate's poems, and gave a happy description of Tennyson and his wife as they appeared in later years, when he (the lecturer) had the privilege of visiting them in the Isle of Wight retreat. The musical programme was as follows:—Overture, "Egmont" Beethoven, Mrs. Doering and Mr. Dobin; Song, "Der Heiss am Rhein," Hill, Mr. Schmaedecke; Recitation, "The Revenge," Tennyson, Rev. Robert A. Thomson; Song "Spielmann's Lied" Hofferon, Mr. Schmaedecke.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF COPYRIGHT.

The address concerning the International Copyright Protection Union recently given before the members of the Kokkagakkwai by Mr. Midzuno Rentaro, a councillor of the Home Department, who has been in Europe chiefly for the purpose of investigating the subject, has been reported in the magazine of that association. We translate the more important points:—

In the new Treaties with Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, and other countries, Japan stipulates that she shall enter the International Copyright Protection Union before the abolition of the extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan. The so-called Union was formed in September, 1886, when the deputies of Germany, France, Great Britain, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Hayti, Tunis, and Liberia (Japan and the United States of America sent deputies simply as visitors) attended the meeting held in Berne for the formation of the International Copyright Protection Union, and signed and affixed their seals to the present International Copyright Protection Treaty which came into force in December of the following year. The Treaty, however, underwent some alterations in 1896 at a meeting of the Union held in Paris. Thus there now exist two Treaties, the original of 1886 and the amended document of 1896. The following are the important points of these Treaties:

(1) The countries which belong to the Union are at present France, Germany, Great Britain, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Hayti, Tunis, Norway, Luxemburg, Monaco, and Montenegro, thirteen in all. The United States Government is not a member. After Japan's entry into the Union, the consent of the author of a work must be obtained for its publication in Japan if the author belongs to a contracting State, or if the work has been first published in a contracting State; any other course would be an infringement of copyright. A work published in a contracting State is protected even though its author be not a native of that State. For example, it would be an infringement of copyright to reprint or translate a book written by a subject of Austria, which is not a contracting State, but published in Germany, which belongs to the Union. The right of action against the infringement of the copyright in this case was at first given to the German publishers, but the law was altered by the Paris Treaty, 1896, so that the right would belong to the Austrian author.

(2) Works to be protected are ordinary

books and pictures, dramatic and musical works, sculptures and models, etc. Thus the protection is far wider than that given by the present Japanese Copyright Law. Such protection would also be given to a foreign photograph in a contracting State where a photograph is protected as a work of fine art. In Japan, the present Photograph Copyright Law gives photographs a sort of protection, so that a foreign photograph may be protected as above stated. With regard to buildings, the Treaty of 1886 protected only the pictures and designs of buildings, but the additional Treaty of 1896 provides that where protection is given to a building itself in a contracting state, the same protection shall be given to a foreign building. Such protection is given in France and Russia, but not in Japan.

(3) With regard to the right of translation of a work, such right shall lapse within ten years if no translation is published within that time, but the right will exist during the same period as the copyright of the original work, if the translation is published within ten years.

(4) With regard to the necessary formalities for obtaining international copyright, only those formalities and conditions prescribed in the law of the country where the work is first published need be observed. Thus, supposing a book published in Japan is registered in accordance with Japanese Copyright Law, such copyright is protected in England, France, and other countries without any further steps.

(5) The term of copyright varies in different countries. In Spain, which allows the longest period, it is during the lifetime of the author and eighty years after his death; in France and Belgium, during the lifetime of the author and fifty years after his death; in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria, during the lifetime of the author and thirty years after his death; in England, during the lifetime of the author and seven years after his death, or during forty-two years from the first publication of a work. Japan, which grants the shortest term, allows the lifetime of the author and five years after his death, or thirty-five years from the first registration of copyright. The International Copyright Protection Treaty gives a rule for such conflict of laws. By it, the shortest term is adopted. For example, in the case of a French author who possesses a copyright for fifty years after his death in his own country the right in Japan continues for only five years after his death; and a Japanese author does not enjoy in France a longer term than that prescribed by Japanese law.

(6) With regard to the copyright of newspapers and magazines, Art. 15 of the Japanese Copyright Law provides that no leaders, articles, or novels published in two or more issues of a paper, or those not so published, but prohibited from reproduction, shall be reproduced without the consent of the editor. But the Paris meeting of 1896, which altered the former Treaty, provides, as the present international rule, that no novels published in a paper or magazine shall be reproduced without the consent of the author or publisher, and that other articles shall be treated likewise when their reproduction is prohibited. But it also provides that the prohibition shall not apply to political leaders and articles, and notes.

(7) All sorts of piracy are strictly prohibited. The works of others may be reproduced only—(a) for educational use, (b) for criticism or essays, or (c) for the compilation of a handbook or as extracts—according to the treaties and the laws of the contracting States.

(8) With regard to translations or reprints of a work published in a contracting State, and reproduced or translated before the signature of the International Copyright Protection Treaty by Japan, they are to be deemed lawful. They may, if published, be sold and distributed; if not published, they may be published; and the mechanical appliances for use in the publication of such translations or reprints can be used for a certain term, say, two to four years, after the carrying out of the Treaty. This was the case in Germany, Belgium, and other States, and the Japanese Authorities will, Mr. Midzuno be-

lieves, probably make similar regulations to protect the interest of Japanese authors and publishers.

GERMAN NOTES.

The success of Bismarck's Memoirs, states a Berlin correspondent, has been unprecedented. Towards the end of December 318,000 copies had been ordered, representing a value of nearly m.6,500,000—£325,000. And this is only the beginning. It is utterly impossible to keep level with the demand. The great Leipzig bookbinding firm of Fritzsche required the following quantities of material to bind the work:—1,024 cwt. of pasteboard, which would fill five railway vans; over 18,000 yards of cloth for the cloth editions, 400 calf-skins for fancy editions, 65,000 sheets of gold brocade, m.18,500 worth of gold, m.14,000 worth of glue. The manipulation of the material occupied 732 workpeople four weeks, and the binding took fifteen days.

A law is to be laid before the Diet to enlarge the German army to the number of 36,576 men to be divided among the different arms. Such enlargement is to take place successively until 1902, when the German army will consist of 625 battalions of infantry, 482 squadrons on horseback, 574 field batteries, 32 batteries on foot, 28 battalions of pioneers, 11 battalions of railway troops, &c., and 28 battalions of train soldiers—in all 502,505 men, without the subaltern officers and officers.

Herr Zimmermann, one of the directors of the *Stettin Maschinenbau Act. Ges.*, Vulcan, recently left for China to contract there for some large ironclads for the Chinese navy. The Chinese Government has declared its intention to have two of these vessels built by the Vulcan, while three others are to be constructed by Messrs. Armstrong. Having finished his business at Shanghai, Herr Zimmermann is to visit Kiao-chow to be shown over the territory for the new harbour, for which latter a couple of iron-clad turrets are to be constructed by the Vulcan.

In the circles of straw hat manufacturers in Germany complaints are heard about the fact that straw-plaiting imported from China and Japan has to pay an import duty of m.18 per 100 kilos, whereas the same article, if imported from France, Great Britain, or others of the most-favoured States, only pays m. 10 per 100 kilos. By this fact the German straw hat makers are forced to import refined straw-plaiting from England, and in consequence several German houses engaged in the trade have been forced to stop working. As regards Japan the difference in question ceased to exist as soon as the new tariff treaty between Germany and Japan was enforced.

In the case of the *Jona v. the Maria Rickmers*, taken in the British Admiralty Court, for services rendered by the Thomson liner *Jona* to the steamship *Maria Rickmers*, of the North German Lloyd line, in the Atlantic Ocean and English Channel in September last, Mr. Justice Barnes, in giving judgment, said that the *Maria Rickmers* was quite helpless and unmanageable, and it was highly desirable for the reputation of the North German Lloyd Company that she should get into port as soon as possible. He had decided to award the plaintiffs the sum of £4,900 in this proportion: owners of the *Jona* £4,000, master £300, and crew £600, with costs.

Lieutenant Tschai, of the Chinese navy, who was sent to Europe to superintend the building of some torpedo-boats at Elbing, lost his heart to a German lady, and married her last month in Heligoland. He does not, however, propose to take her to the Far East, and has resigned his appointment, with a view to starting in business at Hamburg.

In Southern and Central Germany earthquakes have again taken place, and damage has been done by them in several districts. Earth-

quakes also have been felt lately in the province of Holstein, to the north-west of Hamburg, to the astonishment of the geologists, as this province is always described as being non-alluvial land. Beyond the trembling of houses and the shaking of furniture no damage was done.

From the German possessions in South-West Africa a telegram has brought the news that diamonds have been found in that country within the district of Great Nama. A place containing blue-ground—the characteristic sign of the existence of diamonds—had been met with already some time ago between Gibeon and Berseba, but so far had not yielded any of the precious stones. It seems, however, that of late diamonds have actually been found there.

The German textile industry is at present not a prosperous one, and a curtailment of production in the spinning mills is contemplated. It is announced that a congress of textile operatives will be held to discuss measures to be adopted in view of the present condition of affairs. On the other hand the manufacturers of woollens are also holding a meeting for the purpose of opposing the threatened duty on raw wool, and in pursuing that policy the central association of the woollen manufacturers has sent petitions to the Imperial Councillor, the Bundesrath, and the Reichstag, against the wool duty.

THE PHILIPPINES CRISIS.

PROCLAMATIONS AND COUNTER PROCLAMATIONS.

THE FILIPINOS WAITING FOR THE FIRST AMERICAN MOVE.

AGUINALDO'S CALL TO ARMS.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Manila, January 7.

"The crisis is on to us," as Artemus Ward would say.

There is no definite news as yet from Iloilo; but we are informed that the American troops have not landed there. The native General now in Iloilo, Delgado, acting on orders from President Aguinaldo, has refused to allow the American expedition to land, and threatens to burn down the town if a hostile movement is made. This announcement foreshadows the native action. General Delgado evidently realises that he cannot hold the town itself against the American forces, supported as they will be by formidable cruisers, but in the country behind the natives can more than hold their own, and will give General Millar a great deal of trouble.

The 1st Californian Regiment is now on board the transports in Manila Bay, awaiting orders to proceed south.

The following is the U.S. proclamation that has caused the Filipino Government to prepare for fighting eventualities:—

THE AMERICAN PROCLAMATION.

Office of the Military of the Philippines Islands, Manila, P. I., January 4th, 1899.

To the People of the Philippine Islands:—

Instructions of His Excellency, the President of the United States, relative to the administration of affairs in the Philippine Islands have been transmitted to me by direction of The Honourable the Secretary of War, on the date of December 28th, 1898. They direct me to publish and proclaim in the most public manner to the inhabitants of these islands that in the war against Spain the United States forces came here to destroy the power of that Nation and to give the blessings of peace and individual freedom to the Philippine people; that we are here as friends of the Filipinos to protect them in their homes, their employments, their individual and religious liberty; that all persons who, either by active aid or honest endeavour, cooperate with the Government of the United States, to give effect to these beneficent purposes, will receive the reward of its support and protection.

The President of the United States has assumed that the municipal laws of the country in respect to private rights and property and the repression of crime are to be considered as continuing in

force, in so far as they may be applicable to a free people, and should be administered by the ordinary tribunals of justice, presided over by representatives of the people and those in thorough sympathy with them in their desires for good government; that, the functions and duties connected with civil and municipal administration are to be performed by such officers as wish to accept the assistance of the United States, chosen in so far as it may be practicable from the inhabitants of the islands; that while the management of public property and revenues and the use of all public means of transportation are to be conducted under the Military authorities until such authorities can be replaced by civil administration, all private property, whether of individuals or corporations, must be respected and protected. If private property be taken for Military uses it shall be paid for at a fair valuation in cash if possible, and when payment in cash is not practicable at the time, receipts therefor will be given to be taken up and liquidated as soon as cash becomes available. The Ports of the Philippine Islands shall be open to the commerce of all foreign nations, and goods and merchandise not prohibited for military reasons by the Military Authorities shall be admitted upon payment of such duties and charges as shall be in force at the time of importation.

The President concludes his instructions in the following language:—

"Finally, it should be the earnest and paramount aim of the Administration to win the confidence, respect, and affection of the inhabitants of the Philippines by insuring to them in every possible way the full measure of individual rights and liberty which is the heritage of a free people, and by proving to them that the mission of the United States is one of beneficent assimilation, which will substitute the mild sway of justice and right for arbitrary rule. In the fulfilment of this high mission, while upholding the temporary administration of affairs for the greatest good of the governed, there will be sedulously maintained the strong arm of authority to repress disturbance, and to overcome all obstacles to the bestowal of the blessings of good and stable government upon the people of the Philippine Islands."

From the tenor and substance of the above instructions of the President, I am fully of the opinion that it is the intention of the United States Government, while directing affairs generally, to appoint the representative men now forming the controlling element of the Filipinos to civil positions of trust and responsibility, and it will be my aim to appoint thereto such Filipinos as may be acceptable to the supreme authorities at Washington.

It is also my belief that it is the intention of the United States Government to draw from the Filipino people so much of the military force of the islands as possible and consistent with a free and well constituted government of the country, and it is my desire to inaugurate a policy of that character. I am also convinced that it is the intention of the United States Government to seek the establishment of a most liberal government for the islands, in which the people themselves shall have as full representation as the maintenance of order and law will permit, and which shall be susceptible of development on lines of increased representation and the bestowal of increased powers into a government as free and independent as is enjoyed by the most favoured provinces of the world.

It will be my constant endeavour to cooperate with the Filipino people, seeking the good of the country, and I invite their full confidence and aid.

E. S. ORIS,
Major-General, U. S. Vol.,
Military Governor.

PRESIDENT AGUINALDO'S PROCLAMATION.

The following is a translation of President Aguinaldo's proclamation:—

Official.

Manifesto issued by the President of the Revolutionary Government:—

To my Brothers, the Filipinos and all accredited Consuls and foreigners:—

The proclamation of His Excellency General O'is, Major-General of Volunteers of the United States, published yesterday in the newspapers of Manila, obliges me to circulate the following manifesto in order to make known to all those who can read and understand it that the present document is my most solemn protest against all that is contained in the proclamation hereinafter referred to, because my conscience compels me to do so in fulfilment of my pledges to my beloved country and the special and official relations with the North American nation.

General O'is gives himself the title in the proclamation in question of Military Governor of the Philippine Islands. I protest against a thousand

times and with all the energy of my soul against such authority.

I proclaim solemnly, that I have not promised, either verbally or in written document, either in Singapore, Hongkong, or the Philippines, to recognise the sovereignty of America on this beloved soil.

On the contrary, I say that I returned to these Islands, transported on an American man-of-war, on the 19th of May last year, with the distinct and manifest intention of making war against the Spaniards in order to recover our liberty and independence. This is stated in my official proclamation of the 24th of the said month of May, and published in the Manifesto addressed to the Filipino nation on the 12th of June last, when, in my native town of Cavite, I unfurled for the first time our blessed national flag as the sacred emblem of that sublime aspiration; and afterwards reasserted to the American General, General Merritt, the predecessor of General Otis, in the Manifesto I addressed to the Filipino Nation, a few days before, demanding from the Spanish General, Janderes, the surrender of the city of Manila, in which manifesto it is clearly and distinctly stated that the forces of the United States, on sea and land, came to give us our liberty and to overturn the corrupt Spanish administration. I declare, once and for ever, that both natives and foreigners are witness that the U. S. forces on land and sea have recognised by this the belligerency of the Filipinos, not only respecting our national flag but according to public honours, as it was triumphantly navigated in our internal waters before all the foreign nations here represented by their respective Consuls.

With reference to the instructions from His Excellency the President of the United States, alluded to in his proclamation by General Otis, dealing with the administration of the affairs of the Philippine Islands, I protest solemnly, in the name of God, the root and fountain of all justice, on behalf of my beloved brothers against the intrusion of the Government of the United States in the sovereignty of these Islands.

I thus protest in the name of all the Filipino Nation against the instruction referred to, because in reposing their confidence in me by electing me—unworthily though I may be—to the position of President of this nation, they have imposed upon me the duty to maintain, even to death, the liberty and independence of the Filipinos as a nation.

Lastly, I protest against this unexpected act of the American Government in claiming sovereignty in these Islands, in virtue of the documents in my possession dealing with my relations with the American authorities, the which state, in the most unequivocal manner, that the United States did not bring me here from Hongkong to make war against the Spaniards in the interests of the United States but for the sake of our liberty and independence, for the preservation of which I received verbal pledges, together with a promise from them of help and efficacious co-operation. That is the position of affairs, and oh, my dear brothers, if we stand united throughout the country, they cannot flick from us the idea of the liberty and absolute independence which has been our noble aspiration.

Help all of you to effect the end desired with the force that comes from conviction of the justice of our demands. There must be no turning back in the path of glory upon which we have already entered.

(Signed) AGUINALDO.

Manila, January 5th, 1899.

The above proclamation was posted throughout the city this morning, but was torn down by order of the U. S. authorities.

I hear the Americans are sending out troops to protect the pumping station at the water works at Santolan. If they do this, I feel sure hostilities will commence. The natives will not make the first move, but they will resist any hostile move on the part of the Americans.

The situation is certainly very threatening. It is lamentable to think that it is due to the procrastination of the Americans to declare a firm and definite policy with regard to the Philippines.

MORE BATTLESHIPS TO BE BUILT IN ENGLAND.

We have received the following telegram for publication:—

London, Jan. 17.

The Thames Iron Works and Shipbuilding Company, Blackwall, have received an order for two first-class battleships from the Government.

TELEGRAMS.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD AT KOBE.

SPEECH AT THE CHINA ASSOCIATION Tiffin.

THE KOBE MEMORIAL.

GREAT BRITAIN TO HELP JAPAN CARRY OUT THE NEW TREATIES.

A HOPEFUL OUTLOOK.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, Jan. 14, 9.30 a.m.

Lord Charles Beresford tiffined with the local branch of the China Association yesterday. Mr. A. H. Groom, the Chairman, said he was sure the visit of Lord Charles Beresford would assist in bringing about a good understanding between foreigners and Japanese. He referred to the anxiety felt in connection with the new experiment that would come into force in July next, when foreigners would be placed under Codes administered by a practically untried and inadequately paid judiciary, who were necessarily inexperienced in the newly framed laws. Referring to the Kobe Memorial, he hoped to learn that satisfactory assurances had been given by Tokyo. He was satisfied that the Government in Tokyo were as anxious as foreigners were to remove all obstacles from the path of the smooth working of the treaties, and promised that the Association would do all that was possible to promote good feeling.

Lord Charles Beresford, in replying to the toast of his health, emphasized the fact that his mission was to promote a commercial alliance between Japan, Great Britain, America and Germany; it would not be an offensive alliance unless the allies received annoyance. He then referred to the vast changes that had taken place in Kobe since his last visit. As to the difficulties of the new treaty, he could not believe in all the difficulties that some foreshadowed. After all, the British as a nation, were apt to consider possibilities more than realities, and he was satisfied that the British Government intended to help Japan to carry on under the new treaties. He conceived that there would be no difficulty in the future that could not be found capable of a satisfactory solution. As to backing Koheites up, he would be only too glad to do so from his place in Parliament. He promised to ask a question in the House with reference to the Memorial the Association had seen fit to address to the home authorities. The opening-up of China was inevitable, and would necessarily benefit Japan materially, which in turn would necessarily benefit the British merchant in Japan materially.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE "PEKING" IN COLLISION. STRUCK BY A JAPANESE GUNBOAT.

Kobe, Jan. 16, 7.45 p.m.

The *City of Peking* narrowly escaped total loss coming up the Bay last night, the Japanese gunboat *Amagi* running into her port side amidships, and carrying away a number of her lifeboats and davits, and 20 feet of the bulwark rail.

The passengers tell me the order maintained on board at the time of the collision was splendid and they pay a high tribute to Captain Smith's coolness and seamanship.

It was first feared that the worst consequences would follow, and all the boats were swung out. It is reported that the gunboat did not stop. The *Peking* arrived at ten o'clock last night, and proceeded to-day at eleven. The collision took place at 6.45.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

DEATH OF A KOREAN FOREIGN EMPLOYEE.

Kobe, Jan. 16, 7.45 p.m.

Col. Ninstead, late military adviser in the service of the Korean Government, died yesterday morning here, and was buried to-day.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

FATAL FIRE IN HAKODATE.

Hakodate, Jan. 16, 3.25 p.m.

This morning fire broke out at the office of the *Hokkai Shimbu* and destroyed the building. A workman was burnt to death.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE ABOLITION OF SUGAR BOUNTIES.

London, Jan. 12.

At a crowded meeting of the Anti-Bounty League, at which all the sugar producing colonies were represented, a resolution was adopted requesting the Government immediately to conclude a convention with Germany, Austria, Belgium, and Holland, abolishing the bounties on sugar.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

The French Chambers have re-assembled and calmly re-elected the former officers, but various interpellations on the latest Dreyfus incidents were announced.

London, Jan. 13.

M. de Beaurepaire belongs to the Civil Section of the Court of Cassation. His denunciation and bias are largely based on hearsay reports, but by them the Anti-Dreyfusites are enabled to repudiate beforehand the decision of the Criminal Section.

London, Jan. 14.

An uproarious debate has taken place in the French Chambers relative to the Beaurepaire incident. M. Lebreton, Minister of Justice, explained that the alleged partiality of Judges merely consisted in their treating Colonel Picquart with the same consideration as the other witnesses. Nevertheless further inquiry is proceeding.

London, Jan. 16.

The decision of the Court of Cassation on the Dreyfus Case is expected shortly. The newspapers state it will report that the proofs of Dreyfus' guilt are insufficient.

London, Jan. 17.

The Court of Cassation has summoned Colonel Esterhazy to appear, as his evidence is considered important. Immunity from arrest is assured him while in Paris. AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

NO PERMANENT OCCUPATION INTENDED.

London, Jan. 13.

During a debate on the Philippines in the American Senate, Senator Foraker, speaking apparently on behalf of President McKinley, said that while the country was unanimously against restoring the islands to tyrannical Spain or abandoning them to disorder and anarchy, the Ameri-

can occupation would not be permanent. Neither President McKinley nor the Senate desired anything but the ultimate independence of the Philippines.

THE FATE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

London, Jan. 14.
It is declared at Washington that Senator Foraker's statement in regard to the Philippines was wholly unwarranted.

London, Jan. 16.
The debates in the American Senate on the Philippines are revealing strong Anti-German feeling.

London, Jan. 17.
President McKinley is appointing an influential commission including Admiral Dewey, General Otis, and certain civilians, to investigate the situation in the Philippines and advise as to the wisest course.

An American commission sails for the Philippines at the beginning of February and will remain for an indefinite period as general advisory board to President McKinley.

NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES.

London, Jan. 13.
Lawyer Joseph H. Choate has been appointed American ambassador in London.

London, Jan. 14.
A terrific gale swept over England on Thursday. Immense damage was done and telegraphic communication is interrupted.

PLAGUE AT CALCUTTA.
The plague has re-appeared at Calcutta.

London, Jan. 16.
It has been ascertained that only one suspected case of plague has occurred at Calcutta.

DEATH OF SENATOR DINGLEY.
The death is announced of Mr. Dingley, author of the Dingley Tariff.

BRITISHERS AND BOERS IN THE TRANSVAAL.
A protest meeting of Britishers at Johannesburg, at which many Boers were present, ended in a free fight.

CZAR'S DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS.
London, Jan. 17.

Count Muravieff, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in a circular to the European Cabinets, states that although the horizon has been somewhat overclouded since his first communication, the convocation of a peace congress is still advisable. The proposals include the prohibition of submarine torpedo boats, of new and more powerful weapons or explosives or other new warlike inventions and also of ships with prohibited arms. The *Times* regards the scheme as visionary and impracticable.

SUBMARINE TORPEDO BOATS.
Owing to successful experiments, France is building six submarine torpedo boats.

CONCLUSION OF CANADIAN-AMERICAN COMMISSION.

TREATY PROBABLE.
London, Jan. 19.
A despatch from Washington states that the Canadian-American Commission has attained a close understanding on all questions, and the opinion is expressed that a treaty will be concluded removing all differences.

MR. BRYAN IS OPPOSED TO COLONIAL POLICY.
Col. J. W. Bryan, speaking at Denver, said the United States was unable to afford

a colonial policy. To adopt imperialism would be a step backward.

(FROM "L'AVENIR DU TONKIN.")
PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS IN TONKIN.

Paris, December 22.
It is proposed that six millions of the balance of the loan should be spent in Tonkin for the improvement of the roads in the military territory, irrigation and drainage, the amelioration of the harbour at Hongay, and the establishment of a sanatorium at Langson.

FRANCE AND TURKEY.
Paris, December 28.
M. Constans has been appointed French Ambassador at Constantinople.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")
THE TROUBLE IN ILOILO.

Hongkong, Jan. 10.
The trouble in Iloilo is coming to a crisis, and fighting is imminent.

Aguinaldo awaits the first hostile movement of the American troops at Manila before proceeding to further eventualities. His proclamation, posted in Manila, replying to General Otis's demands, has been destroyed by the American authorities.

EXODUS FROM THE PHILIPPINES.
Hongkong, Jan. 12.
Numerous rich Filipino families have arrived here as refugees from Philippines.

On the 9th instant General Otis in command of the American expedition was landing troops at Iloilo for the attack upon the rebels in possession of that city, while preparations were in active progress to defend Manila upon which the rebels, who were carrying flags, inscribed with the words "Independence or death" were hourly expected to advance.

(FROM THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.")
NAVAL AND MILITARY NEWS.

Hongkong, Jan. 13.
H.M.S. *Grafton*, the steam dredger *St. Enach* for Wei-hai-wei, and the transport *Avoca*, with the 2nd battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, have arrived here.

THE LOSS OF THE "GLENAVON."
The certificate of Captain Pitblie has been suspended for one year.

(FROM THE "ASAMI SHIMBUN.")
CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Peking, Jan. 15.
Disorder still prevail throughout Szechuen. Rioters have attacked Christian Churches at several places. The Governor is attempting to suppress the rebels, but there are indications of sympathy between the latter and the Government troops. The Government intends to despatch a body of European drilled soldiers.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")
CHINA, GREAT BRITAIN, AND FRANCE.

Peking, Jan. 18.
Great Britain has advised the Chinese Government not to accede to the French claim for the extension of the French concession in Shanghai, and the British authorities have pledged themselves to resist any menaces France may hold out.

Viceroy Sheng, of Hupeh prefecture, has been dismissed from office.

(FROM JAPANESE SOURCES.)
FIRE IN OSAKA.

Osaka, Jan. 13.
This morning, at 10 o'clock, fire broke out at the famous Kabuki-za, near Umeda station. The building was totally destroyed with the exception of part of the waiting room. It cost yen 73,000 and is insured by three fire insurance companies for yen 10,000 each. The cause of the fire is believed to be the carelessness of some of the employees. It is thought *hibachi* were left with charcoal burning. The damage is estimated at about yen 85,000.

SHIPWRECKS.

Osaka, Jan. 14.
On the 13th the steamer *Meiyo Maru* (173 tons) belonging to Mr. Horimatsu, in this city, was wrecked off Gungahang island, Korea. The steamer is insured by the Tokyo Marine, the Nippon Marine, and the Imperial Marine Insurance Companies for yen 26,300.

Nagasaki, Jan. 14.
The steamer *Hisen Maru* (14 tons) belonging to Mr. Mitsuyama Kinroku, in Hizen province, was wrecked off Kamino-ura en route to Saseho. The crews and passengers were saved.

TRAINS IN COLLISION.
Sapporo, Jan. 16.
Yesterday two trains on the Tanko Railway came into collision here, but no considerable damage was inflicted on the cars or passengers.

THE PLAGUE.
Taipei, Jan. 15.
Six cases of plague appeared in Tainan prefecture on the 14th.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.
Kobe, Jan. 17.
The Italian cruiser *Marco Polo* arrived here last evening from Nagasaki.

Jinsen, Jan. 17.
The U.S. cruiser *Baltimore* left here yesterday for Nagasaki.
The Japanese warship *Chokai* left to-day for Mokpho.

THE PEKING COLLISION.
Wakayama, Jan. 17.
The gunboat *Amagi*, which was in collision with the steamer *City of Peking*, did not sustain any damage.

THE NEW TRIPLE ALLIANCE.
Kyoto, Jan. 19.
The Chamber of Commerce held a conference yesterday to discuss the recent speech of Lord Charles Beresford. The majority of the Chamber endorsed the idea of an *entente* between Japan, the United States, and Great Britain. A resolution has been sent to the Ministers of State.

FLOODS.
Awamori, Jan. 19.
On the 15th heavy rains prevailed here, and the sea embankment near Ajikazawa collapsed. The waves swept over the surrounding land, and 21 houses were damaged, while 117 villagers are in receipt of Government relief.

A THIEF.
Nagano, Jan. 19.
A thief to-day entered the office of the Urban Authority at Idsumino village, Suwa Gori, and stole yen 600 from the iron safe.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE				
From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.	
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru 1	M. Jan. 25	
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	—	W. Jan. 25	
America	P. M. & Co.	China 2	Th. Jan. 26	
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 3	Th. Jan. 26	
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	M. Jan. 30	
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. Jan. 31	
America	P. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Feb. 5	
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Th. Feb. 9	
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Feb. 13	
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Feb. 13	
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	W. Feb. 15	

1 Left Shanghai on the 18th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES				
For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.	
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	F. Jan. 20	
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Jan. 25	
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Satsuma Maru	W. Jan. 25	
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	W. Jan. 25	
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Jan. 27	
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	F. Jan. 27	
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. Feb. 2	
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Feb. 6	
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Feb. 11	
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Feb. 13	
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Feb. 14	

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 403.

WHITE.

1—R to K 6

2—Q to Kt 8 mate

3—Q to B 3 mate

4—Q to K 4 mate

5—Q to Q B 4 mate

6—Kt to B 4 (takes B)

7—Q takes Kt mate

8—Kt takes Kt mate

9—R takes Kt mate

10—Q to Q 4 mate

BLACK.

1—K takes R

2—Kt takes ■

3—Kt (QB 4) any other

4—P takes P or moves

5—R to Kt 4 or B to B 5

6—R to R 5 or B to Kt 4

7—Kt takes B ch

8—Kt to Q 3 ch

9—Kt (KB 4) any other

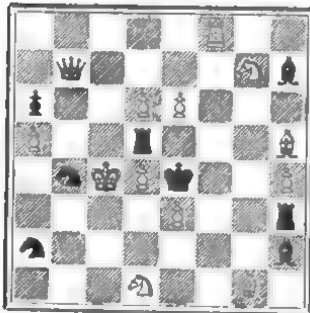
Correct Solutions received from W.H.S., and M.P.

PROBLEM No. 406.

By T. H. BILLINGTON.

From Newcastle Weekly Chronicle.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 469.

THE JANOWSKY-SHOWALTER MATCH.

At the time the last mail left the score stood Janowski, 4; Showalter, 2; Draws, 3. The match was postponed after the ninth game, on account of the death of a brother of Showalter.

FIRST GAME.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE.—Showalter.	BLACK.—Janowski.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q 4	18 P R 3 (f)
2 P Q 4	19 B Q 3
3 Kt Q B 3	20 R Q B 4
4 Kt B 3	21 Q Q 4 (g)
5 B KB 4 (a)	22 P Q Kt 4
6 P K 3	23 P Kt 4 (h)
7 P Q B P	24 P Q Kt 5 (i)
8 Q B 2 (b)	25 R Kt 4
9 P Q R 3	26 Q Kt 1
10 B Kt 5 (c)	27 R 2
11 Cts. (d)	28 Q R
12 Kt Q 5 (e)	29 Q Q 5 (f)
13 P K 4	30 R K 2
14 K Kt 4	31 R Q Kt 4
15 K Kt 4	32 P R 4
16 Q R 4	33 Resigns
17 B Kt 1	

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny, in *The Ledger*, Philadelphia.

(a) The text move gives the Q B a favourable development, yet most players prefer the 3—B to Kt 5 move.

(b) Since White played 11 takes B P, he should have continued with P takes P, isolating the Black Q P.

(c) In order to guard against the threatening P to K 4. Better, perhaps, was P takes P.

(d) R to Q 4, followed by B to K 2 and Castles, was much better. By Castling Q R White can not pursue aggressive tactics without exposing his King.

(e) Preferable was the Kt to K 4. The text move is not sufficiently aggressive, and gives Black the opportunity to develop the Q B.

(f) Necessary, since B to Kt 5 was threatening. (g) Hardly satisfactory, for it will enable Black to play Kt to B 4, where it occupies a commanding position. Much better was P to K 5.

(h) A disastrous mistake. Better was K to Kt 2, or Q to K 2.

(i) After this move White is bound to lose a Pawn.

(k) The winning move.

(l) White's game at this stage was a hopeless one. Black was a Pawn ahead and bound to win at least another one.

(m) Much superior to R to B 7 ch or B to B 6, in which case White might have prolonged the struggle by interposing the Rook.

GAME No. 470.

THE JANOWSKY-SHOWALTER MATCH.

SECOND GAME.

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE.—Janowski.	BLACK.—Showalter.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K 4	32 R R 4
2 Kt Q B 3	33 B 2 R
3 Kt B 3 (a)	34 Q P 4
4 B Kt 5	35 K Q 4
5 Castles	36 B Q 3
6 P Q 3	37 K Q 3
7 B Kt 5	38 B Q 2
8 B Q B 4	39 P B 3
9 Q R 2	40 P Kt 4 (c)
10 Kt K R 4	41 P R 4
11 B Kt 1	42 P Kt 4 ch
12 B Q Kt 3	43 P Kt 5
13 P B 4	44 R P 4
14 Q K 4	45 P K B P
15 R R 4	46 B K 4
16 P B 5	47 B R 4
17 Q Kt 3	48 K B 2
18 Q B 2	49 K Kt 3
19 R P 4	50 K R 4
20 P B 4	51 B 2
21 P B 4	52 B Kt 3 (f)
22 R 2 R	53 B R 6
23 Q Q 4	54 B 2
24 Q B 4	55 P 4
25 Q Q 4	56 B Kt 7
26 R Q B 4	57 B P 4
27 B K 4	58 B R 4 (g)
28 B B 3	59 K Kt 3
29 K Kt 4	60 B 6
30 K B 2	61 P B 7
31 K Kt 4	62 K B 2

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny, in *The Ledger*, Philadelphia.

(a) P to K B 4 or P to K Kt 3 is the usual continuation.

(b) A tempting move, which, however, proves disadvantageous. White can not answer Q takes B, followed by B takes Q, for Kt takes Q and B to B 4 ch would give Black an easy win. Nor could he play B takes Kt and K takes Q, for Black, with B takes Q and B takes R, wins the exchange. Obviously, White can not move Q to K 3 or Q to B 2 on account of B to Q B 4 winning the Queen. White has thus no other answer than Q to K 4 or Q to Q 2, which enables Black to continue R to R 5 and eventually P to Q Kt 4, winning the Bishop. Black, however, overlooked White's P takes K P; B takes Kt and Q to Kt 3 continuation, which would regain the piece, with a decided advantage in position.

(c) A defensive move, which, however, involves the loss of a Pawn. It seems Black abandoned too quickly his Pawn.

(d) The exchanges of pieces were rather favourable for Black, for having a Kt against a Bishop, and White's Q B being doubled, he had the best drawing chance. The text move, however, is inferior, and actually causes defeat. The move will enable White to obtain a strong majority of Pawns on the Queen's wing, which will suffice to enforce a win. Black should have moved P to Kt 5, followed by Kt to B 3. It seems Black missed a pretty safe draw.

(e) White on the Queen's wing threatened P to Q Kt 4, establishing a passed Pawn. Black will be unable to defend both wings.

(f) Well played. Black can not move K to B 3, for K to H 5 would follow. He is thus obliged to move his Kt.

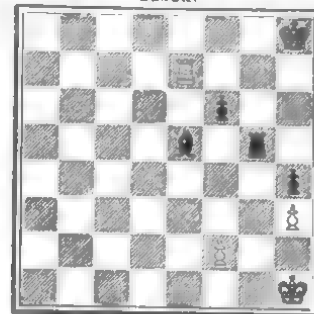
(g) White calculated accurately. He can afford to lose the K P, since Black will be unable to stop the K B P.

(h) The final effort, which of course does not prove a success. If White captures the Pawn, then Kt to Q 3 ch and Kt takes P would draw the game.

END GAME.

By W. B. MASON, Tokyo.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and draw.

This interesting position, our correspondent points out, occurred in actual play in Tokyo, White having conceded the odds of Q Kt to his opponent in the game. We will publish the solution in our next issue, to give our solvers opportunity to study the position.

THE CHAMPIONS

For two years the World's Champion has been devoting himself to serious study in Heidelberg and Berlin, and it was a question whether or not the World would lose a great master of Chess to find a great master of mathematics; but now that he has finished his university course, Lasker comes back to the world of Chess. He is now on a tour in England, winning everything in sight. In the Ladies' Chess-club, London, he made a clean sweep of twenty boards; at the Town Hall, Basingstoke, it was the same thing—twenty straight. In Plymouth, he lost only one game out of thirty games, ten were declared draws on account of lack of time, and at Falmouth he won all the games. He has declared his intention to play in the great London Tourney of 1899; and there is a possibility that he may visit the United States. He has lectured on Chess before several of the London clubs, and made his mark as a most interesting and instructive teacher.

Mr. Steinitz is on different lines at present; he has become chess tutor and correspondence player. He is engaged with the Liverpool Club, also a game with the Dublin Chess Club. He offers to play the Vienna Chess Club by correspondence, and is willing to take either the Steinitz Gambit, or the Evans Gambit, against Lasker's defence; or the Giuoco Piano, at the option of the opponents; and in the other he proposes to defend the King's Bishop's Gambit with his new move, 3 Kt to K 2.

Showalter and Janowsky are at present engaged in a match. The former left New York for home as soon as the cable reached him that the latter had started from Europe, but he proposes returning. After the match Janowsky intends sojourning in the States till the London Tournament, in which he hopes to take part.

Under the management of *The American Chess Magazine*, Pillsbury, the American Champion, is making a tour of the United States. The purpose of this tour is to bring Chess, a very praiseworthy object, for Mr. Pillsbury is not to restrict the exhibition of his wonderful powers to the cities or the large Chess-clubs. He goes as a Chess-missionary, to find those who are interested in the great game; to instill life into small clubs, and to inspire the thousands who play Chess with the desire to do better—to become Pillsburys. We are glad to know that the financial part of the arrangement is assured; and, indeed, Chess-clubs or societies of players should avail themselves of this opportunity to see one of the greatest of the masters and receive the very valuable instruction which his playing imparts.

Considerable publicity has been given to a rumour that the American Champion, Pillsbury, had challenged the World's Champion, Lasker, to play a match for the championship of the world, and that Lasker has accepted the *defi*. Pillsbury, however, denies the truthfulness of this, but declares that this match is only a matter of time. All the big guns will be heard of in the great Tourney in London, in May, 1899. After that we may expect the greatest of all matches, Lasker v. Pillsbury—Europe v. America—for the championship of all creation.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 13th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, 7th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 13th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 23rd Dec., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

L. Schupp, American ship, 1,673, Chas. S. Kendall, 14th Jan.,—Nagasaki, 4th Jan., Ballast.—Simon Evers & Co.

Paoting, British steamer, 1,088, Wm. Lloyd Jones, 14th Jan.,—Shanghai via Kobe, 13th January, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 14th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 13th Jan., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, Vyvyan, 15th Jan.,—London via ports, Kobe, 14th Jan., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, E. P. Bishop, 15th Jan.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 14th Jan., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 16th Jan.,—Vancouver, B.C., 2nd Jan., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, R.N.R. 16th Jan.,—San Francisco, via Honolulu, 24th Dec., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 16th Jan.,—Seattle, Wash., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,900, E. Woltersdorff, 18th Jan.,—Hongkong, 12th Jan., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

DEPARTURES.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 13th January,—Seattle, Washington, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hupsh, British steamer, 1,846, T. Quail, 13th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Bowhead, Argentine steam-whaler, 240, J. Cook, 14th January,—Whaling Cruise, Stores and Whaling Gear.—American Trading Co.

Rosalia, British steamer, 1,751, C. Glanfield, 14th Jan.,—Muji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

George R. Skelfield, American ship, 1,645, Dunning, 14th Jan.,—Hilo, Hawaiian Islands, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 14th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 16th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Dorothea Rickmers, German steamer, 2,499, Pape, 16th Jan.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Paoting, British steamer, 1,088, Wm. Lloyd Jones, 17th January,—Otaru, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 17th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 17th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, Flaudin, 18th Jan.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Brady, 18th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 18th January,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrani, British steamer, 3,226, T. Trutter, 18th Jan.,—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Troop, British ship, 1,526, Fritz, 18th January,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Telena, British steamer, 3,123, Scott, 19th Jan.,—Marseilles and London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

John Currier, American ship, 1,848, R. S. Lawrence, 19th Jan.,—Cebu, Philippine Islands, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer **City of Peking**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. Biffar, Mr. A. H. Lowenstein, Mr. L. A. Dangiger, Dr. H. P. Kautman, Mr. M. Shimose, Mr. W. T. Allen, Dr. Kaestner, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Rivers, Mr. J. B. Barrows, Dr. Henry Jay, and Miss Mary E. Long, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. J. Adamson in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. G. N. Hall, in

cabin. For Hongkong:—Rev. Jas. P. McQuaide, Mr. Jacob Muller, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Postley, Capt. H. E. Nichols, Mr. W. Taylor, Mrs. Chas. G. Sawtelle, child and servant, Mrs. F. Hutchinson, Mrs. Chas. W. Walcott, Mr. F. A. Blake, Mr. W. E. Jewell, Dr. M. A. Redert, Mr. M. Briesmann, and Mrs. Pamela Dreifuss, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Empress of India**, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss A. L. Archer, Mr. C. H. Buckman, Mr. Barnes, Mr. H. J. Craig, Col. Austruther Duncan, Mrs. Austruther Duncan and maid, Mr. M. Holmes, Miss L. C. Hanglick, Mr. Lough, Mrs. H. F. M. Lewis, Mr. Massey, Miss M. Millett, Mr. I. Nishikawa, Mr. Stracey, Mr. W. H. Woodward, and Mr. Yamakawa, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Gaelic**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss M. A. Hogg, Mr. F. R. Pratt, Miss Hagg, Mr. R. H. Baker, Mr. S. W. Strahan, Mr. W. K. Patterson, and Mr. K. Kani, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Helmer, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Rev. W. H. Clarke, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. W. H. Schockley, Mr. R. A. Goodcell, Rev. Y. J. Allen, Miss Jessie Prior, Rev. Geo. W. Hinman, Mrs. Geo. W. Hinman, Miss M. M. Bortz, Mr. C. M. Dally, Mrs. C. M. Dally, Mrs. E. T. Williams and infant, Miss Francis K. Bement, Miss Lucy P. Bement, Miss E. Moore, and Miss R. Crane, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. William Klein, Mr. Hugo Elneupfort, Mrs. Jno. McLaren, Lieut. Richmond P. Hobson, Capt. C. Archer, Mr. Sam Feldman, Lieut. Geo. D. Moore, Mrs. Geo. D. Moore, Miss E. M. Cappen, Mrs. Thos. Franklin, Miss M. Stanford, Mr. Karl I. Faust, Mr. M. A. Elliott, Mr. Ming Hym, and Mr. J. C. White, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Empress of India**, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss E. R. Scidmore, Major A. R. P. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Davis, Mr. T. Otmura, Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mrs. Borthwick, Count Ogimori and Japanese servant, Miss Poole, Mr. C. E. G. Price, Capt. and Mrs. Edey, Lieut. Zollarn, U.S.N., Capt. G. R. Comings, U.S.A., Miss N. Smith, Mrs. M. D. Andrews and maid, Mr. F. G. Sale, Miss Womb, Mr. Chas. Rogers, Mrs. W. T. Payne, Mr. C. N. Cross, Mr. Death, Mr. I. Komor, Mr. S. Komor and Japanese servant, Mr. Le Pan and Chinese servant, Mr. A. Harlog, Mr. E. L. Van Nicop, Miss Nola, Mr. J. Summers, Mr. J. C. Wilkinson, and Mr. H. S. Brindley, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Coptic**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. E. Andie, Mr. Thos. Alward, Mr. R. C. Allen, U.S.A., Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Beaman, Mr. W. A. Beltrons, Mr. and Mrs. E. Brown, Mr. W. S. Barger, U.S.N., Mr. A. D. Brown, U.S.N., Mr. C. Bloss, U.S.N., Captain Carvitzky, I.R.N., Lieut. C. G. Calkins, U.S.N., Mr. N. A. Chapman, Ensign J. S. Doddridge, U.S.N., Mr. F. Duhmann, Jr., U.S.N., Mr. O. K. Davis, Mr. A. Gordon Dixon, R.N.R., Miss Delafield, Mrs. C. E. Garst and infant, Miss Gretchen Garst, Master Morrison Garst, Mr. F. A. Healy, Mr. and Mrs. Hong Quan and four children, Mr. O. N. Hilton, U.S.N., Mr. Y. Hamano, Col. J. W. Jones, U.S.V., Mr. S. A. Knapp, Mrs. E. W. Leiper, Ensign H. M. Lombard, U.S.N., Col. H. M. Lazelle, U.S.V., Mr. Geo. T. Marsh, Miss Mintum, Mr. H. Middleton, U.S.N., Captain W. McLean, U.S.N., Lieut. J. F. McMillan, U.S.N., Mrs. J. F. McMillan, Mr. and Mrs. Nunnemacher, Miss M. E. Pyles, Lt. Commander C. P. Perkins, U.S.N., Dr. J. Runkwitz, I.G.N., Mr. F. D. Read, U.S.N., Mr. J. Samson, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Strymer, Lieut. S. M. Suite, U.S.N., Mr. F. L. Strong, U.S.N., Mr. J. B. Stocum, Mr. Geo. W. Squire, Mr. H. Suzuki, Mr. Syomiatnikoff, Mr. Huntington Wilson, Lieut. F. A. Wilner, U.S.N., Captain E. P. Wood, U.S.N., Mr. E. M. Wilkerson, U.S.N., Mr. W. L. Walker, U.S.N., and Mr. H. Tsutsumi, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Contrary to expectation, the markets since the 1st have been abnormally slack, and the past week has witnessed no improvement. Grey shirtings and yarns are neglected, though there has been a little demand for Turkey Reds and Lawns and Woollen Italians.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirtings—8½ yds. 39 inches	\$2.55 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9½ yds. 45 inches	2.85 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7½ yds. 32 inches	1.80 to 2.00
India Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.60 to 2.30
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.14 to 0.25

WOOLLENS.

	PER POUND.
Flannels—30 yards	\$2.50 to 3.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.18 to 0.40
Woolenings—Lanes, 24 yards	0.15 to 0.24
32 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 54 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 54 inches	0.60 to 0.74
Cloths—Union, 51 to 54 inches	0.61 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb.	0.55 to 0.67
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 44 inches	7.50 to 8.93
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 3.0 lb. 24½ yards	1.40 to 2.20
30 inches	1.40 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.0 to 4.0 lb. 24½ yards	2.50 to 3.41
30 inches	2.50 to 3.41

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$14.50 to 35.50
Nos. 26 to 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 36 to 42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nos. 36, Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	44.50 to 45.50
Nos. 2.00, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nos. 2.80, Plain	76.00 to 77.00
Nos. 3.00, Plain	97.00 to 99.00
Nos. 2.00, Gassed	70.00 to 75.00
Nos. 2.80, Gassed	84.50 to 90.00
Nos. 3.00, Gassed	98.00 to 115.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$18.50 to —
Indian Branch	18.25 —
Chinese	18.25 —

METALS.

Fairly large transactions are reported in galvanised corrugated sheets, and contracts have also been entered into for Bars, Iron plates, American Wire Nails, and Tin plates.

	PER POUND.
Round and square ½ inch. and upward	4.00 to 4.35
Iron Plates, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Sheet Iron	5.00 to 5.20
Galvanised Iron sheets	9.75 to 11.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.05 to 6.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.20 to 6.50
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.08 to 2.10
Hoop Iron (1 to ½ inch)	5.00 to 5.25

KEROSENE.

The market is steady at a slight decline for American and Russian. Langkat has risen a few points.

	PER POUND.
American	\$2.00 to 2.10
Russian	2.00
Langkat	2.09 to 2.10

SUGAR.

China Sugars are 25 to 45 sen dearer. Manilas have experienced a decline. The market for white refined is weak with a downward tendency.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takan	Nominal
Brown Manila	\$5.50 to 6.50
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 4.35
Brown Cauton	3.90 to 3.75
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 6.80
White Refined	7.75 to 9.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A large business has been doing, and the tendency is upward. There is an awakening demand in the States, and the enquiry from Europe continues steady. Fine-sized Filatures are becoming scarce.

QUOTATIONS.

	NOMINAL.
Filatures—Extra, Fine	\$920 to 950
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	950 to 970
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	970 to 990
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	990 to 995
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	990 to 995
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	990 to 995
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	990 to 995
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	990 to 995
Common—Coarse	Nominal
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	990 to 995
Re-reels—No. 1½	990 to 995
Re-reels—No. 2	990 to 995
Kakadas—Extra	890
Kakadas—No. 1	890
Kakadas—No. 1½	890
Kakadas—No. 2	890
Kakadas—No. 2½	890

WASTE SILK.

The market is quiet, but prices have an upward tendency. The present stock is 6,310 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER POUND.
Noshi—Filature, Best	\$110 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 117
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	67½ to 72½
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 75
Noshi—Bushi, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Bushi, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshu, Good	55 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	50 to 55
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 85
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 25

TEA.

The only demand is for common to medium grades at *yen* 18 to 23 per picul. Prices are very firm, and the stock is reduced to 2,000 piculs of the lower qualities. The season is virtually closed.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	no stock
Finest	
Fine	
Good Medium	8.5 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 19th.

Rates continue steady at yesterday's quotations; silver from London is $\frac{1}{2}$ lower, but no alteration has been made in sterling rates from China.

Sterling — Bank T.T.	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/1
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 $\frac{3}{4}$
On Paris — Bank sight	260
On Lyons — Private 4 months' sight ..	265
On America — Bank Bills on demand ..	50
— — Private 4 months' sight	51 $\frac{1}{2}$
On Germany — Bank sight	1.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.15
On Hongkong — Bank sight	42 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.
— — Private 10 days' sight	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.
On Shanghai — Bank sight	75 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — Private 10 days' sight	77 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 78
On India — Bank sight	153
— — Private 30 days' sight	156
On Silver (London)	27 $\frac{1}{2}$

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.
[Messrs. Bissot & Ueno's List.]

Yokohama, January 19th.

Iron Works are wanted at *yen* 225 and Grand Hotels at *yen* 225. Club Hotels are offering at par (*yen* 100) and Oriental Hotels at *yen* 105. Nagasaki Hotels can be had at *yen* 40. Japan Brewery old shares are obtainable at *yen* 325 and new shares with *yen* 40 calls paid at *yen* 135. Belts have sellers at *yen* 9.50 and buyers at *yen* 9. North & Rees are enquired at *yen* 200. A few Langfeldts are procurable at *yen* 235. Japan Brewery Debentures and Oriental Hotel Debentures are on offer at *yen* 108 and 110 respectively.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	205 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share, Old	225 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share, New (paid up)	225 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	205 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	200 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	205 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., (Preferred), $\frac{1}{2}$ share	200 N.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	40 S.
North and Rees, Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	200 S.
Wells & Co., Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	9.50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	235 S.
Hingoo Co., Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	100 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share, Deb.	200 S.
Kobe (Lub) Co., Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share	30 S.
Yokohama United Club $\frac{1}{2}$ share, Deb.	200 N.
Wells & Co., Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share, Deb.	200 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share, Deb.	210 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., $\frac{1}{2}$ share, Deb.	200 N.
Reserve Fund. — 1. <i>yen</i> 10,000; 2. <i>yen</i> 3,500 equalization of dividends and <i>yen</i> 30,000 fluctuation of property; 3. <i>yen</i> 17,770.50; 4. <i>yen</i> 16,198.46.	

N.H.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, S.—Sales, St.—steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

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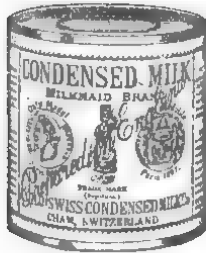
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No. 2.]

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YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 14TH, 1899.

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VOL. XXXI.

CONTENTS.

Summary of News	33
Death of Her Imperial Highness Princess Sada	33
The Colonies and the Tariff	33
Singular Accusations	33
New Year Luncheon	33
Three Interesting Reforms	33
The Armament of the Navy	33
The Seoul-Chemulpo Railway	33
The Formosa-Amoy Cable	33
The Formosa Railway	33
The Railway Question	33
Borneo and the Japanese Yen	33
Foreigners and Shares in Japanese Enterprises	33
The Philippines	33
A Census	33
State Forests	33
The Newly Discovered Island	33
The Judiciary	33
The Alleged Train Robbery	33
The Finances	33
A Record	33
An Invasion	33
Retrospective Review	33
Ying-chow	33
The New Bank	33
Politicians in the Provinces	33
The Nippon Yamen Kaisha's Special Subsidy	33
The Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society	33
The Doki Club	33
Leading Articles:—	33
Steamship Subsidies	33
The United States and the Philippines	33
A Clog-making Machine	33
Imported Wines	33
Prince Iwakura	33
Marguis Ito on Cabinet Reconstruction	33
Work of the International Committee	33
Spirit in the Vernacular Press	33
Emigration to Peru	33
Cabinet Reconstruction	33
France and Japan	33
The Imperial Diet	33
Tokei Noda Society	33
The Bookshelf	33
Fancy Dress Ball	33
The Economic Situation at the end of 1898	33
Korean News	33
First	33
News of the West	33
Supplementary Treaty between Japan and Germany	33
Supplementary Convention between France and Japan	33
Registration Law	33
Telegrams	33
China	33
Latest Shipping	33
Latest Commercial	33

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 14TH, 1899.

BIRTHS.

On the 7th January, at No. 57, Bluff, the wife of W. T. CARLETON, of a son.

At Nagano, Shinshu, on Jan. 5, 1899, the wife of the Rev. FRANK S. SCUDDER, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

At Christ Church, January 10th, 1899, by the Rev. E. Champneys Iwano, LAURA NATHALIE, daughter of N. F. Smith, of Yokohama, Japan, to CHARLES HENRY WILSON, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

DEATH.

At Kobe, on the 8th instant, Captain JOSEPH THOMAS, late of Fishguard, Pembroke-shire, South Wales, aged 67.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PRINCESS SADA NO MIYA youngest daughter of the Emperor, died on the 13th inst.

The electric railway in Kawasaki is to be opened for traffic on the 17th instant.

On the 6th inst., Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household, left for Oiso to visit

Marquis Yamagata. It is said that he was the bearer of an Imperial Order to the Premier.

MATTERS in the Philippines are very disturbed. Aguinaldo's followers getting out of hand.

THE Washington Government has ordered three gunboats and another regiment in the Philippines.

SOME wealthy merchants in Tokyo entertained Marquis Ito to dinner on the 9th at the Charyo, Hoshigaoka.

THERE were seven fires less in Yokohama in 1898 than in 1897; and the decrease in houses destroyed was 54.

MR. IWAMURA SADATAMA, a member of the Peers' House, died on the 7th. The funeral took place on the 10th.

MISS SMITH, daughter of Mr. N. F. Smith, of Yokohama, was married at Christ Church on Tuesday afternoon.

CAPT. SIR EDWARD CHICHESTER, of H.M.S. *Immortalite*, has been made a C.M.G. for his services at Manila.

BISHOP AWDREY lectured on the Genius of Tennyson at the last meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society.

A FANCY DRESS DANCE was given at the Public Hall, Yokohama, last week, in aid of the funds of Christ Church.

THE laying of the Formosa-Japan cable in Moji Straits has been completed with the exception of a small part at Akamagasaki.

THE Chief Officer and a quarter-master were the only two who lost their lives in the wreck of the *Glenaven* near Hongkong.

TRANSLATIONS of the additional tariff conventions concluded between Japan and France and Germany will be found in this issue.

A very successful concert was given by the members of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society on Tuesday at the Gora-no-mon.

THE House of Peers has passed the bill increasing the import duty on alcohol to 250 per cent., and raising the duty on tobacco by 100 per cent.

THE Public Prosecutor Cayenne has examined Dreyfus, who denied making any confession on the day of his degradation and reiterated his innocence.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD arrived at Nagasaki on Wednesday. He left the *Coptic* at Kobe and travelled overland to Tokyo, visiting Kyoto en route.

A SMALL fire broke out in the Chinese kitchen attached to the premises of Grosser & Co., Yokohama, on Thursday, but was put out before much damage was done.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by British residents, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, the Oriental Association, and other bodies to entertain Lord Charles Beresford during his stay in Yokohama and Tokyo next week.

DURING the eleven months ending November, the foreign trade of Japan was as follows:—Exports, yen 165,693,479; imports, yen 277,044,072. Gold and silver coins exported, yen 86,987,805; imported, yen 42,564,070.

DR. AND MRS. WHEELER celebrated their Silver Wedding in Yokohama on Saturday last. The

Doctor was a recipient of a handsome silver punch bowl subscribed for by grown-up patients and friends, and of a massive silver claret-jug subscribed for by patients of younger years.

TRADE is still very dull in Yokohama and it seems likely to remain so for some time to come owing to the scarcity of money. Some considerable movement is to be noted in silk, the States and Europe equally dividing the trade.

THERE is much speculation as to Lord Salisbury's object in publishing the Madagascar Blue-book at the present juncture. The French press keenly resents it after the satisfaction given by the evacuation of Fashoda, and accuses Britain of encouraging dangerous irritation.

SENSATION has been caused in the American Senate by Mr. Hoar, a prominent Senator, opposing the ratification of the peace treaty and declaring that the acquisition by America of territory in another hemisphere destroys the Monroe Doctrine.

ON the 9th inst., the Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company held its general meeting. The profit for the half-year amounted to yen 21,130, of which yen 2,000 was put to reserve, yen 18,750 allotted to a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and yen 380 carried forward to the next account.

THE *Times* correspondent travelling in Russia found, despite the Czar's manifesto, feverish activity in dock-yards. The numbers enrolled in the army and navy in October and November were larger than in any previous years, and reinforcements are being sent to the Far East as fast as transportable.

THE letter written by M. de Beaurepaire explaining his resignation as Sectional President of the Court of Cassation is strongly anti-Dreyfus in tone. In it the writer denounces the other Cassation Judges and the Minister of Justice, charging them with partiality and even with corruption, and declaring himself the avenger of the insulted honour of the army.

COLONEL LEWIS stormed and captured Ahmed Fedil's position at Roseires, on the Blue Nile, on December 25th, after severe fighting. Five hundred Dervishes were killed and many wounded. 1,500 prisoners were taken, but Ahmed Fedil escaped. Major Ferguson, of the Grenadiers, and six Egyptian officers were wounded, and 145 men were killed and wounded.

LORD CROMER has laid the foundation stone of the Gordon College at Khartoum. Receiving the Sheikh and notables, he said that the country would be governed in future by the Queen of England and the Khedive, but no attempt would be made to govern from Cairo or London. The Sultan would be the sole representative of the British and Egyptian Governments.

A BLUE-BOOK on Madagascar affairs discloses that Lord Salisbury vigorously protested against French trade restrictions, and especially against the decree confining the coasting trade to the French. M. Delcandé replied on the 29th December that the decree was not enforced and would be revoked. The *Times*, discussing the subject, says: "The French must not suppose that, because we do not splutter and flame, we are unaware of the shabbiness of the policy of French Government, which under grandiloquent phrases habitually acts with the capidity and cunning of a peasant."

DEATH OF HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS SADA.

Her Imperial Highness Princess Sada expired at 11.50 p.m. on the 11th inst. The little Princess's illness appears to have been very sudden. The first intelligence suggesting that any ground for uneasiness existed seems to have reached Tokyo during the night of the 10th, and on the morning of the 11th Imperial Chamberlains and physicians were despatched to the detached palace at Shōtō-yen in Kanagawa Prefecture, whither the Princess had proceeded on the 9th instant. The symptoms are said to have been nausea and convulsions, and the malady took its fatal course rapidly and unrelentingly. According to the *Official Gazette*, the Princess died in Tokyo, whither she returned on the afternoon of the 11th, but the etiquette observed with regard to these announcements renders it impossible to be sure about the place of death. Princess Sada, or Taki-ko Denka, as she was also called, was born in 1897, and had therefore just completed her second year. No announcement is yet made about Court mourning.

THE COLONIES AND THE TARIFF.

The British Colonies seem to occupy a somewhat peculiar position during the interval between the first enforcement of the new Tariff and the operation of the Revised Treaties; that is to say, the interval from January 1st, 1899, to July 17th in the same year. When the Revised Treaties become effective, the Colonies will belong to the category of countries not having treaties with Japan, and all goods imported from them will be subject to the rates fixed by the Japanese Statutory Tariff. But, in the meanwhile, the fact that they are excluded from the purview of the Revised Treaty secures them against some of the disadvantages resulting from Treaty Revision. For while their goods will be subject to the import duties determined by the new Conventional Tariff, they will not be subject to any of the rates determined by the Japanese Statutory Tariff. To put the matter in another form:—The Colonies remain a part of the British empire for treaty purposes so long as the Treaty is not abrogated, because all the privileges secured by that Treaty are explicitly extended to them. Now the old Treaty has already been partially abrogated, since some of the customs dues fixed by its appended Tariff have been changed to higher rates from the beginning of this year. But the duties upon articles not set forth in the new Conventional Tariff must remain on the old basis, so far as the Colonies are concerned, because the Colonies are independent of the Revised Treaty, which leaves the duties on British goods to be determined by the Japanese Statutory Tariff where they are not determined by the new Conventional Tariff. It is difficult to state the facts in a simple form, but not difficult, as we think, to understand the situation. All goods imported by British subjects paid duties formerly under a Conventional Tariff. A portion of such goods has now been brought under a new and considerably higher Conventional Tariff. The remaining portion is left to be dealt with by the Japanese themselves, according to the

terms of the Revised Treaty. But since the Revised Treaty does not apply to the Colonies, such of the latter's goods as are not affected by the new Conventional Tariff will apparently continue to enjoy the protection of the old Treaty until the latter passes out of force finally and completely next July. Practically speaking it is probably a point of no great importance, but it certainly has some interest.

Above we speak of the position occupied by the British colonies towards the new Tariff, and explained what at first sight seems to be a rational view, namely, that goods coming from the Colonies to Japan will not be subject to the Statutory Tariff until the Revised Treaties actually go into force next July. That contention is based on the hypothesis that the new Conventional Tariff, which became operative from the commencement of this year, supplants the old Tariff only in so far as the goods enumerated in the former are concerned, and that goods not enumerated therein remain on their original footing if imported from British Colonies which have not been brought within the purview of Treaty Revision. But there is another and apparently a more logical view of the matter. It is that, from the beginning of the current year, the old Tariff became wholly ineffective, though a change of rates had not been diplomatically arranged with respect to all the articles scheduled in it. In short, the new Tariff, having been negotiated by the British Government and definitely substituted for the old Tariff, must be considered equally binding on all subjects of that Government, without distinction, who paid duties under the old Tariff. When the latter was framed, its privileges were claimed for the British Colonists, and, when it is abrogated, a portion of its privileges can not be reserved for the Colonists though abandoned for the people of the United Kingdom. An alternative way of stating the proposition is that the Colonies are not entitled to enjoy the advantages of freedom and dependence simultaneously. Privileges which they obtained in their capacity of complete subordination to the mother country can not be retained on the plea that they have ceased to be subordinate. It is a curious and interesting question, but we do not see how these latter arguments can be traversed. Her Majesty's Government stood proxy for the Colonies forty years ago, and though the engagements it then entered into on their behalf and the commercial advantages it negotiated for them internationally, might have been held to lapse when they ceased to recognise its right to control their international commerce, those advantages certainly should not be considered more permanent in the case of the Colonies than in the case of other British subjects.

SINGULAR ACCUSATIONS.

A grain of fact is worth a peck of theory. The Japanese are accounted a particularly patriotic people. Some foreign writers have almost lost their heads over the evidences they discover of this trait, and Japanese writers, as a rule, seem to take it for granted that their nationals are gifted with quite an abnormal love of country and reverence for the Throne. Yet occasionally our confidence in such a

pleasant state of affairs is rudely disturbed. When, for example, we find a newspaper like the *Yomiuri Shimbun* sacrificing country to party, and blackening the character of the whole Japanese nation in order that the reputation of its own political opponents may be seen in shadow, we begin to doubt whether this fine theory of patriotism has great practical value. The *Yomiuri* alleges that the Japanese are insincere folks, and it bases the charge on their attitude towards Chinese and Korean reformers. The movements of reform in both of the neighbouring empires were encouraged by Japan—indeed the *Yomiuri* goes even so far as to assert that the Japanese Government actually fomented the insurrection of Kim Ok-kiun in Sōul,—yet when the movements failed, and their promoters fled to Japan for refuge, they received scant courtesy. Our contemporary's immediate purpose in making these strange statements is to create an impression that whereas the former Cabinet took successful measures to check the Chinese Government's ardour of resentment against the reform party, the present Cabinet remains supine, and thus becomes vicariously responsible for the recently reported renewal of the Empress Dowager's persecuting mood. It will be generally admitted, we think, that the Powers principally interested in China's progress should endeavour to employ their good offices on behalf of the unfortunate Chinese whose chief fault is that they are more enlightened than the bulk of their nationals. But Japan would show a great lack of judgment if she acted alone in such a matter. The duty devolves mainly upon England. Neither she nor Japan will be slow to take any steps consistent with due regard for prudence—not prudence on their own account, of course, but prudence for the sake of the cause of progress which might only be jeopardised by precipitate interference. As for the refugees, they seem to us to have received quite as full a measure of protection in Japan as they had any title to expect. The *Yomiuri* complains that Kim Ok-kiun was sent to Hokkaido and afterwards to the Bonin Islands, and condemns such treatment as inhospitable. Our contemporary's memory of modern history might be easily improved. Kim would have been suffered to live where he pleased in Japan had he abstained from intrigues which threatened to involve several Japanese subjects.

NEW YEAR LUNCHEON.

The Emperor entertained a large party at luncheon in the Homei-den, or Hall of Abundance and Brightness, on the 3rd instant. The Princes of the Blood; the Ministers of State; the Foreign Representatives; several members of the two first Orders of Nobility; the President of the Privy Council; the Privy Councillors, and the Court Councillors had the honour of being present. The Emperor expressed his pleasure at receiving the Foreign Representatives and his principal subjects, and wished them the Compliments of the Season; to which gracious speech Marquis Yamagata, on behalf of the Administration, and Baron d'Anethan, on behalf of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, replied in suitable terms. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the entertainment was in pure Japanese style.

THREE INTERESTING REFORMS.

It is stated that three important amendments of the Code of Criminal Procedure will be embodied in a Bill for submission to the Diet at an early date. The first relates to the manner of attesting legal documents. These, according to the present system, must carry not only the signature but also the stamp of the attesting party. Foreigners, however, do not use stamps: with them the signature is everything, and if the existing method of procedure were insisted on, they would be subjected to the disadvantage of not being able to prepare documents that comply with the full requirements of the law. It is proposed, therefore, to abolish the stamp.

The second reform has to do with solitary confinement as ordered by a judge conducting a preliminary examination. The compilers of the present Code, following French practice, endowed the judge with competence to order into solitary confinement for a limited time any prisoner showing a recalcitrant disposition under investigation. There has long been a sentiment that such a power is liable to great abuse, and that, under any circumstances, the principle of the procedure is to be condemned. The probability is, therefore, that the system of *misshitsu hankin* will be done away with.

Finally, the question of bail is to be dealt with. There are some people who imagine that without the Anglo-Saxon institution of *habeas corpus*, no criminal procedure can be satisfactory. *Habeas corpus* is an excellent institution, no doubt, but the ends that it is designed to attain are not unattainable by other legal devices. The framers of the Japanese Code thought that they had attained these ends, first, by providing that examination by a judge must take place within 48 hours of the time of arrest, and, secondly, by investing the Judges with power to grant bail. At first sight such arrangements seem calculated to guarantee a suspect against arbitrary or needless detention. But the system has not worked well in practice. Several times during the past seven years instances of apparent abuses have been referred to in these columns, and a feeling has grown up among foreigners that this phase of Japanese jurisdiction may prove very irksome. A memorandum on the subject was placed in the hands of Mr. Barrett by certain United States Missionaries on the occasion of his recent visit to Japan, and in common with other foreign Representatives he appreciated the importance of the apprehension. What the Government now proposes, it is said, is to create a right of appeal from the decision of a Judge refusing to grant bail. The working theory to-day is that a Judge refuses bail when he considers that the ends of justice might be defeated by setting the accused at liberty; not so much lest an escape should be effected, as lest proofs of guilt should be destroyed or rendered inaccessible. Whether the examining Judges take too timid a view of such contingencies, or whether they have not yet entered fully into the spirit of the law of bail, or whether, as many allege, the accused persons themselves often fail through ignorance to press for their lawful privileges, it seems pretty certain that the

system does not work satisfactorily. We are not prepared to say that the creation of competence to appeal against a refusal to grant bail would entirely meet the requirements of the case, but it certainly would be a substantial improvement.

THE ARMAMENT OF THE NAVY.

Japan is gradually achieving the very desirable condition of uniformity in her naval armament. We can recall the time when anything but uniformity prevailed; the time when a gun's crew taken from one ship would have been practically useless for immediate service on another. The fault did not rest altogether with Japan. She had to take her ships where she could find them, and their armaments were purchased with them. Thirty years ago, opinions were much divided among artillerists as to the best weapon of the time. Japan's advisers were strongly in favour of breech-loading guns, although, as Englishmen, they adopted that view reluctantly; for England had then turned her back upon the breech-loader. She was the first to introduce it, but her experience with the best breech-closing mechanism that the wit of man had then devised did not encourage her to continue in the new line. Krupp, therefore, found his opportunity, and when Japan began to organise her Navy, the Essen weapon was the only gun in the world that fulfilled the conditions laid down by her advisers and endorsed by her own intelligence, namely a breech-loading cannon approved and adopted by the Government of the country where it was manufactured. Thenceforth during several years the German breech-loader held first place in Japanese estimation, and there seemed to be a strong probability that the unification of her naval armament would be on the lines of Krupp. But when England reverted to her old love, her proverbial mechanical skill, to say nothing of the exceptional theoretical knowledge that her artillerists had always displayed, soon brought her into prominence. There is a story told of von Moltke in his comparatively youthful days. Asked to endorse a panegyric on a new piece of artillery, he replied that if an angel from heaven pronounced a favourable verdict about a gun, he should not believe him unless the weapon had been approved at Woolwich. If the great Marshal were alive now, he might substitute Newcastle for Woolwich, inasmuch as Armstrong and Whitworth have no superiors. Into their hands the arming of Japan's ships seems to have fallen almost entirely. The first-class cruisers now building in France and Germany; the second-class cruisers now building in America; the three line-of-battle ships building in England, and probably the fourth line-of-battle ship for which Messrs. Vickers and Company have obtained the order, are all to receive their armaments at Elswick. We learn from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the name of the fourth line-of-battle ship has not yet been fixed. The three now approaching completion are to be called the *Shikishima*, the *Asahi*, and the *Hatsuse*, but the fourth remains nameless. The same journal says that the torpedo-destroyer ordered at the Yarrow Yard was handed over on the 29th ultimo to the Japanese crew sent home to receive her, and that she will start for Japan in a few days.

THE SŌUL-CHEMULPO RAILWAY.

The Japanese have finally taken over the Sŏul-Chemulpo Railway according to the original programme. The construction of the line was to have been completed before its transfer to the Japanese company, but in consequence of some technical questions, the details of which have no interest for the general public, it has been decided that the last stages of the building operations shall be carried out by Japanese engineers. No objection to the transfer has been raised by the Korean Government, and the transaction may therefore be regarded as definitely closed. It is not without political significance, but upon that phase we need not comment. A tribute must be paid, however, to Mr. J. R. Morse, the projector of the line. We do not mean a tribute to his enterprise, nor yet to the courageous perseverance and tact with which he met and overcame all difficulties. Those qualities are, of course, deserving of all praise, but they are happily common among American and British merchants. Our reference is rather to the remarkably scrupulous loyalty shown by Mr. Morse throughout the affair. The story was told pretty fully in *The Times* a year ago, and its principal incident alone need be recalled here; namely, that while Mr. Morse was still practically free to deal with the line, a French syndicate offered to purchase it from him at a price which would have put a clear profit of half a million of *yen* into his pocket. We say that he was practically free at the time, because the Japanese Company had no legal claim upon him other than that provided by a clause involving a forfeiture of 30,000 *yen* in case of failure to implement the contract. In short, by forfeiting thirty thousand *yen*, Mr. Morse could have gained half a million. But he declined the offer, considering himself morally bound to the Japanese Company which had helped to finance the line at a somewhat critical time. It is a fine record.

THE FORMOSA-AMOI CABLE.

There is, it appears, no foundation for the statement that opposition has been offered by France to Japan's acquisition of the Formosa-Amoy Cable. An explicit contradiction of the rumour is now published by the vernacular journal which received the erroneous telegram from Peking. We learn further that our own version of the negotiations between Japan and China was misleading. The facts are these: At the time of the cession of Formosa the question of handing over the cable was mooted, but China declined to consent, and for a considerable time maintained her attitude of objection. Her view of the case seems to have been that Japan, having obtained so much, both morally and materially, ought not to press for petty concessions such as the transfer of a few miles of submarine cable. To Japan, of course, the matter presented itself in a different light, but she did not urge her proposal. Thenceforth the cable was worked by the two Powers jointly, Japan taking the payments collected in Formosa, and China taking those collected on her side. Very extensive repairs had to be made from time to time, at Japan's expense, and ultimately it became apparent that fully half of the cable would have to be renewed. Japan was not disposed to undertake such a costly

operation unless some definite arrangement were effected as to the ownership of the cable. Hence, although full preparations for the renewal were completed, the work was temporarily suspended. The Chinese Authorities now saw the advisability of handing over the cable, and accounts were compiled, giving due consideration to the claims of each side, the result being that an agreement was reached on the basis of a payment of 100,000 yen to China. This settlement appears to have been considered more or less prejudicial to Danish interests; in other words, to the interests of the Eastern Extension Company and the Great Northern Company. Hence the Russian Minister in Peking, who also represents Denmark, showed some disposition to oppose the ratification of the agreement, but his opposition does not appear to have been of a very resolute character, for the bargain has been concluded and China is now in receipt of the money.

THE FORMOSA RAILWAY.

The Formosa Railway threatens to assume the character of a farce. The date for its commencement has been postponed again and again. People supposed that the postponement granted until the 15th of the present month would prove final, but again the indulgence of the Governor-General has been sought, and again he has responded by conceding another period of grace until the 28th of February. The Company started with rosy prospects. Its capital was fixed at 15 million yen in 300,000 shares, but applications were received for 700,000 shares. When it came to calling in the subscriptions, however, the holders of 155,000 shares alone showed any disposition to respond. An unsuccessful attempt having then been made to enlist the cooperation of the Treasury and the Imperial Household, the Bank of Japan was asked to place the shares on its list of negotiable securities, but that application also proved abortive. The next proposal was to have the capital reduced to 10 million yen, the projectors taking the balance of 45,000 required to make up this amount. But the project did not mature, and recourse was had to Messrs. Peacock and Company and to French capitalists. Foreigners, however, declined to lend any money except on Government security. Whether there is any other scheme on foot we do not know, but it would seem that the assumption of the responsibility by the State is the only chance of getting the line built. There is, however, a marked reluctance to dissolve the Company and abandon the enterprise to official hands; reluctance which some critics attribute to the fact that 385,000 yen has been collected from the shareholders and 150,000 yen contributed by the promoters, which money the managing committee would now be puzzled to return.

THE RAILWAY QUESTION.

It has been generally supposed that if the proposal for the State purchase of private railways entered the field of practical politics, the method of assessing the purchase price would be to take the average net profits during the past five years and multiply the figure by 20. The *Yiji Shimo*, however, suggests that a different

plan would be followed; the plan indicated by the Regulations for Private Railways, where it is provided that, after the lapse of a full period of 25 years from the time of granting a charter, the Government shall be entitled to purchase the line from the shareholders at a price determined by taking the average market value of the shares during the 5 years preceding the date of purchase. The law, therefore, furnishes a very explicit method of procedure. It is true that since the preliminary interval of 25 years has not elapsed in the case of any of the lines in question, the Government can not assert a right of purchase. But the volition of the shareholders would remove that objection. An interesting question then arises as to the prices that the shares have commanded during the past 5 years. The following table is published, the prices shown being those ruling during the second half of each year:—

	1893.	1894.	1895.
Japan R. Company—100 yen	245	197	194
Kiushiu R. Company—100 yen	110	101	124
Sanyo R. Company—100 yen	122	110	135
	1896.	1897.	1898.
Japan R. Company—100 yen	220	185	141
Kiushiu R. Company—100 yen	150	145	144
Sanyo R. Company—100 yen	174	140	124

Thus the averages for these 100 yen shares are, Japan Railway Company, 198 yen; Kiushiu Railway Company, 129 yen; Sanyo Railway Company, 134 yen. It is scarcely conceivable that the Kiushiu Company would be willing to accept 129 yen for shares now quoted at 144 yen, but the Japan Railway Company and the Sanyo Railway Company would gain largely by the transaction. These companies have 50 yen shares also, which, in the case of the Sanyo Railway, are not fully paid up. The quotations for the 50 yen shares at the end of last year were:—

Japan Railway Company—50 yen share, <i>yen</i> .	fully paid	70
Sanyo Railway Company—50 yen share,	44 yen paid	50
Kiushiu Railway Company—50 yen share,	fully paid	67

The *Yiji* says that the five-years average in the case of these shares would be 99 yen, 56.70 yen, and 67 yen respectively, but the basis of the calculation is not given, and we fail to see how the results are obtained. It appears, however, that the shareholders are by no means unanimous in their desire to sell to the State. Many of them hold their shares as investments from which they derive a regular income. The market price of the shares is a secondary consideration to them, and, in any case, they would be disposed to regard the average of the past five years as a rather poor figure.

BORNEO & THE JAPANESE YEN.

The Government of North Borneo is determined to have nothing to do with the Japanese silver yen. It has issued an ordinance totally interdicting the import of the silver yen for purposes of currency, and providing penalties of heavy fines and half a year's imprisonment for infractions of the veto. We hear nothing of the reasons for thus tabooing a coin which was formerly so much liked. It is true that the yen has now only bullion value, but it never had much more, and, though it has ceased to be legal tender in Japan, it remains at least as good as the Mexican dollar elsewhere. There is doubtless some good cause for the interdict in North Borneo, but we are not acquainted with it.

FOREIGNERS AND SHARES IN JAPANESE ENTERPRISES.

The Government in Tokyo seems disinclined to pronounce any definite opinion as to the legality of foreign ownership of shares in Japanese railways and commercial or industrial companies. According to the *Kokumin*, several inquiries have been addressed to the Authorities, but a discreet silence is preserved by the latter. The directors of the Kibe Tetsudo, whose affairs recently fell into such a lamentable state of confusion, are said to have pressed with special importunity for an official pronouncement, the regulations of the Company having been duly revised in the sense of admitting foreign shareholders. It always seemed to us a particularly naïve proceeding on the part of the Kibe Railway folk to open their arms to the foreign capitalist so soon as they found themselves in financial difficulties, but their conception of the stranger's disposition is at least flattering to his benevolence, though not complimentary to his business acumen. They failed, however, to elicit a conclusive answer from the Government. The Tokyo Beer Company is said to be the latest propounder of the query. Its stock is in considerable demand among foreigners, no less than 1,500 of its shares having been acquired by Yokohama residents in the names of Japanese *banto* and other "trustworthy natives," of whom every foreigner manages to find one for his own service, though nine foreigners out of every ten deny that such a thing is discoverable in Japan. In answer to the Beer Company's query, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is reported to have pronounced an affirmative opinion, but the Foreign Office, though not prepared to deny the legality of the claim advanced by the Company, expressed the view that, in consideration of the course hitherto pursued, it seemed advisable to let the matter rest for the present. Well, life is not so very short after all. We presume that the enterprising foreigner can afford to wait a few months longer. Having waited for a quarter of a century, he may as well "take the opportunity" of waiting for another half year, as the operation would be expressed in the euphemistic phraseology of the Japanese.

This aspect of the operation of the Revised Treaties—a pending solvent of all difficulties—reminds us that the event has been viewed in that character by optimists and opportunists for a great many years. In 1886, the subject of a certain foreign Power established a rice exchange in Tsukiji. Rice exchanges were at that time forbidden by Japanese law. They were counted a form of gambling injurious not only to the morals of the persons carrying them on, but also to the interests of the public at large. The Governor of Tokyo applied to the foreigner's Consul for assistance. The Consul replied that, rice exchanges not being interdicted by the laws of the foreigner's native land, he (the Consul) had no competence to interfere. Then the Foreign Office approached the Legation of the enterprising gentleman. The Legation warned him privately that if he persisted in keeping open his exchange, things would be made hot for him, somehow or other, but publicly endorsed the Consul's attitude, and recommended the Japanese Government to let the matter

drop, "in view of the near approach of Treaty Revision." It was a grim piece of humour; the near approach of Treaty Revision in 1880!

THE PHILIPPINES.

A suggestion is made by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that Japan should act as intermediary to bring about a settlement between Aguinaldo and the United States Government. Present indications suggest a severe struggle for the possession of the Philippines; a struggle that will involve terrible bloodshed and a long interval of disorder. Why not hold a conference in Tokyo after the model of the recent conference between Spain and America in Paris. The *Yomiuri* thinks by Japan's intervention the leaders of the Independents could be induced to make an arrangement entirely satisfactory to the Washington Government. But it seems to us exceedingly doubtful whether the United States would, or should, go into any conference with Aguinaldo and his supporters. The Philippines are now an American territory. The so-called "independents" have no recognisable status there whatever. If they decline to bow to American authority, they become rebels, *de facto*, and can not be met in conference on equal terms.

A story without a grain of truth is published by the *Yorosu Choho*. It is to the effect that the Japanese Government was notoriously favorable to the Philippine insurgents when they fought against Spain, and that she is likely to be suspected of a similar sentiment now, emissaries from Aguinaldo having come to this country. It is singular that if such a mood prevailed in Japan no evidences of it were afforded either in the writings of the newspaper or in the utterances of public men. While Spain was endeavouring to crush the rebellion, Aguinaldo sent an agent to Japan to purchase arms and gunpowder, but the Japanese police were too vigilant and the agent returned *re infecta*. Recently the attempt was renewed, it is said, but with equally barren results. The Japanese authorities have always maintained an attitude of the strictest neutrality with regard to the Philippines.

A CENSON.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* does not believe all the hard things that foreigners say about Japanese commercial morality, but it draws up a bill of indictment on its own motion, and truly, when we come to examine the counts of its accusation, we fail to see that its nationals fare better at its hands than they do at the hands of their foreign critics. The *Kokumin* says, first, that the goods they deliver are not up to sample; secondly, that they do not keep their engagements as to time; thirdly, that they have no adequate appreciation of the permanent interests of business; fourthly, that they are without ability to work in combination; and fifthly, that they do not get to know either their customers or themselves. That is an ugly chargesheet as it stands, but no sign is more hopeful than the public and frank recognition of these faults by a leading journal. Of course, it is not by any means the first time that a Japanese newspaper has written in the same strain.

STATE FORESTS.

It will be a good thing when some final disposition is made of the forests owned by the State. They furnish a perpetual handle to the Government's enemies. In the first place, they present on paper the appearance of a large asset, and there is no apparent reason why they should not be made to return a substantial revenue. But in practice they yield scarcely anything, and there is consequently a perennial impression of mismanagement. Then, again, from time to time sales of forest land are made on terms which, though not too low in consideration of the apparently unremunerative character of the land, are quite low enough to suggest suspicions of jobbery. The Government of India recently engaged a German expert and placed him in control of the public forests. We presume that the Japanese House of Representatives has too much confidence in the ability of its nationals to sanction recourse to German aid (or any foreign aid), but if Japan did not know a great deal more about the profitable management of forests than the British Government knows, the Treasury in Tokyo might be deriving several millions of revenue from the huge areas of forest land now producing virtually nothing. The latest project journalistically suggested is that the whole of the State forests should be sold, and the proceeds set aside to form a capital fund in aid of primary education. The suggestion seems excellent in part, but we venture to think that instead of selling the forests at the miserable prices which they would now command, two or three German experts might be engaged to make them a paying asset. The revenue thus derived from them would probably amount to ten thousand *yen* for every hundred accruing as interest on the sum obtainable by selling them now.

THE NEWLY DISCOVERED ISLAND.

It has not been forgotten by the public that a Japanese traveller, Mr. Mizutani Shiuroku, discovered an island, in October, 1897, lying about 600 nautical miles to the east of the Bonins. It is a small space, only some 7½ miles in circumference, but it is peopled by myriads of penguin, and produces an abundance of bananas and coconuts. Some folks say that the place is really Marcus Island, and that it was discovered long ago. Be that as it may, the Japanese Government, on receipt of Mr. Mizutani's report last June, decided to call the island Minami-tori-shima, or southern bird island, in allusion to the immense colony of penguins—12 different kinds—that have their habitat there. The prefix *minami* is used to distinguish the island from Tori-shima (bird island) which lies farther north and nearer to the Bonins. There are no people living on Minami-tori-shima, and a ten years' lease of it has been granted to the discoverer, who is said to be making a very profitable speculation by exporting its fruits, as well as the feathers and flesh of the penguins. The climate is equable, the thermometer standing generally in the neighbourhood of 80° F.; there is an abundance of vegetation, but little rain, and a great scarcity of water, so that five stills have had to be erected.

THE JUDICIARY.

The present Minister of Justice, we read in vernacular journals, was not expected to pursue a vigorous course in weeding out incompetent and superannuated judicial officials, but he has agreeably belied the public's forecast, no less than 61 judges and public procurators having been induced to resign since he came into office last November. Analysing these resignations, it appears that 9 have taken place in the Supreme Court, 21 in the Appeal Courts, 12 in the Local Courts, and 19 in the District Courts; 36 of the total being judges, and 25, public procurators. His Excellency is reported to have said that the process of sifting can not be considered complete until the removals aggregate 200, but as there are only 81 officials now qualified to fill the vacancies it is necessary to proceed deliberately. What strikes an outsider in connexion with these changes is that, however desirable and inevitable they may be, they furnish a strange commentary on the so-called perpetuity of judicial offices. We can understand that judges and public procurators of the old school are not fitted to administer the new codes, and their replacement by competent men is most essential. But we can also understand that the men of the old school are likely to take a very different view of their own capacities. How, then, are their resignations contrived? The thing would scarcely be possible anywhere except in Japan, we imagine. The Japanese, however, have two remarkable qualities: amenability to reason and adaptability to circumstances. As a matter of common sense, the old judges can, without much difficulty, be brought to see their incongruity with the radically altered conditions of the time, and, once convinced of that, they quietly bow to the inevitable, and reconcile themselves to a greatly reduced scale of living and a finished career. The case of Mr. Takano has shown what kind of opposition a Japanese Judge can make to an official sentence which he considers unjust, but here we have 61 judges and procurators who seem to have quietly admitted their own unfitness for office, and stepped aside without a murmur to make room for younger and better trained men. May we not fairly call it a remarkable incident?

THE ALLEGED TRAIN ROBBERY.

A few days ago a somewhat startling account was published of a robbery with violence on the Japan Railway. Full details were given as to the nature of an attack made upon the guard of the train, the character of the injuries inflicted on him, the weapon employed by his assailant, and finally the admission of the unfortunate official to hospital, where the story left him lying in a precarious condition. We now learn that the whole affair was an invention so far as the alleged thief was concerned. The guard himself was the robber. What becomes of his wounds and his transportation to the hospital we do not discover, but it appears plain that he stole the money and concocted the tale about a murderous assault in order to cover his tracks. He is now discovered to have served in some inferior military post, from which he was dismissed for irregular conduct.

THE FINANCES.

The House of Peers on Monday read for the first time the Bill passed by the Representatives for increasing the import duties on alcohol, refined *sake*, and tobacco. In the case of alcohol the duty is to be raised to 250 per cent., and, in the case of cut tobacco, to 80 per cent., cigars and cigarettes being similarly penalized. That this measure would become necessary with regard to tobacco if the monopoly system were adhered to, was pointed out in these columns when the scheme for a monopoly came under debate for the first time. We are disposed to risk another prediction now, namely, that, unless the import of alcohol be prohibited altogether, *sake* will gradually cease to be the national beverage, and the very considerable income derived from it by the Treasury will disappear. Since the *Sake* Tax began to be increased, the adulteration of *sake* with alcohol has grown steadily. We do not refer to *honshu*, or mixed *sake*, which is a thing apart, capable of being independently dealt with, and is, at any rate, consumed by the lower orders only. We refer to refined *sake*, the beverage of the upper classes. In former days, it used not to contain more than 6 or 7 per cent. of alcohol, but its adulteration with the latter has steadily grown in proportion to the augmentation of the tax, and we have heard it confidently stated that refined *sake* contains to-day as much as 27 per cent. of alcohol. The character of the beverage is thus completely changed. Instead of being comparatively innocuous, as refined *sake* of the old type is, it becomes highly deleterious and intoxicating, and its use will not only impair the health of the nation but also tend to largely swell the criminal classes. Statistics compiled with great care during recent years in Europe reveal that excessive recourse to alcoholic beverages is responsible for the most terrible consequences, producing insanity, demoralization, and disease. The evil may to some extent cure itself in Japan, for *sake* charged with alcohol to the extent of 25 per cent. must soon cease to suit the palate of the upper classes. But, pending its loss of favour, wide-spread mischief will be wrought, and the least of the resultant evils will be a loss of thirty or forty millions of revenue. The Government incur an immense responsibility in this matter, for it is owing to the Government's financial policy that brewers are driven to adulteration. The obvious remedy is to place alcohol on the same footing as opium; that is to say, to prohibit its import altogether except for medicinal and manufacturing purposes. Why the Government hesitates to take that step it is difficult to imagine. The less alcohol the people consume, the better for them morally and physically. That is certain. Six years ago, there did not appear to be any danger of the evil now menacing the nation, but it is to-day a very real and imminent peril. Why should there be any hesitation about applying a remedy? A duty of 250 per cent. is not a remedy. We doubt whether it can even be called a palliative.

It is stated that the Government contemplates making experimental plantings of foreign tobacco, and that two American experts will be engaged to teach the processes of curing and manufacturing.

Presumably the idea is to extend the monopoly to cigars, of which the consumption is constantly increasing. The tobacco monopoly is among the sources of revenue which the Treasury is expected to draw upon for making good the deficiency caused by the Diet's alteration of the Land Tax Bill. It is not a very promising source. We presume that the Government has some solid, though to-outside-invisible, reason for persisting in the very clumsy method of monopoly planned in 1896. The defects of the method were clearly pointed out in these columns at the time, and events have vindicated the justice of our criticisms from point to point. Still no change is made, and, since the business is in the hands of intelligent men, we must assume that the incomparably simpler, less expensive, and less risky plan adopted in England is not applicable in Japan owing to the existence of conditions which do not admit of explanation. In the interests of sound finance, however, it is permissible to hope that the Treasury will not attempt to lean harder upon the bruised reed of the tobacco monopoly.

The Bank of Japan is not unlikely to escape without any taxation for one year at any rate. It appears certain that a majority in the House of Peers is determined not to approve of a higher tax than one per cent. on the Bank's note issues. Hence the Lower House's Bill will be rejected, and a conference of the Houses will ensue, when, should the Representatives decline to endorse the Peers' amendment, the Bill will be shelved. Such is the forecast of Tokyo journals, but we imagine that, as neither House is willing to interfere with the Government's projected sources of revenue, a compromise of some kind will be effected.

From the variety of predictions published by the vernacular press we may infer that no certainty exists as to the methods projected by the government for making good the deficit of 84 million *yen* of revenue resulting from the Lower House's impractical policy. An increase of the succession duties and the imposition of a tax on sugar are now spoken of, however, with some confidence. The new Law of Registration already provides for the levy of a tax upon succession to property, but it is thought that the rate might be increased so as to yield a substantial addition to the revenue. With regard to sugar, the intention apparently is to impose a tax of 0.35 *sen* per catty. The import at present totals 363,029,500 *hin*, which, however, will probably be reduced by one-fifth owing to the increased duty. Then the taxable quantity of home-grown sugar is 67,898,000 *hin*, and thus the total yield from the tax is estimated at 3,092,321 *yen*. These figures appear to be only approximations.

It is stated that at a Cabinet meeting held on the 11th instant, a final decision was arrived at with regard to means of supplying the deficiency of 53 million *yen* in the revenue for next fiscal year. The methods to be adopted are an increase of the price of leaf tobacco sold under the Government monopoly, and the imposition of a tax on houses. Such a tax is already levied for purposes of local expenditure, and the Treasury proposes to take a leaf out of the provincial book. There are some eight million houses in

the empire, and an average payment of one *yen* per house would yield a substantial increment of revenue. But the tax will not be levied in that manner; it will be assessed on the renting value (*chintai kakaku*) of the buildings, and the total amount raised will be 34 million *yen*, leaving 24 to be obtained from the tobacco monopoly. If the Liberals have any economical conscience they ought to rest badly at night, for, by cutting down the Land Tax, they have brought about the imposition of one of the most irrational taxes conceivable. A tax on houses in proportion to their renting value is another name for a fine upon enterprise. By imposing such a tax, the State does its best to deter the erection of handsome and commodious structures; in other words, does its best to check the elevation of the nation's scale of living. Japan is deliberately throwing away her advantages and committing herself to pernicious systems which have an automatic power of establishing themselves irrevocably when they are once introduced.

By and by the Japanese will come to recognise that, under present conditions, there is only one way of obtaining foreign capital, namely, by pledging the Government's credit. In the course of time, railway or industrial companies may find it possible to sell their shares abroad, but most assuredly that will never happen until foreigners receive the full privileges of shareholders, and can have a voice in the management of the concerns in which they invest their money. We doubt whether there ever was a time when Japanese investments were regarded with less favour by foreigners than they are at present. The illiberal spirit displayed with regard to the tenure of land by foreigners, with regard to their purchase of shares, and with regard to their full admission to the position accorded to capitalists everywhere else—that spirit, supplemented by an unfavourable estimate of the state of the empire's finances, has created a general feeling of uneasiness. There is, of course, no warrant for the notion of Japan's financial unsoundness; but what is the use of the country's being competent to pay its way if party politicians will not allow it to exercise its competence? The parties may congratulate themselves on having impaired the nation's credit at precisely the juncture when recourse to foreign financial aid is essential to the continued development of the country's resources. The Government can obtain money abroad, but not on easy terms. If the Liberals had voted the Land Tax Bill in its original form, the situation would have been very different to-day. It is not merely a question of a deficit of revenue. It is a question about the political parties having any really earnest desire to place the finances on a solid footing. If the Government goes into the London market now as a borrower, it will be immediately reminded that its power to implement its pledges depends upon the coöperation of a House of Representatives which has not hitherto shown any responsible sense of sound finance, or any capacity for dealing radically with economical problems. Land-owners have been saved a few millions by the cutting down of the Land Tax Bill, but the country will find that the loss to itself must be measured in the end by many tens of millions.

A RECORD.

The *Tokyo Asahi* has made a record. It is the first Japanese journal to seriously call in question the adaptability of the Japanese nation to a constitutional form of Government. The argument is not very clearly worked out. It would apply to nearly all nations as correctly as to Japan; for the *Asahi's* principal plea is that parliamentary institutions have worked well in one country only, and that is England, where special conditions exist and where hundreds of years have been devoted to elaborating the system. The same conditions do not seem to exist in Japan, the *Asahi* thinks, and besides Japan has already an excellent principle of government which it seems a pity to discard for the sake of trying a new-fangled system which receives no recommendation from the precedents of other States. Our contemporary does not say what the "excellent principle" is, but it evidently refers to the exceptional attitude of the Japanese people towards the Throne.

We should much like to hear from a thoughtful Japanese some explicit statement of the "conditions" which render England specially suited for parliamentary institutions. It is so easy to talk vaguely of "conditions." What are they, after all? Very simple, probably. The whole "fitness" of the English people resolves itself into this, we think, that they are too practical to sacrifice the general weal upon the altar of individual crochets. An Englishman has views of his own, and he asserts them very stoutly—often with offensive stoutness. But as one of a party he is content that his views should find approximate representation in the platform of the majority. He will not break away from point to point. He knows that wisdom is the resultant of many opinions, and he regards himself simply as one of the component forces that go to determine the direction of the resultant. That, of course, is only another way of defining the spirit of discipline. It is apparently because the spirit of discipline is not practically effective among Japanese politicians that parliamentary institutions have not hitherto worked very successfully here. But before we allege that the want is inherent; before we affirm that the spirit can not be educated, we must wait until some large issues come upon the *tapís*. There have not yet been any great principles to fuse men together, and in the absence of such principles petty individualities have asserted themselves. Yet the Japanese certainly know how to compromise, and in that faculty may we not discern the germ of party discipline?

AN INVENTION.

One of the great impediments to the effective employment of torpedoes for purposes of coast defence is that, when laid in places where the tide's rise and fall are considerable, their destructive force at high water is seriously impaired. Thus it has always been a *desideratum* to provide some means by which the torpedoes could be automatically kept at a constant depth. Vernacular newspapers report that mechanism of that nature has now been invented by Commander Oda, of the Imperial Japanese Navy, and that, having been found thoroughly satisfactory on trial, it has been definitely adopted by the Naval Department.

RETROGRESSIVE RETRANCEMENTS.

We have the greatest respect for Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, but we are compelled to endorse the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* criticism that two of the corrections applied by him to the Budget during its passage through the House of Representatives are not conducive to the country's interests. He cut out the appropriation for a Consulate at Odessa, and also the appropriation for a committee to investigate the question of linguistic reform. Russia's doings in East Asia are of immense importance to Japan, and Odessa is one of Russia's principal bases of operations. It is true that the general function of a Consul is to look after the interests of his nationals in the country where he is stationed. But he has also to send reports to his Government. There are not many Japanese subjects to occupy a Consul's attention at Odessa, but there are a great many Russian matters which might well receive his consideration. As for the committee, or society, for linguistic investigation, we should have thought that an economist like Mr. Taguchi would have been the first to recognise its necessity. There is nothing in all Japan so uneconomical as the language. Hundreds of millions of *yen* worth of labour is wasted annually on the task of mastering the ideographs. So long as Japan is crippled by such a terrible handicap, she can never take a leading place among the nations, nor ever develop her resources to their full capacity. The Educational Department asked for a pittance of 10,328 *yen*—a thousand pounds sterling—in aid of a committee of investigation, and the House, in obedience to Mr. Taguchi's suggestion, expunged the item. The appropriation for the Odessa Consulate was only 31,000 *yen* and that went too. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* progressive instincts never err. We wish that it could infuse a little of its wisdom into the House of Representatives.

YING-CHOW.

We read in the *Chiu* that the Japanese Government has induced China to agree to an extension of the settlement at Ying-chow. It is hardly necessary to explain that Ying-chow is the Chinese name of the place usually spoken of by foreigners as New-chwang. The town of New-chwang lies on the Liao River, some 30 miles from the mouth, whereas Ying-chow is at the mouth. The extension contemplated is described as stretching up the bank of the Liao for a distance of 17,700 yards, or about 10 miles. We find the figure scarcely credible, for when Mr. Meadows originally selected a site for a settlement in 1862, he was content with a thousand yards of river frontage, and it has not been shown of late that any large need of additional territory is experienced. Our *Tokyo* contemporary adds that the Chinese residents in the newly selected area are considerably perturbed, apprehending that they will be compelled to remove, and that they have petitioned the Taotai, who, in turn, has addressed himself to the Japanese Consul. Every extension of a foreign settlement in Northern China is a matter for congratulation, since it constitutes an additional wedge to keep the "door" open.

THE NEW BANK.

It seems certain that the Government has resolved to endorse the project of Mr. Kaneko Kentaro with regard to establishing a new bank which shall serve as a means of introducing foreign capital. The institution is to be called the "Industrial Bank of Japan" (*Nihon Kogyo Ginko*), and the promoters have opened an office in Yamashiro-cho, Tokyo. Three names are prominently connected with the enterprise, Messrs. Kaneko Kentaro, Yasuba Yasukazu, and Ozawa Takeo. The idea is to obtain funds for building railways, improving harbours, working mines, and carrying on other enterprises important to the development of the national economy. A capital of 10 million *yen* is to be subscribed in the form of public loan bonds, which will be placed in the custody of the State, and the Bank will then be empowered to advance funds to projectors of productive enterprises to the total amount of 100 million *yen*. Domestic and foreign capitalists are to be invited to subscribe, but evidently reliance is placed chiefly on the latter, for the money loaned by capitalists to the Bank is to be secured by a Government guarantee. In fact, the Bank will be nothing more than an agent for collecting foreign capital and distributing it among enterprising men in Japan, the foreigners lending their funds practically to the Japanese Government, and the Bank lodging security with the Government to the extent of 10 million *yen*. It appears that Mr. Kaneko and his coadjutors have already assured themselves of the possibility of obtaining capital in Europe and America, but indeed that point can never have been in doubt, for a loan guaranteed by the Japanese Government can always be placed abroad. We do not clearly gather what rate of interest is to be offered to foreign investors. From 3 to 5 per cent. is spoken of, and it is added that the Bank's bonds will run from 5 to 10 years without redemption, after which they will be redeemed in from 20 to 30 years. All enterprises on account of which the Bank gives accommodation will be under Government supervision, the various Departments of State undertaking the supervision of those falling within their respective spheres.

Two things are certain. The first is that foreigners will not invest money in any Japanese enterprise unless they can obtain open recognition as shareholders, and can also discharge the functions of directors. The second is that, even if the above arrangements were immediately possible, it would be a slow and difficult process to attract any large amount of foreign capital. If money is needed quickly and in considerable quantity, the Government must enter the field as a borrower. It is for that reason that the scheme for the State purchase of private railways seems to deserve more favourable consideration than it receives at the hands of some economists; for if railway extension is to be effected with foreign funds, and if foreigners are not to enjoy the full rights of investors but are to be limited to the title of lenders, then they certainly will not provide funds without a Government guarantee, and the Government, in order to be justified in giving a guarantee, should receive the already-constructed railways as security. Mr. Kaneko's plan takes full cognisance of the situation. The foreign capitalist is not invited to invest

in the enterprises which are to be started with his money. He will have nothing to do with them, in short, but will merely purchase the Bank's bonds endorsed by the State. We see no reason why the scheme should not succeed if it is intelligibly placed before the foreign public. But the Bank will have to make certain concessions to the incredulity of foreigners. In the first place, it will have to give sterling denominations to its bonds. To call them 100-yen bonds, or 500-yen bonds, will not do. They must be £10 bonds, or £50 bonds. The interest also must be payable in sterling, and must be absolutely guaranteed: that is to say, guaranteed against any reduction on account of taxation. Finally the redemption must not be at the limited option of the Japanese Government. Japanese bonds, according to the present system, may be redeemed at par whenever the Treasury finds it convenient to redeem them. That deprives them of the character of an investment. If they can not be left in the hands of their holder so long as he does not offer them for sale, they should at least be redeemable in fixed and regular quantities spread over a definite term of years. There should be no valid objection to such modifications. If foreign money is wanted, its owners must be conciliated.

POIITICIANS IN THE PROVINCES.

The sun does not shine for the Progressists at present. Undoubtedly they received a staggering blow when the Emperor refused to entrust the conduct of State affairs to them after the resignation of the Liberal members of the Cabinet. From the Sovereign's point of view that course may have appeared imperative; for the Administration having been handed over to the political parties on the basis of their coöperation, neither of them could assert a title to retain it independently of the other. Yet it seemed natural that the disaffection of three Ministers should not disqualify the six remaining, especially when the latter included the Premier; and, if the roughly-judging public interpreted the disqualification in a sense directly injurious to the credit of the Progressists, we can not profess much surprise. Political sages judged justly when they said that Count Okuma should have resigned simultaneously with Count Itagaki. That would have been the best way to save the situation. Still there remained the supposition that the Progressists had a majority in the Lower House. They were out of power, indeed, but so were the Liberals, and if the former could have furnished a conclusive proof of the superior parliamentary strength they were believed to possess, they would have been virtually rehabilitated in popular esteem. When the day of trial came, however, the Progressists failed. They rallied all their forces to elect the President of the House of Representatives and they were beaten. Since that time not one ray of success has brightened their *débâcle*. Everybody supposed that they would strike a ringing note of challenge on the Government's shield after the dissolution of their great meeting at the Maple Club. They spoke and wrote as though they had been the victims of official arbitrariness and tyranny, but whether they knew that their case was not capable of defence, or whether they hesitated to invite another defeat, it is certain that they gave the impression of tamely

submitting to a procedure which they were bound to attack in the Diet if they believed it to have been as improper as they themselves asserted. Then followed their fruitless agitation against the Land Tax, and then the disaffection of Messrs. Shimada Saburo and Taguchi Ukichi—a succession of reverses which seem to have shaken them seriously, for it is now calculated that a division in the Lower House would show their following diminished to 120. Their political campaign in the provinces has also given bad results. The northern districts are their stronghold; not the stronghold of the old *Kaishin-to*, Count Okuma's immediate followers, but the stronghold of the *Shimpo* section led by Mr. Kono Hiro-naka. Even there, however, they seem to have been beaten. In Awomori they are said to have collected 300 *soshi*, and Baron Suyematsu and his friends, repairing thither, were attacked with sticks and pelted with missiles which do not admit of refined definition. That triumph, if it can be called a triumph, being really a disgrace, is the only success the Progressists can claim, and it rests solely on the evidence of their own organs. Politically they have lost ground all along the line. Perhaps it is well, on the whole, that one party should possess largely preponderating strength just at present, but any permanent debilitation of the Progressists would be a national calamity, for their presence in the field is essential.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA'S SPECIAL SUBSIDY.

There seems to be much uncertainty, we regret to say, about the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's subsidy of 3½ million yen on account of its foreign services. The amount may be too large, for aught we know to the contrary, but that some subsidy should be granted scarcely admits of discussion. The subject is said to have come up for discussion at the Cabinet meeting on the 11th instant, and to have been postponed on two grounds; first the expediency of State aid for the Company's Seattle line is questionable, and, secondly, that in the present condition of the national finances such grants can not be made without the utmost circumspection. A little more delay on the Cabinet's part will, of course, put an end to all hope of passing any measure during the present session of the Diet. It would be a terrible fiasco if the Company had to abandon its European, American, and Australian services, to say nothing of the check that would thus be imposed on the development of Japan's mercantile marine; in other words, on the growth of her facilities of military transport. An idea now appears to be gaining vogue that Japanese steamers ought not to be placed, for choice, upon routes already occupied by foreign vessels. Thus the *Toyo Kisen Kaisha* is urged to give up its San Francisco service in favour of a service to South America. The pending emigration of 815 Japanese labourers to Peru seems to be at the root of that notion. But surely there is no tralad prospect justifying a line of steamers to any part of South America? Such a line would unquestionably need to be liberally aided by the State. The routes offering the best chances of remunerative employment are the routes to select, whether competitors have to be encountered or not.

THE TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society gave its first concert in the Shorei Kai on the 10th instant, the performance being for charitable purposes, as are all the Society's efforts. There was a good and appreciative audience, and the numbers were without exception excellently rendered. Several of those who kindly took part were heard for the first time in public in Tokyo, and they acquitted themselves in a manner that did much credit to the musical talents of such a limited community. Miss Dening's pure, full-toned soprano, Miss Divers' sweet, flexible notes, and Madame la Vicomtesse de Bondy's novel and delightful Swedish songs elicited hearty applause. Monsieur Braccialini was prevented by illness from singing, to the great disappointment of the audience, but a tenor of charming quality was revealed in Monsieur André, whom we hope to have many opportunities of hearing. Dr. Von Koeber's name appeared twice upon the programme. The audience utterly refused, however, to be satisfied with less than four pieces from its favourite, especially as the piano, kindly lent by Count Von Leyden, was not unworthy of the distinguished performer. There was a general reluctance on the part of the vocalists to respond to *encores*, the object doubtless being to conclude the concert in time for the Yokohama visitors to catch the last train, but Miss Divers and Monsieur André had to pay the penalty of the pleasure they afforded. Of the concerted pieces we need only say that they were played with the utmost precision. The Misses Perry are highly trained musicians, and they had able coöperators in Monsieur A. May and Monsieur Polianovsky. The following is the programme as given:—

PROGRAMME.

1. Duet. Czardas, (Hungarian dances),
Miss von Fallou.
Miss Schereschewsky.
2. Song. Winterlied Henning von Koss,
Miss Dening.
3. Quartette, Bocherini—
1st Violin Miss Perry.
2nd Violin Monsieur Polianovsky.
Viola Monsieur A. May.
Violoncello Miss E. Perry.
4. Song. La Mort d'Atel Luigi Bordée,
Monsieur van der Polder.
5. Piano Solo. Impromptu Chopin,
Dr. von Koeber.
6. Song Miss Divers.
7. Trio Andante, Schumann,
Violin Miss Perry.
Violoncello Miss E. Perry.
Piano Monsieur P. May.
8. Song. Les "Stances de Flégier" Monsieur
André.
9. Piano Solo. Am Genfer-See, Benda, Dr.
von Koeber.
10. Song. Swedish National Songs, La Vicom-
tesse de Bondy.
11. Violin Solo. Andante, Thomé, Monsieur A.
May.

THE DOKI CLUB.

There has been another club formed in Tokyo. Such institutions are very numerous, though the term "club" carries in Japanese practice a meaning very different from its English significance. The new institution seems to be intended to bring statesmen and business men together. Its promoters are Marquis Saigo, Count Itagaki, Baron Suyematsu, Baron Ozaki, Mr. Hasuda, Mr. Shibusawa, Mr. Amenomiya, &c. The head-quarters are at No 1, Himono-cho, Nihon-bashi.

STEAMSHIP SUBSIDIES.

IT has always been understood that the Government was prepared to grant a special subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on account of its steamship services to foreign countries. In fact a bill in that sense was actually submitted to the Diet a year ago, but failed to come up for discussion; or was purposely held back by the committee appointed to examine it. If the principle of State aid to navigation be admitted at all, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha certainly seems entitled to special treatment, for the provisions of the Navigation Encouragement Law enacted in 1896 are not of such a nature as to warrant a company in investing a large sum for the establishment of lines which must be kept working for many years if they are to be at all successful. The present Cabinet is reported to have taken these points into careful consideration, and to have decided upon asking the Diet to make a special grant for a fixed term of years to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on account of its European line. But it appears that the Toyo Kisen Kaisha has now come forward, and set up a claim that it has just as valid a title to public assistance as the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and that, if the nature of its vessels be taken into account, it ought to be even more liberally encouraged than the older company. There is, of course, an obvious element of justice in such a claim. But we greatly doubt whether experts would rate the vessels of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha in a higher class than that occupied by the ships of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. The chief difference between the two companies is one of a moral character, not a material. The Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha were undoubtedly encouraged by the Government to start their European, American, and Australian services. Had they simply consulted the financial interests of the shareholders, they would never have embarked upon vast enterprises which, on the one hand, demanded a large outlay of capital, and, on the other, presented little prospect of commensurate profit. In order to furnish and equip steamers for these services, the shareholders had to abstain from pocketing several millions of yen which had been fairly earned by their vessels during the war. When that very praiseworthy and courageous sacrifice was made, every one understood clearly that the Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha were actuated by considerations of a patriotic character and that they had the interests of the empire in view, not those of the company alone. We are not seeking to import any element of sentiment into a business transaction. Sentiment is out of the question. The whole matter rests on a most practical and intelligible basis. Japan must have a fleet of transports. To provide means of carrying her

troops is just as important a part of her *post bellum* scheme of military expansion as is the provision of the troops themselves. Her army, as many of her publicists have justly pointed out, is her chief factor of potentiality for purposes of alliance with a Western State. A fleet can be placed in these waters without much difficulty, but no Occidental Power could supply, despatch, and maintain a strong military force for service on the East-Asian continent without straining its resources almost beyond endurance. Japan, on the other hand, has a quarter of a million of well-trained and well-equipped troops available at any moment for campaign purposes on the neighbouring continent. But could she carry them thither? Without means of transport her army might as well be non-existent. In recognition of that fact the ITO Cabinet, when it drafted the *post-bellum* programme in 1896, asked the Diet to pass laws for promoting navigation and ship-building. They consented, but the method of administering the laws has been such that one is led to suspect their administrators of altogether ignoring the true object of the legislation. Instead of applying the laws so that they should afford a maximum of encouragement to ship-builders and ship-owners, the great aim of the officials, in the beginning at any rate, was apparently to relieve the Treasury from all payments. A more intelligent spirit seems to have prevailed subsequently, but there is no denying that the necessity of providing mechanism for military transport receives at the hands of officials no serious recognition as compared with the expansion and organization of the army. The directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have been more faithful to their national duty. They have procured ships at a heavy outlay, and placed them upon lines indicated by the Government as well as by public opinion. To us it appears that the duty of assisting them presses imperatively on the State so long as the scheme of military expansion is not abandoned. The position of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha presents itself in a somewhat different light. The Company's vessels would undoubtedly be useful for purposes of military transport, but the line upon which they have been placed offers an almost certain prospect of fine profits, and they have, moreover, been amalgamated with the fleet of two foreign companies plying on the same line. They are thus secured against foreign competition and practically assured of financial success. If the steamers of the P. M. S.S. and O. & O. S.S. Companies bring good dividends to their owners, as they have always done, then the steamers of their new partner, the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, must share their prosperity. The Toyo Kisen Kaisha, were it granted a special subsidy for the Yokohama-San-Francisco service, would have to dissolve its partnership with the two

foreign companies or hand over to them a fair share of the subsidy. For these reasons it can not reasonably claim, we think, to be entitled to the same treatment as is accorded to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. At all events, experience has proved that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's European and American services can not be maintained at present without special State assistance. When the same fact has been established in the case of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's San-Francisco service, it will be time enough to determine whether the Treasury should come to the rescue.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES.

SENATOR HOAR's action in the United States Senate suggests strange possibilities. He is a man of great influence, and is known to have the support of other prominent Senators in his opposition to the acquisition of the Philippines. The PRESIDENT, who favours annexation, recently offered the English mission to Mr. HOAR, and the latter's refusal to accept was rightly interpreted as an indication that he intended to fight the annexation project to the end. What lends special importance to the Senator's attitude is that a two-thirds' vote in the Senate is necessary for the ratification of a treaty, and although Mr. HOAR could scarcely hope for success if he sought—as is most unlikely—to procure the rejection of the Treaty *en bloc*, it is very conceivable that he might induce a body larger than one-third to vote for a modification in the sense, perhaps, of leaving the Philippines in Spain's hands provided that she gave some guarantee to institute a proper system of Government there. A precedent for such a course exists in the guarantee that Spain gave to Germany at the instance of the POPE. America would thus be relieved from paying 20 million dollars. The money itself is a bagatelle to her, but the intrusion of a pecuniary *solatium* places the bargain on a basis inviting objection. It is one thing to come into possession of foreign territory in the natural sequel of a victorious war. It is quite another thing to purchase territory in a remote region of the earth from a beaten foe. Any person desiring to object to the annexation of the Philippines can find plenty of reasons in support of his protest. But there is one tremendous consideration on the other side; namely, that the United States has paralysed Spain's capacity for governing the Philippines, and has created for AGUINALDO and his followers such an opportunity of developing force that his reconquest by Spain would be a stupendous undertaking, quite beyond her exhausted strength. Would Senator HOAR be prepared to employ the naval and military forces of the United States for the purpose of re-instating Spain in the Philippines; for the purpose of restoring her to

the position she occupied before America interfered? That would appear to be the only logical course, for to ask Spain to give a guarantee of good Government must be either an obviously farcical subterfuge, or the prelude to a sanguinary and cruel war. America could not dictate to Spain the method of re-conquering the Philippines. A free hand would have to be left to the Government in Madrid, and it is not difficult to conceive what that would mean. It seems to us that America has gone too far to draw back. If she steps out of the arena now, she leaves it to be occupied at once by combatants who will fight to the death. She may have to do some fighting herself if she stands her ground, but if she abandons it she irrevocably condemns two other nations to fight until one is virtually exterminated or the other exhausted. At the beginning of the war and before Commodore DEWEY turned his ships towards Manila, we expressed our belief that the United States would not include the Philippines in the fighting area. That was because we did not then conceive the possibility of America's annexing the islands, and we saw that if, after destroying the Spanish foothold there, she refrained from annexation, terrible complications must ensue. We find it now difficult to imagine that the people of the United States will shrink from their obvious responsibility. The matter is one of great importance for Japan.

A CLOG-MAKING MACHINE.

Tokyo newspapers state that a German, whose name is given as Leopold, has invented a machine for making *geta* (clogs). It can be worked by one man and two children, and it turns out 300 pairs of *geta* daily. The first cost is 6,480 marks, and the expense of setting up a factory would be 1,250 marks, so that the whole initial outlay amounts to 7,730 marks, or about 3,714 yen. Putting the working expenses and interest at 2,500 yen annually, and assuming that there are 320 working days in the year, the machine produces 96,000 pairs of *geta*, at a cost of about 2½ sen per pair. We do not know whether the *geta* referred to are provided with loops. Probably they are, but, even supposing them to be without that appendage, there is still a fine margin of profit, since the cheapest *geta* sell in the market for 10 sen a pair.

IMPORTED WINES.

The French Tariff dispels the fear entertained at one time that the foreign resident would have to pay a long price for his wine owing to increased duties. Champagne will pass the Customs on payment of 1.55 yen per case, and claret will have to pay only 0.76 yen a case or 1.242 yen a hectolitre. Good champagne can scarcely be procured at less than 30 yen a case, so that the duty on it will be 5½ ad valorem; and after-dinner claret costing 24 yen dozen will escape with a payment of 3½ per cent.

PRINCE IWAKURA.

It has been stated that Marquis Ito's visit to Tokyo was prompted by political motives. In fact, Marquis Ito is such a power in Japanese politics that the public not unnaturally attaches significance to every move he makes. We believe, however, that the Marquis had no other purpose in returning to the capital than to pay his New-Year's respects at the Palace. The *Asahi* also attributes to him a desire to bring about a reconciliation between Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household, and Prince Iwakura. The Prince, as our readers know, has tendered his resignation, and persists in his desire to be relieved of office in spite of the Emperor's reluctance to grant his request. There have been various versions of the cause of difference between him and the Minister of the Household, but that there is a difference all are agreed, and Marquis Ito's efforts to compound it are said to have been unsuccessful thus far.

MARQUIS ITO ON CABINET RECONSTRUCTION.

Speaking to a member of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* staff, Marquis Ito has expressed himself in a sense strongly opposed to any reconstruction of the Cabinet. He says, in effect, that an immense quantity of business presents itself to be discharged by any administration now in power, and that the only hope of accomplishing even a part of it is that the Cabinet should be left undisturbed. Ministries now-a-days are held in the maelstrom of political dissensions, so that it is impossible for them to turn their attention seriously to practical problems of either domestic or foreign affairs. The best interests of the State are suffering from these constant changes, this perpetual instability, and nothing is more essential than that the span of a Cabinet's life should be prolonged sufficiently for it to direct the progress of its own measures.

WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE.

The International Committee is evidently working earnestly and successfully to remove difficulties from the path of the Revised Treaties' operation. It has just circulated a document for which we are glad to assist in securing publicity:—

No. 13. Yokohama, 27th Dec., 1898.
The following letter has just been received and is circulated for your information:—

Foreign Office, Dec. 26th, 1898.

Dear Mr. ROBISON,—Having referred to the proper authorities the question raised in your note of the 10th inst., I beg to say in reply that, according to the amendment to the Business Law Tax, Foreign Insurance Companies, having their branch offices in Japan, are to pay the tax based only upon an estimated amount of capital employed by them in this Country—no matter whether the entire amount of their capital is registered or not; and that, in case of those who carry on Insurance business—not as branch offices but simply as Agents of such Companies—the tax is levied not upon the amount of Capital but upon the amount of Profit realized by them through such agencies.

Yours truly, (Signed) N. P. MITSUHASHI.
The International Committee are still endeavouring to obtain information as to the basis of calculation that will be adopted in estimating the amount of capital of branch offices of Insurance and Shipping Companies, who do not register any fixed amount of capital for use in Japan.

R. D. ROBISON, Chairman.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The people of Japan do not comprehend their own condition or their own strength. The year upon which we are now entering will see this country take rank on an equal footing with the nations of Christendom. Yet the anti-foreign spirit has not entirely disappeared. An illustration of it is furnished by the proposal for a league of the yellow races. What is the purpose of such a league? It is simply an extension of the anti-foreign sentiment. Nations which find that singly they are not strong enough to hold the foreigner at arm's length, propose to unite their strength for that object. This, however, is an extreme illustration. The most serious phase of the question is that the people adopt a negative policy and maintain a passive attitude, allowing the national procedure to be shaped by alien influences, and that they seem to have no capacity for playing a positive part, or for striking out boldly on their own account and endeavouring to shape their destiny to their own advantage. Thus they speak of mixed residence as an inevitable outcome of Treaty Revision, regarding the advent of foreigners into their midst as a case of "what can not be cured must be endured." They ought, on the contrary, to count it an opportunity which, if utilized in a wise and liberal spirit, will inure to the great benefit of the country. The question of foreign capital is another instance of this strange mood. People talk as though the introduction of foreign capital were a contingency to be averted if possible. They would rather do without foreign capital if they could, but, as they can not, they are endeavouring to reconcile themselves to the necessity. They should be capable of appreciating that no real distinction of foreign and domestic applies to capital. It is a universal factor of wealth, to be obtained anywhere and everywhere under the easiest conditions. Nothing can be more unreasonable or narrow-minded than to attach an alien character to capital because it comes from abroad. Equally small-hearted and old-fashioned is the prejudice against foreign ownership of land. There is no conceivable defence of such a mood. The great need of the present generation of Japanese is that they should arrive at a clear conception of their own capacities and of the conditions existing in the world at large. (Finmin.)

It is understood that the Government talks of postponing until 1900 the transfer of prison expenditures to the charge of the Treasury. We can not endorse such a policy. This is a reform demanding immediate execution, and the responsibility of carrying it out rests with those in authority. Foreign newspapers speak in strong terms of the defective condition of Japanese provincial jails. They say that to be incarcerated in such places would be a hell upon earth. Their statements must be more or less discounted, but it can not be denied that there is room for criticism. The prisons of Japan need not be made precisely similar to those of Western countries. Since the manner of life of the peoples of the Occident and the Orient differs materially, their prison arrangements may justly differ to some extent. But the same consideration indicates that special pro-

vision should be made for the incarceration of foreigners in Japan. They can not be expected to endure the same system as the Japanese. Japan has taken a great deal of trouble to recast her laws so as to bring them into consonance with the principles of Western jurisprudence. It is claimed that the fullest attention has been paid to domestic usages and customs by the framers of the laws. That may be, but no one can doubt that the prime object of codification was to bring the country into line with Western civilization. Is it rational to stop short at the laws? Should not the prisons be similarly treated? Yet that is only a secondary consideration. The main point, the imperative argument, is that the system now pursued is not uniform. Prisoners are treated one way in one place and another way in another. The communes are unwilling to spend the necessary funds, and they will be more reluctant than ever now since they have to pay a higher Land Tax to the Central Government. Of course it is well understood that the action of the House of Representatives in cutting down the proposed increase of the Land Tax is the cause of the Government's inability to undertake this much-needed reform. Financial embarrassment was the reason of the transfer of the prison expenditures to the communes, and financial embarrassment is the reason of the Government's hesitation to undo that most injurious measure. But there is no financial embarrassment in reality. The Government has to devise means for making up the deficiency of revenue caused by the House's mutilation of the Land Tax Bill. It can easily take the opportunity to provide funds for the re-transfer of the prison expenditures to the Treasury.—(*Fiji Shimpō*.)

One of the great evils of the time is the granting of official positions as rewards for political services. An official is the nation's servant. He receives his pay from the nation, and the first thing to be considered in appointing him is whether he is competent to serve the nation properly. It is a flagrant abuse that administrative posts should be regarded as the perquisites of politicians. Unfortunately such a state of affairs is becoming habitual in Japan. And there are now symptoms that another epidemic of the office-hunting fever is about to break out. The Liberals are talking of claiming compensation for the services rendered by them in the Diet. Experience has shown what that means. Marquis Yamagata himself is not beyond reproach. He can not be entirely acquitted of suffering personal considerations to guide him in making appointments. There are some men now holding office by his nomination who never possessed the necessary qualifications, and have, at any rate, become too old to discharge their duties efficiently. That is a bad example. We should like to see it remedied by way of preliminary to drastic treatment of the office-hunting fever among politicians.—(*Kokumin Shimbun*.)

The state of affairs in Formosa may well cause grave anxiety. Dr. Goto, the Head of the Civil Administration, tells us that all is right; that the lenient measures adopted by the Government have been crowned with success; that the factors making for disorder have been removed in great part. On the other hand, the

reports that reach us from the island indicate very different conditions. It is true that the Japanese newspapers issued there do not publish any particularly disquieting news. But the contents of their columns might be of quite another character had not the local government employed a sum of forty thousand yen for purposes of "pacification." We are not wholly dependent on the Japanese newspapers, however. We can learn something of the truth from the foreign journals of Hongkong and Shanghai. Never at any time since the cession of the island have the southern regions been in a state of greater disorder than they appear to be in at present. The facts ought to be recognised. It is of no use to blink them.—(*Tokyo Asahi Shimbun*.)

During the first ten years after the Restoration the country was ruled by a semi-despotic oligarchy. All power and all authority were in the hands of the central government. Then the people began to adopt measures of self-assertion. Political organizations sprang into existence. Their leaders were men of the *Shōoku* class, but the bulk of their followers were farmers. It thus happens that the influence of the agricultural element is now strong in politics. The merchants and manufacturers stood aloof in those days from all political movements. Their sole aim, above all in the case of the so-called "official merchants," was to curry favour with those in power. Thus it fell out that when the collision occurred between the official and the non-official classes, the traders did not figure in the field: no one took any account of them. But now they are beginning to raise their heads, and the prospect is very far from wholesome. Observe the figures that are prominent. Mr. Amenomiya, who had his palm well greased by a certain foreign firm in connexion with a loan of 40 million yen; Mr. Oye Taku, Mr. Takenouchi Tsuna, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, Mr. Iwaya Matahei—when such men stand forward as the leaders of the business world and begin to go in and out among the corrupt elements of officialdom, is it not time for decent people to rise in protest? On the other side stand Viscount Tani and his crowd, who denounce the whole of the mercantile and manufacturing classes as share-jobbers, unscrupulous speculators, and so forth, and who do their best to stir up the people and make them discontented with taxes which are inevitable. In a word, the most prominent factors in the arena at present are political agitators who pander to the people's prejudices, and unprincipled politicians who, for the sake of personal profit, assume the name of business-men and in reality are pure schemers. Those that have the welfare of the country at heart should not sit with folded hands.—(*Mainichi Shimbun*.)

Politics present a curious aspect in Japan to-day. The so-called "great parties" are behaving like children. One calls itself *Kensei-to* and the other calls itself *Kenseihon-to*, and they are as keen about the ownership and the distinction of their titles as though some great principle were at stake. They fight about their sign-boards and care nothing about the wares within. For by whatever names they seek to differentiate themselves their policies are one and the same. It is mere

child's play. As for the Progressists, they appear to have laid aside their old straightforward methods, and to have devoted themselves uniquely to currying favour with the land-owners. They are no longer the party that they once were. Politics, in truth, have fallen upon evil times, and the objects of political dispute are about as undignified as they could be.—(*Mainichi Shimbun*.)

Unfortunately the share-speculators appear to be making their influence felt among the Liberals. The talk of the State-purchase of private railways grows louder every day. But what better is to be expected? The practice of politics to-day seems to have been reduced to the art of trucking. Men no longer possess the courage of their opinions. What is to be said of the Liberal Leader who made a sacrifice in his own private life in order to soften the effects of his official action? In his capacity of Minister of State for Home Affairs he removed the Buddhist chaplains from Sugamo Prison, and then, finding that he had offended the Buddhists, he had a Buddhist funeral service performed for his father, who had been buried years ago according to the Shinto ritual. To face every way in turn is now regarded as the way to succeed.—(*Mainichi Shimbun*.)

A much to be desired reform is that the nobles should return to the provincial districts where they once resided. There is no longer a territorial nobility in Japan. All the peers, with very few exceptions, live in the great cities, principally Tokyo. They do not seem to recognise that they have duties to perform to the provinces from which their ancestors derived their revenues and to which they themselves owe their titles. The pattern nobles of the world are the English peers, who live on their estates in the provinces, and devote much of their time and wealth to promoting local progress and furthering local interests. Count Inouye, recognising the importance of this principle, has induced Prince Mori to make Mitajiri his head-quarters, and Count Tachibana has followed the good example by settling at Yanagawa. Now that railway communication exists everywhere, living in the provinces has ceased to be banishment. One can get to Tokyo at any moment. Titled men and men of wealth ought to take these points into consideration, remembering that the concentration of all the rich and noble elements of Society in the capital is neither morally nor economically fair to the provinces.—(*Kokumin Shimbun*.)

EMIGRATION TO PERU.

There appears to be a prospect of Japanese emigration to Peru on a considerable scale. Tokyo journals state that the Morioka Emigration Company has concluded a contract with a firm in that country for the supply of 815 farm labourers, at a monthly salary of 25 silver dollars for each adult; that the approval of the Government at Lima has been obtained, and that the emigrants will start in a few weeks.

The death is announced of Sir William Anderson, Director-General of the Royal Ordnance factories.

CABINET RECONSTRUCTION.

The talk of Cabinet reconstruction is growing less audible. Mr. Hoshi Toru, the Ministry-maker of the moment, is said to have lowered his lance and quietly taken a back seat. He sees that to force the issue just now would involve collision with men where sympathies he does not desire to alienate, so he will bide his time. Another and more intelligible interpretation of his quiescence is that neither Marquis Ito nor Marquis Saigo can be persuaded to raise a hand in favour of the reconstruction idea, and Mr. Hoshi is much too sensible to imagine that the day for unalloyed party cabinets has already dawned. He understands the absolute necessity of the *Meiji* statesmen's co-operation, and will not attempt to stand without it. We must say that all these explanations seem to us somewhat superfluous, for we do not believe that the immediate reconstruction of the Cabinet was on the tapis. Whatever may happen after the Diet rises—and we think it exceedingly probable that something will then happen—there can not have been any serious project of disturbing the Cabinet while it is in the very midst of absolutely indispensable legislation.

FRANCE AND JAPAN.

PETITION TO THE PARIS GOVERNMENT.

"In view of the new Treaty between France and Japan," says the *London and China Express*, "the French residents in the latter country have drawn up a memorial, signed by all Frenchmen in Tokyo and Yokohama, which has been sent to the French Minister for transmission to the home Government. The document left by the mail on Oct. 12th and recently came to hand.

"In this memorial the authors draw the attention of the Government and of the public at large to the injustice which they allege is likely to follow the new Treaty between France and Japan.

"The exordium of the Petition states:—The undersigned, French residents in Yokohama, beg the French Minister to transmit to the French Government the following wishes:—

(1.) That the clauses of the Treaty between France and Japan be defined with exactness, and that the rights which are conferred by the said clauses to the French residents be guaranteed to them in an effective manner, especially in what concerns: (a) the leases at long period for lands and buildings; (b) the exercise of the profession of agriculturist and of journalist; (c) the protection of literary as well as industrial property.

(2.) That the promise made by the Japanese Government to grant to foreigners the right to possess the soil be realised as soon as possible.

"The objections raised by the signatories to the petition are based on the fact that the new Treaty should not take effect before a year had elapsed after the new codes, both civil and commercial, had been in existence, whereas the Japan Government wishes not only to forego that condition, but to advance to July 17, 1899, the date which was originally fixed for Aug. 4.

"It is said that, the Civil Code only having been promulgated, and the commercial one not being even yet submitted to the Diet, the conditions of the Treaty are not adhered to, and, therefore, in presence of the faithlessness of the Japanese Government, no reliance can be placed on the different promises contained in the Treaty, one of them reading as follows:—

French residents in Japan shall have the faculty to exercise on their property, urban and rural, all the rights other than of ownership: notably to rent them even by long leaseholds (ninety-nine years).

Every liberty—individual, domiciliary, and conscientious—including the liberty of practising

privately or publicly their own religion, is "entirely guaranteed" to French subjects.

"The petition passes in review the different clauses of the Treaty, and also the comments which were passed thereon when it was submitted to the French Parliament for ratification. It tends to show that the Japanese Government can at present, and without any difficulty, grant to foreigners the right of possession to the soil, *i.e.*, freehold; and that that concession will be to the interest of foreigners, but even more so to the Japanese. It also points out that through the want of capital the trade of Japan, both commercial and industrial, is stopped—foreign capital cannot come in the help of local private undertakings, unless full guarantees are given. At the present time these guarantees are worthless since the civil code admits mortgage on real estate only—mortgage on built-upings is simply a snare, since the soil on which they stand cannot be acquired. Therefore it follows that so long as the right of possession to the soil is withheld from foreigners, the capital which the latter could bring to further the development of Japanese commerce and prosperity will also be withheld. The most influential class of people—namely, business people—are in favour of the immediate performance of the promises made by the Government, for they fully realise that besides their own position the working classes would also benefit largely by the introduction of foreign capital with all the advantages to be derived therefrom."

It is interesting to see that, in spite of the very explicit interpretation which has been given to the Franco-Japanese Treaty by English commentators, as conferring on foreigners the right of engaging in journalistic enterprise in Japan, French citizens do not take that view of it. In the memorial from which quotations are given above, they ask to have a clear definition as to the right of exercising the professions of agriculture and journalism. It is easy to understand the perplexity attaching to this question in the eyes of the memorialists, for in France foreigners are not allowed to become editors or proprietors of newspapers, and one of France's treaties with a foreign country, though couched in language almost identical with that of the Franco-Japanese Revised Treaty, has not been interpreted as conferring upon French citizens the privilege of engaging in journalistic enterprise in that country. It is natural, therefore, that the French should feel uncertain whether, under a treaty reciprocal in spirit, they can claim for themselves privileges which they are not prepared to grant to others. Happily the question has now been finally disposed of by Japan's legislative action. She has enacted a law throwing open the profession of journalism to foreigners, thus showing herself more liberal than some of those who find fault with her conservatism.

A great deal of stress is laid by the memorialists on the question of land tenure. Since we are entirely at one with them as to the importance, in the interests not less of foreigners than of Japan herself, of removing all restrictions upon the ownership of land by aliens, we are unwilling to say anything which might weaken the cause pleaded by the memorialists. Still it is impossible not to regret their failure to avoid inaccuracies. They claim that the Japanese Government has promised to grant to foreigners "the right to possess the soil," and they quote the Treaty as conferring the right of ninety-nine years leases. There is no evidence of any such promise, nor does the Treaty contain any such provision.

We have not seen the original of the memorial, and can not therefore be sure that the epitome

published by the *London and China Express* conveys accurately the ideas of the memorialists. Last autumn, the same Journal published an epitome of the Kobe Memorial, and represented the memorialists as entirely ignoring the important provision with regard to superficies contained in the Civil Code, whereas the point had been duly noted in the memorial. It is possible that the signatories of the French memorial are similarly misrepresented. For we can scarcely conceive that they would have fallen into such an error as that attributed to them with regard to the Codes. They appear to have charged the Japanese Government with bad faith and failure to adhere to the conditions of the Treaty, on the ground that the Civil Code only has been promulgated, the Commercial Code not having yet been even submitted to the Diet. Is it possible that the memorialists are ignorant that the greater part of the Commercial Code has been in operation since July 1st, 1894, and that the remainder was promulgated in 1890. In point of fact the remaining portions of the Commercial Code went into force 1st July, and the law now awaiting the Diet's approval is a revised Commercial Code concerning which no pledge of any kind is contained in the Treaty, and which has nothing whatever to do with Treaty Revision. So far as the Codes are concerned the Japanese Government has fulfilled all the obligations undertaken by it, and we find it astonishing that, without first assuring themselves of the validity of their proofs, a body of serious men of business should publicly formulate accusations of bad faith against the Government of the country in which they are residing. However, it must be confessed that the British residents of Kobe set a pernicious example in this respect, though they, at any rate, had a case which lent some colour to their charges. The mischief of these tactless and unfounded denunciations is that they offend instead of convincing. Fortunately the prejudice against foreign ownership of land is beginning to lose force in Japan, but its disappearance will not be promoted by unwarrantable attempts to fix upon the Japanese Government promises which were never made.

IMPERIAL DIET.

MONDAY, JAN. 9TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.15 a.m., and proceeded to fix a limit of time for the Budget Committee's examination of the General and Supplementary Budgets for 1899-1900. On the motion of Viscount Yuri, as amended by Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, it was decided that the Committee must present its report by January 31st, provided that it had in the meanwhile received the Government's Bill for making good the deficiency of revenue caused by the reduction of the proposed rate of Land Tax.

QUARANTINE MEASURES.

A Government Bill relating to Medical Inspection of vessels coming from foreign ports was then read and handed to a Special Committee. Under the provisions of the present Law for the Prevention of Contagious Diseases, measures for medical inspection can be taken in the case of plague and cholera. There are, however, other diseases calling for similar precautions, especially small-pox. The Bill provides for the extension of the list. Further, it has been found in practice that where Medical Inspection is inaugurated to meet special emergencies only, its success is a matter of chance. It happened fortunately last year that the system was in operation when the pest broke

out in China, and effective measures could thus be taken in good time. But in 1896, cholera found its way into the country before the imminence of the danger was recognised, and consequently before precautions could be adopted, the result being that 55,000 lives were sacrificed. It is, in short, quite plain that with a neighbour like China, where the most terrible epidemics may have been raging for some time before the outside world learns anything about them, measures of prevention, to be effective, must be perpetual. The Bill provides, therefore, that the system of Medical Inspection may be made continuous with regard to certain places in Southern China and Formosa, and that the necessary regulations for the detailed working of the system shall be enacted by Local Authorities.

VACCINATION.

The next Bill contained amendments of the Vaccination Regulations issued in 1885. It has been found in practice that these Regulations are not sufficiently definite and imperative. Since the establishment, in 1896, of official stations for the preparation of vaccine lymph, an abundant supply is always obtainable, and, instead of requiring applicants for lymph to send 3 *sen* worth of postage stamps, the Government now proposes to distribute the lymph freely, and farther to re-cast the regulations so as to provide for regular and occasional vaccination. Under the former heading the project is to enact that a child must be vaccinated within ten months of its birth, and that, if the vaccination does not take, it must be repeated within a period of 6 months, and yet again within a similar period if it be again unsuccessful. Further, all children must be re-vaccinated at the age of six and once more at the age of twelve. Thereafter vaccination becomes occasional, and may be declared compulsory at any time of threatened or actual epidemic, the power to order it being vested in Local Governors.

This Bill elicited many questions, and was finally handed to the Special Committee charged with the duty of examining the Medical Inspection Bill.

AN AMENDING LAW.

A Government Bill was then read and handed to a Special Committee, for amending the system of security in connexion with suits at law, so as to bring it into conformity with the Revised Civil and Commercial Codes.

PARCELS POST.

The next Bill on the Order was a Government measure for changing the Parcel Post Regulations. It is now provided that parcels sent through the post must not measure more than 1 foot 2 inches in length by 8 inches in width and 5 inches in thickness. Within these limits specially cheap rates are allowed for parcels containing agricultural samples, seed, cuttings, roots, and so on. Now it happens that from time immemorial the larger variety of silk-worm's-egg cards measure 1 foot 1.7 inches by from 7.4 to 7.5 in width. It is impossible to pack such cards so that they shall conform to the dimensions prescribed by present Regulations without subjecting them to pressure which is found highly injurious to the eggs. Hence the proposal is to increase the limits of size to 1 foot 3 inches in length by 8½ inches in breadth. Another projected reform is to raise the limit for post-office orders from 30 *yen* to 50 *yen*, the former figure not being compatible with the financial conditions of the time. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee, after it had been explained by Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Home Affairs.

INCREASING TARIFF DUES.

The Bill sent up from the Lower House for amending the Statutory Tariff and the Supplementary Table of Import Dues, was placed in the hands of a Special Committee. Tobacco, *sake*, and alcohol are the staples referred to in the Bill. The proposal is to raise the import duty on alcohol to 250 per cent., and the duties on cigars, cigarettes, cut tobacco, refined *sake* and all distilled liquors to from 80 to 100 per cent.

A PETITION.

The House then proceeded to discuss an Election Petition presented by Mr. Muramatsu Shuhei, a member elected by the Highest Tax-payers in Ibaraki Prefecture. At the time of the election in 1897, the petitioner and Mr. Asano Yoshihiro had polled an equal number of votes, and the election had been regarded as favourable to the former on the score of his seniority in age. It was subsequently discovered, however, that one of the tax-payers voting had not been qualified to exercise the franchise, and since his vote had been cast for Mr. Muramatsu, the latter's rival, Mr. Asano, had been given the seat. Against that decision Mr. Muramatsu appealed to the House. He claimed that the election had been invalid *ab initio*, since the law provided that the representatives of the highest tax-payers should be elected by the 15 highest tax-payers in each prefecture, whereas, one having been declared disqualified in Ibaraki Prefecture, only fourteen could be said to have taken part in the election. The Special Committee to whom this petition had been handed for examination reported in the sense of the petitioner's contention, though a large minority of the Committee took a different view.

A long debate ensued, but the House finally endorsed the Committee's report, and declared that the election must be held again.

The House rose at 4.45 p.m.

TONIC SOL-FA SOCIETY.

On Monday afternoon, at 142A Bluff, the members of the Juvenile Tonic Solfa Choral Society of Yokohama presented Miss Bloxham with an address requesting her acceptance of a cherry-lacquer cabinet, as a slight token of their sense of the great obligations the Society is under for her valuable assistance in their Choral Practice; and at the same time another presentation was made to Miss Emily Jarman, of a ring composed of Australian opals, accompanied by a prettily designed and artistically executed address painted by Miss Minnie Schwabe. In a few words explanatory of the last presentation, the President, Mrs. Patton, stated that the member who was now retiring from the Society in consequence of a recent family bereavement, had not only been a valuable and constant attendant for seven years, but had also been for some time the only connecting link between the past and present members, as she was the last remaining member of the original Society as formed in October, 1891. Mrs. Patton then read a list of no fewer than 91 names well-known to those present who as young people had belonged to the Choir and had passed from it during that period, most of whom are now dispersed in various parts of the world, or, if still in Yokohama, are now young men and women no longer eligible for a juvenile choir. The Choral Society now numbers 24, many of whom were mere infants when it was originally formed. In a few brief but suitable words, the recipients of the presentations thanked the members for their tokens of regard, and the opportunity was then taken by Mrs. Patton of distributing prizes to the most deserving pupils of the Yokohama School of Music, the prize winners being as follows:—For Music (all subjects)—Miss Clara Schwabe 1st Prize. Special ditto—Master Bugbird. Piano forte 1st (divided)—Misses Merriman and Flora Diack. Special ditto—Misses Evelyn Gillett and Winnie Mitchell. Harmony and Theory of Music—Miss Carol Merriman. Tonic Sol-fa singing—Miss Adèle Favre-Brandt and Master Ewen Steele, 1st Prize (divided); 2nd prizes ditto Misses Rosie Vivanti, Rosie Aparc, and Doris Fearon. Special Prize, Master John Pender Mollison.

General Sung Ching and the bulk of his forces arrived at Shanhaikuan from North Kichon on the 30th ultimo. General Sung's troops will garrison the eastern approaches to Shanhaikuan and General Tung Fu-hsiang's the western.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Red Axe, by S. R. Crockett: Macmillan's Colonial Library. Yokohama, Messrs. KELLY and WALSH, Ltd.

MR. CROCKETT has a passionate admiration for robust young men. His heroes are always of that pleasant age when the young blood begins to leave the callowness of hobble-dehoy-hood behind it and prepares to battle with the sterner world that lies beyond the playing-fields of school-time; and also is ready to "sigh for the love of a lady." And therein lies Crockett's besetting fault—his monotony of characterization. Be the scene of his story the barren hills of Ayr or the far barren wilds of the coast that frets the Baltic Sea, the hero is always cast in the same moral, intellectual, physical, and ethical mould: there is no change in the fashion of his utterance, and therefore no change in the manner of his love-making and its eventual result: while the heroine is always a pale phantom.

In the *Red Axe*, the reader is taken to a medieval town in the Baltic provinces dominated by a Duke whose delight it is to rieve and burn, ravish and destroy the districts immediately adjoining, and afterwards to cast such of his victims as reach the Castle of the Wolfberg alive, to be devoured of bloodhounds. This Duke Casimir has an Hereditary Justicer, one Gottfried Gottfried, who has to carry out all the death-sentences of the Wolfmark. His badge of office was "that famous red handled, red-bladed axe, the gleaming white of whose deadly edged had never been wet save with the blood of men and women." The "Red Axe," as he was called, was also always habited in red from head to foot when discharging the duties of his dread office. Gottfried had a son named Hugo, who must succeed him at his death. One day Duke Casimir raided the adjoining principality of Plassenburg and carried away its ruler and the latter's infant daughter. By the kindly interposition of Hugo the child was saved from the bloodhounds' ravenous maw, and the story, as may easily be guessed, concerns the after adventures of Hugo, the Little Playmate—as he calls the child—the terrible Duke, and his even more terrible Red Axe. Before the Little Playmate comes by her own again and Hugo succeeds to his hereditary office, many doughty deeds are done in Court and camp, temptations great and sore assail the lad, and grievous calamities befall the maiden—the story would not be Crockett's if it were not full of stir and turmoil—but eventually all things come about as the most sanguine admirers of the hero and heroine can desire: evil is trampled down beneath the feet, coming by its proper reward, and virtue triumphs—as it always should, though sometimes it doesn't in real life.

The *Red Axe* is a healthy story, well-told, and despite the mannerisms inseparable from its writer, is well worth the hour or so required for its reading.

Feudal and Modern Japan. By Arthur May Knapp: London, Duckworth & Co.

THIS is what the *Athenaeum* has to say concerning this work:—A brief notice of these two daintily got-up and prettily illustrated volumes is all that is necessary. They show some literary ability, but no research or originality. The monotonous beat of the Japanese drum—of which the Japanese themselves are getting tired—is echoed from every page. Japan is "the one country in the world which does not disappoint . . . it is unquestionably the unique nation of the globe, the land of dream and enchantment, the land which could hardly differ more from our own were it located in another planet, its people not of this world." All this stuff is the mere parrot-like repetition of Lafcadio Hearn, the Brito-Corfu-American, who now finds salvation as a naturalized Japanese under the name of Koizumi Yakumo. The truth is, the more intimately we know the Japanese, the more we find them like other folk, though they play their parts upon a different stage and with the help

of a different set of properties, which are being daily and rapidly replaced by those of the West. A test of a writer's real knowledge of "things Japanese" is his treatment of Shinto. Judged by this test, the author must be pronounced untrustworthy. His account of the "Way of the Gods" is a description of what it is not, not of what it is. What it is may be gathered quite clearly from the "Kojiki," or ancient annals, translated long since by Mr. Chamberlain, and from the essays of Sir E. Satow, based upon the works of Mabuchi, Motoori, and the other Shinto revivalists of the end of the century and the earlier half of the last century and the earlier half of the present one. Shinto might have become a religious and ethical system, but its development was arrested by Sinicization and Buddhism, naturalism and fetishism, mingled at a later period with imported ancestor-worship and Taoism. Shinto is nothing and has produced nothing—*ex nihilo nihil fit*; its modern developments are eclectic jumbles which have lost the one charm of Shinto—its simplicity.

After all, the soul of a nation is to be found in its literature, and the literature of Japan, which now has the respectable antiquity of about a thousand years, can scarcely be accorded the rank of a second class among the literatures of the world. It has not produced a line of poetry worth remembering, nor a doctrine, religious, philosophical, or political, worth consideration. In the mediæval romances some dainty and delicate work is to be found, and in the novelists of the closing years of the Shogunate the scenes of social life are often vividly enough portrayed, while occasionally philosophical views of some depth are to be met with in the later histories. But the growth of Japanese thought and imagination—like that of Shinto—was arrested by Chinese influences centuries ago; and what does seem characteristic of the Japanese mind, its lack of originality, has prevented it from even attempting to shake off the yoke. In art Japan has been more successful; it borrowed from China, Japanese art has progressed through the superior craftsmanship of the Japanese, and must be admitted to have reached during the last seventy or eighty years of the Shogunate (1770-1850) a higher point of excellence than the Middle Kingdom ever achieved.

One word more. Under the extravagances of Mr. Hearn and the author of these volumes there does lie a certain amount of truth, but in relation to old, not to new Japan. Old Japan, to the foreign observer, who saw only the externalities of the time, did, in fact, often appear a paradise—not on account of its scenery (which, after all, is inferior to that of many parts of China, and is not to be compared with that of Switzerland and Italy, appearing, as it does, more beautiful than it really is to the weary traveller across the Pacific or enfeebled visitors from the Chinese treaty ports), but rather on account of its social aspects, the sort of graduated order and distinctions of caste, ceremonial, and dress, the quaint pageantry, and the harmony in colour, form, habits, and modes of life within each class of society. To the Japanese observer, the Samurai class in especial, who saw society from within, the case was far otherwise; he groaned under an inflexible, many-graded tyranny more searching perhaps than that of any other system known to history, and absolutely merciless in its application. And it was the Samurai class, not the people of Japan, who made the revolution of 1868; the same class maintains and profits by its results.

A Shanghai mandarin on Jan. 4th received the following telegram from Peking:—"It is reliably stated that the Empress Dowager intends soon to send Kang Yi, President of the Board of Punishments, to inspect the Imperial armies, old and newly-raised, encamped outside Peking and in Chihli province. After this function Kang Yi will probably be appointed Viceroy or Governor of some province at a distance from the capital."

FANCY DRESS BALL.

The fancy dress ball given in aid of the funds of Christ Church at the Public Hall on Friday evening was in every way a success. There was a crowded attendance, and the programme was of the most enjoyable character. The hall had been charmingly decorated with greenery and bunting, and the stage end was daintily fitted up as a drawing-room, while the men's lounge was upstairs, and supper was served in the green-room. A large proportion of the dancers were in character and the scene during the dancing was extremely animated. There was perhaps, a little lack of originality in the ideas, but as fancy dress balls have probably been given at frequent intervals ever since the Flood, all the good ideas must necessarily have been used up before now, and little scope is left for the modern invention. China and Japan were pretty well represented among the men, the aristocratic *samurai* dressed to kill, and the guileless Ah Sin, in a pigtail sufficient to arouse the envy of any Celestial, being duplicated a good many times. Two ladies only demonstrated how charming Japanese costume can be made under proper circumstances, but it looked oddly incongruous to see an aquiline nose and sharply cut features, as in the case of some of the men, beneath a Chinese headdress. A stately Bedouin, too clean for real life, was one of the best makes-up. There were of course Dr. Jims, or people who looked like Dr. Jim, or, again, people who may have fancied they looked like Dr. Jim—for we have noticed that Dr. Jim is a most elastic character, and all kinds of costumes do for him. It is something like the case of Artemus Ward's "wax statoids." "Mebbe it's like the Prince of Wales; mebbe it ain't like the Prince of Wales. I calls it the Prince of Wales; you may call it what you darn please." There were Vivandières who would add immensely to the popularity of the Service if they could be induced to join the colours, so charming did they look. There were jockeys, bandits, ladies of the 18th century, mysterious Scotch characters, a Hongkong Sikh Policeman, Turks (who, however, conducted themselves quite like Christians), gentlemen in Court dress, and a host of nondescripts who might have represented anybody, from Cæsar Borgia to John Wesley.

Dancing commenced at nine o'clock, and was kept up with spirit till the small hours. The Town Band supplied the music. The programme was as follows:—

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Waltz. | 8. Two Step. |
| 2. Polka. | 9. Waltz. |
| 3. Waltz. | 10. Schottische. |
| 4. Lancers. | 11. Waltz. |
| 5. In the Barn. | 12. Lancers. |
| 6. Waltz. | 13. Waltz. |
| 7. Waltz. | 14. Waltz. |

PRESENTATION TO DR. WHEELER.

The children's fancy dress ball on Saturday afternoon was a most pretty spectacle—almost more pleasing than that of the night before. A very large number of boys and girls attended in costume, and many of the characters were capably represented. To describe them would require a considerable expenditure of space, there were so many capital ideas and pretty costumes. Suffice it to say that the dance was one of the prettiest seen in Yokohama for a long time, and was greatly enjoyed both by the youngsters and by the many oldsters who looked in during the afternoon.

Opportunity was taken to make a presentation on behalf of the children to Dr. Wheeler who, amid the congratulations and good wishes of the whole community, has just celebrated his silver wedding. There was something unique in the idea, for nearly all, if not all, of the young people who subscribed, had been known by the genial doctor from the very beginning of their lives—before, in fact, they could form a clear estimate of his many virtues, or, indeed, of any other matter in the world beyond the necessity for a vigorous squall. A subscription among the little folks ushered into the world by the kindly doctor realised a satisfactory amount, and Mr. J. P. Mollison on Saturday afternoon had the satisfaction of pre-

senting Dr. Wheeler, in the name of the youngsters, with a handsome silver claret jug and a stand of artificial flowers. In making the presentation Mr. Mollison said:—

"On behalf of the children around you, and of many who are not present to-day, I have been invited to ask your acceptance of this little souvenir of your Silver Wedding day, and need hardly say that I gladly assume the position of spokesman for the little ones, on this happy occasion."

Ladies and gentlemen, it has been my privilege and good fortune to have enjoyed the friendship of Dr. and Mrs. Wheeler all through their married life, now so happily culminating to-day in their silver wedding, and, therefore, no one in Yokohama knows better,—no one is better able to judge, and no one could be more willing to testify than I am, to the big kindly heart that beats in the Doctor's breast, or to the wide-spread and overflowing sympathy he possesses and shows for everyone around him.

Who amongst us does not know Dr. Wheeler's cheery "Good Morning," with his genial smile and assuring word that has brought comfort to many an anxious mother? Not one! And who amongst us does not love him for all he has done for us? Again not one! What is more, the children all love him and welcome his visits, even when they mean anything but pleasure perhaps, to them, dear little mites. And so in their gratitude they have all combined to give the good Doctor this little remembrance of his Silver Wedding Day.

We parents, too, are glad to have this opportunity of showing our affection and esteem for the Doctor, and especially glad to be able to do so through our children, and with our children around us. That he may long be spared to this community is the heartfelt wish of us all. With these few words, Dr. Wheeler, too few perhaps for the occasion, but such as they are, from the heart, on behalf of the little ones, I ask your acceptance of this little gift, and wish from my heart all health and happiness to you and yours."

Dr. Wheeler briefly returned thanks, and the ceremony concluded with three cheers.

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AT THE END OF 1898.

CIRCULATION OF MONEY.—The amount of loans issued by the Bank of Japan up to the 28th December last reached, according to the *Kokumin*, 76 million yen, and the issue of notes above the legal limit amounted to 13 millions. It was presumed that the ordinary loans and the over-issue of notes would exceed 80 millions and 17 millions respectively by the end of the year. Compared with 1897 the figures come out as follows:—

	Loans to private individuals. YEN.	Issue above legal limit. YEN.
At the end of the 31st fiscal year	80,000,000	17,000,000
At the end of the 30th fiscal year	105,000,000	47,000,000
Decrease in 31st year	25,000,000	30,000,000

Although the general depression of trade which has brought about the diminution in the demand for capital has certainly contributed to a reduction in the Bank's loans and over-issue, the direct cause of decrease seems to have been the purchase by Government of public loan bonds to the amount of 35 million yen.

The diminution in demand for capital has tended to bring about a fall in the rates of interest. By comparing the rates on loans and discounted bills issued by the Bank of Japan at the end of last year with those for the corresponding term of 1897, the following results are obtained:—

	Daily interest on loans in 1898.	Rate of discount at the Bank in 1898.	The same at other Banks in 1898.
At the end of the 31st fiscal year	2½	2.3	2½
At the end of the 30th fiscal year	2.3	2	2.3
Decrease	0.2	0.2	0.2

The rate of interest among private individuals in Tokyo was as follows:—

	For loans.		For discounted bills.	
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.
	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.
At the end of 1898	3.00	2.8	2.9	2.7
At the end 1897	3.3	2.9	3.14	2.77
Decrease	0.3	0.1	0.24	0.07

With reference to the actual condition of the

money market in different localities, it may be stated that serious slackness is noticeable in Osaka, where the amount of loans from the Nippon Ginko has decreased by 13 million yen, as compared with 1897. Next comes Tokyo, with a decrease of 10 millions, and the loans issued by the Bank's branch office in Kyoto have diminished by 2 millions. The latest report from Osaka announces that while considerable funds were in the hands of the various banks at the end of last year, deposits have steadily increased, the daily interest on them being 2 1 or 2 2 sen.

The rate of 2.3 or 2.4 sen was common in transactions with the Bank, the standard rate of interest fixed by the Osaka Bankers' Assembly Hall at present being 2 6 sen. Compared with the rate adopted in Tokyo, the figure shows a reduction of 2 or 3 rin.

Despite the relaxation of the money market in the various localities, pressure is still felt in certain districts. It is alleged that the Yokohama Settlement suffers in present from scarcity of capital for the purchase of exchange bills. Quotations therefore have risen considerably. Below are the comparative figures.—

	Former	price.	Current	Rise.
Telegraphic remittances...	\$49 125	\$48 500	\$0 375	
Bills saleable on arrival...	\$49 250	\$49 625	\$0 375	
Bills purchasable at sight...	\$49 375	\$50 000	\$0 625	
Bills payable one month's				
sight	\$49 625	\$50 250	\$0 625	
Bills payable at 4 months'				
sight	\$50 375	\$51 000	\$0 625	

Measures are now being taken by the branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to secure from its head office a supply of funds so urgently needed. The power of supplying capital being so limited in the Foreign Settlement, export merchants to whom the purchase of exchange bills was refused by a foreign bank had necessarily to rely upon the Specie Bank for a loan, the result being an increase of bills discounted by the Nippon Ginko to the amount of 7 million yen up to the 24th December last. Compared with the corresponding term of last year the figures stand thus:—

December 24, 1898	yen	1,322,988
December 25, 1897		7,925,718
Increase in comparison		3,397,270

The increase for the year before last seems to have amounted to 2½ million yen, but the increase for last year was supposed to be no less than 3 millions.

STOCK MARKET—The actual condition of the money market being such as described above, the appreciation of various shares was, to some extent, inevitable. The following comparative table shows the quotations of shares at the end of last year and at the end of 1897:—

Shares.	Dec. 27, 1897.	Dec. 27, 1898.	Increase of 1898.
	yen	yen	yen
Sanyo Railway	46.60	55.50	+ 8.90
Kwansei Railway	52.40	50.90	- 1.50
Kiushiu Railway	52.90	68.00	+ 15.10
Coal Mining and Railway	92.90	88.10	- 4.80
Nippon Yusen	52.10	57.50	+ 5.40
Kanagafuchi Spinning... ..	40.10	42.90	+ 2.80
Tokyo Stock Exchange...	157.50	189.00	+ 31.50
(+ indicates increase and - decrease.)			

Kwansei and Coal Mining and Railway shares have fallen in value to a certain extent, but the depreciation of these shares seems to have arisen from special circumstances, other shares showing an appreciation from 5 to 32 yen. As regards the tendency of foreign trade, it may be noticed that imports were again in excess during the first half of December last. But things have now assumed a different aspect, and it may confidently be assumed that the balance in future will be in favour of exports, and that simultaneously with the inflow of funds from abroad shares in general will rise in value.

RICE.—The value of rice, which in one time had so extravagantly risen, has now begun to fall steadily in view of the successful crop. The fall in value at present is alleged to have reached 7 or 8 yen on the average. Below are the comparative figures:—

Rice.	1898.	1897.	Fall in price.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Super-fine	9.80	14.00	4.20
Medium	9.35	13.70	4.35
Inferior	8.85	12.99	4.14
Average	9.33	13.76	4.43

Rice for time bargains (to be delivered in February) was quoted at 9 20 yen at the end of last year, whereas the quotation at the corresponding period of the year before last was 11 92 yen, the fall being 2 68 yen. As for retail prices quotations stood thus:—

Rice.	At the end of 1897.	Corresponding period of 1898.	Fall in value.
	Sho.	Sho.	Sho.
1st class	7.1	4.9	2.2
2nd "	7.4	5.1	2.3
3rd "	7.8	5.3	2.5
4th "	8.2	5.7	2.5
5th "	8.6	6.1	2.5

Thus a fall of from 2.2 to 2.5 sho is noticeable in each class.

OTHER COMMODITIES.—Under this heading the following comparative prices may be given:—

Rice.	At the end of 1897.	Corresponding period of 1898.	Fall in value.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Cotton Yarns	79.60	83.20	3.60
Salt	2.34	6.80	4.46
Barley	4	6.67	2.67
Raw Silk	90.50	88.90	1.60

KOREAN NEWS.

From the *Independent* we learn that on the 19th inst. a petition signed by thirty-three men was sent into the Palace, begging His Majesty to pardon Pak Yongho and to give him some influential position in the Government. How unwelcome this suggestion was to the Emperor may be seen in the following Edict of the 22nd inst:—

That the crime of a refugee (political) cannot be pardoned is a matter of our established law. We are informed that two or more memorials have of late been received urging the appointment of Pak Yongho to some post of influence. Can a subject bear to suggest such a thing? We are so surprised and grieved at this that We prefer to say nothing about it. Though the original memorial was refused admittance by the Secretariat of State if such memorials are let go unpunished, the law will be non-effective and the country will lose its dignity. Let the Law Department instruct Police authorities to arrest Yi Sukyul and his associates. After thorough investigations (into their motives, etc), report the same to Us.

The above Edict was followed by another whose substance was as follows:—

All those who have fled from justice to other countries, whether their offences are great or small, are equally disloyal subjects and unfilial sons, whether they are authors or accomplices of a crime. As there is law in the land, they shall never be pardoned.

The popular demonstrations which were started on the 5th inst., came to an unsatisfactory end, says "Molayo" in the *Independent*, on the 23rd. Meetings were daily held, but there was very little that evoked public enthusiasm. As days went on, the realizing the object of the people, viz., the punishment of the Five Villains, the expulsion of Min Yongkui, and the organization of a popular Cabinet, became more and more hopeless. On the 16th inst., some of the members of the Privy Council had the imprudence to recommend to the Government the recall of Pak Yongho. This unwise proposal was endorsed by the People's Union. The leaders of the Pedlers' party at once seized this opportunity for attacking the Union. They memorialized the Throne charging the popular speakers with treasonable designs. The unthinking public suspected the leaders of the People's Union of having started the agitation simply for the sake of recalling an arch-traitor. The Government saw its chance of revenge in this sudden change of public sentiment against the People's Union. For two successive days, on the 22nd and 23rd, drunken soldiers were sent to the meetings harassing, insulting, and beating the speakers, calling them traitors, etc. The People's Union, which had no other support than the sympathy of the people, of necessity broke down when that support was withdrawn. Pedlers are now in the city in strong force,

making it hot for those who took any part in the popular movements.

"Molayo" admits that the People's Union committed many blunders and follies, such as compelling officers to attend the meetings; asking for contributions from rich men (who, however, gave hardly anything); entering and holding meetings in the Supreme Court, etc. Yet most deliberately does he declare that none of these offences nor all of them put together can be regarded as worse or even as bad as any one of the acts of faithlessness of which the Government stands condemned. His advice to the popular leaders is to keep quiet for the time. The country is going to ruin fast enough without any well-meaning but ill-directed agitation.

The resignation of Mr. T. H. Ynn, as the Governor of Seoul, was accepted the other day, and Mr. Yi Chaiyen was re-appointed to the position. Mr. T. H. Ynn was appointed, on the 24th, the Vice-President of the Privy Council. Very strong pressure from various sources is being brought to bear upon Mr. Ynn urging him to discontinue the editorship of the *Independent*.

Foreigners and Koreans are said to have vied with each other on Christmas Day in "seeing who can most appropriately observe the birthday of Him who was at once a foreigner to all and yet akin to all, and whose message to a world of suffering and discord was, Peace on Earth and good will to men."

The Rev. F. S. Moore has returned to Seoul from a six weeks trip into the country. On his return journey he narrowly escaped with his life, one of the innas where he was staying a short distance from Seoul being attacked by thieves who fired into the room occupied by Mr. Moore. The latter only escaped injury by lying flat on the ground on his face. His servant had several shots fired through his head gear.

Under the heading of "This Popular Movement," the *Independent* discusses the events of the past year, which has been "remarkable for popular agitations, wise and otherwise." It says that for the past eighteen years the new thoughts of the West have been slowly but steadily coming into this once Hermit Nation. Newspapers and books containing strange doctrines of politics, of religion, and of science have set the people thinking—almost a forgotten art in Korea. To these and other causes we must trace the rise of the recent popular movements. But these ideas abstract and diffused needed some suitable medium to make their forces known; and such a medium was, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Philip Jaisohn, supplied by the Independence Club. Beginning as a place where officers met once a week to smoke and talk away their superabundant time, the Club entered a new career in the latter part of 1897, when it became a debating society. Week after week its influence grew with its popularity. From last Spring the Club interested itself in politics and, in its fights against corruption and wickedness in high places, victory generally rewarded its patriotic endeavours. The popular movements begun and guided by the Independence Club have had, on the whole, a good effect on the people and the Government. They taught the former that they had a right to ask those whom they support to protect their life and property, and the latter that it has no other *raison d'être* than the good of the people. Many grievous abuses of power, which nobody had ever before called in question, were more or less effectively checked. The mass meetings on the streets have had beyond doubt a wonderful educative effect on the people, especially on the young. But the popular agitators, since they went out of the systematic control of the Independence Club, have committed some ridiculous blunders. The usefulness of mass meetings as they are may well be questioned. Let the Independence Club be reorganized and confine its work of quiet but systematic and persistent effort for the enlightenment of the people.

FIRES.

A fire was discovered above 10.30 p.m. on the 7th instant on board the Nippon Yusen Kai-sha steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, in Yokohama harbour. The cargo in danger consisted of cotton, and about 30 piculs were destroyed before the flames were got under.

On Sunday, at 3.50 a.m., a rather serious fire occurred at Isezaki-cho, Ichome. The building in which the conflagration originated was a restaurant called the Nakamura Chudo, and thence the flames spread to surrounding houses, destroying 14, and damaging four.

An alarm of fire was given at 3.40 on Wednesday. Supt. Morgan and his men turned out, and found that some rags were ablaze in a Chinese kitchen in the servant's quarters attached to Mr. Grosser's house, No. 180. The fire was put out without difficulty, and practically no damage was done.

Messrs. Illies & Co., agents of the Hamburg-America Line, have received a telegram stating that the steamship *Bamberg*, which left Kobe on December 11th, arrived at Colombo on Friday. Having had a fire in the after part of the ship, she had to discharge her cargo, which apparently is badly damaged.

A fire broke out on Friday morning shortly after one o'clock at the residence of Mr. Gomes, No. 43, Shimoyamate-dori, Kobe, resulting in the total destruction of the house, together with the one adjoining, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Clapp, and two Japanese houses in the rear.

The following table shows the number of fires in Yokohama and suburbs during 1898, as compared with the previous year:—

	1897.	1898.	Decrease.
No. of fires	Yokohama 19	12	7
	Suburbs 4	3	1
Houses destroyed.	Yokohama 115	61	54
	Suburbs 27	3	24

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The telephone between Tokyo and Osaka is to be opened on the 1st proximo. The charge will be yen 1.60 per 5 minutes conversation.

The new torpedo boat *Murakumo*, which has been constructed in England, will leave on the 16th inst. for home. The boat (300 tons, 30 knots), is expected to arrive here in May or June.

The House of Representatives in New South Wales recently decided to impose an import duty of £3 per ton on Japanese rice. It is now stated, however, that the Executive Council has rejected the Bill.

A man named Ota Masahiro on the 6th murdered a girl named Fusa at a house of ill-fame in the Yoshiwara, Tokyo, and attempted suicide by cutting his throat with a knife. He died at the hospital on the 9th inst.

The arrangement of the Kiushu and Sanyo Railway Companies with Messrs. Peacock and Co. for a loan amounting to yen 15,000,000 has been completed, and after certain items are amended the contract will be signed at once.

An officer on board the steamer *Indrani*, in a fit of temper, threw an oil feeder at one of the coolies. The missile missed its mark and struck another coolie, named Sugai, in the temple, causing a severe wound. The injured coolie was taken to the hospital, where he lies in a critical condition.

A Shimonoseki telegram to the *Osaka Asahi* states that the wreck of the *Yayeyama Maru*, which sank after colliding with the P. & O. steamer *Brindisi*, was offered for sale by auction on Sunday. There were about thirty bidders from Kobe, Osaka, and Nagasaki. The highest bid was yen 46,500, but this being below the reserve, it was not sold.

A post box has been erected on the right-hand of the entrance to the Yokohama Post Office for the reception of foreign mail matter.

This innovation is designed to prevent the dire confusion which exists each mail day through people crushing to the window at the foreign mail office with their letters. Foreign letters which have been properly stamped may be posted in this box, which will be cleared only before the despatch of the mails.

On Tuesday afternoon there was a large congregation at Christ Church to witness the marriage of Mr. Charles Henry Wilson, Manager of the Rangoon Branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, to Miss Laura N. Smith, eldest daughter of Mr. N. F. Smith, of Yokohama. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by Miss Nina Smith, Miss Marcia Smith, Miss Poole, Miss Wheeler, Miss Moss, and Miss Maia Lindsey as bridesmaids. Mr. H. W. Fraser acted as best man, and the ushers were Messrs. Janion, H. A. Poole, H. Bent, and Van Smith. Mr. J. T. Griffin presided at the organ, and at the conclusion of the ceremony Mrs. Mollison sang Gounod's "Ave Maria." Mr. Rudolf Schmid accompanying on the 'cello. The Church was very handsomely decorated. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson will shortly leave for a tour in Europe and round the world.

SUPPLEMENTARY TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN & GERMANY.

The following is the Supplementary Treaty between Japan and Germany:—

The Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the Government of His Majesty the German Emperor and King of Prussia, in fulfilment of the second paragraph of Section 3, of the Protocol annexed to the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, concluded between Japan and Germany, at Berlin, on the 4th of April, 1896, have agreed as follows:—

1.—The Tariff annexed to this Convention shall be substituted for the *ad valorem* Tariff annexed to the aforesaid Protocol of the 4th of April, 1896. It shall be subject to all the stipulations contained in Section 3 of the said Protocol, in so far as these are applicable, and shall come into force on the 1st day of the 1st month of the 32nd year of Meiji, corresponding to the 1st January, 1899.

2.—The present Convention shall have the same duration as the Treaty and Protocol of the 4th of April, 1896, to which it is complementary.

In witness whereof the undersigned Viscount Aoki Shunzo, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and Count Casimir von Leyden, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the German Emperor, and King of Prussia, having been duly authorized to this effect, have signed the present Convention and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done in duplicate at Tokyo, this 26th day of the 12th month of the 31st year of Meiji, corresponding to the 26th of Dec., 1898.

VICOMTE AOKI, (L.S.)
GRAF VON LEYDEN, (L.S.)

ANNEX (TARIFF).

No.	Articles.	Duty.
	COTTON TISSUES—	Yen.
1	Velvets and Velvetens sq. yard	0.041
2	Cotton tissue of all kinds, not otherwise mentioned in this Tariff, pure cotton or mixed with flax, hemp, or other spinning material, including wool, cotton however predominating—	
	Drills..... sq. yard	0.016
	Duck..... "	0.053
	Handkerchiefs in the piece..... "	0.011
	Prints..... "	0.012
	Sateens, plain, figured, or printed brocades, Italians and figured shirtings..... "	0.017
	Shirtings, dyed..... "	0.013
	" grey..... "	0.006
	" twilled..... "	0.011
	" white or bleached..... "	0.010
	T-cloths..... "	0.009
	Turkey red cambrics..... "	0.012
	Victoria lawns..... "	0.006

All other sorts of pure cotton tissues, and all tissues of cotton mixed with flax, hemp, or other fibre, including wool, the cotton however predominating in weight, not specially provided for in this Tariff..... ad valorem 10 per cent.

Note.—It is expressly understood that ready-made clothing and other made-up articles are not included under the heading of Cotton Tissues.

3 LEAD, pig, ingot and slab..... 100 catties 0.316

CHEMICALS AND DRUGS—

4 Amorphous phosphorus..... catty 0.165

5 Subnitrate of bismuth..... " 0.206

6 Bromide

a. Of potash..... catty 0.093

b. All other kinds... ad valorem 10 per cent.

7 Quinine..... " 8 "

8 Chlorate of potash... 100 catties 2.267

9 Dynamite..... catty 0.056

10 Iodide of potash..... ad valorem 10 per cent.

11 Nitrate of potash (saltpetre)..... 100 catties 0.490

12 Salicylic acid..... ad valorem 10 per cent.

WIRE—

13 Telegraph-wire—

a. Telegraph or galvanized wire of iron or mild steel..... 100 catties 0.256

b. All other Telegraph wire..... ad valorem 5 per cent.

14 Other than Telegraph wire—

a. Iron and mild steel wire, and small rod of iron or mild steel not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter..... 100 catties 0.503

b. Steel (other than mild steel) wire, and small rod of steel (other than mild steel) not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter..... 1.819

Note.—By the term "mild steel" as used in this Tariff is understood mild steel manufactured by the Siemens, Bessemer, Basic or similar processes, and approximating in value to iron of the same class in this Tariff.

IRON, MILD STEEL AND STEEL—

15 Pig and ingot—

a. Of iron and mild steel..... 100 catties 0.083

b. Of steel (other than mild steel)..... ad valorem 5 per cent.

RAILS—

a. Of iron and mild steel..... 100 catties 0.129

b. Of steel (other than mild steel)..... ad valorem 5 per cent.

BARS, RODS, PLATES AND SHEETS—

17 Of iron and mild steel—

a. Bar and rod, exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter..... 100 catties 0.261

b. Plate and Sheet... " 0.296

18 Of steel (other than mild steel)..... ad valorem 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

SHEET, GALVANIZED, both plain and corrugated—

a. Of iron and mild steel..... per 100 catties 0.740

b. Of steel (other than mild steel)..... ad valorem 10 per cent.

TINNED PLATES—

Of iron and mild steel—

a. Ordinary..... 100 catties 0.691

b. Crystallized..... ad valorem 10 per cent.

Of steel (other than mild steel)..... " 10 "

21 Pipes and Tubes..... " 10 "

RAILWAY CARRIAGES for Passengers, and parts thereof..... ad valorem 5 per cent.

IRON AND MILD STEEL NAILS—

Also wire nails, including spike, sprigs, tacks and beads—

a. Plain..... 100 catties 0.573

b. Galvanized..... ad valorem 10 per cent.

IRON AND MILD STEEL SCREWS—

Bolts and nuts, plain and galvanized..... ad valorem 10 per cent.

WINDOW GLASS, ORDINARY—

25 Uncoloured and unstained..... 100 sq. ft. 0.302

26 Coloured, stained and ground	ad valorem 10 per cent.
DYES, DYE-STUFFS AND PAINTS—	
27 Aniline dyes	ad valorem 10 per cent.
28 Alizarine dyes	" 10 "
29 Logwood extract	" 10 "
30 Paint in oil	100 catties 1 304
YARNS, PLAIN OR DYED—	
31 Of cotton	100 catties 4.180
32 a. Of linen, for weaving purposes	" 6.527
b. Of hemp or jute, for weaving purposes	ad valorem 8 per cent.
Of wool, also combed, or worsted—	
33 For weaving purposes	100 catties 8.000
34 For other purposes	" 9.169
Note to Nos. 31, 32, 33, and 34—It is expressly understood that all mixed yarns of cotton, linen, hemp, jute or wool (either combed or worsted) are to be classed for duty according to the material predominating in weight.	
35 Yarns, all sorts, not specially provided for in this Tariff	ad valorem 10 per cent.
36 Silk-faced Cotton Satins	" 10 "
37 Hops	per catty 0.029
38 Hats, including also hats of felt	ad valorem 10 per cent.
39 CAOUTCHOUC, Manufactures of	" 10 "
40 LINEN TISSUES—	
Canvases	sq. yard 0.047
All other sorts	ad valorem 10 per cent.
Note—It is expressly understood that ready-made clothing and other made-up articles are not included under the heading of Linen Tissues.	
LEATHER—	
41 Sole	100 catties 5.690
42 Other kinds	ad valorem 10 per cent.
43 Locomotive Engines and parts thereof	" 5 "
MILK—	
44 Condensed or desiccated	per doz. 1lb. tins 0.123, and proportionately for tins of other weights.
45 Sterilized	ad valorem 5 per cent.
PAPER OF ALL KINDS—	
a. Printing paper—	
1. Weighing not more than 24 lbs. per 500 sheets and measuring not less than 1.086 sq. inches per sheet	100 catties 0.800
2 All other kinds of printing paper	" 1.163
b. All other kinds of paper	ad valorem 10 per cent.
47 Oil, paraffin	" 10 per cent.
48 Wax paraffin	100 catties 0.544
49 Cement, portland	" 0.065
50 Clocks, excepting watches and parts of clocks	ad valorem 10 per cent.
WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TISSUES of all kinds, pure or mixed with other material, wool, however, predominating—	
51 Blanketing and whipped blankets, in plain weave	100 catties 7 458
52 FLANNELS—	
a. All wool	sq. yard 0.044
b. Wool and cotton mixture	" 0.030
53 MOUSSELINES DE-LAINE—	
a. Ecrues and blanc d'impression	sq. yard 0.018
b. All other kinds	" 0.021
54 CLOTH—	
a. Wholly of woollen or worsted yarn, or of woollen and worsted yarns, such as broad, narrow and army cloth, cassimeres, tweeds, and worsted coatings	" 0.093
b. In part of woollen or worsted yarn and in part of cotton yarn, such as pilot, president, and union cloth	" 0.039
55 Italian cloth, including also Italian cloth in which cotton predominates in weight	" 0.029
56 OTHER TISSUES—	
Alpacas	" 0.075
Buntings	" 0.031

Long ells	" 0.036
Serges—	
a. Where the warp is worsted and the weft woollen	" 0.056
b. All other kinds	ad valorem 10 per cent.
All other sorts, pure or mixed with other material, the wool, however, predominating in weight, not specially provided for in this Tariff	" 10 per cent.
Note—It is expressly understood that ready-made clothing and other made-up articles are not included under the heading of Woollen and Worsted Tissues.	

ZINC—	
57 Block, pig and slab or plates	100 catties 0.400
58 Sheet	" 0.830
59 SUGAR, REFINED—	
a. No. 15 to No. 20 inclusive, Dutch standard in colour	" 0.748
b. Above No. 20, Dutch standard in colour	100 catties 0.827

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—The catty mentioned in this Tariff is the Japanese weight. It is equal to 600 grammes of the metric system of weight, or 1 3227 lbs. English avoirdupois weight. The pound is the English avoirdupois weight. The square yard, square foot, and square inch are the English Imperial surface measures.

RULE FOR CALCULATING "AD VALOREM" DUTIES.—Import duties payable *ad valorem* under this Tariff shall be calculated on the actual cost of the articles at the place of purchase, production, or fabrication, with the addition of the cost of insurance and transportation from the place of purchase, production, or fabrication, to the port of discharge, as well as commission, if any exists.

RULE FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF TISSUES.—In determining the dutiable width of any Tissue the Customs shall discard all fractions of an inch not exceeding half an inch, and shall count as a full inch all fractions exceeding half an inch. Note.—It is understood that selvages shall not be included in the measurement of Tissues.

PROTOCOL.

The undersigned, simultaneously with the Supplementary Convention signed this day, have agreed upon the following stipulations:—

1.—With regard to the *yen* mentioned in the Tariff annexed to the aforesaid Supplementary Convention, it is understood that whatever rights belong, or may belong, to Great Britain in virtue of the description of the *yen* appended to the Anglo-Japanese Supplementary Convention dated the 16th day of the 7th month of the 28th year of Meiji, shall be equally extended to Germany. The Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, however, wish it understood that this declaration creates no inference as to the existence in favour of Great Britain of any rights in the direction indicated.

2.—Respecting the question of Certificates of Origin and the Legalization of Invoices it is understood, that the words "other proper authorities" appearing in Article II, of the Japanese Imperial Ordinance No. 385, dated the 27th day of the 10th month of the 30th year of Meiji, corresponding to the 27th of October, 1897, are held to include German Police Officers, in the absence of competent Japanese Consular Authorities, and that the term "competent Japanese Consular Authorities" does not include Japanese Honorary Consuls. The Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan will take the necessary measures to extend to the German Chambers of Commerce the same competence under like circumstances as is possessed by German Police Officers.

The Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan engage that, under the new Tariff, all imports of a dutiable value not exceeding *yen* 100 shall be exempt from any obligation of being accompanied by legalized invoices.

The undersigned have agreed that the stipulations contained in this Protocol shall have the same binding force and the same duration as the Supplementary Convention signed this day.

In witness whereof the undersigned have signed the same and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done in duplicate at Tokyo, this 36th day of the 12th month of the 31st year of Meiji, corresponding to the 26th December, 1898.

(Signed) GRAF VON LAYEN.

[L. S.]

" VICOMTE AOKI.

[L. S.]

SUPPLEMENTARY CONVENTION BETWEEN FRANCE AND JAPAN.

Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, et le Président de la République Française, ayant en vue de mettre à exécution les dispositions contenues dans le second alinéa de la première partie du Protocole annexé au Traité de Commerce et de Navigation signé à Paris, le 4 Août, 1896, entre le Japon et la France, en vertu desquelles un tarif de droits spécifiques doit, dans un délai de six mois à dater de la ratification de ce traité, être substitué au tarif des droits *ad valorem* joint audit Protocole et ladite période de six mois mentionnée ci-dessus ayant été prolongée, ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires à l'effet de conclure une Convention dans ce but, savoir :

Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, M. le Vicomte Aoki Siuzo, Junii, Grand-Cordon de l'Ordre Impérial du Soleil Levant, etc. etc. etc., Son Ministre des Affaires Étrangères ;

Et le Président de la République Française, M. Harmand, François, Jules, Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur, Grand-Croix du Soleil Levant, etc. etc. etc., Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la République près Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon ;

Lesquels, après s'être communiqués leurs pouvoirs trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus de ce qui suit :

Article premier.—Le tarif des droits d'importation annexé à la présente convention sera applicable aux produits français importés au Japon, au lieu et place de celui qui est joint au Protocole du 4 Août, 1896, dans les mêmes conditions et sous les mêmes réserves.

Elle entrera en vigueur immédiatement après l'échange des ratifications.

Article deuxième.—La présente convention aura la même durée que le Traité et le Protocole conclus le 4 Août, 1896.

Article troisième.—La présente convention sera ratifiée et les ratifications seront échangées à Tokio aussitôt que faire se pourra, mais dans un délai qui ne pourra excéder six mois à partir de la date de la signature des présentes.

Fait à Tokio, en double exemplaire, le 25e jour du 12e mois de 38e année de Meiji, correspondant au 25 Décembre 1898.

TARIF.

Numéros d'Ordre.	ARTICLES.	Unités servant de base à la perception.	Droits en Yen.
1	Teintures d'aniline	ad valorem	10%
Tissus de Coton—			
2	Contils	yard carré	0.016
3	Toile à voile	"	0.053
4	Mouchoirs en pièces	"	0.011
5	Indiennes de coton (Prints)	"	0.013
6	Satinettes unies, à dessins ou imprimées, brocades, toiles d'Italie et toiles à chemises (Shirtings)	"	0.017
7	Toiles à chemises teintes (dyed shirtings)	"	0.013
8	Toiles à chemises écrues (gray shirting)	"	0.006
9	Toiles à chemises croisées (twilled shirtings)	"	0.011
10	Toiles à blanches ou blanchies	"	0.010
11	T. cloths	"	0.009
12	Cambrats teints en rouge d'Andrinople	"	0.013
13	Velours et velveteens de coton	"	0.041
14	Limon Victoria (Victoria lawns)	"	0.006
15	Tous autres tissus de coton pur ou de coton mélangé avec du lin, du chanvre, ou avec toute autre matière textile y comprise la laine, mais à condition cependant que le coton prédomine comme poids et qui ne sont pas autrement désignés dans le présent tarif	ad valorem	10%
Note—Il est expressément entendu que les vêtements confectionnés et autres articles tous faits ne rentrent pas dans la définition ci-dessus de tissus de coton.			
16	Fers et aciers doux en barres et verges dont l'un quelconque des diamètres dépasse un quart de pouce	100 catties	0.261
Note—Le terme "aciers doux" ci-dessus s'applique à l'acier doux manufacturé par les procédés Siemens, Bessemer, Bassie, ou autres similaires, et dont le prix de revient se rapproche de fer de la même catégorie.			
17	Kirari de bois de caméscèle	100 catties	3.150
18	Satins en soie et satins en soie et cotons mélangés	ad valorem	5%

19	Aciers en saumons, lingots et plaques—Tissus de laine pure ou mélangée.....	ad valorem	5%
20	Alpaga.....	Yard carré	0.075
21	Couvertures en pièces (blanketing) et couvertures (whipped blankets) avec point de sujet dans le tissu.....	100 catties	7.458
22	Eramines.....	Yard carré	0.031
23	Draps de laine— a. Entièrement soit en laine cardée soit en laine peignée, ou bien en laine peignée et cardée mélangée, tels que les draps larges ou étroits, les draps pour l'armée, les caïmirs, les tweeds et les draps pour habillement en laine peignée (Worked Contings)..... b. Partie en laine cardée ou peignée et partie en coton comme les draps dits pilote, président et union ...	"	0.093
24	Flanelles— a. En laine pure..... b. En laine et coton mélangées.....	"	0.044
25	Salins de Chine (Italian cloth).....	"	0.030
26	Long Ellis.....	"	0.029
27	Mousselines de laine— a. Ecrues ou blanches d'impression..... b. Teintes ou imprimées.....	"	0.015
28	Serjes— a. Dont la chaîne est en laine peignée et la trame en laine cardée..... b. Toutes autres serjes.....	Yard carré	0.056
29	Tous autres tissus en laine pure ou en laine mélangée avec d'autres matières textiles, mais à condition que la laine prédomine en poids et qui ne sont pas autrement désignés au présent tarif.....	ad valorem	10%
30	Fils de laine peignés ou cardés à tisser teints ou non.....	100 catties	8.000
31	Savons communs.....	100 catties	0.972
32	Chandelles et bougies.....	100 catties	2.146
33	Vin non mousseux de toute sorte provenant exclusivement de la fermentation naturelle du raisin 1° n'existant pas 16 degrés d'alcool pur. a. En fûts ou barriques..... b. Par caisse de 12 bouteilles contenant chaque bouteille plus d'un demi-litre sans dépasser un litre, ou par caisse de 24 demibouteilles contenant chaque demibouteille jusqu'à un demi-litre.....	Hectolitre	1.242
34	Champagne et tous autres vins mousseux provenant exclusivement de la fermentation naturelle du raisin. Par caisse de 24 demibouteilles contenant chaque demibouteille jusqu'à un demi-litre ou plus, ou par caisse de 12 bouteilles contenant chaque bouteille plus d'un demi-litre sans excéder un litre.....	par caisse	0.760
35	Machine à imprimer.....	ad valorem	5%
36	Instrument scientifiques pour le dessin.....	ad valorem	10%
37	Bijouterie d'imitation Petits ouvrages de luxe servant à la parure personnelle composée, principalement en métaux communs, tels que		

l'aluminium, le bronze-aluminium, le nickel, le malleochlor, l'argentan, le cuivre, l'acier, le zinc, le plomb, l'étain, le fer, etc., ou bien encore de jais, de bois durci, de graines, de coquillages, de corne, de cellulose, d'os et d'autres matières communes similaires.

1. Dorés, argentés, peints à l'eau forte, bruns, polis, vernis, émaillés, émaillés, oxydés ou nickelés, garnis de vitrifications, d'émaux cloisonnés ou non, de perles fausses, de corail vrai ou faux, de fausses pierres précieuses ad valorem 10 %

2. Garnis de nacre, d'ivoire ou d'écaillé, plaqués d'or ou d'argent, lorsque la valeur de la garniture ou du plaqué ne dépasse pas celle de la composition principale.....ad valorem 10 %

Note.—Les bijoux les plus usuellement employés sont les Bagues—Colliers—Anneaux de tout genre—bracelets—pendants d'oreille—nécessaires—broches—Broches—Peignes—Épingles à cheveux d'ornement—Épingles à chapeau—Épingles de cravate—Bretelles—Boucles—Agrafes—Cabariols—Boutons (à l'exception des boutons communs)—Coulants—Boutons—Poignées et viroles de cannes—Paraphes ou ombrelles—Sequins—Portecrayons et porte-mines et généralement tous autres petits objets ci-dessus non dénommés et servant à la parure.

38 Lognettes ou jumelles—
a. Construites ou montées en écaillé—nacre—ivoire—or—argent—platine, niellées—émaillées ou non, ou en matière précieuse ou de fantaisie ou de luxe, ou garnies de pierres précieuses ou de perles.....par pièce 0.750
b. Toutes autres lognettes ou jumelles..... " 0.250

39 Parfumerie—
a. Savons de toilettepar catty 0.070
b. Parfumerie liquide :
Essences ou extraits de senteur—Huiles—Vinaigres—Eaux et Alcools de toilette ou de senteur—Autres liquides de même genre..... " 0.092
c. Parfumerie sèche : Sels—poudres—cosmétiques—pommades—pâtes et autres préparations de parfumerie pour la toilette non liquides.....ad valorem 10 %

Note.—Sont exclus de la parfumerie, les articles suivants : Musc naturel ou artificiel—civette et ambre gris.

Poids, mesures et monnaies.—Les monnaies, poids et mesures dont il est question au tarif ci-dessus correspondent :

Le Catty à 600 grammes du système métrique français.

Le Yard de longueur à m. 0.9144.

Le Yard carré à m.c. 0.8361.

L'Hectolitre vaut 100 litres du système métrique français.

Le Yen est l'unité de monnaie légale au Japon.

Règles pour calculer les droits ad valorem.—Les droits d'importation ad valorem compris dans le tarif qui précède seront calculés sur le prix réel des marchandises au lieu d'achat, de production, ou de fabrication, augmenté des frais de transport et d'assurance dudit lieu jusqu'au port de débarquement, ainsi que des frais de commission s'il en existe.

Règles pour le mesurage des tissus.—Pour le mesurage des tissus soumis aux droits spécifiques du tarif ci-dessus, la Douane ne tiendra pas compte des fractions ne dépassant pas un demi-pouce anglais. Elle comptera comme un pouce entier toute fraction supérieure à un demi-pouce. Il est entendu qu'il ne sera pas tenu compte des lisères, pour le mesurage des tissus en question.

REGISTRATION LAW.

Art. I.—Fees for registration shall be levied and collected in accordance with this Law.

Art. II.—With regard to the registration of immovable property, fees shall be collected according to the undermentioned classification :—

1. Acquisition of ownership by inheritance, $\frac{7}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property.

Note.—When property is divided between

two or more persons, the fees shall be collected in proportion to the amount secured by each.	
2. Acquisition of ownership by succession to an estate left by a deceased person, $\frac{22}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property.	
Note.—When property is divided between two or more persons entitled to succeed, fees shall be collected in proportion to the amount secured by each.	
3. Acquisition of ownership from causes other than inheritance or succession, $\frac{22}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property.	
Note.—With regard to the division of property as above, fees shall be collected in proportion to the amount secured by each.	
4. Preservation of ownership secured prior to the promulgation of Registration Regulations embodied in Law No. 1 of the 19th year of Meiji, $\frac{2}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property.	
5. Allotment of co-ownership of properties $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property.	
6. Acquisition of superficies and emphyteusis— For a period not exceeding 10 years, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property. Not exceeding 20 years, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property. Not exceeding 30 years, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property. Above 30 years, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property. For an unlimited period, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of immovable property.	
Note.—In the case of the transfer of rights to others, any portion of the period already passed shall be subtracted from the whole term, and the fee for registration shall be calculated on the remaining portion of the term.	
8. Acquisition of right as to hiring— For a period not exceeding 10 years, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of an immovable. For more than 10 years, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of an immovable. For an unlimited period, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of an immovable.	
Note.—In case the right has been transferred to others, the time that has already passed shall be subtracted from the whole term, and fees shall be collected for the remaining portion of the term.	
9. Acquisition of emphyteusis, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of an immovable.	
10. Creation of hereditary property of nobles, $\frac{22}{1000}$ of the value of an immovable.	
11. Preservation, or acquisition, of preferential rights, $\frac{6}{1000}$ of the amount of obligation, or the value of an immovable, or the estimate of expenditures in connection with works undertaken.	
Note.—If the value of an obligation is not stated or if the value of a property which constitutes the subject of preferential right is less than the amount of obligation, the value of such property shall be regarded as the amount of obligation.	
12. Acquisition of pledge or mortgage, $\frac{6}{1000}$ of the amount of obligation.	
Note.—If an obligation is not mentioned, or if the value of a property which constitutes the subject of pledge or mortgage is less than the amount of the obligation, the value of such property shall be regarded as the amount of the obligation.	
13. Application for the sale of property by public auction, or for compulsory supervision of the same, $\frac{6}{1000}$ of the amount of obligation.	
Note.—In case the value of the properties to be submitted to public auction or compulsory supervision is less than the amount of the obligation, the price of such properties shall be regarded as the obligation.	
14. Temporary seizure or disposal of property, $\frac{4}{1000}$ of the amount of obligation.	
Note.—If the value of properties for which steps are to be taken for temporary seizure or disposal is less than the amount of the obligation, the value of such property shall be regarded as the amount of the obligation.	
15. Seizure of obligation guaranteed by security, $\frac{5}{1000}$ of the amount of obligation.	
Note.—If the value of the properties to be seized is less than the amount of the obligation, the value of such properties shall be regarded as the amount of the obligation.	
16. Division of properties acquired by inheritance— For ownership, $\frac{6}{1000}$ of the value of an immovable.	

For rights other than that of ownership $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of an immovable.

17. The restoration of registration on demand, or application, 20 sen for each immovable property.
18. Temporary registration, 20 sen for each immovable property.
19. Preliminary registration, 20 sen for each immovable property.
20. Supplementary registration, 20 sen for each immovable property.
21. Renewal, alteration, or withdrawal of registration, 10 sen for each immovable property.

Art. III.—With regard to the registration of vessels, fees shall be paid according to the following classification:—

1. Acquisition of ownership by inheritance, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of a vessel.

NOTE.—When property is to be divided, fees shall be collected in proportion to the value of the portions secured.

2. Acquisition of ownership by succession to the estate of a deceased person, $\frac{6}{10000}$ of the value of a vessel.

NOTE.—In the case of property acquired by two or more persons, the amount of fees shall be determined with reference to the portions secured by each.

3. Acquisition of ownership from causes other than inheritance or succession, $\frac{10}{10000}$ of the value of a vessel.

NOTE.—In case of property acquired by two or more persons, the rate shall be determined according to the value of the respective portions secured by each.

4. Preservation of ownership secured prior to the operation of the Registration Regulations embodied in Law No. 1 of the 16th year of Meiji, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of a vessel.

5. Acquisition of right as to hiring—
For a period not exceeding 10 years, $\frac{2}{10000}$ of the value of a vessel.

For more than 10 years, $\frac{5}{10000}$ of the value of a vessel.

For an unlimited period, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of a vessel.

NOTE.—In the case of the transfer of property right to others, the time that has already elapsed shall be subtracted from the prescribed duration of the right and the remaining portion of the term alone shall be taken into account in computing the fees for registration.

6. Acquisition of a pledge or mortgage, $\frac{6}{10000}$ of the amount of obligation.

NOTE.—If the amount of obligation is not mentioned, or if the value of properties mortgaged or pledged is less than the amount of the obligation, the value of such properties shall be regarded as the amount of obligation.

7. Application for the sale of properties by public auction, $\frac{6}{10000}$ of the amount of obligation.

NOTE.—If the value of properties to be submitted to public auction falls short of the amount of the obligation, the value of such properties shall be regarded as the amount of the obligation.

8. Temporary seizure or disposal of properties, $\frac{4}{10000}$ of the amount of obligation.

NOTE.—If the value of properties to be temporarily seized or disposed of is less than the amount claimed, the value of such properties shall be regarded as the amount for which the right of claim exists.

9. Seizure of obligation guaranteed by security, $\frac{6}{10000}$ of the amount of obligation.

NOTE.—In case the value of properties to be seized is less than the amount as to which the right of claim exists, the value of such properties shall be regarded as the amount of obligation.

10. Renewal, alteration, or withdrawal of registration, 10 sen for each vessel.

Art. IX.—With regard to the registration of vessels, fees shall be paid according to the following classification:—

1. For new registration, 50 sen for every ten tons.
2. For transfer of registry, 10 sen for every ten tons.
3. For withdrawal of registration, 3 sen for every ten tons.
4. For alteration of registration, 10 sen for each vessel.

The capacity of vessels shall be calculated on the basis of their gross tonnage, fractions of ten tons being counted as ten tons. In the case of vessels the capacity of which is calculated in *koku*, every 100 *koku* shall be counted as ten tons.

Art. VI.—In the case of registration of commercial companies, or other legal persons, working

for profit, fees shall be paid as classified below:—

1. For the establishment of a joint partnership or joint stock company, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the funds invested on account of existing property.
2. For the increase of capital or funds in a joint partnership or joint stock company, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the increased funds invested.
3. For the organization of a joint stock company, $\frac{2}{1000}$ of the paid up capital.
4. Increase of capital for a joint stock company, $\frac{4}{1000}$ of the increased capital paid up.
5. Payment of shares of a joint stock company after the 2nd instalment, $\frac{4}{1000}$ of the amount of shares paid in each case.
6. Organization of a joint stock and joint capital company, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the paid up capital and of the funds other than those paid in shares on account of property.
7. Increase of capital for a joint stock and joint capital company, $\frac{4}{1000}$ of the increased capital paid up and of the amount of funds other than those invested in shares on account of property.
8. Payment of shares for a joint stock and joint capital company after the second instalment, $\frac{4}{1000}$ of the amount of shares paid in each case.
9. Amalgamation or reconstruction of a company, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the paid up capital and of the amount of funds other than those invested in shares on account of property.
10. Increase of capital of a company through amalgamation, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the increased capital paid up, and of funds other than shares paid in view of property.
11. Issue of loan bonds, $\frac{2}{1000}$ of the aggregate issued.
12. Establishment of branch offices, 10 yen for each.
13. Removal of main or branch offices, 5 yen for each.
14. Election of a manager or annulment of a right of agency, 5 yen in each case.

NOTE.—Any items registered in accordance with the regulations for the enforcement of the Commercial Code shall be regarded as coming under the head of "alteration of registration."

16. Alteration or cancellation of registration, 5 yen in each case.
17. Dissolution of companies, 3 yen in each case.
18. Appointment, discharge, or alteration of liquidators, 1 yen in each case.
19. Conclusion of liquidation, 1 yen in each case.

If registration is made for any of the above items in the district where branch offices exist, a fee of one yen must be paid for each item.

In the case of registration of any legal person for a foundation (*shadan-kōin*), or for an association not having as its object the making of profit, fees must be paid as classified below:—

1. Creation of a legal person (together with registration of those regarded as legal persons by virtue of the law for the operation of the Civil Code), 5 yen in each case.
2. Establishment of an office after the creation of a legal person, 3 yen in each case.
3. Removal of such offices, 2 yen in each case.
4. Alteration, cancellation, or abolition of items of registration, 1 yen in each case.
5. Renewal or cancellation of registration, 1 yen in each case.
6. Dissolution, 50 sen in each case.
7. Appointment, discharge, or alteration of liquidators, 50 sen in each case.
8. Conclusion of liquidation, 50 sen in each case.

When registration is to be effected for any of the items above specified, in districts where branch offices exist, fees of 50 sen must be paid for each item.

When registration is effected for any of the items specified below, fees shall be paid at the following rates:—

1. For the establishment or acquisition of commercial names or appellations, 5 yen in each case.
2. For the appointment of a manager, or cancellation of the right of agency, 5 yen in each case.
3. Appointment of a supervisor of vessels, or cancellation of the right of agency, 5 yen in each case.
4. For registration in compliance with Articles

V. and VII. of the Commercial Code, 5 yen in each case.

5. For registration in compliance with Articles 794, 795, and 797, 2 yen in each case.

6. Alteration, cancellation, or abolition of items registered, 1 yen in each case.

7. Renewal or cancellation of registration, 1 yen in each case.

In case the registration of any of the above items is effected in a district where branch offices exist, fees of 50 sen shall be paid for each item.

Art. VII.—Legal Councillors applying for registration in regard to the following items are required to pay fees as specified below:—

1. For new registration 20
2. For alteration of registration 10
3. Withdrawal of registration 1

Art. VIII.—For entry of the following items in the official register, fees shall be paid by physicians, pharmacists, veterinary surgeons, and farriers, at the rates specified below:—

1. New registration—
Physicians 20
Pharmacists 12
Veterinary Surgeons 12
Farriers 5
Physicians holding provisional licences 5
Veterinary surgeons holding provisional licences 3
Farriers holding provisional licences 1
For each item, 1 yen.
2. Alteration of items registered 1 yen.

Art. IX.—For entry of any of the following items in the Government register, fees shall be paid by mariners at the rates specified below:—

1. New registration—
Captains of Class A 15
First Mates of Class A 10
Second Mates of Class A 6
Captains of Class B 10
First Mates of Class B 4
Second Mates of Class B 3
Captains of Class C 6
Mates of Class C 2
Chief Engineers 15
1st Class Engineers 10
2nd Class Engineers 6
3rd Class Engineers 3
Pilots 20
2. Alteration of items registered, 50 sen for each item.

Art. X.—In the case of the registration of copyright fees shall be paid as follows:—

- Works on literature, science, or fine arts, 10 yen for first number issued.
- Newspapers and periodicals, 5 yen in each case.
- Transfer or mortgage of copyright, 5 yen in each case.

Registration of the names of authors of works published anonymously or under pseudonyms, 5 yen in each case.

Art. XI.—In case of registration of patents, fees shall be paid as specified below:—

1. New registration—
For patents for 5 years 30
For patents for 10 years 30
For patents for 15 years 40
2. For sale, transfer, or joint ownership, 10 yen in each case.
3. Contracts for hypothecation (*hakiro-kaiyaku*), 5 yen in each case.

Art. XII.—With regard to the registration of designs, fees shall be paid at the following rates:—

1. New registration—
For exclusive use for 3 years, 3 yen for each particular class of article.
For exclusive use for 5 years, 5 yen for each particular class of article.
For 7 years, 7 yen for each particular class of article.
For 10 years, 10 yen for each particular class of article.
2. Sale, transfer, or joint ownership, 2 yen for each particular class of article.
3. Contracts of hypothecation, 1 yen for each particular class of article.

Art. XIII.—Any person having his trade marks registered shall pay fees as follows:—

1. Registration of new trade marks, or for the continued use of existing marks, 20 yen each.
2. Sale, transfer, or joint ownership, 10 yen for each trade mark.

Art. XIV.—For registration in regard to the following items concerning mining enterprises, fees shall be paid as specified below:—

1. For trial working of the mine 75
2. For ordinary working of the mine 150
3. For extension of area worked experimentally, or for alteration of the same, 30
4. For an extension of area in the course of industry, or for alteration of the same, 75

5. For purchase or cession 75
 6. For hypothecation of the license for working the mine, or prolongation of the term for trial workings..... 20
 7. Reduction of area..... 5
 8. Amalgamation, or separation, of mining sections 15
 9. Relinquishment of working..... 5
 Art. XV.—(Repealed by Law No. 31 issued in March of the 30th year of Meiji.)
 Art. XVI.—Applicants for the registration of national bonds shall pay fees as specified below:—

1. New registration, *tabe* of the amount of loans.
2. Alteration of registration, *tabe* of the amount of loans.
3. Cancellation of registration, *tabe* of the amount of loans.

Art. XVII.—Registration fees are payable in stamps, or they may be collected in cash according to Imperial Ordinance.

Art. XVIII.—Registration fees shall be in all cases above one *sen*, fractions of one *sen* being counted as one *sen*.

Art. XIX.—No registration fees shall be collected in cases enumerated below:—

1. Registration for benefit of Government.
2. Registration of immovable property for the use of a public school, hospital, or poor asylum.
3. Registration of grounds appropriated to public gardens, temples, shrines, churches, or cemeteries.
4. Registration in compliance with Article 156 of the Law for the registration of immovable property.

Art. XIX. a.—In case it is considered by the Registration Office that the value of property is mis-tated by applicants for registration, two appraisers may be chosen for determining the value, and in case the value as appraised does not agree with the other estimate, the same shall be determined by striking an average.

When the value as appraised exceeds the amount as reported by the applicants, all travelling expenses and allowances granted to the appraisers shall be borne by the applicants. No officer nor any person whose personal interest is involved in the affair shall be allowed to act as an appraiser.

APPENDIX.

The date of the operation of these regulations shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

TELEGRAMS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

ANOTHER SANGUINARY FIGHT IN THE SOUDAN.

DERVISHES ROUTED.

London, Jan. 7.

Colonel Lewis stormed and captured Ahmed Fedil's position at Roseires, on the Blue Nile, on December 25, after severe fighting. 500 Dervishes were killed and many wounded. 1,500 prisoners were taken, but Ahmed Fedil escaped. Major Ferguson, of the Grenadiers, and six Egyptian officers were wounded, and 145 men were killed and wounded.

LORD CROMER LAYS FOUNDATION OF KHARTOUM COLLEGE.

JOINT ANGLO-EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT.

Lord Cromer has laid the foundation stone of the Gordon College at Khartoum. Receiving the Sheikh and notables, he said that the country would be governed in future by the Queen of England and the Khedive, but no attempt would be made to govern from Cairo or London. The Sirdar would be the sole representative of the British and Egyptian Governments.

LORD SALISBURY ON FRENCH COLONIAL POLICY.

IRRITATION IN FRANCE.

London, Jan. 9.

A Blue-book on Madagascar affairs discloses that Lord Salisbury vigorously protested against French trade restrictions, and especially against the decree confining the coasting trade to the French. M. Delcasse replied on the 29th December

that the decree was not enforced and would be revoked. The *Times*, discussing the subject, says: "The French must not suppose that because we do not splutter and fume, we are unaware of the shabbiness of the policy of the French Government, which under grandiloquent phrases habitually acts with the cupidity and cunning of a peasant."

There is much speculation as to Lord Salisbury's object in publishing the Madagascar Blue-book at the present juncture. The French press keenly resents it after the satisfaction given by the evacuation of Fashoda, and accuses Britain of encouraging dangerous irritation.

MORE REINFORCEMENTS FOR PHILIPPINES.

London, Jan. 10.

The Washington Government has ordered three gunboats and another regiment to the Philippines.

THE DREYFUS REVISION.

DISAGREEMENT ON THE BENCH.

M. Debeaufaise has resigned the sectional presidency of the Court of Cassation owing to differences with his colleagues.

MILITARY AND NAVAL ACTIVITY IN RUSSIA.

REINFORCEMENTS IN FAR EAST.

The *Times* correspondent travelling in Russia found, despite the Czar's manifesto, feverish activity in dock-yards. The numbers enrolled in the army and navy in October and November were larger than in any previous year, and reinforcements are being sent to the Far East as fast as transportable.

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

SENSATIONAL SPEECH IN THE SENATE.

London, Jan. 11.

Sensation has been caused in the American Senate by Mr. Hoar, a prominent Senator, opposing the ratification of the peace treaty and declaring that the acquisition by America of territory in another hemisphere destroys the Monroe Doctrine.

THE DREYFUS REVISION.

COURT AND MINISTER CHARGED WITH CORRUPTION.

DREYFUS EXAMINED.

The letter written by M. de Beaurepaire explaining his resignation as Sectional President of the Court of Cassation, is strongly Anti-Dreyfus in tone. In it the writer denounces the other Cassation Judges and the Minister of Justice, charging them with partiality and even with corruption, and declaring himself the avenger of the insulted honour of the army.

The Public Prosecutor of Cayenne has examined Dreyfus, who denied making any confession on the day of his degradation and re-iterated his innocence.

DEATH OF A BRITISH CONSULAR AGENT.

Mr. W. B. Pryer, British Consular Agent at Sandakan, Borneo, has died at Port Said.

[FROM THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."] THE REBELLION IN SZECHUAN.

Chungking, 30th December, 1898.

A great battle took place at Sanchiaotang on the 27th of December, in which the Imperial troops are reported to have been victorious. No further details are known as yet.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD IN HONGKONG

Hongkong, Jan. 4.

Lord Charles Beresford dined privately with

the China Association to-day. Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., the chairman, in proposing his health, suggested that it was more important to reform the finances than the army of China. Lord Charles explained why the army should be reformed first, and referred to the case of Egypt. Several able financiers had been sent to Egypt but it was impossible to accomplish anything until the army was organised to enforce new policy. Any attempt to reform the finances of China first would lead to disturbances.

In his speech to the Chamber of Commerce yesterday, Lord Charles said that he adhered to what he said in Shanghai, and spoke strongly against the extension claimed by the French at Shanghai. It was not right in a cosmopolitan community that one part should create disturbances and jeopardise the lives and property of the whole community. He hoped the Consuls at Shanghai would adhere firmly in their protests to their Governments regarding French action at Shanghai.

Lord Charles was entertained at dinner last night by the Navy League.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

CAPT. CHICHESTER HONOURED.

Hongkong, Jan. 3.

Sir Edward Chichester, (Capt. of the British cruiser *Immortalité*) has been created a C.M.G. LATE CHIEF OFFICER OF THE "GLENAVON."

The body of Mr. Dickson, chief officer of the *Glenavon*, has been found.

AGUINALDO CONCILIATORY.

It is reported that Aguinaldo is falling in with the American plans in the Philippines.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

THE PHILIPPINES.

Hongkong, Jan. 5.

The Filipinos here state that their people are determined to resist the landing of the United States troops at Iloilo, and as a last resort may destroy the town.

A rupture of the friendly relations between the Filipinos and Americans at Manila is imminent.

It is very probable that hostilities will occur in the Visayas (Southern Provinces), unless the overbearing American policy is modified.

YU MANTZU.

Peking, Jan. 6.

A Secret Edict has been issued to Kuei Chun, Viceroy of Szechuen, ordering him to put down Yu Mantzu and his followers at once with military force.

ANOTHER RISING IN KWANG-TUNG.

Shanghai, Jan. 9th.

A telegram from Wu-chang has reached here to the effect that rebels have appeared at a place in Kwang tung Prefecture, and attacked a Christian Church.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. & O. Co.	City of Peking	F. Jan. 23
America	P. & O. Co.	Gaelic	F. Jan. 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Su. Jan. 23
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Gen. of India	M. Jan. 26
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Jan. 26
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Jan. 26
Hongkong	T. E. K.	America Maru	M. Jan. 26
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	—	W. Jan. 26
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Gen. of China	Th. Jan. 26

1 Left San Francisco on the 23rd Dec.

2 Left San Francisco on the 24th Dec.

3 Left Shanghai on the 9th inst.

4 Left Nagasaki on the 10th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

To	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Jan. 24
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Jan. 24
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Gen. of India	M. Jan. 26
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Jan. 27
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	La-s	W. Jan. 28
Shanghai	N. V. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Jan. 28
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Jan. 29
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Jan. 29
America	T. E. K.	America Maru	W. Jan. 29
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Gen. of China	F. Jan. 29

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 402.

WHITE.
1—K to Kt 5
2—Q to R 2 ch
3—P to K 4 mate

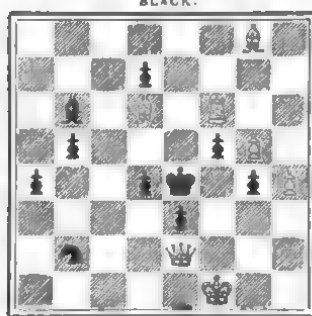
BLACK.
1—K to Q 3
2—K to Q 4
1—K to B 4
2—K to B 5
if 2—K to K 4
1—K to B 5
2—Moves P
if 2—Moves B
1—P to B 4
2—K takes P or K to
if 2—K to B 5 [Q 3
1—P takes P
2—K to B 4
if 2—K to Q 3
1—P to R 6
2—K to Q 4 or K to
[B 4
Correct Solutions received from W.H.S. and Marco.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W.B.M.—Letter and contribution received with many thanks.

PROBLEM No. 405.

By J. SVEJDA.

First Prize *Nene Illustrirte Blatt* Tourney.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 467.

Mr. James McConnell, of New Orleans, has developed an original idea in the Vienna opening, which presents many ingenious combinations and which he has played successfully against experts both in America and Europe. The following is a game sent by him to the *American Chess Magazine*, with his notes (abridged).

THE MCCONNELL GAMBIT.

1 P K4	P K4	20 P Q5	P B4
2 Q Kt B3	Q Kt B3	21 R Ksq	P B5
3 P B4	P xP	22 B Kt-q	Kt B4
4 B B4(a)	Q R5ch	23 K Kt Q4	Kt Q6
5 K B-q	B B4	24 B xKt	P xB
6 Q K2(b)	P Q3(c)	25 B B6(g)	B xKt(Q4)
7 Rt B3	Q Q-q	26 B xB	B xKt
8 Q Q5(d)	R B3	27 Q P xB	Kt B5
9 P B3	P R3	28 Q xP	Kt K4
10 P Q4	B K2	29 B xKt	P xB
11 Q B xP	P K R3	30 R xP	Q B3
12 P K R3	Castles	31 R Q5	R K Bsq
13 B Q3	B K3	32 K K2	Q R K-q
14 Q Q2	Kt Q2	33 R Q-q	P Q K4
15 B xRP	P B4(e)	34 P Q Kt3	P Q R4
16 B Kt5	Q B-q	35 Q Kt3(h)	R xBP
17 Kt B4	B B2	36 R xR	Q K5ch
18 P xP	Kt R4(f)	37 Q K3	Q xR
19 Kt K6	R Ksq	38 P K7	Resigns.

NOTES.

(a) This constitutes the initial move in the opening, which has certainly the claim of novelty, and is susceptible of very interesting variations.

(b) The only move available for White to prevent Black getting an immediate and decisive advantage.

(c) Here, instead of the text-move Black could play Kt to Q 5. White's reply would be 7—Kt to B 3, resulting necessarily in an exchange, either of the Queens or of the Knights, and in either

event an apparently equal game with probable advantage for White.

(d) The early development of the Q Kt, followed by the opportune advance of the K R P, constitute the leading feature of the game.

(e) Probably the best move at Black's command, as he could not with safety accept the offered sacrifice of the B.

(f) Evidently with the purpose of development on the Q side by advance of the Q B P.

(g) A second sacrifice of this B, which Black cannot safely accept.

(h) Here, of course, a better move for White would have been P to K 4, and the advance of the Pawns would have been irresistible. White's error in moving 35—Q to Kt 3 caused the loss of a valuable centre P; but this was not sufficient gain to alter the result. Black's game was then hopeless.

GAME No. 468.

Played at the Singapore Chess Club recently.

ALLOAHER GAMBIT.

White—J. B. Elcum. Black—P. A. Ruten.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	9 B xP	P Q B3(c)
2 P K B4	P xP	10 Kt Q B3(d)	Q K2(e)
3 Kt K B3	P K Kt4	11 P K5	P Q K4
4 P K R4	P Kt5	12 Q Q3	R Q-q
5 Kt K5	P K R4(a)	13 B xPch!	Kt xB
6 B B4	K K R3	14 Q R7ch	K B-q
7 P Q4	B K2(b)	15 Kt xKt	Q xRP
8 Castles	Castles	16 B Kt5(f)	Resigns.

NOTES.

(a) An obsolete defence.

(b) The book continuation is... P to KB3; 8—B takes P, P takes Kt; 9—P takes P, Kt to B2; 10—P to Kt6, with a splendid attack.

(c) Shutting in the Q side pieces.

(d) White might have played B to Q6 with advantage.

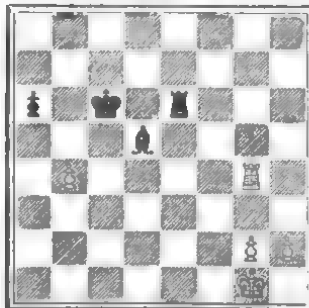
(e) To prevent B to Q6.

(f) The attack is now overwhelming. B to R6 would have done equally well.

END GAME.

Played last month in a handicap tourney at the Liverpool Club at the odds of P and two. "An awful example" of the danger of trying to win with a P on the R file and a B of wrong colour.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White played

R to R4
R takes R
P to Kt 4 (a)
K to B2

R to K5
B takes R
B to B6

(a) A neat trap, which Black falls into, and plays the only move that allows White to draw, as he cannot stop the White K getting to Q R square.

NOTES.

An interesting match has been concluded between Mr. Jasnogrodsky and Napier, the youthful champion of the Brooklyn C.C., New York. After five games the result stood in favour of the experienced Polish player by a score of 3 wins to 2 wins; but the youth won the sixth game and drew the seventh, bringing about a tie, and dividing the purse with the veteran.

Chess Past and Present.—Attempts are sometimes made, says the *Washington Star*, to compare the skill of the players of the present day with the skill of the players of thirty or forty years ago. This is done by examining the scores of published games. But in the making of such comparative estimates one essential consideration is often ignored. "In the days of Staunton, Anderssen, and Morphy, no time limit was imposed on a player—he took all the time he chose." The question then was often not a question of skill, but a question of physical endurance. The remedying of this

defect was one of the objects of the great London tourney of 1851. Yet nothing was done about it. Mr. Staunton surrendered to Mr. Williams a match in which the score stood in his favour at 6 to 2. This was because Mr. Williams persisted in prolonging the games to 12, 13, and 20 hours each, and took two to two and a half on a single move. But in the tournaments of the present day there is a time limit of 15 moves to the hour, or of 30 moves to the first two hours. "If a player does not make the required number of moves within the time limit, he forfeits the game. Hence he often adopts a weak line of play because he is pushed for time, and becomes nervous." The condition is altogether different from that of being allowed to take whatever time he pleases over a game.

If statistics prove anything, the results of recent tournaments go to support Staunton's idea that the Ruy Lopez is the strongest attacking opening on the chess board.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Nestor, British steamer, 2,417, W. Asquith, 6th Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 5th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Yamaguchi, 6th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 5th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 6th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, 31st Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, N. Nobeta, 7th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 6th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 7th Jan.,—Otau via ports, 2nd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F. W. Horton, 9th Jan.,—Kobe, 7th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrati, British steamer, 3,226, T. Trotter, 9th Jan.,—New York via ports, Kobe, 7th Jan., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 9th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 8th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Mumezono, 9th Jan.,—Otau via ports, 4th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Astec, American steamer, 2,303, G. Trask, 10th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 8th Jan., Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Sakano, 10th Jan.,—Kobe, 8th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, Flaudin, 10th Jan.,—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 9th Jan., Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 10th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 9th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 10th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 9th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, S. Yoshizawa, 11th Jan.,—Kobe, 12th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Natuna, Danish steamer, 458, Frihl, 11th Jan.,—Bankok, 23rd December, Teak Wood.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Columbia, American steamer, 1,689, A. Gow, 12th Jan.,—Portland, Oregon, 23rd Dec., Mails and General.—Dadwell, Carill & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 12th Jan.,—Kobe, 10th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telena, British steamer, 3,124, Scott, 12th Jan.,—Batavia via ports, Kobe, 10th Jan., Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hupei, British steamer, 1,846, T. Quait, 12th Jan.,—San Francisco, 15th Dec., Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 12th Jan.,—Otau via ports, 7th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 12th Jan.,—Moj, 9th Jan., Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 12th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 11th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dorothea Richmers, German steamer, 2,499, R. Pfe, 12th Jan.,—Hankow via ports, Hongkong, 5th Jan., General.—C. Lies & Co.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, R. T. L. Cook, 12th Jan.,—London via ports, Kobe, 11th Jan., General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. E. Rimer, 6th Jan.—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hi Sang, British steamer, 1,050, Crockett, 6th Jan.—Mojji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Isa Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 6th Jan.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,762, C. H. Buller, 7th Jan.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, S. Yoshizawa, 7th Jan.—Kobe via Shiotsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 6th Jan.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Yamanouchi, 7th Jan.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ningpo, British steamer, 1,109, Phillips, 7th Jan.—Otaru, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibballs, 8th Jan.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yedo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Weilbach, 9th Jan.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,007, T. Sakai, 9th Jan.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 9th Jan.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, C. Bainbridge, 10th Jan.—Marseilles, London, and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Isa Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 10th Jan.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Tsuji, 10th Jan.—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 11th Jan.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, G. Sakano, 11th Jan.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, P. W. Horton, 11th Jan.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 11th Jan.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aisco, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Traak, 11th Jan.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, J. B. Murray, 11th Jan.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Muxemone, 12th Jan.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Columbia, American steamer, 1,689, T. H. Dobson, 12th Jan.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Nasor, British steamer, 2,417, W. Asquith, 13th Jan.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Saikio Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Y. Yamanouchi, Mr. I. Honda, Mr. W. Waters, Mr. Justus Briggs, Mr. T. Kawahara, Mr. T. Matsuyama, Mr. H. Matsuyama, and Mr. E. Ogawa, in cabin; Mr. M. Morishige, Mr. H. Yeteri, Mr. John Melachino, Miss H. Katoda, Mr. M. Katoda, Mr. D. Yoshimoto, and Mr. K. Sasasaki, in second class; twenty-two in steerage.

Per French steamer **Laos**, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. & Mrs. Akabane, Mr. Begny, Mr. Regamey, Mr. Chibaudier, Father Geoffray, Father Biannic, Miss Yourenet, Miss Buxembender, Mr. and Mrs. Coras, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Y. H. Laure, Miss Haru, Mr. Y. Brown, five Chinese, Rev. A. Lloyd, Mr. Meuser, Mr. Knaff, Mr. A. Smith, Mr. M. Walter, Miss Worpp, Mr. Messum, Mr. Summers, Miss Mola, Mrs. Kiene, Master Kuhn, Mr. Sale, Mr. Kiene, Mr. Jan Mierop, Mr. Phillipot, Mr. Salabelle, M. de Aili, Mr. Francks, Mr. Wong, Mr. Suzuki, Mr. Yet

Sang, Mr. Yicka Ka, Mr. Delbouro, Mr. Israel, and Mr. Pucklington, in cabin.

Per American steamer **Columbia**, from Portland, Ore.:—Mr. S. Wilson, Mr. S. H. Lewis, Mr. A. G. Bowie, and Mr. W. Aiken, in cabin; 48 in steerage.

Per British steamer **Malacca**, from London via ports:—Rev. C. H. Evans, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer **Inaba Maru**, for London via ports:—Captain S. Miss, Inspector of Mach. F. Saito, Com. F. Kamaya, Com. R. Yeguchi, Inspector Paymaster T. Kaio, Chief Eng. M. Hatano, Inspector Surgeon T. Nakao, Lieut. Com. K. Matsui, Lieut. H. Kaneda, Lieut. Com. C. Akakawa, Surgeon I. Hirano, Paymaster I. Kaneko, and Com. T. Nomoto, (all I.J.N.) in cabin; Surgeon R. Otsuka I.J.A., Petty officers Y. Tomariya, Y. Oishi, Y. Fujii, K. Yamamoto, T. Sana, J. Tanaka, I. Tateyama, and T. Hashimoto, Mr. H. Higuchi, Mr. T. Fukui, and Mrs. Y. Tsuruda, in second class; 45 crew (I.J.N.), 6 Japanese, and 5 European, in steerage.

Per British steamer **Rohilla**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. H. Allen and Indian servant, Capt. L. Impey, Mr. and Mrs. J. Stiven, two children, infant and Indian servant, Mr. R. Gordon Smith and Indian servant, Mr. and Mrs. de Lohmann, Major Russell, Miss Thompson, and Mr. Kwong Sang Woh, in cabin; 12 Chinese, in steerage.

EXPECTED.

Ex German steamer **Prussen** by **Hohensollern**, from Hongkong:—Mr. A. W. Wilson, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer **Rohilla**, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw silk for Europe, 619 bales; Waste silk for Europe, 240 bales.

Following were silk shippers per Hawaiian steamer **Aztec**, for San Francisco, Jan. 11:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	84
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	35
Siebert & Co.	111
China and Japan Trading Co.	50
Nalhoiz & Co.	15
Middleton & Smith	10
Kiito Kaisha	10

Total..... 313

Following were silk shippers per British steamer **Rohilla**, for Europe, Jan. 11:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	71
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	131
Robison & Co.	12
Varenne & Co.	40
Siber, Bienenwald & Co.	30
Siebert & Co.	52
Nahloltz & Co.	263
China and Japan Trading Co.	9
Dustlin Kaisha	10
Kiito Kaisha	2

Total..... 619

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The usual revival following on the New Year festivities has not manifested itself yet, buyers all complaining of a tightness of money at consuming centres.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 30 inches	\$4.55 to 5.85
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.85 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7 yds. 24 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.60 to 2.30
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italiane and Sallenne Black, 32 inches	0.14 to 0.25

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.28 to 0.40
Mourning de laine—Cape, 21 yards, 32 inches	0.13 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—President, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 56 inches	0.40 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0.55 to 0.67
Valvets—Black, 35 yards, 32 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lanes, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2 to 3 lb., 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3 to 4 lb., 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	0.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nov. 16 24, Singles	\$34.50 to 36.30
Nov. 16 32, Singles	Nominal
Nov. 38 42, Singles	42.00 to 44.00
Nov. 32, Doubles	41.00 to 43.50
Nov. 42, Doubles	44.50 to 45.50
Nov. 3 60, Plain	64.00 to 65.00
Nov. 3 80, Plain	70.00 to 72.00
Nov. 3 100, Plain	97.00 to 99.00
Nov. 3 120, Gassed	70.00 to 75.00
Nov. 3 80, Gassed	84.50 to 90.00
Nov. 3 100, Gassed	122.00 to 125.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$18.50 to —
Indian Branch	18.25 to —
Chinese	18.25 to —

MILLS.

Quietness still prevails, dealers not being anxious to move until the spring opens avenues of work again.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/4 inch. and upward	4.00 to 4.35
Iron Plates, assorted	4.10 to 4.45
Sheet Iron	3.00 to 3.50
Galvanized iron sheets	9.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.05 to 6.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.20 to 6.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.08 to 2.30
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	3.50 to 3.25

KIKONKIN.

Business is moving very quietly and last week's prices are maintained.

	PER POUND.
American	\$2.18 to 2.30
Russian	2.15 to 2.17
Langkat	1.95

SILK.

The usual steady business is proceeding at the prices given a week ago.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$5.20 to 5.25
Brown Manila	5.40 to 6.60
Brown Daitong	4.80 to 4.25
Brown Canton	3.90 to 3.60
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 7.00
White Hainan	7.95 to 8.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Business has been fairly good in the presence of some substantial orders from America and Europe. Shipments have been made by all the outgoing mail steamers.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Kata 9 1/2, 10 1/2 den.	\$330 to 310
Filatures—Kata 12 1/2, 14 1/2 den.	Nominal
Filatures—Kata 16 1/2, 18 1/2 den.	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, 13 1/2, 15 1/2 den.	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 16 1/2, 18 1/2 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 19 1/2, 21 1/2 den.	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 2, 10 1/2 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 11 1/2 deniers	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13 1/2, 15 1/2 den.	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1, 16 1/2, 18 1/2 den.	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 2, 10 1/2 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 2, 11 1/2 deniers	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 3, 12 1/2 deniers	Nominal
Kakadas—Kata	860 to 870
Kakadas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakadas—No. 2	830 to 840
Kakadas—No. 3	800 to 810
Kakadas—No. 4	800 to 810

WASTE SILK.

The market is inactive and not much is doing, though a slight demand has sprung up for Europe in *kibiso*.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$110 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oahu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	67 1/2 to 70
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 67 1/2
Noshi—Bushu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Bushu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshu, Good	55 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	50 to 55
Kibiso—Filature, Best	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	75 to 80
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 25

TEA.

Quotations are nominal in view of a lifeless market.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	Nominal.
Fine	\$19 to 30
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	23 to 24
Common	21 to 22

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, January 12th.
The Grand Hotel, Limited, has circulated its Report and Statement of Accounts for the half-year ending the 31st ultimo, which show a falling-off in the earnings of the Hotel as compared with the previous six months. The net profit, not includ-

ing the balance of yen 6,384.08 carried forward from the first half year's account, amount to yen 27,860.52 against yen 35,030.79 for the half year ending 30th June, 1898. With yen 28,064.60 available for distribution, the Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of yen 6 and to carry forward yen 13,064.60 to this year's account. We observe that the Company's debentures account has been reduced from yen 20,000 to yen 15,000. The receipts show a decrease of yen 14,065.98 between the first and second half-years of 1898. From 1st January to 30th June the Company received for its working yen 67,028.71, while from 1st July to 31st December receipts amounted to yen 51,062.98. This difference accounts for the falling off in profits. On the whole the account may be considered satisfactory in face of the depression in the passenger traffic during the second half year.

Y. E. & Iron Works changed hands to-day at yen 275. Japan Brewery old shares can be had at yen 325 and new shares with four calls paid at yen 135. Club Hotels are obtainable at par and Oriental Hotels are procurable at yen 105. Offers for Nagasaki Hotels are wanted. Bettelhave sellers at yen 0.50 whilst North & Rees have buyers at yen 200. A few Langfeldts can be secured at yen 235. Japan Brewery Debentures can be had at yen 108 and Oriental Hotel Debentures at yen 110 ex accrued interest as usual in both cases.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50	205 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100, Old	205 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., yen 50 (yen 40 paid up)	235 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100	125 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	105 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100	105 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdr.), \$100	105 N.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd., yen 100	40 S.
North and Roe, Ltd., \$100	200 S.
Scott & Co., Ltd., \$50	0-50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100	225 S.
Hiloge Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	180 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 1% Deb., \$100	205 S.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., \$50	50 S.
Yokohama United Club 5% Deb., \$100	100 N.
Scott & Co., Ltd. 1% Deb., \$100	100 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 1% Deb., \$100	125 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 1% Deb., \$100	100 N.
Reserve Fund.—1, yen 10,000; 2, yen 3,000 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property; 3, yen 17,770.80; 4, yen 16,208.44.	

N.R.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Sa.—Sales, St.—Steady, N.—Nominal, W.—Weak, E.—Enquiries.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 12th.

Rates continue very firm with silver from London and sterling quotations from China unchanged.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/2
— Bills on demand	3/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/1
— Private 4 months' sight	2 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2 1/4
On Lyons—Bank sight	259
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	264 1/2 to 4
On Amoy—Bank Bills on demand	49 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.10
— Private 4 months' sight	2.14 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4 1/2 dia.
— Private 10 days' sight	6 1/2 dia.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76
— Private 10 days' sight	77 1/2 to 7
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
On Silver (London)	27 1/2

989

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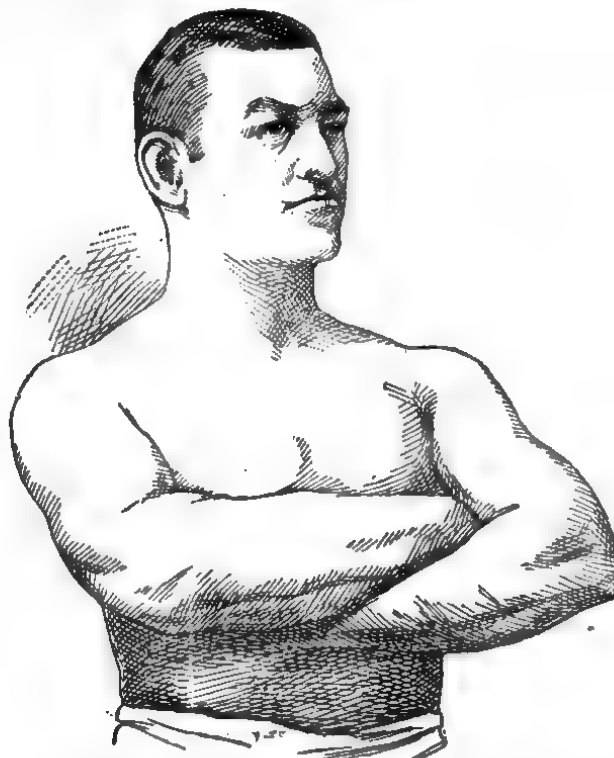
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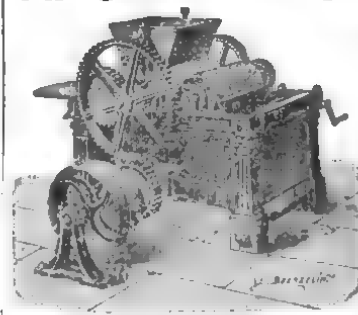
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 1.]

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YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 7TH, 1899.

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CONTENTS.

Summary of News	1
A Legal Point	1
The Coming Era	2
The New Tariff	2
Pending Questions	3
Robberies with Violence in Railway Carriages	3
The National Unionists	3
The Next Political Question	4
Count Okuma and his Omori Critic	4
A Winter Retreat	4
Mr. Okura's Commercial School	4
The State Railway Question	4
Cabinet Changes	4
The Quadruple Alliance and Lord Charles Beresford	5
An Interesting Sepolchre	5
A Serviceable Sep	6
New French Duties on Silk Fabrics	6
The New Chinese Periodical of Yokohama	6
The Proposed Association of Medical Men	6
Formosan News	6
The Toshioka	7
France in China	7
The Central Tabernacle	7
The Bookshelf	7
The late Rev. C. E. Garst	7
Leading Articles:—	
The Kobe Land Question	8
Another Liberal	9
Japanese Progress	10
Legations in Tokyo	10
Monthly Summary of the Religious Press	11
Correspondence:—The Fire at the Y.U.C.	13
The Literary Society	14
An Eventful Voyage	14
European News	14
Chinese News	14
Loss of the "Glenarvon"	15
District Grand Lodge of Japan	15
A Noble Family's Vicissitudes	15
Formosan Affairs	15
News of the Week	16
Indo-Chinese Notes	17
Pisin Speaking to an Emperor	17
The Revised Income Tax Law	17
The Nagasaki Hotel, Limited	18
Telegrams	19
Cheer	20
Latest Shipping	21
Latest Commercial	22

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 7TH, 1899.

BIRTH.

On the 2nd inst. at No. 225, Settlement, the wife of Mr. T. E. SILVA, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 31st December, 1898, at Los Angeles, California, HUGO GRUBB, of Shanghai, to ANNIE G. MORRIS HALLER, of Chicago. No cards.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FIELD-MARSHAL MARQUIS OYAMA left Tokyo for Oiso, on the 30th ult.

MR. AKUZAWA, Manager of the Meiji Commercial Bank, died on the 28th December.

THE citizens of Yokohama propose to establish a Female Art School at Himode-cho.

THE New Year was ushered in with glorious

weather and the holidays proved thoroughly enjoyable.

GEN. LORD KITCHENER has arrived at Khartoum where he is awaiting the arrival of Lord Cromer.

THE American flag has been hoisted at Havana. It was a simple ceremony and no untoward incident happened.

FRANCE is said to be opposing the handing over to Japan the submarine cable connecting Foochow with Formosa.

A SOLDIER named Fukuzawa Shoji (21), belonging to the 1st Army Division, has committed suicide by hanging himself.

DISTURBANCES are now reported from the southern end of Formosa and the troops have been obliged to act on the defensive.

THE warship *Katsuragi*, which has been cruising off Southern Formosa, arrived at Anping on the 2nd inst. *via* the *Pescadorez*.

A NEW convertible 5 yen note will be issued at the commencement of April. The design will be finished about the end of February.

THE American Government is hastening the despatch of reinforcements to the Philippines. Six regiments will leave within a fortnight.

COUNT INOUE, who has been in the west during the summer, arrived on the 28th ult. in Tokyo and proceeded to his private residence.

RUMOURS of Cabinet changes are in the air and it is expected that before long Marquis Ito will again return to office, having the Liberal Party as supporters.

THE *Times* strongly protests against the French dog-in-the-manger policy at Shanghai, and declares that Britain does not intend to submit to such treatment.

MR. HARA ZENZABURO, a wealthy Yokohama merchant and a member of the House of Peers, is suffering from lung trouble. He is said to be in a serious condition.

ON the occasion of the opening of the Portuguese Cortes, the King dwelt on the necessity of preserving and developing the colonies in their entirety as a sacred heritage.

TWO robbers entered a house occupied by a man named Takahashi Seisuke, Oharacho, Koishikawa, Tokyo, on the 2nd at 7 p.m., threatened the occupants with swords, and stole yen 4.

JAPANESE financiers intend to establish a China and Japan Bank for the convenience of Asiatic traders. The scheme followed by the promoters of the Russo-Chinese Bank will be adopted.

THE Court of Cassation has decided to interrogate Dreyfus on certain points through the Magistrate of Cayenne. This disposes of the rumour of the prisoner's return to France.

A ROBBER entered the brake-van of a train on the Nippon Railway on the 30th ult. between Mito and Fukuoka. He beat back the watchman, broke open the iron safe, and stole a sum of yen 1,200.

THE *Glenarvon* is a total wreck on the Simun Inlets, about two hours distant from Hongkong. The captain and part of the crew have reached the colony safely, but one boat is still unaccounted for.

A FIRE which broke out in the kitchen of the Y. U. Club, Yokohama, on Monday night, did a lot of damage to the Club Library and the adjoining Hotel, though the flames were confined to a limited area.

A MAN with the appearance of a coolie, apparently about 25 years of age, committed suicide on the 2nd at 5.30 p.m., by placing himself before a train on the Ueno Railway near Shinmachi, Minami-Senju, Tokyo.

A Reuter's telegram from Cairo states that Colonel Kitchener has started to assume command of an expedition from Dublin against the Khalifa, who is raiding the Arabs of that district.

THREE employes named Honkino (22) Yumemura (19), and Yamano (18), of the Yedobashi Telegraph Office, Tokyo, embarked yen 140 by making a false telegraphic transfer. On the 27th ult. they were arrested.

VICEROY CHANG CHIN-TUNG, Governor-General of Kwang-tung Province, recently sent to Count Okuma a picture of the stone monument of Confucius at Yusei Nam, a kakemono, pens, and a box of ink as New Year gifts.

CALMING effect has been produced at Johannesburg, by President Kruger repudiating the bellicose articles published by the newspapers. The *Volksstem* has also disavowed the proposed demonstrations on the Jameson Raid anniversary.

A DEAD body was, on the 25th ult., washed ashore at Negi li. It was found to be that of a sailor named Suzuki Mantichi, living at Toyotsu, in Awa province. On the 24th ult. he and his mates met a gale at the entrance of Yokohama harbour and their vessel was capsized, all the crew being drowned.

THE dead body of a woman named Nakano Take (64) living at Naka Kachi machi, Shitaya, Tokyo, was found on the 1st inst. in her room. She was hanging by a rope in a manner to suggest suicide, but traces of blood were found on a towel in the room, and this is taken as point to foul play.

THE Russian authorities have decided to establish an academy for foreign languages at Vladivostok. It is to be opened this month. Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Manchurian, English, and German are to be taught. The students will take tours in different countries during the summer vacation.

THE tension between France and Siam is exciting the notice of the French press. News is published of the attack by Siamese troops of a party under the French Agent, M. Morin in Luangprabang within the twenty-five kilometres zone. The Siamese declare that the French party was trespassing beyond the zone.

ON the 2nd a woman named Kaku (42), wife of a farmer named Tokufu Kenzo (46), living at Hizaori village, Kita Adachi-gori, Saitama prefecture, was found hanged in the house of a pen-dealer named Meguro Kanajiro, at Takehayacho, Koishikawa, Tokyo. Her husband was arrested on suspicion of murder. It is said, however, that she had been suffering from mental aberration for some months past.

A LEGAL POINT.

In "The Condition of Foreigners under the New Treaties" Dr. Lönholm, discussing the provisions of the Civil and Commercial Code with regard to Pledges, says:—"The thing pledged must be actually delivered into the possession of the pledgee. It can not be kept for him by the pledgor as his agent or bailee. There is no method by which security can be given on movables without actual delivery except when they are stored in a public warehouse or are in course of carriage. * * * The practice common in England and America of hypothecating chattels by a registered bill of sale is not admitted in Japanese law." What effect will the operation of this new law exercise on business as conducted by foreigners? Chattel mortgages will, of course, cease to be possible according to the present practice. A man will not be able to borrow money from a bank on a bill of sale, unless the Japanese Courts interpret "possession" in some manner different from the ordinary signification of the term. Chattel mortgages registered at a Consulate do not, however, enter largely into the transactions of business or of every-day life, and, at any rate, we presume that there are ways of circumventing the difficulty of "possession." The really important phase of the question is that relating to the hypothecation of goods. The banks do already go through the form of obtaining possession of goods hypothecated to them, for they receive the bills of lading while the goods are in transit, and take—or make a show of taking—the keys of the godowns where the goods are stored after arrival at their destination. It may be presumed that the same practice will be considered sufficient to meet the requirement of the law when Japanese tribunals administer it. Still, in such a matter, one wants something more than mere presumption, and it might be well for the Foreign International Committee to seek a definite explanation from the Japanese Treaty Operation Committee. We heartily talk of memorializing Foreign Offices in Europe and America, but the wisdom of such a course seems very doubtful. The new Japanese Commercial and Civil Codes are framed on European models and in the best interests of business morality, according to the Japanese view of those interests. We greatly question whether Lord Salisbury, for example, would feel justified in making any representation to Japan on such a subject. The most that could be expected of him would be a reference to Sir Ernest Satow for information; and the Japanese Government would be pretty sure to reply that the Codes, as they stand, are judged suitable to the commercial conditions existing in Japan, and can not be altered without prejudice to the objects which their framers had in view. On the other hand, there can be no question about the goodwill of the Japanese Authorities; they are sincerely anxious to make every possible arrangement for the working of the new system, and no arrangement is more necessary than to promote a clear understanding of what the new system means. If, after seeking and obtaining explicit information as to the judicial interpretation of "possession" for the purposes of the Law, the International Committee, consisting, as it does, of experienced and shrewd business men, saw valid reason to apprehend that the smooth course of business would be impeded by the new sys-

tem, or that vested interests would suffer severely—as, for example, by the necessary substitution of public warehouses for the godowns now owned by foreigners—then a frank and explicit representation to the Japanese Government would be much more likely to produce good results than a premature application to Home Governments. The delay involved in the latter course has also to be considered. If any reform of the Law be really necessary, now is the time to effect it while the Diet is in session. Two months hence it will be too late to get anything done before July. The International Committee has already accomplished an important work in getting the Business Tax Law amended, and it should now understand its own capacities for usefulness.

THE COMING ERA.

Among the Japanese people there is one section which, if it had its way or could obtain vogue for its views, would effectually secure the smooth working of the system to be inaugurated next July. It is the section represented by the *Fiji Shimpō*. We do not mean to say that the *Fiji Shimpō* is the only liberal journal in Japan. Such a statement would be most unjust to the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Keisai Zasshi*, the *Shogyo Shimpō*, the *Mainichi*, and others. But there is no other journal which makes of liberality such an every-day duty, such a resolute business, as the *Fiji Shimpō* does. It loses no opportunity of putting forward its broad-minded cosmopolitan views, and one can always be absolutely confident as to the attitude it will assume towards any question. How much has the *Fiji* done for Japan? It is the country's greatest benefactor.

It now declares that the best preparation for the operation of the new Treaties is for the people to persuade themselves that foreigners are friends and neighbours; that the greater the number of foreigners coming here, and the wider the area of their enterprise, the larger will be Japan's advantage. Then it passes on to note that a Japanese subject visiting a foreign country finds himself entirely free from restrictions of every kind—is that really so? Does such an assertion apply to Japanese visiting the United States or Australia?—whereas a foreigner visiting Japan does not enjoy commensurate liberty. It is true that some of the existing restrictions will be removed after July. The new Civil Code will then become applicable to foreigners, and the new Civil Code provides that foreigners are entitled to all privileges which are not explicitly withheld from them by law. Hence they will be able to hold shares in companies. But they will not be allowed to own land, and that restriction will prove fatal to the investment of foreign capital in Japan. The *Fiji* denounces it as an irrational and unworthy restriction, injurious alike to Japan's reputation and to her prosperity.

Certainly what the *Fiji* says is correct: the ownership of shares by foreigners will not be illegal after July next, for the Civil Code will then become applicable to everybody in the empire. There are some publicists, indeed, who hold that the privilege conferred by the Second Article of the Code is already enjoyable by foreigners, and truly we do not see how the contention can be denied. The Second Article declares explicitly

that "foreigners enjoy private rights except as forbidden by law, regulation, or treaty." The Treaties do not forbid them to hold shares in companies. What, then, stands in the way? That question apart, however, the point we want to make is—do the Japanese really desire that foreigners should become shareholders in their enterprises? We recently had an opportunity of learning the opinion held on that subject by a gentleman who has large investments in Japan—not in his own name, of course. He is a gentleman who has resided here for more than a quarter of a century. He has been uniformly sympathetic with the Japanese; has conducted extensive business transactions in association with them, and numbers many of them among his personal friends. Yet he declares his absolute conviction that every one of them would vote against his acquiring the status and rights of a shareholder. That may be an extreme view, but it deserves respect in consideration of the source from which it emanates. If it be correct, the fact had better be frankly recognised and its consequence also. Its consequence is that one important avenue is closed to the inflow of foreign capital, for foreigners will never invest money on a large scale in Japanese enterprises unless they can be sure of having a voice in the direction of the enterprise at times of crisis. However, when the Code becomes definitely applicable to foreigners, we do not see how they can be prevented from enjoying the privileges it confers, even though special discriminations be attempted against them in the regulations of companies. After July, the foreigner will be legally entitled to purchase, in his own name, any shares—speaking generally—that may be offered in the market, and his ownership of them will carry with it the same rights as those possessed by a Japanese shareholder. It seems to us that no company can lawfully discriminate against him.

THE NEW TARIFF.

Consumers seem likely to be the chief gainers by the enterprise that importers have shown in forestalling the new Tariff. Yokohama now contains a stock of goods far in excess of any demand likely to spring up during the next few months, and their holders, being shrewd men of business, will lose no possible chance of unloading. The situation is virtually in the hands of the Japanese. They know what commodities have arrived, and they can lay their own plans to take full advantage of the pressure that will soon begin to be felt as interest, warehouse charges, and insurance accumulate. That familiar ring of monopolists, of whom we used to hear so much in the days of the *Machigai-sho* and the *Nisukuri-jo*, will close more relentlessly than ever round the Settlement, and make capital out of the inevitable competition which places the foreigner at their mercy. It would be a curious dispensation of providence if the last few months of the Settlement's secluded existence should prove the most irksome era in the history of its isolation. We sincerely hope not; independently of the selfish fact that all of us are in the same boat, and that rough weather affects us all alike, there is the special consideration that a discontented mood in Yokohama would be a most unfortunate prelude to the inauguration of the new regimen next

July. When times are hard, the foreign community is proverbially *exigent*—which is human nature—and since with all the best will on each side there can not fail to be causes of friction at the time of the old order's change, it will be an unkind stroke on fate's part if she adds commercial adversity to the general complication. What a curse, after all, are import tariffs! What an uncivilized, clumsy method of raising revenue! The more enterprising a man is, and the larger his contribution to the comfort of the community at large, the more heavily he is fined and penalized. A century hence, when all the enlightened States of the world have instituted the Single Tax, the story of this benighted era will be read with amusement and contempt.

PENDING QUESTIONS.

The President of the House of Representatives has talked very freely to a representative of the *Fiji Shimpō* about questions which he considers likely to occupy a large share of political attention in the immediate future. At the head of the list he places Cabinet reconstruction. Marquis Yamagata has no desire to retain office, and the Liberals are naturally anxious to come into the substance of power instead of grasping the shadow as they are doing at present. But it is not likely that there will be any change until the end of the Diet's session. Then Marquis Ito will probably be persuaded to resume the control of the administration, and his Cabinet will include Mr. Hiroshi, Baron Ito and Suyematsu, and other Liberals.

The second question is the amendment of the Law of Election. Mr. Kataoka thinks—and no one should be better qualified to speak—that the Liberals are opposed to the Government's programme of giving fuller representation to the manufacturing and commercial classes. The Government wants to have one member returned by every fifty thousand inhabitants of the urban districts, and one by every hundred and twenty thousand inhabitants of the rural districts. But the Liberals wish to make no discrimination; they propose one member for every hundred thousand inhabitants, whether in urban or in rural regions. Then there is another difference of opinion about the method of voting. The Government advocates unsigned single ballots, the Liberals advocate unsigned plural ballots. It is certain, however, that by whatever majority the Liberals carry their point in the Lower House, the Peers will endorse the Government's programme. Hence a conference of the Houses must take place, and, if any agreement is evolved, it must be a compromise.

Of course the State purchase of private railways stands next on the list. Mr. Kataoka is not very explicit about that question. The chief information we gather from his remarks is that the project has very large support. The Premier himself is in favour of it; so is Viscount Aoki; so is Viscount Katsura; so is Viscount Yoshikawa; and even Count Matsukata can not be said to be in opposition. The great problem is how to accomplish the transaction. Can it be effected by means of bonds only, or must some hard cash be employed? Evidently the ways and means are still in the clouds.

Then the members of the Lower House

want to make a *coup* on their own account; want to place themselves on a level with the inferior grade of *Chokunin* officials in the matter of salary. They talk of increasing their annual allowance of 800 *yen* to 3,000, or to 2,500, or to 1,800. There may be differences of opinion about other problems, political or economical, but all parties are said to be tolerably unanimous in desiring an increase of emoluments. Nothing more would be necessary to impair the nation's confidence in its legislators. Here are folks who think the State too poor to allow a few thousand *yen* annually for purposes of investigating the vitally important subject of linguistic reform, and yet they propose to increase the Treasury's charges on account of their own emoluments by a sum of from 400,000 to 880,000 *yen*.

The last question alluded to by Mr. Kataoka—we ourselves would put it first—is that of making up the deficiency of revenue resulting from the Liberals' reduction of the proposed rate of Land Tax. The Liberals suggest the Tobacco Monopoly as the most suitable source. But the Government can not make the tobacco monopoly do what it expected of it even under existing circumstances. So the situation will probably eventuate in the levying of several new imposts and the increasing of some old ones. That is the kind of quagmire of unsound finance into which the Liberals have plunged the country by their pettifoggery policy.

ROBBERIES WITH VIOLENCE IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES.

Robberies with violence in railway carriages are becoming unpleasantly frequent in Japan. The Sanyo Railway lately acquired some notoriety in that respect, and a case is now reported on the road of the Nippon Railway Company. The victim in this case was the guard of the train which left Awamori for Tokyo at 5.50 a.m. on the 1st instant. At Sannohe, in Iwate prefecture, which station the train left at 12.50 p.m., a thief seems to have entered the brake-van and secreted himself without attracting notice. Scarcely had the train pulled out when he attacked the guard and inflicted two disabling wounds, one on the face, the other on the skull. He then cut open the guard's satchel, and, taking from it some 1,200 *yen* which the guard had collected at the various stations *en route*, leaped from the carriage. Nothing was known of the occurrence until the train reached Fukuoka, when the porters found Yoshinari, the guard, lying in a pool of blood, but not dead. He was carried to hospital, where he explained that the first blow was dealt as he was in the act of closing the window. His idea is that the thief entered by the window, but such a theory seems scarcely tenable. The distance between Sannohe and the next station on the south, Fukuoka, is only 11½ miles, so the ruffian had not much time to achieve his purpose. The indications are that he was a person well versed in the affairs of the railway, and there is a suspicion that he is one of 480 *employees* who were recently dismissed by the Company.

General Borgnis-Desbordes, the newly-appointed Commander-in-Chief of the troops of Indo China to replace General Bichot, is a man some fifty years old, and has seen a deal of service on the Niger and in the Soudan.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS

Rumours which seem to be well founded say that the National Unionists have decided to dissolve their separate organization and join the ranks of the Liberals. Viscount Shinagawa is said to have opposed the movement at first, but to have ultimately fallen into line with it when its supporters obtained an overwhelming majority. It appears to us that the National Unionists are acting very wisely. The independent existence of a petty party commanding only 20 votes in the Lower House and not having any special platform to defend, is an anomaly which can not be too soon done away with. It does not follow, however, that the disappearance of the National Unionists will reduce the occupants of the political arena to two parties. We are strongly disposed to think that Messrs. Shimada Saburo and Taguchi Ukichi will soon find themselves at the head of a not inconsiderable following. The established ability of these two politicians and their very high character can not fail to attract adherents, and their principles constitute the first acceptable platform for the "business-men." It is well-known that many of the latter are opposed to the system of army expansion adopted under Marquis Ito's *post-bellum* programme. At that point they find themselves in direct contact with Messrs. Shimada and Taguchi, and, though they may have hesitated hitherto, in the absence of resolute leaders, to translate their views into the form of a political organization, they are not unlikely to derive the necessary encouragement from the appearance of two eminent men inviting co-operation not only in the matter of reduced military armaments, but also for other projects of industrial and commercial utility. The only difficulty in the way of our forecast is that a majority of the business-men of Japan evidently consider nothing more important at the present juncture than to give stability to the Cabinet, under whatever leadership it be organized, and will therefore hesitate before pledging themselves as members of an organization which would not be in full sympathy with any ministry now conceivable.

It appears that the National Unionists have not by any means made up their minds to become absorbed into the ranks of the Liberal Constitutionalists. They have dissolved their organization and are now hesitating what to do with themselves. Messrs. Motoda and Ooka are said to be in favour of joining the Constitutionalists, but Mr. Sasa and the Kumamoto Unionists think that the wiser plan would be to recast the party on independent lines. The idea of Mr. Sasa and his friends appears to be an alliance with Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Taguchi Ukichi, the Hyoshi Club and various business men. They are said to have failed in persuading Mr. Shimada Saburo, but to have had some success with the members of the Hyoshi Club. No doubt they would wield much greater influence in the political field as an independent organization than they could hope to wield as mere units of the big Liberal Party. But if they care to promote the smooth working of the constitutional system, they should seek to eliminate all petty and paralyzing subdivisions, and endeavour to bring about the occupation of the arena by two great parties alone.

THE NEXT POLITICAL QUESTION.

It appears probable that there will be some friction over the next great political question which the Diet has to consider, namely, the amendment of the Law of Election. No marked difference of opinion exists with regard to the proposed enlargement of electoral districts on other matters of organization, but the manner of voting excites much discussion in consequence of its important bearing upon party potentialities. The scheme of amendment drafted by the last Ito Cabinet provided for single ballots (*tanki tōhyō*); that is to say, ballots bearing the name of only one candidate, each elector putting in as many ballots as there are members to be returned. But the majority in the House of Representatives altered that part of the Bill in the sense that plural ballots (*renki tōhyō*) should be cast, each elector writing upon one ballot the names of all the members for whom he voted. Of course the latter system greatly enhances the power of political parties and correspondingly diminishes the independence of electors. The Bill failed to come up for discussion in the House of Peers, owing to the dissolution of the Lower Chambers. Subsequently it was understood that the Liberal Party had been converted to the principle of the single ballot, which the present Cabinet advocates just as strongly as did the Ito Ministry. But rumour now alleges that the Liberals have reverted to their old view, evidently in the interests of party organization, and that they are claiming the Cabinet's acquiescence in consideration of the aid they rendered to pass the Land-Tax Bill. On the other hand, it is quite certain that the Peers will not agree to a law embodying the plural ballot, so, if the Liberals maintain their attitude, the Election Law can not be amended, and the question will drift into the quagmire where the Press Law lay engulfed for several years, both Houses being desirous of amending it, but neither being willing to subserve its views to those of the other. Meanwhile we notice with surprise that no journal or publicist raises the question of minority representation. This would seem to be the most appropriate occasion for engrafting that important feature on the Japanese election system, but apparently every one shrinks from raising the issue. Perhaps the explanation is that Japanese statesmen and politicians are anxious to avoid everything which might tend to encumber the arena with petty factions. One of the great troubles hitherto has been division of strength. Instead of two great parties, each competent to assume and carry on the duties of administration, there have been a number of coteries, all impotent independently for anything but mischief. Very likely it is thought that the problem of the representation of minorities can be conveniently left for solution at some future date.

COUNT OKUMA AND HIS OMORI CRITIC.

A present resident of Omori, who contributes various articles to the foreign-settlement press, disagrees with Count Okuma's opinion that the foreign trade of Japan has made remarkable strides during the past twenty-five years. We express no opinion as to the general question at issue between the Waseda Sage and his

Omori critic, but there is one feature of the latter's arithmetic which startles us. He says that, in 1872, Japan's external trade totalled some fifty million *yen*, which, with the dollar at 4s. 6d., means 11½ millions sterling—we use approximate figures—, whereas in 1897 the total figure was 290 million *yen*, or 29 million sterling. Hence, he concludes, the increase in a quarter of a century was only 17 or 18 millions sterling. That is certainly a quaint method of calculation, intelligible only on the hypothesis that for a Briton money has no statistical significance unless it be expressed in sovereigns. Why should Japan's export trade be converted into sterling? Does the Omori critic really imagine that every million *yen* worth of commodities exported by Japan in 1897, with the *yen* at 25 pence, represented only 463,000 *yen* worth of commodities exported in 1872 with the *yen* at 54d.? In order to justify such an assertion, he would have to show that the silver prices of commodities in Japan fell, between 1872 and 1897, in exactly the same ratio as the appreciation of gold in terms of silver, which can not be shown, being greatly opposed to facts. Why, again, should Japan's imports from silver-using countries be converted into sterling? They have nothing to do with sterling. To express them in terms of gold which fluctuated enormously in purchasing power, instead of adhering to their original silver prices, which remained comparatively stable, is to introduce an arbitrary and misleading factor which has no legitimate place in the equation. The only portion of Japan's foreign trade reasonably subject to conversion into sterling for purposes of statistical comparison from year to year, is the imports from gold-using countries, and even there a mere statement of pounds, shillings and pence is misleading, for since gold prices fell largely between 1872 and 1897, a sovereign's worth of imports in the latter year represented a larger bulk, and therefore a greater consumption, than a sovereign's worth of the same goods in the former year. It would be a difficult problem to establish a really accurate comparison between Japan's foreign trade in 1872 and 1897, if the statement had to be made in values, but it would also be difficult to depart more widely from the truth than the Omori critic departs.

A WINTER RETREAT.

A Correspondent writes:—"Some of your readers often think, no doubt, where they can find a warm and equable climate in January. Why do they not try the Loochoo Islands. The suggestion is well worth consideration. The Japanese tea-house at Naha is quite comfortable, and the Governor, Baron Narabara, is most kind, courteous and hospitable to foreigners. Acting on my suggestion Mr. and Mrs. Clutterbuck went there early this month, and it may interest their many friends to know that they arrived safely and purpose spending a month or so there. I myself was much attracted by the capacities of Naha for a winter residence. It is considerably warmer at this time of year than northern Formosa; the town and the streets are clean, and the quiet of the place makes it an ideal retreat for a student."

MR. OKURA'S COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

The building of Mr. Okura Kihachiro's commercial school has commenced; or, to speak more accurately, the work of collecting materials has begun. The site is No. 3 Aoi-cho, Akasaka; in other words, the valley lying on the east of Reinanzaka within the enclosure generally called Yamato-yashiki. This land has long been Mr. Okura's property. He has built his own residence just above it, and many persons attributed to him the intention of gradually absorbing the whole valley into the park attached to his villa. But that forecast proves fallacious. When the school is finished, it will stand in much the same relation to Mr. Okura's residence as the Technical College at Waseda stands to Count Okuma's beautiful suburban villa. That is a very appropriate arrangement. It helps to sustain the patron's interest in the results of his philanthropy, and to preserve the students' memory of a public-spirited act which should be among the aims of every successful career. The edifice for the school is to be of brick and stone. It will cover an area of 1,400 square yards, and the cost, we imagine, will be about 150,000 *yen*. Mr. Okura's donation is half a million *yen*, and he has already handed over one-fifth of that sum to the committee of counsellors who are assisting him to carry out the enterprise—Mr. Shibusawa, Surgeon-General Ishiguro, Mr. Watanabe Koki, and other prominent personages. We do not know whether the cost of the land is included in the donation. Probably it is, for, however, munificent Mr. Okura's disposition, he is not likely to regard thirty thousand *yen* worth of land as a mere extra, not worth entering in the account. Probably when the school is built and equipped, it will be found that not more than 250,000 *yen* remains for an endowment fund; that is to say, a yearly income of twelve or thirteen thousand *yen*, enough to pay for the staff of foreign professors, if it be not numerous. It is a pity there are not more people of Mr. Okura's way of thinking and acting. Japan is badly in want of them.

THE STATE RAILWAY QUESTION.

It is impossible to form any distinct idea of the programme mapped out for the state purchase of private railways. One day the Tokyo journals tell us one thing; the next, another. Recently their version was that the average annual net profits of the lines during the past five years were to be taken as the unit of value, and the shareholders were to receive twenty units in the form of five-per cent. bonds, with a pre-redemption period of 25 years. That was at least intelligible, though somewhat startling in the matter of liberality. But now a different story is told, namely, that the average profits of the lines are to be calculated as above, and that bonds are to be given in the case of lines whose profits amount to 5 per cent. of their invested capital. What is to be done with lines whose profits exceed, or fall short of, that figure we are not told. On the whole it appears probable that no definite project has yet been drafted, and that these varying rumours reflect the perplexity of those engaged on the task.

CABINET CHANGES.

There have been mutterings in the air for some time, presaging the approach of another political storm, and now the newspapers of Tokyo read the barometer with remarkable unanimity. The Liberal organ (*Jimmin*) is the most outspoken. It says frankly that the Liberals want to get the administrative reins into their hands, and it gives several reasons for believing that they will succeed. Secondary reasons they are, for the most part, the overshadowing argument being that the Liberals have not been working for the pretty eyes of the Yamagata Cabinet; that they don't mean to be put off with a few trivial sops, such as Vice-Minister-ships and Provincial Governorships, and that, so far from immolating themselves on the altar of the Cabinet's security, they intend to immolate the Cabinet on the altar of their own ambition. The *Yomiuri*, which delights in seeming to see into all secret places, declares that when Marquis Yamagata visited Oiso on the 3rd inst., he elicited a promise from Marquis Ito that the latter would take his place in a few weeks, and further that there has been a secret agreement in that sense between the Cabinet and the Liberals ever since the latter undertook to support the former's measures in the Diet. The *Mainichi Shimbun* points to Mr. Hoshi Toru as the biggest figure in the political arena; says that he has gradually raised himself into prominence on a securely built pedestal, and adds that he possesses the full confidence of Marquis Yamagata, though he is not in the good graces of Mr. Kioura and the latter's friends.

Apart from "revelations" which have no apparent claim to credence, there appears to be a great deal of truth in the theory that Marquis Yamagata is not at all desirous of retaining office, his health being very precarious, and his original acceptance of the Premiership having been explicitly temporary. Equally true is it that the relation between Marquis Ito and the Liberals is much closer than the relation between Marquis Yamagata and the Liberals. The latter's first coöperation was with the Ito Cabinet in 1896, and Marquis Ito identified himself with them in 1897 by going out of office because he could not retain the assistance of Count Itagaki. The public, we imagine, long ago made up its mind that a renewal of the union between Marquis Ito and the Liberals is the most prominent phenomenon on the political horizon. But what kind of union will it be? Will Marquis Ito definitely join the Liberal Party? If he does, we shall see something like stable government once more. If he does not, the old shadow of unrest will obscure the prospect; the old outcry about "clan statesmen" will spoil the harmony. Already, indeed, the Liberal organ is renewing that complaint, possesses, to be sure! If anything has been thoroughly discredited, completely turned into ridicule, surely that thing is the charge against clan statesmanship. Had not the men trained under the so-called "clan system" stood quietly and efficiently at their posts during the recent welter and confusion of party dissension and scrambles for office how would it have fared with the administration? Still it has come evidently to this, and there is not the

slightest use in blinking the fact, that the parties will regard every one as an opponent who does not cast his lot in with them for good or for evil, and that until the *Meiji* Statesmen abandon their present semblance of independence—it is the veriest semblance—there will be no such thing as political calm or administrative stability. Very little is wanting to confer solidity on the organizations of the two great parties. That little is the enrolment of the *Meiji* statesmen in their ranks. Marquis Ito and Count Okuma stand out prominently as the natural heads of the two parties. If Marquis Ito and some of his eminent coadjutors joined the Liberals, and in combination with the latter formed a Ministry, we believe that it might reckon on three or four years of existence. But if Marquis Ito resumes office merely with the coöperation of the Liberals, he will never succeed in satisfying them so as to retain their allegiance for any length of time, and he will have to purchase it from the first by concessions hard to make and harder to implement. Such, at any rate, is the aspect which the situation presents to us, but it must be confessed that Marquis Ito's political sagacity has been too well proved to justify outside criticism.

THE QUADRUPLE ALLIANCE AND LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

If persistence in ventilating a project could contribute much to its realization, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* would have helped materially to bring about the quadruple alliance, America, Germany, Japan, and England. Throughout the past year our contemporary has unremittingly preached the desirability of such a consummation, and it now undertakes to demonstrate the immense value of the substance since even the shadow has proved so efficacious. In other words, the *Yomiuri* thinks that had it not been for all this talk about an alliance between the four Powers, a great many sinister contingencies which have happily been averted would have become accomplished facts. Russia and France are the bugbears. Had not the Damoclean sword of the alliance been hanging over their heads, they would by this time have linked arm in arm, and set out to trample East Asia under foot. The coming of Lord Charles Beresford suggests itself to our contemporary as an unique opportunity to bring the alliance into the field of practical politics. His lordship has been the first British statesman to give public utterance to the idea of expanding the alliance. The foundation was England and Japan. Then America was added. From the moment of her emergence from the Monroe shell there could be no doubt as to which branch of the family of nations would attract her sympathy. So, for a time, the talk was England, Japan, and America. Then men gradually yielded to a conviction, long latent but seldom seriously suggested, that Germany's proper place was in the same camp. Lord Charles Beresford came and boldly enunciated the idea. Its ready acceptance is the best proof of its propriety. Why, the *Yomiuri* asks, should not his lordship's arrival in Japan be made the occasion for consummating the scheme?

It is a pity that Mr. Fukuzawa has ceased to be an active figure in public life. An Anglo-Japanese alliance has been his dream for many years, and, were he not

incapacitated by ill-health, we can conjecture the enthusiasm he would throw into preparations for greeting Lord Charles Beresford, and for organizing demonstrations such as should afford to the British nation an unequivocal idea of Japan's mood. That is about as far as the alliance scheme is likely to get at present, we imagine. The first important preliminary is to impress upon England's mind the conviction that the Japanese nation—not merely a coterie of Japanese statesmen or publicists, but the Japanese nation as a whole—is genuinely anxious to throw in its lot with Anglo-Saxondom in this part of the world. The Japanese are curiously timid in their public utterances. They generally speak with bated breath and leave their hearers in a good deal of doubt as to their real sentiments. That is all very right and proper where a responsible statesman is concerned, but the force behind the statesman should not be always masked, or it becomes impossible for foreign Powers to forecast his attitude in any given contingency. The Japanese might advantageously cultivate a little expansiveness in the presence of Lord Charles Beresford, and contrive that he shall carry away a clear conception of what they think and feel about the Far-Eastern Question. We observe that the *Nippon* is writing vigorously about the reception to be given to Lord Charles. It does not claim for him such a welcome as Lord Beaconsfield received in Germany at the time of the Berlin Conference, or Earl Li in Moscow at the Coronation of the Czar, on both of which occasions there was much error of excess; but it calls him a friend of great value to the Japanese empire and hopes that he will have a rousing reception. We echo the hope. Japan has set a pretty high standard for herself in the matter of entertaining foreign magnates, but she has not hitherto had an opportunity of receiving any one who occupies such a prominent place in the vista of the British nation as that occupied by Lord Charles Beresford. It will conduce to her own interests that she should show her appreciation of the fact. Manœuvres by the Standing Squadron and a review of the Tokyo garrison will be well enough in their way, but what Lord Charles wants is to get at the heart of the nation and the convictions of its statesmen.

AN INTERESTING SEPULCHRE.

In the vicinity of the well-known temple Kōmyōji at Kamakura, a sepulchre presenting some features of interest has been discovered. It is on the side of a hill, which was sold some time ago to a Mr. Saito Kwangen, who proceeded to construct a restaurant there. A few days ago, when clearing away a bank, Mr. Saito's employes found a hole which, on examination, proved to be the entrance of a sepulchre containing five *gorin-no-to*—stone pagodas—of exceptionally fine workmanship, and two tomb-stones, one bearing the date "3d month of the 2nd year of *Shōhei* (April, 1333) and the other that of *Kōmū ushi-no-toshi shigatsu jū go nichi* (May 19th, 1334). These dates carry us back to the time when Hōjō Takatoki was overthrown by Nitta Yoshisada, but beyond the fact that the sepulchre must be that of some very great magnate—probably the *Shōgun* himself—nothing can be said at present.

A SERVICEABLE SOP.

A Kobe journal explains what is necessary to secure the smooth working of the Revised Treaties. It is a very simple expedient; nothing more difficult than that foreigners be granted a license to call the Japanese Government bad names. The Kobe journal has offered its own conduct as an object lesson. It charged the Japanese Government with having committed "a serious infraction of Treaty rights." We denied that there had been any such infraction, and set forth the reasons for our denial. Then the Kobe journal fell into a ferment. "The Revised Treaties can never work smoothly," it cried, "in the presence of a journalistic agent provocateur who persists in interrupting our denunciations of the Japanese. The existence of such an agent will form an actual menace to the personal security of foreigners in the country, besides being calculated to create trouble between the Japanese Government and the Foreign Representatives. Can he not be compelled to leave us alone? All we want is to be suffered to abuse the Japanese without let or hindrance. What does it matter that we accuse the Japanese Government of violating the Treaties and adopting secret devices to evade its international obligations? Let us have our fling and all will go smoothly. These contradictions injure the cordial relations that ought properly to subsist between Japanese and foreigners, whereas if our charges were left unanswered, there would not be any friction whatever." 'Tis a peculiar plea but it should not be dismissed inconspicuously because of its oddity. We can not imagine that it would be likely to prove widely efficacious, but its limited applicability is an argument in its favour, for if the chorus of licensees were large, it might prove a public nuisance. We suggest that a good broad hoarding be erected at a convenient part of Kobe—in Division Street, for example—and that ample provision of chalk pencils be made. There the licensed revilers should be permitted to write up any diatribes that suited their fancy, and the police should be instructed to prevent the approach of any agent provocateur who might be so mischievous as to erase the abusive legends. The experiment is worth trying since some opportunity to be uninterruptedly abusive is so earnestly pleaded for.

NEW FRENCH DUTIES ON SILK FABRICS.

Japan is not going to submit without a struggle to the imposition of greatly increased import duties by France on silk fabrics from the East. The Kyoto Nishijin Association have petitioned the Foreign Office on the subject, and it is said that Viscount Aoki has instructed the Japanese Representative in Paris to enter a protest. But Japan's hands are tied in such matters. She has no way of giving force to her protest. Her new commercial treaties with Western States run for a fixed period of twelve years, and all her treaty friends are guaranteed the enjoyment of equal facilities in Japan, whatever discrimination each may exercise against Japanese products and manufactures entering its own territories.

THE NEW CHINESE PERIODICAL OF YOKOHAMA.

The *Seigi-ho* has made its appearance. Our readers doubtless remember that it is a ten-day periodical edited by Mr. Leung Kei-chiu, the principal pupil of Kang Yu-wei. The opening article is in an optimistic strain. The writer thinks that China's darkest hour is past, and that the dawn of day must soon become visible. It is true that the principal ground of his faith seem to be the fact that things can not conceivably become blacker than they are already in the unhappy empire—the spirit of manly righteousness is dead; there are no statesmen to reform the administration; there is none to sacrifice himself for the country. Still the *Seigi-ho*—for those very reasons, in fact—feels convinced that a better time is soon coming. It tells us that its programme is, first, to encourage political integrity in China and to rouse political feeling among the people; secondly, to develop Chinese intelligence; thirdly, to promote cordial intercourse between Japanese and Chinese; and fourthly, to preserve what is good in East-Asian civilization.

THE PROPOSED ASSOCIATIONS OF MEDICAL MEN.

Among a good many objections urged by the *Fiji Shimpō* to the Bill now before the House of Representatives for organizing associations of medical men throughout the Empire, one seems decidedly worthy of attention. It is that of the forty thousand practitioners now holding diplomas, nearly twenty-seven thousand, or two-thirds, are disciples of the old Chinese School. These "experts" are an evidence of the difficulties that have beset Japan's passage from the old to the new. Licenses to practise were given to them, not as a recognition of their competence, but in deference to their vested rights and to the convenience of the public at large. It would have been an intolerable hardship to deprive these men arbitrarily of their professional opportunities, and, at the same time, to deprive the people of their services. The latter would have been the greater hardship of the two, for we need scarcely say that, fifteen or twenty years ago, there were millions of conservative folks in Japan who had inherited from their forefathers a traditional faith in the Chinese system of medicine, and who could not have been induced to place themselves or their families under the treatment of foreign-school practitioners. Such a feeling was perfectly natural; and no Government would have been justified in doing violence to it. Doubtless the number of the conservatives has largely diminished by this time, and so has the number of *Kampō Isha*, as the Chinese school of doctors are called. But there remain some twenty-seven thousand of the latter, and Japan must wait until time relieves her of their presence. Now the point is that they would have to be admitted to the proposed Associations on equal terms with every-one else, and, being in an overwhelming majority, might impose regulations of at least a retrogressive character. They are harmless enough individually, but, once organized and enabled to bring their numerical strength to bear, they would become a dangerous element in the medical world. It is a curious and inter-

esting objection, not by any means to be lightly regarded. But of course it could easily be surmounted by adding to the proposed Law a provision in the sense that all measures enacted by the Medical Associations must receive the approval of the Central Sanitary Bureau and of the Department of Home Affairs.

FORMOSAN NEWS.

The intelligence from Formosa continues to indicate a very disturbed state of affairs. It seems that the trouble is now in the extreme south of the island. A telegram from Tainan, dated the 30th ultimo, says that a band of insurgents attacked the local office (*hemmu-sho*) at Chüchiu—the day of the assault is not mentioned—and obtained possession of it, killing the officer in command and three of the garrison. A second telegram, dispatched from Tainan on the 31st ultimo, reports that the office was retaken by the detachment of troops stationed in the district, the morning after its fall. The struggle to recapture it lasted four hours, however, though nothing is stated as to the casualties on the Japanese side. The insurgents seem to have possessed artillery, for the telegram says that their cannon were seized. We say "were," but "was" may be the correct form of speech. The ambiguity of the Japanese language frequently renders it impossible to distinguish whether a translation should be in the singular or in the plural. The rebels are said to have had 80 men killed. Still farther south, namely, at Kōshun and in its neighbourhood, great disorder is reported to prevail. The country about Kōshun is mountainous. Military operations must be very difficult there.

Speaking of Formosa—incidentally, not with reference to the above intelligence—the *Yomiuri Shimbun* contends that Japan's policy, in so far as it can be called a fixed policy, is defective. She began by adopting the system of assimilation (*Dōkwa shugi*), such as is pursued by France in Tonquin, and then she turned to the policy of conciliation (*Kwai-ju shugi*), exemplified by England's dealings in India. Conciliation seems to have produced the worst possible results. It is evidently misapprehended. The *Yomiuri* does not appear to draw any deterrent inference from the signal failure of France's methods in all her colonies, notably Tonquin. We confess that when we find a leading Japanese journal writing in such a strain at this eleventh hour, we feel more than ever pessimistic about Formosan administration. At any rate, whether conciliation be wise or unwise, the incidents now reported from the south of the island can not be regarded as a result of conciliation for the trial of that policy was made in the north. We do not ourselves believe in conciliation where mere bandits are concerned. If the disturbers of the peace in Formosa were patriots fighting for their country's independence, it might be very well to seek their goodwill by leniency and tactfulness. But mere robbers and raiders are beyond the pale of such treatment. It is a fair conclusion that when a man who has been engaged pillaging and murdering is offered money and pardon instead of handcuffs and a felon's cell, he will be disposed to infer that the Authorities, unable to mete out to him his deserts, see no recourse except to purchase his forbearance. We

have been told that the bandits in the North of Formosa "sleeved" the silver given to them by the Japanese, and, carrying off their written pardons, used them as official commissions to levy blackmail from the unfortunate people! The only course to pursue with such vermin is to exterminate them. But surely the policy to be adopted towards Formosa in general should not be based upon lessons learned from these banditti who are at least as antipathetic to the peaceful inhabitants of the island as to its Japanese conquerors?

THE DOSHISHA.

The vernacular press states that the Trustees and Faculty of the Doshisha have resolved to resign *en masse*, leaving the adjustment of the now famous affair in the hands of the *Kō-yū*, or "friends of the school," by which term we understand the former graduates and other persons prominently connected with the institution. This step is regarded as preliminary to the restoration of the portions of the constitution the alteration of which provoked such determined action on the part of the American Board. Should the forecast prove correct, we may hope to see the Doshisha restored to its old status and enjoying once more the active coöperation of the American Board Mission. On the other hand, the School would then forfeit the recognition of the Educational Department, and its students would cease to enjoy the great privilege conferred by such recognition, exemption from conscription up to the age of twenty-seven. We wonder when that crying abuse will be eliminated from the educational system of Japan. At present it may be broadly stated that no Japanese parent can obtain for his son an education with which religious instruction is combined. The penalty of choosing such an education is that the lad becomes liable to conscription at twenty-one.

A great deal of surprise has been expressed, and we ourselves have shared the feeling, that conscientious men like Mr. Yokoi and the Trustees of the Doshisha could reconcile themselves to the course they adopted when they abolished Christian teaching from the curriculum of an institution founded by people who gave their money expressly to have Christianity taught. We have recently heard an explanation which sounds very rational. It is that Mr. Yokoi's course would probably have escaped protest had not the quality of his own Christianity been open to doubt. For instance, had Dr. Nishima's life been preserved, and had he, at this juncture of the Doshisha's career, considered it expedient to take the step taken by Mr. Yokoi, the American Board would not have raised any objection since every one would have believed that if Mr. Nishima deemed it expedient, in the temporal interests of the institution, to dispense with the nominal teaching of Christianity, he would have taken care to provide some other means of conserving Christian influences. But the American Board Missionaries did not feel the same confidence about Mr. Yokoi, who had shown himself to be a Christian of somewhat broad views. In other words, Mr. Yokoi and the Trustees did not make to expediency any greater sacrifice than Mr. Nishima himself might have deemed justifiable. They believed that they could

preserve Christian influences so as to render the institution virtually Christian, but unfortunately their estimate of the amount of Christian influence claiming preservation did not command the full trust of the American patrons and coöperators. That explanation was suggested not by a Japanese but by a Christian missionary. It seems to be quite within the bounds of reason. We ourselves have never doubted Mr. Yokoi's sincerity. No one acquainted with him could doubt it, and we question whether it could be doubted by any one reading his vindication which appeared in the *Far East*. The difficulty was, however, to find a working theory for his conduct.

FRANCE IN CHINA.

A telegram from Peking published by the *Asahi Shimbun* says that France has raised an objection to Japan's acquisition of the Formosa-Amoy submarine cable, and that the transfer has been interrupted. The intelligence is scarcely credible. If France had any interest in the matter—and truly we fail to see how a claim can be made out on her behalf—she ought to have made her voice heard long ago. The Chinese Government, at the time of the cession of Formosa, definitely pledged itself to hand over the cable, and the fact that the pledge had been given was publicly known. France should have objected then, if she had a mind or a reason to object. Besides, it was openly announced, a month ago, that China was about to implement her pledge, and the two Houses of the Japanese Diet passed a supplementary budget providing for the compensation to be paid to the Government in Peking. It is a most belated proceeding on France's part to step in at this eleventh hour. We are disposed to think that the telegram is baseless.

THE CENTRAL TABERNACLE.

After undergoing somewhat extensive repairs, the Central Tabernacle at No. 23 Haruki-cho, Hongo, in Tokyo, was reopened for divine service on the 3rd inst. at 2 p.m. Addresses of some length were delivered by Mr. Ebara, M.P., and the Rev. John Scott, D.D., and these were followed by short speeches of congratulation by several Japanese and foreigners. Many of our readers are familiar with the origin of this Tabernacle and with the indefatigable exertions made by its founder, the Rev. C. Eby, D.D., who appreciated, and was happily enabled to meet, the great want of a suitable hall for holding religious meetings and affording facilities for Christian purposes in general in Tokyo. Lecture meetings are being held every evening during the present week up to Sunday, the 8th instant, on which day also at 2.30 p.m. the Rev. Dr. Imbrie is to preach. We learn also that on Saturday, the 14th instant, at 6.30 p.m., there is to be a concert of both Japanese and foreign music, the proceeds of which will be devoted to defraying the expenses of the repairs which have considerably exceeded the original estimate. We need hardly say that the assistance of charitably disposed people is cordially invited for this good work. There are hundreds of students in Tokyo to whom the Tabernacle is proving of great moral benefit, and it would be difficult to name any object better deserving the assistance of philanthropists.

THE BOOK-SHELF.

A Handbook for Travellers in Japan: London, John Murray; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

THE fifth edition of "A Handbook for Travellers in Japan" has been published. The authors, Messrs. Chamberlain and Mason, explain in the preface that "the existing routes have been carefully revised so as to fit with the recent rapid extension of the Japanese railway system," and that "much new matter has been added," among the latter being Formosa. It appears, however, that the amount of information obtainable about Formosa was not very full, for only some six pages of the Handbook are devoted to it. The map, too, is disappointing. Only about thirty places in the island are marked, and some are indicated by their Japanese names, while some have their Chinese or Formosan. An element of most inconvenient confusion has been introduced into the geography of Korea by the custom of the Japanese, who employ their own method of pronouncing Chinese ideographs. Thus only students of ideographs can identify the places spoken of by Tokyo journals when they refer to Formosan affairs, and it appears to us that the authors of the Handbook would have been well advised had they shown on the map, in every case, both the Japanese and the local names. They have frequently done so in the text of their description, but they do not seem to have any uniform system. We expect a great deal from this Handbook, for it has long come to be regarded as a kind of encyclopedia of useful information about Japan, and doubtless by the time when a sixth edition is called for, the Formosan section will have been brought up to the general level of excellence. A capital idea was to add a Japanese chronological table arranged in alphabetical order. Bramsen's chronological Tables have hitherto been the student's stand-by, but to find the year corresponding to a given era it is necessary with Bramsen's work to perform two operations—first, to pick out the era in his alphabetical list, and then to refer to the page where it is given. The table in the Handbook will save a great deal of trouble. Similarly arranged lists of the Emperors and Shoguns are added.

THE LATE REV. C. E. GARST.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

The following resolutions have been adopted by the Foreign Christian Missionary Society's Committee in Japan:—

Whereas (1) God, in His wisdom, has seen fit to remove from among us our beloved brother, C. E. Garst, and

Whereas (2) this Mission is made to mourn the loss of a fellow worker and wise counsellor,—he senior member of our Mission, and

Whereas (3) his wife, our beloved fellow worker, Mrs. Laura De Lony Garst, is thereby necessarily withdrawn from the mission field;

Be it therefore resolved:

That (1) we mourn his loss, not as those who have no hope, but, in accord with what we know would be the wish of our brother, and the will of our Father in Heaven, we continue in the course he ran so well, and gained the victory;

That (2) we follow her and her children with our love and prayers, and esteem her as an absent member of this Mission.

Foreign Christian Missionary Society's Committee in Japan,

per
Miss Kate V. Johnson.
E. S. Stevens.

Tokyo, Jan. 3rd, 1899.

THE KOBE LAND QUESTION.

THAT a great deal of heat should be displayed and some intemperate language employed journalistically in Kobe with reference to the question of the extra-Settlement lands, does not surprise us, for it is proverbial that nothing disturbs the moral equilibrium of an advocate, so much as the effort to defend a radically bad cause. There is, however, no possibility of obscuring the actual facts of the case. By diplomatic arrangement—which, it may be observed, never took the form of a written convention—foreigners were granted the privilege of leasing lands outside the limits of the Settlement of Hyogo at the mutual convenience of the lessor and the lessee. There was not the remotest hint of conferring a special character on the leases, nor can it have entered the conception of the negotiators that when Japanese subjects were permitted to lease their lands to foreigners, they were *de facto* permitted, thenceforth and for ever, to ignore the laws of their own country in doing so. The whole arrangement may be summed up in the statement that, within a certain area outside the Settlement, foreigners were placed on the same footing as Japanese subjects for purposes of land leasing. Had the diplomatic arrangement embodied specific conditions, had it provided for the privilege of perpetual leases, as had been provided with regard to land inside the Settlement, then of course it would have taken precedence of the laws of the empire. But it made no such provision. On the contrary, the only existing written record of it shows that the land outside the Settlement was explicitly differentiated from the land inside the Settlement for leasing purposes. In the face of these facts it is quite idle to pretend that the right to lease lands *in perpetuity* in the extra-Settlement area was guaranteed to foreigners by the arrangement. Sixteen years subsequently, in the course of the extensive legislation undertaken by the Government of the Restoration, regulations were issued for the guidance of Japanese land-owners in making leases with foreigners within the extra-Settlement area at Hyogo. These regulations fixed 25 years as the limit of a lease's duration, that period being the closest possible approximation to the custom of the locality, and being, moreover, a close approximation to the limit which Japanese legislators had decided to fix for ordinary leases. We remark, *en passant*, that a great deal of capital is made out of the fact that these regulations referred explicitly to dealings with foreigners, and we also note that we are accused of having falsely "represented them as a general Notification simply declaring the law on the subject of leases in general *without particular reference to foreigners*." We did nothing of the kind.

That phase of the question never entered our thoughts. Regulations intended to control a particular class of transactions naturally refer explicitly to those transactions. But the Kobe writers seem to set out with a thesis to prove, namely, that the Japanese Government deliberately devised and executed a secret scheme in 1884 for the purpose of evading the diplomatic arrangements concluded by it in 1868. Hence the use of the word "foreigners" in the regulations at once leads them to draw sinister inferences. It would be a mere waste of time to deal at any length with such arguments. The only point of importance is, were the Japanese Authorities competent to issue such regulations without breach of good faith towards foreigners or were they not competent. Had they given any kind of pledge as to the duration of leases between foreigners and Japanese outside the Settlement, or had they made any promise in the sense of exempting such transactions from the operation of the laws of the land then in existence or to be subsequently enacted? That point, the only crucial point, is carefully evaded by the Kobe writers. They beg the whole question by assuming that foreigners acquired a right to lease land in perpetuity, but how it was acquired, or what instrument conferred it, they make no attempt to show. And, of course, if the Japanese Authorities were competent to issue the regulations in question, they were under no manner of obligation to communicate them to the Foreign Consuls. The Foreign Consuls had only one function to perform with regard to the leases—the function of stamping and registering them. That remained unchanged, and beyond that their purview did not extend. It is stated, we observe, that the *Japan Mail* has been guilty of an untruth in alleging that "a law existed in Japan fixing 20 years as the maximum term for an ordinary land-lease." The *Japan Mail* made no such assertion. It said—"The general law of Japan fixes 20 years as the maximum term for an ordinary land lease but local custom *used* to have the force of law in these matters." As to the general law we spoke in the present; as to local custom which used to have the force of law, we spoke in the past. Custom is never a hard-and-fast law. It was often departed from before the enactment of the new Civil Code. Leases for long terms and even in perpetuity were frequently concluded. It is, indeed, very plain that but for the issue of the Hyogo Regulations in 1884, foreigners would generally have been able to obtain perpetual leases in the extra-Settlement area by offering sufficiently good terms, and their deprivation of that opportunity constituted the gravamen of the whole complaint. But it was not an opportunity to which they had any Conventional title. The Japanese Government, at an early period of the *Meiji*

legislation, recognised the soundness of the principles laid down by the best modern jurists of Europe with reference to the tenure and transfer of land, and the conditions that should attach to its leasing. Recognising those principles, the Government was bound to make every possible provision for their enforcement, and it can not be reasonably pretended that because, in the absence of legislative direction, a few Japanese subjects happened to have leased lands in perpetuity to foreigners outside the Hyogo Settlement, the system thus fortuitously inaugurated must be given extension and must also be held for all time inviolably beyond the reach of the law-making power. We can easily imagine the epithets that would be heaped on the heads of the Japanese if they advanced such claims on their own behalf.

The Government of Japan, in withdrawing the 25-years restriction for the period of half-a-dozen months remaining before the operation of the new Treaties, has not, we are persuaded, made any acknowledgment that the imposition of that restriction was a violation of diplomatic engagements. It has merely made a liberal concession to foreign convenience. Ever since the Restoration of 1867, the Japanese Government may be truly said to have discharged its treaty obligations in a frank and fair spirit. When the Kobe Memorialists put their signatures last spring to a statement that "definite diplomatic stipulations form the only safeguard upon which foreigners can rely," and that "to be effective they must be vigilantly enforced," they allowed themselves to be betrayed into one of the most unjustifiable accusations ever publicly preferred. For their singularly blunt assertion that the Japanese Government can not be trusted to keep its international promises unless all opportunities of evading them are placed beyond its reach, they had absolutely no warrant except their own arbitrary interpretation of the words "foreigners and Japanese may in future make arrangements between themselves and at their own convenience, for leasing lands or houses." They construed the clause "at their own convenience" to mean "irrespective of all laws which may be hereafter duly enacted by the Government of the Empire," and because the Japanese Government failed to endorse that extraordinary construction, they denounced it as a Government requiring to be bound by definite diplomatic stipulations which to be effective must be vigilantly enforced. Of course we all understand how these Memorials are got up. Two or three active agitators do the whole work. Their fellow-residents play a purely passive part, scarcely reading what is offered to them for signature and quite content to take it for granted that the right thing is being done in the right way. We do not suggest for a moment

that the leaders of such movements are insincere. On the contrary, they are generally men of high character and unselfish purpose. Certainly that was the case in Kobe. But they share the common proclivity to error, and the most charitable course with regard to the Kobe memorialists and the land question would be to let the curtain drop upon their mistakes. Unfortunately their champions can not be induced to preserve a discreet silence.

ANOTHER LIBERAL.

WE welcome the *Kokumin Shimbun* as another advocate of the liberal policy towards foreigners so ably advocated by journals like the *Fiji Shimpō*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Keisai Zasshi*, and the *Shogyo Shimpō*. It has not always been the case that cosmopolitan sentiments were warmly preached by the *Kokumin*. Less than two years ago, we should have been disposed to class the *Kokumin*—above all, its associated periodical, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*—among the leading Chauvinist newspapers of Tokyo, ranking in that respect with, but after, the *Nippon*, which has always worn the crown of Jingoism. A certain Secretary of Legation who interested himself considerably in Japan's ephemeral literature at that time, dubbed the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* the "cockey man at home," and it was an appropriate epithet. But the *Kokumin* now writes in an admirable strain. It reminds Japan of her record; how liberal eclecticism has always been the keynote of her national disposition ever since she had a history; how she invariably welcomed the stranger and encouraged him to settle within her gates, and how she freely learned from him everything he had to teach, awarding to him the honour and recompense that are a teacher's due. The time is rapidly approaching when she will have an opportunity of showing that this wise and serviceable mood survives, and that her appreciation of her own best interests as well as of her duties is not less clear and effective to-day than it was in remote times.

The truth of these reminiscences now noted by the *Kokumin* and frequently alluded to in the same general terms by the *Fiji Shimpō*, must have struck every careful student of Japanese history. It is not merely that the Japanese in ancient times placed no obstacles in the way of foreigners desiring to settle in the country, but also that they granted them official titles and gave them a large measure of authority. The most remote instances that occur to us are those recorded in the reign of the Emperor OJIN (271-310 A.D.) when weavers and embroiderers came from Korea to Japan, and the two great families of Shin and Kan were naturalized under leaders to whom were given the titles of *Yumitsuki-no-Kimi* and *Aichi-no-Omi*. A

Kimi or an *Omi* in those times corresponded with a departmental head in these modern days, and as such titles, from the era of their first institution by the Emperor SUININ (29 B.C. 70 A.D.), had been reserved for the patrician holders of hereditary offices, their bestowment on aliens indicated an extraordinary degree of liberality. A hundred and fifty years later, the members of the Shin family residing in Japan are said to have totalled 18,670 persons, and the Emperor YURIAKU had them organized under a *Sake-no-Kimi*, a descendant of the above *Yumitsuki-no-Kimi*. The same liberal disposition was shown in other directions. We find the Emperor BIDATSU (572-585) importing architects from Korea, and we know that they had been preceded by architects (*Kura-tsukuri*) from China, for among the latter was the well-remembered SHIBA TACHI-TO. A little later, the Emperor SUJIN (588-592), brought over tile-makers; the Empress SUIKO (593-628), manufacturers of paper, inks, and dyes, and so on; and the nature of the treatment accorded to those immigrants when they distinguished themselves may be gathered from the fact that, on the recommendation of Prince SHOTOKU, the Empress SUIKO bestowed the high title of *Daijin* on the sculptor SHIBA TORI, grandson of the Chinese architect SHIBA TACHI-TO, and granted him an estate of 50 acres of rice land in Omi province. Japan reaped the full benefit of her liberality, for she speedily acquired the arts and sciences of her oversea neighbours, and, so far from losing any of her own individuality in the process, as men like Viscount TANI and his conservative friends of the *Kokusai-hoson* seem to apprehend to-day, she impressed the mark of her own genius on everything she assimilated; impressed it with such success that, had not her historians been conspicuously honest in acknowledging her borrowings, Occidental experts would have been perplexed to discern the facts, and might even have ended by attributing to her neighbours the rôle of debtors rather than that of creditors. The Japanese need not look beyond the four corners of their own history when they go in search of a text-book for their guidance as this crisis of their career. They need only ask themselves how it would have fared with their nation if, instead of opening its arms wide to every foreigner bringing with him any store of intelligence or erudition in those early centuries, they had behaved, *mutatis mutandis*, as narrow-minded, timorous conservatives would have them behave now—imposed restrictions upon education by aliens, upon the ownership of real estate by aliens, upon the holding of railway shares by aliens, upon the working of mines by aliens, upon the undertaking of agricultural enterprise by aliens, and upon the exercise of every kind of administrative authority by aliens. Japan calls herself progressive,

and most of us endorse the term readily, but truly in many important respects she was more progressive fifteen hundred years ago than she is to-day. The trouble is that so many people seem to be blind to the lessons of their own country's annals. It is, perhaps, a little too much to expect that they should search the records of a far-remote age; records encumbered with much that obscures the gems of instruction they contain. But will they not devote a little intelligent scrutiny to the story of the present generation and its immediate predecessor; the story of the *Meiji* era. The foreigner must not be allowed to own real estate, they say. Well, but he has been allowed to own it in certain districts, and he has taken French leave to own it in others. What then? Has he injured the soil or carried away any of it? At Yokohama he was given a swamp, and he converted it into one of the most flourishing spots in the empire. On the Bluff, a few barley-fields and potato-patches were sold to him, and he constructed one of the most picturesque cities of villas and gardens to be found in the whole world. Here and there on barren sands by the sea-shore, which from time immemorial had never contributed a *sen* to the wealth of the country, he acquired some square yards of space and established summer resorts, bringing prosperity to the fisher-folk and setting an example which the country's statesmen and men of wealth have followed on a large scale. Thus far the result of the experiment of allowing him to own real estate is that, wherever he availed himself of the privilege, he added materially to the well-being of the people and to the wealth of the country. Has he permanently alienated the land from Japanese ownership? On the contrary, the lots he holds in the Settlements are not rated as high in the market as the lots in the adjoining Japanese towns which owe their prosperity to his presence, and when the restrictions imposed by the old treaties are abolished, the former lots will be purchasable by any Japanese who sees his account in buying them. The foreigner does not value the land a row of pins for its own sake. He values it solely as a necessary factor in his business arrangements. Never yet has a Japanese conservative succeeded in putting into intelligible language the grounds of his objection to foreign ownership of land. He can not state his objections: they are the most shadowy of chimeras. And then he says that to allow foreigners to take part in education would be to strike at the foundations of the people's patriotism. Yet he has been employing foreign educators ever since the Restoration, and has been doing that which is incomparably more calculated to undermine national individuality, namely, importing foreign systems of science, philosophy, ethics,

economics, and laws. Moreover, he has been sending his best students abroad to complete their education in foreign schools in foreign lands, where they are subjected to the fullest influence of alien surroundings and alien atmosphere. Have they come back minus their patriotism? Men that can not read the writing on the pages of their own time are ill-qualified to forecast the future of their country.

JAPANESE PROGRESS.

REFERRING, in a recent article, to the present condition of Japan's progress, we said that she shows injudicious unwillingness to employ foreign assistance, and we added "Not having yet supplied herself with really high standards, her tendency, in their absence, will be to retrograde rather than to advance." The *Japan Times* comments on these utterances, and attributes to us an assertion that Japan is "doomed to retrograde." There is, however, an important difference between "tendency" and "destiny." We do not by any means believe that Japan is doomed to retrograde. On the contrary, we have a very robust faith in her future. It is a question of degree only. When retrogression is spoken of, some standard of comparison is necessarily implied, and the standard we had in mind was Japan's previous rate of progress. We do not think that she is maintaining that rate, and we fear that her tendency will be to fall still further short of it in the immediate future. To set forth our meaning in full is a task of some difficulty, and, before undertaking it, we must remove one or two misapprehensions that lie on the threshold. The first of these relates to the factors that have made for Japan's progress in the past. The *Japan Times* errs in the estimate it attributes to us of those factors. It interprets us as saying that the solid and remarkably rapid progress hitherto achieved by Japan "has been due to foreign aid, and that, unless she is satisfied to go under foreign tutelage, she must be prepared for a retrograde movement." That sentence disturbs our estimate of our Tokyo contemporary's mood, but the language permits no latitude of rendering. We must take the words as they stand, and, thus taken, they offer a striking illustration of the very disposition which seems at present to be checking Japan's advance. Japan's progress in the past, we are charged with saying, "has been due to foreign aid," and unless "she is satisfied to go under foreign tutelage she must be prepared to retrograde." Now a great deal has been spoken and written about Japan's progress in modern times, and the speakers and writers have been chiefly foreign, we too being among the number. The Japanese themselves, to do them justice, have not shown any disposition to be boast-

ful. Here, then, we have to ask whether Japan's foreign panegyrists, or the foreign writers of her daily records, have ever given undue prominence to foreign assistance in appraising the causes of her progress. Have they not, on the contrary, invariably minimized that factor, and assigned the full credit to Japan? Whether they were perfectly impartial in so doing, need not be here considered. The fact itself is all that we adduce, and we adduce it as a clear proof that foreigners—exclusive of foreign local journalists, several of whom have worked great mischief—are not responsible for any sensitiveness Japan may feel on this point. They have not done anything to disturb her laurels; not from them has the singular suggestion come that by employing foreign aid she went "under foreign tutelage." The elements that make chiefly for success in any career, whether national or individual, are ability to grasp opportunities, discernment in the choice of agents, and liberal recourse to available aids. Japan's success in the past has been due to the exercise of all three qualities. If she has now become a prey to the morbid fantasy that by continuing to exercise the third she will be "going under foreign tutelage," her tendency in the immediate future will be to retrograde rather than to advance. Not a permanent tendency, however, but only a temporary, for, on the one hand, the sound instincts of which her best statesmen have given proof will ultimately re-assert themselves; and, on the other, increasing intimacy with foreign nations will extend her people's horizon and soften the over-wrought passion of self-assertion which at present perverts recourse to foreign assistance into submission to foreign tutelage.

The second preliminary point calling for notice is that there are always phases of comparative rest in every advance, and that we must be careful not to mistake them for evidences of a general tendency to retrograde. Japan set out at first from a position of virtual motionlessness, so far as concerned Western civilization. Hence every step she took was magnified by contrast with her previous quiescence. The difference between a modicum of competence and total inability is much more striking than the difference between proficiency and a modicum of competence. It falls within the range of every one's experience to be overtaken by a season of disappointment and apparent stagnation in the pursuit of any attainment, and very often the moral and physical impossibility of preserving an uniform rate of acceleration in the face of increasing obstacles to advance, is erroneously regarded as failure. For the obstacles do increase. Only commonplace ability is required to carry a man half-way towards success. The first part of the journey is comparatively easy, and the rate of advance correspond-

ingly rapid. But the second half—there the pace invariably slackens, and the stages of progress become so small by contrast that an impression of stoppage, if not of retrogression, is produced. Many foreign observers believe that Japan's advance has been checked, some that she is even losing ground. For ourselves, we are disposed to think that it is in great part a question of contrast. What she did at the outset seemed so striking by comparison that a false estimate of her rate of progress was suggested. The commencement of her railways, her telegraphs, her posts, her merchant fleet, her armaments, her educational system, her police, and her legislation were almost sensational. They set the world wondering and admiring. But each new step forward created a new point of comparison, until at last the evidences of advance have ceased to be salient. That there is no advance, however, would, we think, be a very false inference. The literature of the time is sufficient to dispel any such theory. One need only compare the articles and essays appearing in journals and periodicals to-day with those published three years ago, to see that the nation's point of view has shifted largely in the direction of the Occident. The spirit of the new civilization has come with the form, and, at the same time, there is growing up a wholesome faculty of discriminating against its abuses. It would be erroneous, then, to say that progress has ceased because it has ceased to be striking to the superficial observer.

Yet we believe that the situation is far from being satisfactory, and this brings us to the qualification which has challenged criticism; the qualification that Japan "has not yet supplied herself with really high standards," and that, in their absence, her tendency will be to lose much of her rate of progress—we refrain from the expression "to retrograde" as it, perhaps, over-states our meaning. In another article we will explain our meaning fully.

LEGATIONS IN TOKYO.

The abolition of the Brazilian Legation and Consulate in Tokyo and Yokohama seems to have had at least the merit of expedition. There is a kind of *hi presto* air about the incident. Yesterday these honorable institutions were flourishing with all the appearance of permanent authority: to-day they are things of the past. If the Brazilian Government established them originally for purely experimental purposes, it has scarcely allowed time for the experiment to have a fair trial; and if it saw good reason for establishing them in 1897, we do not understand why the reason should have vanished in 1898. The record savours of the farcical, and has a decidedly unwelcome aspect for the people in Tokyo who can ill afford to lose people so agreeable as Mr. Lisboa and his family. We trust that it may not prove to be a case of misfortune never coming singly, for there are other Legations in Tokyo whose maintenance must be an even more unprofitable strain upon the resources of their Governments than the Brazilian Legation's was.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE
RELIGIOUS PRESS

The *Bukkyō* discusses at great length the present state of opinion in Buddhist circles and the prospects of the sect as a whole. According to this authority, there is what may be called an advance guard in Buddhist ranks, composed of daring spirits whose watchword is progress, and there is a main body of adherents who, with a slow and heavy tread, follow the lead of the pioneers. In an article noticed by us a few months ago, which appeared in the *Bukkyō*, it was contended that the utterances of the most advanced exponents of Buddhist thought were lacking in distinctness and outspokenness. It was also shown that there was an absence of any unifying principle in the teaching of the leaders, and that with some of them there was too much drifting with the tide. The *Bukkyō* now reviews the condition of the mass of the exponents of Buddhism. There are three ways in which the influence of Buddhists of this class is felt. (1) They teach in schools. (2) They edit and contribute to magazines and newspapers. (3) They preach or lecture. Of these three methods the first is the most important in our view, says the *Bukkyō*, but, unfortunately for the interests of Buddhism, the Buddhist teachers in schools make a very poor use of their opportunities. They are more interested in secular learning than in Buddhism and impart to their pupils much knowledge that militates against Buddhist teaching. In education they have no high moral and religious ideal. They aim at keeping pace with government schools in secular teaching, and that is all. The schools are Buddhist in name only. They produce no evangelists. As regards the general religious teaching of Buddhists of the conservative type, it is by no means of a kind to produce belief. Men of this school of thought complain of the liberal and advanced Buddhists and charge them with undermining faith by their scientific doctrines, but the Buddhist philosophy which the conservatives teach is not of a kind to strengthen faith. In our opinion, says the *Bukkyō*, there is far too much philosophy and too little religion in Buddhist teaching. This is an evil that calls for a remedy. The use which the ordinary Buddhist convert makes of his sacred books is something entirely different from that of the Christian. The latter reads and derives comfort and instruction from his Bible on all occasions. As he sits by the fire or lies in his bed, in times of joy and times of sorrow, the earnest Christian may be seen poring over the sacred page. What he reads he seeks to understand and apply. But the Buddhist uses his Bible as a charm only. He does not seek to understand it. As he listens to the scriptures being read he says he is conscious of being blessed thereby, he knows not how. This savours of incantation and is quite inferior to the intelligent appreciation of Biblical teaching found among devout Christians. . . . The only Buddhist sects that possess anything like an adequate organisation are the Shin, Sōtō, Shingon, and Jōdo. But even with these there are grave defects in organisation. None of the schools established by them train evangelists to such an extent that they need no other training, that is, they do not turn out men that are deeply religious and abreast of

the times in point of scholarship. Consequently the difficulty of finding suitable men to fill vacancies at the great temples is very great. According to the present state of opinion in Buddhist circles, the Buddhist preacher is one whose office it is to deceive the people by delivering plausible speeches. Superior young Buddhists are above filling such a post; they choose school work in preference to becoming evangelists. The remedy for this evil is to raise the status of the Buddhist preacher, to make him worthy of the esteem of the world at large by educating him thoroughly and impressing on him the importance of his becoming a great moral and religious reformer in his parish. Our religious seminaries have proved failures as manufacturers of evangelists to suit the age. Let us no longer rely on them, but try and produce by means of our ordinary schools and colleges a number of young men who shall be prepared to devote their scholarship to the sacred purpose of rendering Buddhism once more a power in the land.

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The *Kokumin Shimbun* comments on the experiment being tried at Hakodate with Aino boys. Mr. Nettleship, who is connected with the English Church Missionary Society, has for several years past been engaged in teaching some 20 Aino boys at Yachigashira, Hakodate. Mr. Nettleship has found that the boys cannot stand over-much head-work, and hence part of each day is spent in a little farm and gardening work; and, furthermore, the boys are allowed to go home and assist their parents for several months at the busy time of the year with the Aino farmer. In summing up the results of this experiment, the *Kokumin Shimbun* says that intellectually the Aino mind is in every way inferior to the Japanese, except perhaps in the power of imitating. It has next to no originating power, is quite incapable of being taught the higher mathematics, nor can it comprehend the more abstruse doctrines of Christianity. Hence, says the organ we are quoting, though the spread of religion is the object of the supporters of the Hakodate Aino school, as a preliminary to this they should endeavour to develop the dwarfed Aino intellect, for in his normal state none of the cardinal doctrines of Christianity can be rendered intelligible to him. There are, we are told, one or two Aino schools near Kushiro, and steps are being taken to establish an Aino girls' school at Sapporo.

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The *Fukuin Shimpō* has a note entitled, "The Morality of Golden Sign Boards," which makes interesting reading. The importance attached to titles and signs and the moral meaning they convey is something quite peculiar in Japan, says the *Fukuin Shimpō*. Some of these are quite a study. Take the term 實業 *Jitsugyō*, which of late has been employed by undertakers as distinctive of their line of business. For a long time passers-by were very much amused by seeing the above-named ideographs transcribed over an undertaker's shop in Kamakuragashi, Kanda. For some reason or other the sign was subsequently removed. But still the employees of certain undertakers have the term *Jitsugyō* written on their caps. The meaning which the majority of people give to this term is, says the *Fukuin Shimpō*, quite peculiar. They understand the word as essentially con-

nected with all material and real things and as the opposite of things mental and spiritual, which they treat as non-existent or unreal. But what claim the business of the undertaker has to the exclusive and distinctive use of a term that is applied to a number of various trades and industries it is difficult to see. Is the use of the term to be interpreted as a subtle way of asserting the doctrine of the materialists? asks the *Fukuin Shimpō*. Do those who use it intend to say,—"What becomes of the spirit nobody knows. We are concerned with the material remains of the deceased, which alone are real, which alone have actual existence." May not the term resemble that written on the Cross of Christ, "The King of the Jews?" May it not bear two meanings? To Christians the title given to Christ by Pilate represented his spiritual kingship. But to the Romans and to discerning non-Christian Jews it was a proof of the thralldom of the nation to which he belonged. So with this *jitsugyō* of the undertakers, to them it means one thing, to discerning outsiders quite another. The tendency to embody in titles a certain supposed moral superiority to their fellows is seen in many other quarters. In a street in Kanda may be seen the title, Shisei Kangofu-kai, "The most Holy Nursing Society;" and at Shinbashi, over the door of a foreign fancy goods shop is inscribed the term, Shōjikiya, "The Honest Store." At Asakusa there is the Shōjiki Sobaya, which is very old. The same tendency is seen in the choice of personal names. Those bearing a moral meaning are very numerous. Handbills, business circulars and declarations drawn up by political parties are all permeated with the same moral tint; documents of this kind being considered imperfect without allusion to virtue of some kind or other. When the manifestos of great political parties in Japan like the Jiyūtō and the Kaishintō are compared with similar documents published in the West, it is found that the former are full of moral allusions and professions. Notwithstanding all the lack of public spirit and the unwillingness to sink minor differences in the promotion of a great cause, on every possible occasion the sign-board morality appears in blazing letters before the public eye. To draw up a document without saying something about 義勇奉公 *Giyū hōkō*, or 忠君愛國 *chūkun aikoku* would, in the opinion of competent judges, endanger its success as an appeal to Yamato's sons. It is to be feared, concludes the *Fukuin Shimpō*, that in Japan, as in China, too frequently the form is made to do service for the reality and men are wont to write on their signboards what they never dream of practicing in their daily lives.

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The *Rikugō Zasshi* observes, in reference to the Sugamo prison affair, that it is absurd to be wrangling over the question as to which sect the majority of prisoners belong, as it is quite plain that no criminal is either a true Christian or a true Buddhist. All prisoners are in need of reform and to be quarrelling as to who has the right to reform them is very foolish. It makes little matter by what means they are changed as long as the change is real. In connection with this, the *Rikugō* takes occasion to remark that Christianity would fare better in such controversies if she were more in touch with society as a whole and with the modern spirit of pro-

gress. Christianity in Japan is too isolated, too European and too exclusive, says this organ.

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The *Kyōiku Jiron* publishes an account of Bishop Nicolai's Theological Seminary; from which we gather that the course extends over seven years. The first four years are devoted to imparting instruction on purely secular subjects. In the 5th year, Philosophy, Biblical Exegesis, Ecclesiastical History and similar subjects are taught; these studies, with a few others, being extended over the 6th and 7th years as well. The qualifications for admission to the seminary are (1) Good health. (2) A desire to serve the church as a preacher or a lay-teacher. (3) Graduation at a Higher Elementary School or at some establishment of equal rank as regards the education imparted. (4) Exemption from home ties and responsibilities. (5) The age of candidates to be between 14 and 18.

The *Kyōiku Jiron* observes that the Surugadai Seminary, like all mission schools, gives a very large number of holidays during the year, observing all Japanese as well as all foreign holidays.

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The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* (No. 798) in an article entitled "Under-Currents of Christian Thought," minutely analyses the 30 Christian sects represented in Japan, and discusses the effects on the Japanese mind of their many differences. The writer first points out that there is hardly a conceivable shade of opinion on any religious subject that is not represented by the foreign missionaries now residing in Japan. There are sticklers for the most minute and elaborate ceremony, like the Roman Catholics, the Greek Church, and the Protestant High Church party. There are sticklers for no ceremony of any kind, like the Bible Christians and the Plymouth Brethren. Between these two extremes there ranges every variety of view conceivable. In the matter of liberty of thought, belief and practice between the Unitarians and Lutherans at one extreme and the Roman Catholics and Greek Church at the other, there is endless variety. Is it any wonder that the Japanese are bewildered and ask in despair "what is truth?" Take any one of the burning questions of the day, says the *Fukin Shimpō*, like, for instance, the dependence of the native churches on foreign aid, and you will find the greatest diversity of opinion thereon. Classification is a difficult task and can only be done in a rough fashion, somewhat as follows. Christians may be divided into (1) The gospel party; (2) the no-gospel party; (3) the party in favour of retaining the missionaries (4) the party in favour of the entire independence of the native churches. Among these parties the last two demand special attention at the present time. The Kumiai churches and the Nihon Kirisuto Kyōkai have for some time figured as champions of the absolute independence of Japanese Churches. They have lately been joined by a large number of Canadian Methodists. These Methodists have changed their policy very considerably within the past few months. There seem to be signs that they will divide off into two great parties, the missionary and the no-missionary party (*Senkyōshi to hi-senkyōshi no nihai*). It has come to this that the question of the relation which the foreign missionary should bear to the native church can no longer be

shelved. It must be settled. It is a mistake to think that the Dōshisha question principally concerned doctrine. It was most intimately connected with the relation that foreign missionaries bear to the native churches. Much of the success of Christianity in Japan will depend on how this problem is solved. Some definite decision must be come to. It is quite impossible for the two parties to work together.

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Turning to the pro and anti gospel parties we find that here the dispute is not about Church government and Church management, but about doctrine. The gospel party is essentially conservative; it believes in what is called traditional theology. It is guided in all its interpretations of the Scriptures by the authorities that are recognised in the west. Their opponents claim the right of interpreting the Bible in their own way, and they think that all the tradition and the dogmas which have in the course of ages grown up around the tree of Christianity are as pernicious in their effects as the luxuriant growth of some malignant creeper around a forest giant. They contend that in order to make Christianity powerful in Japan she must be stripped of all her encumbrances. The contest between the pro and anti traditionalists is very keen and compromise is impossible. The victory of one party or the other will make itself felt throughout the whole country.

One thing is certain; there is no reason whatever why sects and parties should divide off here as they divided years ago in the West on account of some minor point of doctrine or difference of opinion in reference to ecclesiastical government. It would be quite absurd to perpetuate these differences to all time here. They are clearly not essential parts of Christianity. Hence in the division of parties which we have given above we have only laid stress on those divisions that concern us as Japanese. We have confined ourselves to questions that are vital to all Japanese alike. Shall we accept western traditional theology in its entirety or shall we claim the right of selecting only such parts of it as seem to us a vital part of original Christianity? Shall we aim at getting rid of the foreign missionary altogether and manage our churches after our own fashion? Or is it desirable that he should be retained? These are the clear issues on which the Church of Christ in Japan is called upon to pronounce an opinion; and it is undesirable that they should be obscured by not less important questions.

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In the *Shinri*, the German Church organ, the Rev. H. Minami writes on the best method of teaching Christianity in Japan. There are two questions which all earnest Japanese Christians should ask, says Mr. Minami. The first is, how can Christianity be harmonised with Japan's past history? The second is, how can Christianity maintain her independence and high rank against the opposition she receives from science and philosophy? In reference to the first question it is important to observe that as far as possible it is desirable that Christianity should be Japonicised. There is a limit, however, beyond which this cannot be carried without sacrificing some of the essential parts of the Christian faith. Three or four years ago, an attempt to nationalise Christianity failed, because the promoters of the movement did not

observe this principle. It is possible to Japonicize Christianity to such an extent that there shall be none of it left. When we come to ask what view of Christianity it is desirable to perpetuate in this country, we are confronted with wide differences of opinion. The orthodox party would found the Church on supernaturalism. The liberal party in the church believes in founding it on reason. It is well-known that we hold the latter opinion. Now the question which it is important to ask is, can a church that refuses to believe in miracles, that discards all the numerous dogmas of the orthodox and allows reason to exercise full sway in the domain of theology, hold together as a corporation? Turning to the history of Christianity in the West, we find that there is no instance of the continued existence of such a body.† Liberal Christians may greatly influence and modify orthodox opinion as long as they remain connected with the orthodox party, but no sooner do they separate themselves from that party and try to form a church of their own than they fail. The Lutheran Church in Japan is attempting this. Will it succeed? I myself believe it will. But this is only my belief, and facts may yet show its groundlessness. If we can succeed in doing what has never been done in the West, it will be a subject for rejoicing among liberal-minded Christians all over the world. The conditions here at the present time are certainly most favourable for the experiment. The feat, if accomplished, will impart to Japanese Christianity a colour of its own.

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The *Hansei Zasshi* publishes a jeremiad on the state of Buddhism in Japan. The 100,000 temples and the 30,000,000 adherents seem to indicate that the religion still has a great hold on the masses, but any one well acquainted with the sentiments and the actions of professing Buddhists knows that to the majority the creed is a mere empty profession. The priests are clamouring for special privileges, but they are doing nothing to show that they are worthy of government patronage and protection. Their protestations against the indifference with which they are treated by the Government and their pleading their former connection with the Imperial Family, are pitiable to behold and can only be compared to some impoverished student informing a servant-maid at a lodging-house that he is descended from noblemen. The early founders of the faith in this country would have spurned such methods of drawing attention to their religion. Patronage where there is no actual strength and no real earnestness of conviction only increases corruption. The best thing that can happen to Buddhism is for her to come into competition with Christianity on her own merits.

The *Hansei Zasshi*, in another part of the number from which we have quoted, declares itself to be in favour of the public acknowledgment of Christianity as one of the religions of Japan. With those who say that certain forms of Christianity might prove injurious to the State, the *Hansei* does not agree. Such objections

† Perhaps the Unitarians may be cited as an exception to the rule referred to by Mr. Minami, though the actual influence exercised by that body over the minds of men is not to be compared to that wielded by the orthodox.—(Writer of the Summary).

are more academic than real. In practice none of the existing forms of the Christian faith are likely to conflict with the State. If they should, the State can take care of itself, says the *Hansei Zasshi*.

If Buddhism is desirous of adapting itself to modern requirements, observes the *Hansei Zasshi*, it must erect buildings in thickly populated parts of the chief towns of Japan and separate its preaching from temple services and all the gloomy associations connected with buildings surrounded by the dead. The erection of temples in retired spots, on the top of a well-wooded hill away from the noise of business well accorded with the asceticism and the unworldliness which formed such prominent characteristics of leading Buddhists in former days. But now it is felt that if Buddhism is to retain her hold over men's minds she must mix more with the world. Men that would be ready to listen to a Buddhist discourse in an ordinary building often object to go to a temple. There is a certain gravity about entering a temple that is out of harmony with the everyday thoughts and feelings of many a man of business. In a great city like Tōkyō it is quite a mistake for the chief Buddhist preaching places to be far removed from the haunts of business men. While such districts as Kanda and Nishonbashi are ill-supplied with Buddhist preaching places, comparatively thinly populated suburbs like Shiba, Azabu, Hongō and Koishikawa abound with temples.

The *Hansei Zasshi* (No. 12) discusses the fortunes of government, education and religion during the past year. Omitting politics, which have already been treated fully in these columns, the following is a short abstract of the writer's observations on education and religion:—At no period in our history have there been so many changes in the Department of Education. In Dr. Hamano scholarship was represented. He was succeeded by a politician, Marquis Satonji, who gave place to another representative of the learned world, Professor Toyama, who was succeeded by an eminent political leader, Mr. Ozaki, who made way for Mr. Inukai, another politician; whose tenure of office was very short, however, the post being finally filled by the appointment of an Admiral (Kabayama). The whole thing is a subject for laughter. Is there any country where so many radical changes have occurred within so short a time? But it would be a mistake to suppose that the Department as a whole has been seriously affected by these changes. The schools throughout the country have followed their usual routine and a large amount of thorough work is being carried on. It is noticeable that there is a great stir in the educational world caused by the near approach of mixed residence and the necessity of the Government's adopting some fixed policy in reference to schools conducted by foreigners. This question has been vehemently discussed in the High Educational Council; and we are informed that as a result of that discussion a number of restrictions are to be placed on the educational efforts of foreigners. We thought that the strong anti-foreign spirit was confined to the first years of the *Meiji* era and that Japan was sufficiently civilised to appreciate the labours of foreign school teachers, but it would seem that we are mistaken. Our

advance is nothing to be proud of after all. After dwelling on the decay of manners and the numerous remedies that have been proposed to arrest that decay, the *Hansei Zasshi* proceeds to discuss the history of religion during the past year. As far as Buddhism is concerned there is little that is gratifying. Priests of the right sort are becoming scarcer and scarcer. Temples have been burnt or have fallen into decay that were once promising.

In a comparison between Buddhism and Christianity, published in the *Tōyō-tetsugaku*, some parts of which are very fanciful and not worth reproducing here, the writer says that Christianity is suited to young men who are full of hope and anxious to make their influence felt in the world, and that Buddhism is suited to the old and the wearied who have seen and known all that is worth knowing in this life and are now waiting calmly to enter the state of eternal repose. It may be said, continues the writer we are quoting, that the Oriental disposition dislikes hurry. Buddhism tends to nurture this disposition, and hence is unsuitable in the present age, when to take things leisurely means too often defeat in the race of life.

Dr. Paul Carus has published in America (Chicago) a translation of and a commentary on Lautze's *Tan-teh-king*. We understand from the review of the book which appears in the *Tōyō-tetsugaku* that the Chinese text is given in its original, and a transliterated form. The work is furnished with notes and an introduction. Dr. Carus' volume is highly praised by the reviewer we are citing, who says that the work has been made more intelligible to foreign readers than heretofore. Dr. Carus is of opinion that the French translation of Julian, the English translations of Chalmers and Legge and the German translations are all deficient. The book opens with a picture of the great philosopher, and is followed by a learned introduction, which discusses the age in which Lautze lived, the origin of his philosophy and religion and compares his teaching with that of other sages of antiquity. The work should prove of great value, says the *Tōyō-tetsugaku*; not only to all foreign students of religion, but to scholars in Japan, who find no small difficulty in comprehending the short, pithy, but fragmentary sayings of the great Chinese teacher. The work is issued by the Open Court Press, Chicago, and sells at 3 gold dollars per copy.

Dr. Inouye Enryō, who is one of the most indefatigable lecturers that the Buddhists possess, has published a number of his addresses under the title of *Sōhei Kairōron* (On the Reform of Priestly Abuses). In criticising this work the *Tōyō-tetsugaku* asserts that Dr. Inouye places far too much confidence in young priests in his scheme of reform. These priests, says the *Tōyō-tetsugaku*, are neither in character nor education qualified to take the lead in a reform movement, and this Dr. Inouye ought to know. Youth is only respected in Japan when combined with wisdom or sterling virtue. The young men who have been trained in Buddhist Schools of modern type will not bear comparison with young Christian students, according to the organ we are citing.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FIRE AT THE Y.U.C.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your brief note of Monday evening's fire concludes with the correct statement that it was "put out in an hour and a half," and all things considered I suppose we must be thankful it was. Some considerable allowance must be made for the "New Year" condition of the Japanese firemen,—but surely such an example of how "not to do it" cannot pass without comment.

Had the whole affair been planned solely for the benefit of the brigade, with a view to giving them a chance of "getting their hand in" early in the year, matters could not have been arranged to greater advantage. Two hydrants were available, and when those failed the sea could have been drawn upon, seeing that it was practically within arm's length of the burning building. Added to this, the evening was calm, the edifice was old and of small value, detached from the surrounding buildings, and (greatest advantage of all) stood just between two higher buildings,—from the roofs of which tons of water could have been poured into the upper storey through the hole which the fire had conveniently made in the roof,—and thus the brigade could have had a nice little practice without danger to life, or damage to valuable property.

But what happened? In the first place no attempt was apparently made to get on to the neighbouring roofs, and thus the greatest advantage of the favourable location was neglected,—possibly because no depth of sufficient length was obtainable,—but surely two of those on the spot could have been lashed together within the hour and a half. Far be it from me to ridicule so serious a matter as a conflagration, but as our life in the Far East is seldom enlivened by local comedy one can hardly refrain from dwelling on the humorous side of any source of amusement,—even of fires. To behold the brave Japanese heroes holding hose which emitted bold streams for fully 36 inches from the nozzles (and which thus brought the water within 30 feet of the fire), and to watch their heroic smashing of windows with wedged fists, and intrepid climbings-up and slidings-down of ladders placed against the Hotel and practically out of sight of the fire, were sights well calculated to thrill the most splenetic. But some excellent work was done notwithstanding, and taking all things into consideration I suppose that when the value of the material actually destroyed by fire be compared with that needlessly damaged, the conflagration will prove to be about the most costly we have had for some time. Some cynic remarked that there was really no heat given out on either side of the burning building, and that by closing the windows and shutters of the Hotel all danger and damage would have been prevented by an occasional spraying of the exposed wood-work. But when a thing is worth doing at all it is worth doing well,—and it was done properly on Monday. All the rooms on one side of the Hotel were flooded as deep as possible until the ceiling of the dining room below gave way, and a shower-bath of sizeable dimensions was provided for all comers. It was a decided success, and as the cost (which was fairly heavy) goes to the debit of the Insurance Companies,—who cares? Meanwhile the good work was not confined to the Hotel,—for the Club Library, (one of the best in the East) was being "saved" or—perhaps more correctly—"destroyed." On Monday afternoon the library was probably worth \$10,000,—but in a few brief minutes its value was lowered fully 50 per cent., for to damp volumes out of upstairs windows on a heap of bricks, mud, and foundation paraphernalia is about the most effective method of ruining them one could well devise. From the first to the last the library was never in danger of destruction by fire, and had the books been bundled into curtains, carpets, etc., and a shoot improvised from a ladder (in case of development), we should to-day

have our library, instead of a heap of ruined literature lying in the mud of a neighbouring compound.

The foreigner in command of the brigade knows his business, but what can the best general do, if his commands be not obeyed, and his men prove incompetent and disorderly? One good man among a crowd of incompetents is quite insufficient, and surely it would pay in the long run were half-a-dozen more foreigners employed to keep the harum-scarum element in check, and prevent such a needless destruction of valuable property. After all the fire now in question may prove profitable if it lead to the establishment of a more efficient brigade of fire men.

Yours truly, SPECTATOR.
Yokohama, 4th January, 1899.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

Friday evening's meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was a pronounced success. The room at the Van Schaick Hall, which was very prettily decorated for the holiday season, was fairly packed by an appreciative audience, to whom a capital programme was offered. The usual literary contribution was dispersed with and the time ordinarily occupied by it was devoted to a lengthy programme of musical selections, recitations, &c., all of which were most acceptably rendered. Miss Dorsey's recitations and "Delsartean poses" were an especially enjoyable feature, and showed a remarkable range of elocutionary ability, the selections ranging from "King John" to "Aunt Sylvia's first Lesson in Geography." The selections by the quartet-party, and the solos of Mr. W. Karl Vincent were also enjoyable items, and secured encores. Programme:—

PROGRAMME.

- 1—Overture, Quintet. "Zampa".....(Herald)
Miss Poole, Mr. Mason (Piano); Mr. F. Schmid,
Mr. Poole (Violin), Mr. R. Schmid (Cello).
- 2—Recitation. Scene from Act V. "King
John".....(Shakespeare)
Miss Carolyn V. Dorsey.
- 3—Vocal Solo...."Hymne d'amour".....(Massenet)
Madame Rego.
- 4—Recitation...."Aunt Sylvia's First Lesson in
Geography."
Miss Dorsey.
- 5—Piano Solo—
(a) Lyric Pieces, Op. 43.....(Grieg)
(b) "Romanza" F. sharp... (Schumann)
(c) "Nocturne".....(Liszt)
Mr. W. Karl Vincent.

INTERMISSION.

- 6—Quartet...."Life of Bohemians".....(Schumann)
Miss R. Schmid, Mr. Mason (Piano); Mr. Kaufmann
(Violin), Mr. F. Schmid (Cello.)
- 7—Recitation. Scene from "Leah, the
Forsaken".....(Daley)
Miss Dorsey.
- 8—Vocal Solo...."Romanza".....(Grieg)
Madame Rego.
- 9—String Quartette—
(a) "Traumverloren".....(Komzak)
(b) "Volkslied".....(Komzak)
Mr. Kaufmann (1st Violin), Mr. Poole, (2nd
Violin), Mr. F. Schmid (Viola), Mr. R. Schmid
(Cello).
- 10—Delsartean Poses, (with musical accompani-
ment) Miss Pratt (Piano)
Miss Dorsey.

AN EVENTFUL VOYAGE.

The British barque *Fifeshire* (1,318 tons), which arrived at Yokohama on Thursday from Antwerp, had an extremely long and tempestuous voyage. On the way out via the Cape she experienced fearful weather, and was so damaged that she had to put into Capetown, where her cargo, chiefly consisting of cast iron pipes, had to be taken out and restowed, and extensive repairs were made. In the China Sea and off the Islands she had also to meet extremely rough weather, losing her fore top-mast and fore top-gallant-mast, and sustaining a considerable amount of damage in other respects. She started from Antwerp on May 14th, 1898, so that she was very nearly eight months on the voyage. But for her last unfortunate

experience she would have escaped the new Tariff duties, and saved a good many thousand dollars.

KOREAN ITEMS.

The *Korean Independent*, as the editor admits, is suffering from a dearth of news, and the latest numbers to hand are not so entertaining as usual. "Molayo" holds forth on the People's Meeting, which was still being held in the streets and before the Palace. On the 14th December, led by Han Tongsik, a right hand man of Min Yongkui, the notorious Minister of Finance, and Kon Tongau, a well known rascal, the Pedlars planned a general attack on the meeting. On that day the 2nd regiment of the Imperial Body Guard were to and did "harass the people in the name of drill." On the 15th Dec., four Pedlars were caught by the people and examined by the Police authorities in front of the Police Station. The gist of their confessions was that fifty or more Pedlars were to mix with the people, participating in discussions, etc. "At a given signal, the Pedlars were to strike down Mr. Ko Yongkun, the President of the People's Meeting, and Mr. T. H. Yun, the President of the Independence Club. Next, the seventeen Independents who had been imprisoned and several leaders were to be attacked. That day the soldiers of the Imperial Body Guard did their part in surrounding and scaring the meeting, but the Pedlars and assassins postponed their work owing to the absence of Messrs. Ko and Yun, their intended victims.

On the 17th the People's Meeting presented a fourth memorial in which the confessions of the Pedlars were given. His Majesty was begged to punish Min Yong-kui, "who, as the Minister of Finance, wastes public money for hiring and supporting a band of desperadoes."

On the 15th ult., Mr. T. H. Yun was appointed Governor of Söul, but "Molayo" announced he would not accept the office. "Nor do I blame him for the decision, as the appointment is nothing but a device to entrap him in some fictitious crime." On the same date Mr. Kim Yong-joon was made Commissioner of Police. His intimate connection with Min Yongkui, and his known partiality for the Pedlars made the appointment exceedingly unpopular. The People's Meeting refused to recognize him as the Commissioner. On the night of the 18th his resignation was accepted, and in his stead Mr. Yun Woongyul was made the Commissioner of Police. Other official changes are announced, but to give them would only bewilder our readers.

The Privy Council met for the first time on the 15th Dec. According to the constitution of the Council, the Vice-President was elected by the Councillors by ballot. Out of 29 votes Mr. T. H. Yun received 19. His name was sent to the Council of State to be reported to His Majesty for appointment. On the 15th ult., the Privy Councillors took the bold step of recommending candidates to the Council of State for the various Ministries of the Government. Each of the 33 members was to write down on a slip of paper eleven names he thought most worthy of the Cabinet positions. Among those nominated was Pak Yong-ho, and the President of the Privy Council declined to submit the recommendation to the Council of State on account of the mention of Pak. The People's Meeting endorsed the action of the Privy Councillors. Mr. Pak having left Korea in 1895 under a charge of high treason, the People's Meeting appointed a prosecuting committee to petition the Minister of Justice to recall him for a thorough and fair trial.

The new river steamer *Söbi Muru*, recently put on the run between Chemulpo and Söul, foundered on the evening of the 14th at a place some 15 miles below Yongnan, and was quite covered up by sand. Out of some 23 people on board 17 were lost. The cargo was a total loss.

CHINESE NEWS.

Hongkong has now penny postage to the United Kingdom and British Colonies, the arrangement having come into force on Christmas Day. The penny is reckoned at four cents.

We learn from Shanghai papers that a shooting *fracas* took place on board the China Merchants' steamer *Fishing* on Christmas evening. The 2nd Engineer Mr. C. Turney, had been drinking, and whilst under the influence of liquor became exceedingly quarrelsome. On doing to dinner words ensued between him and a lad called Eveleigh, a deck apprentice, who was acting as 3rd Engineer. Turney refused to sit at table and went to his room for his revolver. He then returned to the saloon and fired two shots at Eveleigh, one of which hit the lad on the body but was fortunately deflected by a button. The 2nd Officer, Mr. A. N. Barrier, and Mr. L. Foucaas, a guest and friend of Eveleigh, attempted to take away the weapon and in doing so were wounded, the former receiving a severe scalp wound on the back of the head and the latter a bullet in the left thigh. Both were conveyed to the General Hospital for treatment and are now progressing favourably. Turney escaped and all trace was lost of him until the 28th, when he walked into the police office and gave himself up. An amusing incident in connection with the shooting is reported by a contemporary. The lad Eveleigh, believing he was shot and having a flesh bruise, attended at the General Hospital for treatment, which was readily given. A bandage was applied, and, as the spot was a dangerous one, five doctors were summoned to assist in the operation of probing, etc. Ether was given and a search made for the non-existing puncture, when to the astonishment of the doctors the bullet was found embedded in the patient's clothing.

A letter to the *Shenpao* of Shanghai states that the Russian officials in Kirin are engaging a large number of four-horse carts to convey heavy baggage (said to be army baggage, etc.) from Hunchun, south of Passiet Bay, to Port Arthur, at a general price of Tls. 500 per cart for the journey. No less than 4,000 such carts are said to be needed by the Russian officials, but owing to the high prices offered there will be no trouble in obtaining this large number, as the carters say that, after deducting expenses in feeding themselves and their animals, each cart will make Tls. 200 to Tls. 300 for the trip.

An expedition fitted out by Mr. Pritchard Morgan, M.P., left Shanghai on the last day of the old year for Szechuan. It is under command of Mr. Burn-Murdoch and consists of four English and American engineers and a Chinese secretary, suite, and servants. Mr. Pritchard-Morgan, daughter, and secretary left for England by the *Prins Heinrich*.

The latest news regarding the doings of Yü Man-tze relates to the capture by his men of a confidential secretary of H.E. Wang Chih-chuan, the new Provincial Treasurer of Szechuan. It appears that the secretary boasted to the Treasurer that he would be able to persuade the rebel Yü to lay down his arms "after half an hour's talk," and that, although strenuously entreated by his employer not to be too rash, he left the Treasurer's temporary *yamen* in Chongking one night on horse-back, alone, for Yü's camp. The secretary arrived there but was thrown into prison without the honour of the coveted interview.

The Chungking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*, writing on Dec. 12th, has this news to communicate:—"Seven brigands, among them two chiefs, were captured at Yangchuan and executed a few days ago. The unofficial Chinese are in great fear that Yü Man-tze will defeat the Imperial troops, in which case matters will be decidedly serious."

According to a correspondent of a Shanghai native paper, a fire has occurred on the Lu Shan Mountains, near Kinkiang, and a number of buildings were destroyed, including the sum-

mer residences of several foreigners and missionaries.

Work on the Hankow-Canton line bids fair to be started at an early date. Three surveying parties of American engineers have already started from the Hankow end, and Sheng Tao-tai is starting for Hunan in a few days to facilitate the work and inspect the route.

During last year about 400 Chinese families settled in Southern Russia with the special mission of initiating Russian planters into the secrets of the tea branch of agriculture. The tea fields are situated in the immediate neighbourhood of the sea, running along the Batoum-Tiflis line. The picking, on a grand scale, is to begin shortly, with the help of the Chinese, who are kept there by contract and are already getting accustomed to the climate.

The *Shen Pao* of Shanghai says that on the working of the Hanchow Mint being suspended owing to the inefficiency of the staff, the manager obtained permission to engage a German expert and a few other European coiners, also to transfer ten experienced Chinese workmen from the Hupoh Mint to assist in the work. These arrived at the Mint on the 23rd Dec. and as the machinery has been set in working order and the necessary materials are at hand, working will be resumed as soon as the Governor's order to do so is received.

With reference to the battalion of Chinese to be raised at Wei-hai-wei, a party of drill instructors have left England. These instructors will be engaged for two years under specially attractive conditions offered by the Secretary of War. They are being selected from infantry battalions by Captain Bruce, of the West Riding Regiment. Young unmarried sergeants will be chosen, and each will get a step in local rank, the members of the staff whilst so employed being supernumerary in their regiments. Sergeant-majors' pay will also be increased to £200, and that of colour-sergeants to £152. The new regiment will be trained and trained on the system instituted in the Egyptian Army by Sir Evelyn Wood and Sir Francis Grenfell; and instructors who qualify in the Chinese language will receive a bonus of £20.

LOSS OF THE "GLENAYON."

News has been received in Yokohama of the loss of the "Glen" line steamer *Glenayon*, which went on a rock at Shamun, near Hongkong, on Thursday evening, Dec. 29th. Two boats have reached shore safely, but two others are missing. The *Glenayon* was under the command of Captain Pitblie. She is supposed to be a total wreck.

The Yokohama agents of the Glen line of steamers kindly inform us that Capt. Pitblie, Master of the ill-fated steamer *Glenayon*, has arrived safely in Hongkong.

The *North China Daily News* contains the following telegrams regarding the loss of the *Glenayon*:-

The steamer *Glenayon* left Hongkong at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 29, and at 7 p.m. struck a rock near the Sanmun Islets, four holes being made in her. The water gaining, her head was turned to the shore, but before reaching it she sank. The crew and passengers escaped in four boats. One has arrived at Hongkong, one was rescued by a junk, and two are not yet heard of. H. M. S. *Rattler* and the Harbour-Master's launches are looking for them.

Later.

Mr. Dixon, the chief officer, Mr. Ainslie, the third officer, and Mr. Wilson, steward, are missing. A quartermaster named Smith died of exhaustion.

Lloyd's Register shows that the *Glenayon* was of 2986 tons gross, and that she was 360 ft. (long); 43.3 ft. beam; and 24.5 ft. deep. She was built of iron at Glasgow in 1881 for her present owners, Messrs. Macgregor, Gow & Co.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF JAPAN.

At the annual communication of the District Grand Lodge of Japan, Rt. Wor. Bro. W. H. Stone, D. G. M., appointed the following Brethren D. G. officers for the ensuing year:-

T. C. Thornicroft	...D. D. G. M.
S. E. Unite	.....D. G. S. Warden
John J. Davies	.....D. G. J. Warden
Rev. E. C. Irvine	.....D. G. Chaplain
G. Hodges	.....D. G. Treasurer
V. R. Bowden	.....D. G. Registrar
H. Moss	.....Pres. D. G. B. of G. P.
C. D. Moss	.....Vice Pres. D. G. B. of G. P.
E. Flint Kirby	.....Vice Pres. D. G. B. of G. P.
Harry J. Sharp	.....D. G. Secretary
F. J. Liss	.....D. G. S. D.
Percy H. McKay	.....D. G. J. D.
Walter F. Page	.....D. G. Sup. of Works
Geo. Schneider	.....D. G. Dir. of Ceremonies
Allied J. Lefroy	.....D. G. S. B.
Henry Terry	.....D. G. Organist
John H. Curtis	.....D. G. Pursuivant
H. B. Lucas	.....D. G. Steward
Robert Harrison	.....D. G. Steward
Angus Macdonald	.....D. G. Steward

A NOBLE FAMILY'S VICISSITUDES.

The history of the family of the Duke of Northumberland, whose death was announced on Thursday, is a singular one. It reminds one of the story of the schoolboy who received the photograph of a pretty girl cousin in a handsome frame. After treasuring it for some time he dropped it into a pond, and when it was recovered the photograph was irretrievably ruined. Then he bought another photograph reminding him slightly of the fair relative, but it didn't seem quite the same thing. Next the frame was destroyed, and could only be replaced by one distantly resembling it. The sentimental youth continued to treasure the memento, but after all it was only a sorry substitute for the original picture and the original frame. So with the family of Percy. The name has been retained since the Conquest, but the real Percies have long been extinct, and the present family have little more of the blood of the founders of the house than a common Smith or Brown. William de Percy (called Pierce-eye from his transfixing a Mowbray through the eye with his lance) was a favourite of the Conqueror, who gave him a barony. He went on the first crusade preached by William the Hermit, and died within sight of the Holy City. After the third Baron the male line ceased, but a daughter of the house married a descendant of Charlemagne, who assumed the name of Percy. The first Earl of Northumberland, the title so long associated with the family, was the crafty politician who conspired to secure the succession of Henry VI., and brought about the fall of Richard II. He afterwards became disaffected, and his eldest son, the celebrated Hotspur whom Shakespeare's genius has immortalised more than his own exploits, fell fighting against Henry at Shrewsbury in 1403. The Earl himself was pardoned, but rebelled again, and was killed at Bramham Moor five years later. The second Earl, his son, returned to the Lancastrian allegiance; and was killed fighting for Henry VI. in the Wars of the Roses. The fourth Earl also had a violent death, being killed by the populace, incensed against him for his attempting to exact a subsidy on behalf of Henry VII. The title became extinct, but was renewed in Elizabeth's reign. The then Earl was also unfortunate, for he was beheaded for a Roman Catholic conspiracy against the Queen, and the eighth Earl was "found dead in the Tower" (as the euphemism went), after imprisonment for complicity in a plot in favour of Mary Queen of Scots. The ninth Earl was mixed up in the Gunpowder Plot, and was severely treated; the tenth Earl dabbled first with the Parliamentarians, but afterwards joined the movement for the restoration of Charles II., and the title once more became extinct with the death of the eleventh Earl in 1670. Charles afterwards made George Fitzroy, son of the Duchess of Cleveland, first Earl and then Duke. Another change took

place in 1749, when the grandson of the eleventh Earl (son of a daughter of the house who married the Duke of Somerset) succeeded to the title. He had no male issue, but his daughter married one Sir Hugh Smithson, who was created Duke in 1766. From him came the present line of "Percies." Many other noble houses of England have probably as complicated a family tree, and have a little lineal claim to the name of the founder of their line.

FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

KWANTAI-SHI'S REBELLION.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

Taipei, Formosa, Dec. 24th, 1898.

During the summer months this year, the leaders among the insurgents in North Formosa, at the solicitation of a Government commissioner, threw down their arms and swore allegiance to the Japanese Empire, and were afterwards engaged in road making and in cultivation of the savage border lands. Nearly all the other bandits were eventually captured or disappeared to avoid the vigilant search made for them by the authorities; and for a few months disturbances ceased and harmony between the Government and the ex-insurgents apparently existed. The impression now prevailed in the north that we were rid of the troublesome pests, and we were rather boastful of the peace and quietude existing while the south of the island was constantly disturbed by the banditti attacks.

Great astonishment, therefore, resulted on Sunday morning last (the 11th) when incessant gun reports echoing in the north hills reached Twatutia, and three wounded police were seen being hurriedly carried on stretchers to the Twatutia Police Station. Soon rumours were about to the effect that serious fighting had occurred at Patchina, a small town only two miles to the north, but further details could not be obtained. Toward evening an extra was issued by the Japanese paper published here which told us that it was Kwantaishi who had rebelled, thus breaking his promises to the authorities.

Kwantaishi, the bandit leader, a second Yü Mantze, who lives in the north mountains, is a rough individual, as treacherous as he is daring. Although he made a pretence of surrendering to the authorities, he never could be persuaded to leave his mountain home. A short time ago, various accounts describing his treacherous plans caused so much anxiety to the populace that the authorities were obliged to make an investigation.

Accordingly the authorities demanded an interview with the intention of persuading him to remove to Patchina, where he could be more closely watched. Kwantaishi having consented to an interview, it was set for the evening of the 11th at Patchina. However, a few days preceding the appointed day, reports from various sources confirmed the rumour that he was levying war funds on the rich people of Patchina, and the authorities kept a sharp watch on him in consequence.

In addition to this about 300 insurgents suddenly attacked Jukiin Police Station on the night of the 10th, and it was established beyond doubt that Kwantaishi was connected with the outrage. It is true that after his surrender the Government had treated him with the most exceptional leniency, with a hope that he would become law-abiding, but now that their efforts had been of no avail, vigorous measures were to be adopted for his permanent removal from the hill district. To accomplish this it was decided, in view of the large number of his followers, to call out the military. To prevent any of his band from escaping it was planned to surround them, and soldiers from Taipei and Tamsui were brought into the field for that purpose.

At daybreak on the 11th, a party consisting of 16 men, led by some ex-rebels who acted as guides, started on a mission to communicate

the Government order to Kwantaishi and to arrest him should he resist the Government's demands for his removal. When about half way to their destination, the Japanese were fired upon by insurgents. This was taken as a signal for the military to come into action. Lieut. Colonel Umawatar, the Commander of the forces, having ordered a detachment to assault the insurgents' position upon a hill top at the eastern end of Sozansho, the Japanese first attacked the insurgents there and quickly captured the place. While the Japanese were advancing, another band of insurgents made their appearance on an adjacent hill side, and, partially hidden by the underbush, they poured down upon the Japanese a strong fire, but the Japanese pressed on and soon dislodged the enemy. Advancing further was, however, found a more difficult task, the insurgents lying in ambush, occupying a very advantageous position from which the attacking party, who were obliged to ascend the mountain side along narrow and exposed pathways, found it difficult to drive them. Eventually, however, the enemy gave way leaving their newly built fortifications to fall into the hands of the Japanese. The fighting lasted for two hours. From then on the rebels offered no opposition in that direction and the Japanese easily occupied Kwantaishi's headquarters.

In the midst of the hot skirmish there was proceeding at another point an engagement not so favourable to the Japanese.

It was at the village of Sozansho, where was stationed a small Japanese force. The latter and some insurgents were exchanging fire over a creek when the Japanese found themselves surrounded by an overwhelming number of people whom they at first thought to be but a crowd of peaceful villagers. There was no hope of defeating so numerous an enemy, and the detachment retreated, hotly followed by the insurgents, towards a position which the former knew to be occupied by a few artillery-men with two mountain guns.

The artillery, upon sighting the Chinese, fired one shell at them, but it did not check their advance in the least. The gunners now waited until the insurgents were in close range and then again fired, and with such success that the shell burst right among the braves, killing a number of them and causing the others to scatter away like frightened deer towards the hills. But even there the unruly natives were not to find refuge, for detachments of troops stationed in the mountain passes fired upon them as they fled, and in one pathway alone thirty-eight were killed. While the operations were very successful great disappointment was felt among the authorities that the head bandit, Kwantaishi, whose capture was the original object of the expedition, should escape. Among the insurgents 78 were killed, with a loss on the Japanese side of 2 soldiers killed and several wounded. The insurgents, about 300 in number, consisted mostly of young men who exhibited some knowledge of military training and were good marksmen.

Early in the morning of the same day there was a skirmish on the opposite side of the Tamani river between 160 insurgents and a police party from Twatutia, resulting in a loss to the Japanese of three men wounded. Reinforcements were hastily despatched from the city, whereupon the insurgents fled toward Haisouku, leaving 8 men dead.

It is believed that the plan of the insurgents was to rise at once on both sides of the river on this day, but the military authorities were very happily able to nip the scheme in the bud. At present affairs in the immediate neighbourhood of the capital appear to have quieted down again, although travel along the Tamsui river to the port of Hobe is not considered safe and the country is in a much disturbed condition.

The U.S. cruiser *Raleigh* has sailed from Manila for New York by way of the Mediterranean. The cruiser *Bennington* has arrived at Guam from Honolulu to survey that Archipelago. The collier *Brutus* left Manila on the 19th December for Guam with coal for the *Bennington*.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Prof. Clay MacCauley's essay on "Japanese Literature," which recently appeared in our columns, has been reprinted, and can be obtained from Messrs. Kelly and Walsh.

Monsieur de Mauberge, the commander of the *Ernest Simons*, on his return to Marseilles this trip will be compulsorily retired under the age clause of the *Messageries Maritimes*.

The *Daily Chronicle* states that Great Britain has leased to the United States the island of Socotra, near the Gulf of Aden, for use as a coaling station. The report, however, is denied.

A notification has been issued by the Chinese Consulate at Manila with reference to the registration of Chinese, in which it is stated that the Consulate will be open every day "except foreign barbarians' holidays and Sundays." The term used is "I-Yang," "Yang" meaning foreign and "I" barbarian.

The British Bible Society has for many years been permitted to sell Bibles throughout the Austrian Empire, and its colporteurs have been granted licences which have been renewed year by year. These licences have now, it is said, been withdrawn. The Society has lodged an appeal, which is under consideration at the present moment.

The new German estimates for Kiao-chau amount to m.8,500,000, as against m.5,000,000 in the last financial year. The largest items are m.1,542,100 for the military administration; m.1,500,000 for buildings, including the acquisition of land; m.4,542,000 for the civil administration (building and maintenance of schools, hospitals, and similar purposes), and, finally, m.1,286,600 for harbour construction.

A registered packet was recently sent from Yokohama to Sydney, Australia. It took some time over its journey for instead of going direct, the Hongkong Post Office kindly sent it to Liverpool, whence it travelled to London and then back through the Suez Canal again, finally reaching its destination two months after "duplicates" despatched from Yokohama a mail later.

At eight o'clock on Monday an alarm of fire was received at No. 5, Settlement. Supt. Morgan, with the Brigade men and a steamer, turned out as soon as possible, and it was found that the two-storied servants' quarters and kitchen on Lot No. 5, belonging to the Y.U.C., was on fire. The Brigade managed to confine the fire to the building in which it originated, and it was put out in an hour and a half.

It is stated that on the representation of Admiral Dewey, the U. S. Government has decided to transfer the arsenal from Cavite to Subic Bay. Spain had commenced the construction of a floating dock in this bay last year, and it will be remembered that Admiral Montojo, at the commencement of the war, went out to Subic to choose a fighting position, but on finding the crippled condition of some of his ships he returned to Cavite, where the ships met their fate.

The *Universal Gazette*, Shanghai, states that the Kanau troops which lately caused so much trouble at Lukonchiu have been in more mischief. While a foreign lady and gentleman were walking along near Yenchiao, Tungchow, four or five of the soldiers assaulted them, and the lady died from the injuries she received. Fortunately the gentleman succeeded in escaping, and the matter will probably come before the Tsungli Yamen. We (*Japan Mail*) have seen no corroboration of this report.

The German Imperial Post Office recently issued a notice which indicates that ordinary letters and registered letters can henceforth be forwarded to Port Arthur and the Far East, under the general conditions of the universal mail regulations of July 7, 1891, by way

of Eyoikuhnen, Wirballen, Vladivostok, partly by rail and partly by mail coach, the whole route to Vladivostok taking about twenty seven days. From Vladivostok the letters, &c., go to their destination (Port Arthur) by steamer. A powerful ice-breaking steamer is at hand at Port Arthur to keep that place open all the winter if necessary.

A boy named Stornebrink met with a dangerous accident on Sunday morning. He was playing with another boy with a toy rifle when the cartridge exploded, and Stornebrink received the small bullet in his thigh, dangerously near the femoral artery. The bullet was extracted, and the patient is doing well. The same afternoon a boy named Eymard was accidentally shot by a companion with a "patron rifle," receiving the bullet in his ribs. He was not seriously hurt.

Mr. S. F. Lawrence has been compelled by ill-health to resign the post of Constable to the British Consulate at Nagasaki. His career, says our local contemporary, has been an eventful one. In 1855 he enlisted in the 67th Regiment, and was in India during the closing scenes of the Mutiny. His regiment was then transferred to China for active service, and he received the medal with two clasps for this service, and attained the rank of sergeant. From China he was sent to Japan, and in 1862 and 1863 was sergeant in charge of the British Legation Guard at Tokyo and Yokohama. In 1864, wishing to enter the Yokohama Municipal Police, he purchased his discharge in Shanghai; but in 1866 he re-entered Her Majesty's Service on being appointed Constable to the Consulate at Hakodate. He served at Hakodate for 13 years until in 1879 he was transferred to Nagasaki, where he has served continuously till this date. He has thus, with the exception of the brief period during which he was in the Yokohama Municipal police, been continuously in Her Majesty's service from 1855 to the present time.

The first performance of Signor Mascagni's new Japanese opera, *Iris*, was given at the Corianzi Theatre, Rome, and proved a triumphant success. *Iris* contains many delicate melodies, which, however, were comprehensible only to a select part of the audience, and it is doubtful if they will become popular. The "Song to the Sun" after the prelude, sung by Iris (Mme. D'Arclée), was much applauded. Signor Mascagni was called six times after the first act, and ten after the second, which ends with a powerfully dramatic scene, in which Iris, wrongly accused and overwhelmed by her blind father's reproaches, throws herself from the window. The scenery of *Iris* is of marvellous correctness and beauty. The effect of the first scene is that of a real poem. It represents a street in a Japanese village, lined by small houses. That of the heroine is surrounded by a miniature garden overflowing with flowers, and flanked by a limpid stream. When the curtain rises the stage, as well as the theatre, is in perfect darkness. Gradually and almost insensibly dawn breaks, outlining the houses and trees until the light, at first silvery, turns rosy, then yellow, and floods the whole scene. At the same time, too, the volume of tone increases, and the chorus joins in with the triumphant hymn to the rising sun. The effect of sunrise is obtained by myriads of multi-coloured electric lights disposed in every available corner of the stage. The second act, exotic in its richness, is in direct contrast to the freshness and purity of the first. One is transported directly to Japan, with its pagodas, lanterns, and characteristic costumes. The latter, all in thin, delicately-tinted vaporous silk, are veritable feasts for the eye. Attention has been given to every minute detail—an unusual thing in Italy. The manners of the Japanese have all been closely studied. In the second and last acts the entire walls of the stage are covered with flowers, while from the floor rise innumerable blossoms, making a most ingenious and unexpected change of scene.—*Telegraph*.

INDO-CHINESE NOTES.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* has a rather plaintive article on "Autonomy for Indo-China." It says:—"The administrative autolage imposed on us by the Department is often hard to support. There is scarcely a decision coming from the metropolis which does not wound and irritate by its complete disregard for our interests and our needs. It is certain that the number of our functionaries sent out from home, is much too considerable, and that with a smaller number of agents the English administer India, with 25 times more population than Indo-China. This necessitates an unwarrantable burden of taxation, and militates against the rapid development of the colony. Autonomy would permit us to reduce the number of functionaries. Then the customs house charges are enormous. They almost reduce one to regretting that instead of coming to Tonkin, one had not gone to Hong-kong, where everything is cheap. Autonomy is the best means to pursue to put an end to the exactions of the *douane*, and especially to its ever-changing and vexatious methods, though the colony would probably not be able to act at present with only the financial concurrence of the metropolis. From a point of view still higher, autonomy must be hoped for, for it appears to be the only remedy against the separatist tendencies of the colonies. . . . The English, who have so many colonies, and so few separations on separatist tendencies, generally accord to their colonies a greater or less degree of autonomy. On this point the English are very broad-minded, and entertain no fears that the colonies so privileged will abuse the concessions made them."

It is evidently a distinction to be born—of French parents—at Hanoi. The *Avenir du Tonkin* gives vent to a warwhoop of triumph over the birth of four babies and devotes twenty lines to felicitation of the happy mothers—*pour encourager les autres*.

The *Tableau Général du Commerce de la France* gives details of French exports to Indo-China. It appears that in 1897 they totalled 30,734,918 francs, of which 11,365,370 francs for cloth and clothing; 3,253,124 francs for hardware; 2,227,640 francs wine; 1,197,085 francs for arms, powder, and ammunition; and 1,038,019 francs for machinery.

An Annamite of Saigon recently attempted suicide in a peculiar manner. Crossed in love, he decided to make an end of himself, and, seizing his nose in one hand, he chopped the unfortunate member off with a hatchet. He was removed to the Hospital bleeding profusely.

"Cassandre"—a very foolish Cassandra—writes a hysterical article in the *Avenir du Tonkin* in reference to Sir Edward Monson's speech in Paris, in which his Excellency warned France against pursuing a policy of irritation *vis-à-vis* England. "Cassandre" declaims—and in that he has our sympathy to some extent—against the speech as a breach of diplomatic courtesy. But from this he proceeds to a very wild forecast of Great Britain's intentions. Egypt and the Nile Basin are not by any means the goal of her ambition. She looks to grander things than that. She "has not lost the hope of founding an Empire from the sands of the Gulf of Oman to the shores of the Pacific." "The danger (continues "Cassandre") which menaces our colony (of Indo-China) is a real one, and it must not be forgotten that England will not perhaps be alone in attacking us. Japan has for a long time had her eyes turned on this side and will be only too happy to have her slice of the cake. To resist their combined forces would tax all our means of defence. Our fleet will shortly receive reinforcements, and we can only applaud the measures the home Government is about to take to cover our Indo Chinese possessions. Would she but hasten to place them beyond the risk of a *coup*

de main. The hour presses, the horizon is becoming darker each minute!" We pass over the English little plan of a Trans-Asian Empire; but we cannot help remarking on the deep Machiavellian schemes imputed to Japan. Japan, squabbling over party questions and trying to make both ends meet, hardly, we imagine, contemplates attacking France just yet. What weak nerves and giant imaginations Continental writers have.

PLAIN SPEAKING TO AN EMPEROR.

A REMARKABLE KOREAN MEMORIAL.

Mr. Choi Ikhyen, says the *Korean Independent*, is an old man living in Pochun, about 70 ri from Seoul. He enjoys the reputation of being an upright and out-spoken scholar, poor and proud. Some time ago he was appointed a Councillor of State. But refusing to accept the office, he gave a piece of his mind to the Emperor in the following utterances, extracted from a lengthy memorial:—

Thirty years have passed since I had the honor of beholding Your celestial countenance. I should be only too happy to be once more in Your august presence, but for the fact that I am sick and infirm. Besides, the condition of affairs to-day would prove exceedingly hard even to statesmen like Yi Yun and Choi Kalyang (two famous Chinese statesmen). Stupid as I am, what good can I do, be it ever so little as a piece of 'thread or hair'? I only wish that I may soon die and become an evil spirit with powers to destroy wicked traitors so that Your Majesty may enjoy a day of peace!

The dangerous condition of our country is like that of a dying man. A good physician would, before he administers any medicine to a patient, first inquire into the cause of the disease. In the same way, the cause of our country's disease may be found in Your Majesty's heart. If Your heart is right You may even now succeed in restoring the prosperity of the nation and in becoming a good prince in the world. But if Your heart is not right Your ancestral temples and altars to Heaven and Earth may crumble into dust while Your people may perish like beasts.

The misfortunes of the State began in 1882 (the mutiny of unpaid soldiers). Ever since then the years of '84, '93, '95 witnessed disorders of various kinds. The plots of An Kyegun and of Kim Hongniuk must be added to the list. No month passes without foreign trouble and domestic turmoil until to-day danger and ruin hang over our heads, while future perils can not be calculated.

Had Your Majesty taken the warning in 1882, and amended former mistakes, the trouble of 1884 would never have happened. Had Your Majesty profited by the experience of 1884, the misfortunes of 1894 would not have befallen You. Had You been warned by the events of 1894, You might have been saved from the calamity of October, 1895. Repentance and amendment in time would have given no occasion for the conspiracies of An Kyegun and Kim Hongniuk.

It is useless, of course, to talk about what is past. But if one does not to-day repent of his former blunders, he may hereafter have occasion to regret again to-day's mistakes. Suppose You, Majesty were to henceforth apply Yourself to good government with renewed zeal, going to bed early in the night and rising early in the morning, earnestly amending what was wrong in the past. Even if this failed to prevent trouble, is it not better than persisting in wrong-doing all through life?

Your Majesty has an artless and kindly nature, loving the people and revering what is old. What then has led the affairs of State to the present crisis? It is because Your heart is enthralled by things and Your judgment overcome by passions. You have more softness than strength, attentive to little things while neglecting great affairs. You love flattery but hate straightforwardness, preferring ease to labour. During the 30 years past, You Majesty has neither shown any fear for the chastisement of Heaven nor manifested any pity for the murmurings of the people. This is the cause of all the distresses of the day.

The memorial concludes by praying His Majesty to listen to honest counsels, refusing to be led astray by little gains and crafty men. The *Independent* says His Majesty gave a gracious answer to the venerable memorialist, promising that he would carry out the advice so frankly given.

THE REVISED INCOME TAX LAW.

Art. I.—Any person domiciled, or possessing a place of abode for more than one year within the Empire of Japan in which this law is operative, shall be under obligation to pay income tax in accordance with the law.

Art. II.—Any person not falling within the purview of the above article, but holding property, or engaging in a trade, business, or profession in those parts of the Empire in which this Law is operative, shall be required to pay income tax only on the receipts realized from his trade, business, or profession in Japan.

Art. III.—The income tax shall be imposed at the rates specified below:—

Class I. Incomes of juridical persons	2%
Class II. Interest on loans or debentures payable in the districts where this Law is enforced	10%
Class III. Other forms of income—	
Of and over,	
Yen. 100,000	7%
50,000	5%
30,000	4%
20,000	3%
15,000	2%
10,000	1%
5,000	0.5%
3,000	0.3%
2,000	0.2%
1,000	0.1%
500	0.05%
300	0.03%

The receipts of the head of a family and of persons living together with such family shall be taken together as the basis of calculation for fixing the rates of tax to be levied, provided that the receipts in question belong to Class III. This provision is also applicable to cases when more than two members of a family live in the same house, separately from the head.

Art. IV.—Incomes shall be classified as follows: 1. Incomes in Class I. shall be calculated on the balance obtained by subtracting all losses from the gross profits realized in each fiscal year on account of business undertaken. The receipts of a juridical person falling within the category of Article III. shall be determined by subtracting all the losses from the profits realized in each fiscal year in connection with property owned or occupations carried on in the district where this Law is in operation.

2. Incomes in Class II. are calculated on the payments due.

3. Incomes in Class III. are calculated by subtracting the necessary expenditures from the gross amount of receipts secured.

Note.—In the case of interest on public loans or company's debentures, dividends, salaries, wages, special allowances, rewards, annual allowances, pensions, &c., the amount shall be fixed on estimates of the sums realizable during the year.

Art. V.—No tax shall be imposed on the following sources of incomes:—

1. Salaries or wages of soldiers on actual war service.
2. Aids and pensions to wounded or invalids.
3. Travelling expenses, education funds, or legal allowances for the sustenance of families.
4. Receipts of a juridical person not trading for profit.
5. Temporary receipts from sources not connected with profitable business.
6. Receipts from property, trade, or occupation, held or carried on in a foreign country or in a district where this law is not operative.

Note.—The receipts of a juridical person having a principal office in a district where this law is operative are excepted.

7. Dividends receivable from a juridical person upon whom income tax has been imposed in accordance with this law.

Art. VI.—No tax shall be levied upon incomes in Class III. which fall below 300 yen. This provision, however, shall not apply to cases specified in the 2nd clause of Article III., in which the total amount reaches 300 yen.

Art. VII.—Any juridical person who is under obligation to pay income tax shall present to the Government a statement of profit and loss accounts for each fiscal year. In the case of a juridical person falling within the purview of Article II., he must calculate for each fiscal year the profit and loss appertaining to his property or occupation held or carried on in the district in which these regulations are enforced, and forward the statement to the Government.

Art. VIII.—Any person liable to taxation with regard to receipts in Class III. shall prepare in April of each year a minute statement as in the

classification and amount of his income, and present the same to the Government.

Art. IX.—The amount of income in Class I. shall be determined by the Government upon investigation of the profit and loss accounts, and incomes in Class II. are to be determined by the Government on the report of the Investigation Committee.

Art. X.—The Director of each Taxation Office shall investigate the amount of incomes realized by persons whom he considers liable to pay tax, and after preparing a statement as to the results of his investigation, he shall present the same to the Income Investigation Committee.

Art. XI.—An Income Investigation Council shall be established in each Taxation District. The number of commissioners shall be determined by Ordinance.

Art. XII.—The members of the Investigation Council shall be nominated by persons specially appointed for the purpose.

Art. XIII.—The electoral district for members of the Investigation Committee shall be identical with the limits of the jurisdiction of the respective Taxation Offices. The electoral district for the electors of the members of the Investigation Council shall correspond with the limits of *Shi, Cho, or Son*, and in the case of Tokyo, Kyoto Osaka, Sapporo, and Hakodate, shall correspond with the urban district of each city.

Art. XIV.—Any person living within the limits of the electoral district and presenting a report as specified in Article VIII. is entitled to elect a member or members of the Investigation Council, and is qualified for election as such member.

The privilege of membership, however, is withheld from the following classes of persons:—

1. Persons of utter incapacity.
2. Bankrupts who have failed to pay their debts after adjudication, or who have not received their discharge.
3. Those who within one year have been proceeded against for failure to pay national taxes.
4. Those under sentence to deprivation or suspension of civil rights.
5. Persons appealing from sentence of imprisonment until such time as judgment is confirmed or quashed.
6. Those who within a period of six years have been convicted in accordance with Article XLVI.

Art. XV.—The number of voters for members of the Investigation Committee shall be in the proportion of one for every ten persons in the electoral district who have forwarded reports as specified in Article VIII. In case the number of persons presenting reports exceeds 200, the voters shall be limited to twenty; in case it is below 10, only one will be chosen as voter.

Art. XVI.—The affairs relating to the election of members of the Investigation Council shall be conducted by the Mayor, district or village headman, or *Kocho*.

Art. XVII.—The Director of the Taxation Office is required to fix the date for the election of voters for the Investigation Council, and notify the same to the mayor, or headman of a district, town, or village, or the *Kocho*. The mayor, or the headman of any of these municipal divisions, shall, on the receipt of such a notice, advertise the same at least 7 days prior to the period of election.

Art. XVIII.—The election shall be conducted by signed ballot.

Art. XIX.—The election shall be determined by a majority of votes; but in case of an equality of votes, it shall be decided by seniority; and in case the persons voted for are of the same age, then by lot.

Art. XX.—The Mayor or the headman of a district, town, or village, or the *Kocho* shall, upon the completion of the election, notify the names of the successful candidates.

Art. XXI.—In carrying out the election of the Investigation Committee, the Director of the Tax Collection Office shall fix the date of election and notify the same at least seven days previously. With regard to the election of the committee, the provisions of Articles XVIII. and XIX. shall apply.

Art. XXII.—The Director of the Tax Collection Office shall, upon the completion of the election of committee, notify the names of the members elected.

Art. XXIII.—Any person elected as a member of committee shall not be allowed to resign without substantial reason.

Art. XXIV.—The period of service for members of the Investigation Committee shall be four years, half the number retiring by rotation every two years. In the case of the first retirement, the retiring members shall be determined by lot.

Art. XXV.—The session of the Investigation Council shall take place not later than August 1st every year.

Art. XXVI.—The Investigation Council shall

meet on receipt of due notice from the Director of the Tax Collection Office.

Art. XXVII.—The Investigation Council is required to elect a President from among its members at the beginning of the session every year.

Art. XXVIII.—More than half the members of the Council must be present to form a quorum. In case of an equality of votes the right of decision shall rest with the President.

Art. XXIX.—Members of the Committee shall in no case engage in any discussion relating to their own incomes.

Art. XXX.—In case the Council fails to hold its session by August 31st, or to complete its investigations, the Government shall determine the incomes of persons concerning whom the investigation is not completed.

Art. XXXI.—The Government may, if it considers the Council's decisions unjustifiable, submit the same for reinvestigation, and in case the results of the second enquiry are deemed unsatisfactory, or the work of reinvestigation has not been completed within fifteen days from the time it was submitted for discussion, the Government shall itself determine the amount of income under investigation.

Art. XXXII.—The Director of the Tax Collection Office or his delegate may attend the Investigation Council to state his views on the subjects under discussion.

Art. XXXIII.—The members of the Investigation Council shall be granted special allowances and travelling expenses.

Art. XXXIV.—The Director of the Tax Collection Office or his delegate may, if he deems it necessary for purposes of investigation, make enquiries as to the facts concerning the incomes of persons whom he considers liable to pay the tax.

Art. XXXV.—When the Government has determined the amount of income specified in Classes I. and III., measures shall be taken to notify the fact to the persons liable to pay the tax.

Art. XXXVI.—If taxpayers object to the amount notified by the Government, they may state the reasons of their objection within twenty days from the receipt of notice, and demand a renewal of investigation.

Art. XXXVII.—The Government shall, on the receipt of a demand as specified in the preceding Article, take steps to convene a special Council to investigate and determine the case. The Special Investigation Council shall consist of four Tax Inspectors and three members of the Ordinary Council. The limits of the districts of Special Investigation Councils shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. XXXVIII.—Tax-payers are required to pay their imposts at the rate notified by the Government even after they have demanded reinvestigation as specified in the preceding Article; if their objection be upheld the difference will be refunded.

Art. XXXIX.—Any person who has made objection with regard to the assessment of his income may either enter a protest in the form of an administrative complaint, or by prosecution in a court of law.

Art. XL.—If any person liable to taxation with regard to incomes in Class III. has sustained a diminution of one-fourth or upwards of his income, he may report the fact to the Government in order to have the rate of tax revised. In no case, however, shall a demand for revision be advanced after January 31st of the ensuing year.

Art. XLI.—The Government shall, on the receipt of a demand as specified in the foregoing Article, investigate the amount of income, and, on ascertaining that the income in question has decreased by one-fourth or upwards of the amount originally determined, shall take steps to revise the assessment.

Art. XLII.—With regard to incomes in Class I. the tax shall be collected for each fiscal year. With reference to incomes in Class II. the taxpayer is required to pay tax at the time he receives his dividends. In the case of incomes in Class III. the tax shall be collected half-yearly—in March and September. If meanwhile the tax-payer leaves to take up his residence beyond the limits of the Empire, the income tax may be collected from him before his departure.

Art. XLIII.—In case of a demand being made as prescribed in Article XL., the Government may postpone the collection of the tax until the question at issue is settled.

Art. XLIV.—With respect to incomes in Class III. the district in which any person liable to taxation is domiciled shall be regarded as the place for payment of his tax, and in case he is found not to have a permanent residence in any district, the place of his temporary abode shall be regarded as a domicile for the purposes of the tax. Any taxpayer, however, may, upon presentation

of a report, pay the tax in a district outside the limits of that in which his permanent residence or actual place of abode is situated.

Any person having neither permanent nor temporary residence in a district where the regulations are enforced, must present a report to the Government stating the place in which his tax is to be paid. In the absence of such a report, the government shall itself determine the place of payment.

Art. XLV.—If any person liable to pay the tax does not reside in the district where the tax is to be collected, he must appoint an overseer to whom the management of affairs relating to the payment of the tax shall be entrusted, and he shall notify the fact to the Government.

Art. XLVI.—Any person who conceals the amount of his income in order to evade the tax shall be liable to a fine of three times the amount of tax evaded. Those who make voluntary confession, however, shall be absolved from punishment, being only charged with the amount of tax in arrear.

Art. XLVII.—Any person engaged in investigation of incomes who divulges facts coming to his knowledge in connection therewith, shall be punished with a fine not exceeding 30 yen, and shall be deprived of his official post.

APPENDIX.

Art. XLVIII.—These Regulations shall come into operation from January 1st of the 32nd year of Meiji (1899).

Art. XLIX.—The Income Tax Law embodied in Imperial Ordinance No. 5 of the 20th year of Meiji shall be rescinded from the date of the operation of these Regulations.

With regard to income tax to be collected in March of the 32nd year of Meiji, the provisions of the previous Income Tax Law shall apply.

Art. L.—These Regulations shall not be enforced, for the time being, in Okinawa Prefecture, the Ogasawara Islands, and the Seven Isles of Izu.

THE NAGASAKI HOTEL, LIMITED.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the above-named Company was held in the Hotel premises on Dec. 30.

There were present, Messrs. F. Ringer (Chairman), A. L. Jordan and M. E. Paul (Directors), Baker, Buckland, Bairdoff, A. B. Glover, Houben, McConnell, Miller, Morgan, Robertson, Smart, R. M. Smith, Wallace, and Wills.

The meeting was called to order at 4.15 p.m.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, a discussion arose as to whether the proceedings should be kept private. It was, however, in the end unanimously agreed that they should be reported in the usual manner.

Dr. PAUL then proposed the following resolution:—
1. That the acts of the Directors of the Company in borrowing, in excess of their powers, from Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co., of Nagasaki, Japan, Merchants, certain sums of money for the purposes of the Company be and they are hereby sanctioned and confirmed.

Most of those present, he said, were probably familiar with the circumstances that had rendered it necessary to bring forward this resolution (to which his remarks were also prefatory), but it would be as well to lay before the meeting a short outline of the affairs of the Company from its incorporation to the present time. The Company was incorporated in April, 1897, and at the Statutory Meeting convened during the same month, Messrs. Home, Ringer & Co. were duly appointed general managers of the Company until the Hotel should be completed. They handed over their duties to Mr. Inman, the present manager, on the 14th of last month. At the outset it was decided to purchase Lots 43 and 44, Sagami-cho, at a cost of \$37,000; and the original estimate of the cost of the undertaking was as follows:—

Land	\$37,000
Furnishing	30,919
Stock of provisions	5,800
Building	47,500
Electric light	10,660
Architect and Gen. Managers	9,000
Total	130,079

This sum, \$130,079, was already in excess of the share capital of the Company, amounting to \$130,000; and it did not provide for working capital, extras, or an adequate supply of stores, wines, and liquors for running a large hotel; but by the articles of association of the Company the Directors were empowered to borrow a sum not exceeding \$25,000, and it was then believed that this borrowing power would provide sufficient to cover all extras. The subsequent experience of the Company had shown that they were unduly sanguine.

guine in hoping, even at the prices then ruling, to complete a large first-class hotel for from £13,000 to £15,000. In June, 1897, a requisition signed by certain shareholders was sent to the board, asking that an extraordinary general meeting should be convened to consider the advisability of adding a third storey to the hotel. By this time the Directors had ascertained that the original estimates for the two-storeyed building were altogether inadequate, and a report to this effect was presented to the shareholders at the half-yearly meeting held on July 16th, 1897. The Directors also drew up a report containing the estimated cost of the proposed third storey. According to the first of these reports the two-storeyed building as originally planned would have cost \$26,756 more than had been originally estimated; the estimated cost of adding the third storey was \$33,500. This showed that if the proposed third storey were added, the total cost of the undertaking would not be less than \$190,335; an excess of \$60,256 over the originally estimated cost of the undertaking. The Directors, as a body, therefore opposed the resolution that a third storey should be added; but the resolution in favour of the addition was carried. This addition of a third storey had undoubtedly been one of the principal causes of the subsequent miscalculations of expenditure and of the financial troubles of the Company which this meeting was called to remedy. In the first place, after the plans for the third storey had been revised, it was found that further land must be acquired for larger servants' quarters and additional outbuildings; and Lot 45, Sagayimatin, was therefore purchased at a cost of \$27,250. The cost of the building was then estimated at \$90,975, the electric lighting at \$12,660, the architect's and general managers' fees at \$12,000, the estimate of \$5,000 for provisions remaining the same. In view of the impending imposition of the new Japanese import tariff, the Directors had, however, thought it expedient to order a large stock of wines and provisions; and there could be no doubt that this step would ultimately be found advantageous to the company, for the interest charges on the money needed to cover the cost of these stores would be considerably less than the tariff dues it would have been necessary to pay on them if imported at a later date. Apart, however, from the cost of these extra stores and wines, shortly after the additional plot of ground had been acquired and the necessary alterations in the plans for the third storey had been made, it was estimated that the cost of the undertaking would be \$215,335. In January, 1898, tenders for the electric lighting of the hotel were called for, and one for \$17,000 was accepted. The sum allowed for electric lighting in the estimates was \$12,660, to which \$2,000 had been added to provide for the lighting of the third storey; so that the estimate of \$12,660 was inadequate to the amount of \$4,340. The specifications furnished to the directors were, however, far from complete, and in the course of the completion of the plant various extras had to be added, bringing up the total cost of this item, including the cost of the electric bell and telephones, to \$27,337.49. A refrigerating plant and cooling room, being most necessary additions to the property of the hotel, were also ordered at an estimated cost of \$5,000. The ultimate cost of these items was \$3,873.28. In March, 1898, the directors having learned that the cost of carpets and curtains would greatly exceed the estimate, it was decided that the carpets and curtains for the ground and first floors only should be obtained from England; those for the third storey being purchased in Japan. On the 7th of April last, an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company was held to authorize the issue of debentures to the amount of \$170,000, and the issue was duly authorized. At that time the directors were of opinion that this sum would be sufficient to pay for all needs, and to start the hotel as a going concern, or that, if any further sum were required, it would be well within the amount the directors were, by the articles of association of the Company, entitled to borrow. Unfortunately, these expectations had proved erroneous, and it was for this reason that the directors had been compelled to requisition the present meeting. Dr. Paul then read a statement drawn up by the late General Managers showing how and in what manner the estimates had from time to time been exceeded. The gross expenditure was thus seen to amount to \$385,722 at the present date; and in addition to these sums there were liabilities for sundry goods on order, directors' and auditor's fees, and interest on debentures to the amount of \$8,250. These charges could not be met out of the working receipts of the hotel, which had so recently been opened, and, as the meeting was aware, had been hampered by unexpected difficulties during the first two

months of its working. The directors had therefore thought it necessary, not merely that the loans already made should be authorized by the shareholders, but further, that a loan should be authorized for the amount required to meet the immediate liabilities of the Company. The directors had every reason to hope that, if the resolutions they laid before the meeting were carried, the future of the undertaking would be a prosperous one. In regard to the action of the late General Managers in advancing the funds found necessary for the completion of the undertaking, Dr. Paul pointed out that, unless they had come forward in this way, not merely would the completion of the hotel have been indefinitely postponed, but, since there would then have been no possibility of earning, he would not say a dividend for the shareholders, but the interest on the \$170,000 debentures, the winding up of the Company would have been inevitable; and, since an incomplete hotel was, like a white elephant, hardly a saleable asset, it was unlikely that the shareholders would have recovered anything from the wreck. Furthermore, if the resolutions to consider which the present meeting had been convened, were not carried, there would remain only two alternatives, the winding up or reconstruction of the Company. Either of these procedures would be expensive, and both would be disastrous to the shareholders. If the Company were wound up with the existing liabilities and charges, it was very unlikely that, when these were settled, anything would remain for distribution among the shareholders. As for reconstruction, the shareholders' power in this respect was limited by the claims of the debenture holders; and it was highly improbable that any terms could be devised giving the shareholders a continued interest in the undertaking which the debenture holders would be willing to accept. There seemed, then, to be no course for the shareholders but to accept and pass the resolutions now before them.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. JORDAN.

In the discussion that followed,

Mr. BAKER said that one or two of the remarks made by the proposer of the resolution had not been quite accurate. He had said that the Directors as a body had opposed the addition of a third storey, but he (Mr. Baker) believed that one, if not two, of the three Directors favoured the addition.

Dr. Paul, interposing, said that whatever might have been the private opinion of one or more of the Directors it was unquestionable that as a body they had opposed the addition, and he read an extract from the minutes of the half-yearly meeting of the Company held on July 16th, 1897, showing that the Directors had on that occasion tendered their resignation in a body because they felt that the proposed alteration of the building would make so extensive a difference that they did not wish to proceed further in the matter. Though the speaker had himself as a shareholder favoured the enlargement, he had joined with the other Directors in tendering his resignation on this ground, and it was therefore perfectly correct to say that the Directors in a body had opposed the resolution.

Continuing, Mr. BAKER said that the absence of a large number of the shareholders resident in Nagasaki would tend to show that they thought there was nothing to do but leave the matter in the hands of the Directors. He thought, however, there were one or two points that required careful consideration, and he was of opinion that the present resolution did not adequately safeguard the interest of the shareholders. What were the terms on which the second Debentures would be issued and would they not prejudice the security of the holders of the existing Debentures?

Dr. PAUL said that the terms of repayment were left by the resolution to the discretion of the Directors, who in any case had no power to issue new Debentures that would impair the security of the holders of the old Debentures. He then read the form of Debentures the Directors proposed to adopt if the resolution authorising the issue was carried. This showed that the Directors would be able to repay this second issue of Debentures at their discretion, and so reduce the liabilities of the Company.

The CHAIRMAN said that while the Hotel had at present a large stock of stores and wines, imported in view of the new tariff, it would not be necessary in the future to carry so large a stock, and some of the money now invested in stock could be applied to reducing the debt and thus saving interest.

Mr. BAKER maintained there was danger that the Directors, in their natural eagerness to reduce the liabilities of the Company, might reduce the working capital of the Company to too small an amount, and that then, in consequence of a possible unprofitable six months' working the Company

might be unable to pay the interest on the first issue of debentures, and the holders of these might then force the Company into liquidation.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Directors would naturally see that the next instalment of interest on the first issue of debentures was forthcoming before proceeding to pay off debentures of the second issue.

Mr. BAKER considered that it would be better to employ surplus funds in buying up debentures of the first issue, and in this way reducing the debt.

Dr. PAUL said that whereas the debentures of the first issue might not always be purchasable at par, the Company would have the option of redeeming the Debentures of the second issue at par. Moreover, the Directors had to consider on what terms it would be possible to obtain the money required. The Debentures of the second issue were not a "gilt-edged" security, and the money would probably not be forthcoming unless it was understood that it would be repaid as soon as funds were forthcoming. But of course when the Debentures were once issued the date of repayment would, as long as the Debentures of the first issue were unredeemed, remain entirely at the discretion of the Directors, and the holders of Debentures of the second issue would have no power to force the Company into liquidation if their interest was unpaid. The interests of the shareholders were thus safeguarded, provided the Directors exercised a reasonable discretion in the matter of redeeming the Debentures.

After some further discussion, in the course of which Mr. BAKER said the Company was undoubtedly deeply indebted to Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co. for advancing the money required to save the Company from liquidation, the resolution was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Dr. PAUL then proposed:

"That without prejudice to the power vested in the Directors by the Articles of Association of the Company and for the purposes of securing the repayment of the sums of money already borrowed by the Directors, in excess of their powers, from Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co., for the purpose of securing the repayment of certain sums of money to be borrowed by the Directors from Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co., also for the purposes of the Company, the Directors be and they are hereby authorized to create and issue, as they think fit, further debentures for yen 95,000 carrying interest at 7 per cent. per annum and to be secured by charge upon the whole undertaking and property of the Company subject to the debentures issued by the Company in the year 1898."

This was seconded by Mr. BAKER and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then said that the directors had taken this opportunity of bringing forward a resolution reducing the qualification for the office of director, as the present qualification did not provide a sufficient number of shareholders eligible for the office.

Mr. JORDAN then proposed:

That the Articles of Association be altered in the manner following:—

"In Article 84 the words 'One thousand dollars' shall be substituted for the words: 'Two thousand five hundred dollars.'"

This was seconded by Dr. PAUL and carried unanimously.

Mr. BAKER then asked with regard to the question of increasing the number of directors at the next annual general meeting of the Company, whether it was necessary for candidates to give notice.

The CHAIRMAN replied that by Article 97 of the Articles of Association it was provided that any person not a retiring director and not recommended by the directors, must give seven days' notice in writing of his intention to become a candidate for the office of director. If this were done, the Company could at any ordinary general meeting increase the number of directors to four or five.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the proceedings terminated at 5.15 p.m.—Nagasaki Press.

TELEGRAMS.

LOSS OF THE "GLENAVON."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, Dec. 31.

The Glen line steamer *Glenavon*, struck on a rock, two hours after leaving Hong-kong, and sank. The disaster happened on Thursday. Two boats have been accounted for, and two boats' are missing, along with the Captain.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

VICEROY OF INDIA.

London, Dec. 31.

Lord Curzon of Kedleston has arrived in Bombay and been given a cordial reception. He will assume the viceroyalty from the sixth of January.

THE TRANSVAAL SITUATION.

EXCITEMENT SUBSIDING.

Calming effect has been produced at Johannesburg, by President Krüger repudiating the bellicose articles published by the newspapers. The *Volksstem* has also discountenanced the proposed demonstrations on the Jameson Raid anniversary.

GEN. LORD KITCHENER.

Gen. Lord Kitchener has arrived at Khartoum where he is awaiting the arrival of Lord Cromer.

SPANISH PRISONERS IN PHILIPPINES.

London, Jan. 2.

The Spanish Government has addressed a note to the American Government, reminding the latter of its promise to obtain release of Spanish prisoners in the Philippines.

DREYFUS CASE.

The Court of Cassation has decided to interrogate Dreyfus on certain points through the Magistrate of Cayenne. This disposes of the rumour of the prisoner's return to France.

FRANCO-SIAMESE SITUATION.

The tension between France and Siam is exciting notice of the French press. News is published of the attack by Siamese troops of a party under the French Agent, M. Morin, in Luangprabang within the twenty-five kilometres zone. The Siamese declare that the French party was trespassing beyond the zone.

NEW YEAR HONOURS.

The following are among the recipients of New Year's honours conferred by the Queen:—Lord Cromer, British Agent at Cairo, is made a Viscount; Sir Philip Currie, British Ambassador at Constantinople, and Mr. Justice Hawkins, have been raised to the Peerage; Colonel Chermide has received the cross of St. Michael and St. George; Mr. Henry Cockburn, Chinese Secretary to the British Legation at Peking, is made a Companion of the Bath, and Mr. Kynnersley, Resident Councillor at Penang, a Companion of St. Michael and St. George.

AMERICANS IN FULL POSSESSION AT HAVANA.

London, Jan. 3.

The American flag has been hoisted at Havana. It was a simple ceremony and no untoward incident happened.

FRENCH DEMANDS AT SHANGHAI.

The *Times* strongly protests against the French dog-in-the-manger policy at Shanghai, and declares that Britain does not intend to submit to such treatment.

[We find the following in the *N-C Daily News* of Dec. 30:—It is stated that it has been arranged at Peking between the French Minister and the Tsung-li Yamen, that Palsienjao district, which includes the New Cemetery, shall be added to the present French Settlement. How land belonging to the citizens and subjects of other Powers within the new Settlement limits will be affected by this extension appears to be not yet determined, but strong objection will be made to its passing under the control of the French Consular authorities.]

REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

London, Jan. 4.

The American Government is hastening the despatch of reinforcements to the

Philippines. Six regiments will leave within a fortnight.

PORTUGAL AND HER COLONIES.

SPEECH BY KING CARLOS.

On the occasion of the opening of the Portuguese Cortes, the King dwelt on the necessity of preserving and developing the colonies in their entirety as a sacred heritage.

ANOTHER SOUDAN EXPEDITION.

A Reuter's telegram from Cairo states that Colonel Kitchener has started to assume command of an expedition from Dulim against the Khalifa, who is raiding the Arabs of that district.

DEATH OF THE DUKE OF NORTH-UMBERLAND.

The death is announced of Algernon George Percy, Duke of Northumberland.

[The Most Noble Algernon George Percy Duke of Northumberland was the eldest surviving son of George, late Duke, by the marriage with Louisa Harcourt, third daughter of the late Hon. James Stuart-Wortley-Mackenzie, and sister of the first Lord Wharfedale. He was born in 1810, and was educated at Eton and Cambridge, of which University he was created a Doctor of Laws in 1852. He served for some years in the Grenadier Guards, from which he retired with the rank of Captain. He first entered Parliament as M.P. for the borough of Brearston (disfranchised under the first Reform Act), and represented the northern division of Northumberland in the Conservative interest from 1853 down to 1865. He held office in 1858-9, first as a Lord of the Admiralty, and afterwards as Vice-President of the Board of Trade. He was appointed Lord Privy Seal, on the Earl of Beaconsfield resigning that office, in Feb., 1878. In Aug. of that year he was appointed to preside over the Royal Commission which had been charged with conducting an inquiry into the Parochial Charities of the City of London. He went out of office with his party in April, 1880. His Grace was President of the Royal Institution, and of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, and Hon. Colonel of the Northumberland Artillery Volunteers; and he was created an honorary D.C.L. of Oxford in 1870. He married, in 1845, Louisa, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Drummond, M.P., of Albany park, Surrey. He is succeeded by his son, Earl Percy, born in 1846—*Men of the Time*.]

THE PHILIPPINES.

MASSACRE OF SPANIARDS.

London, Jan. 5.

A Spanish official telegram states that the insurgents at Balabac have massacred all Spaniards except women.

BONAPARTIST MANIFESTO.

PRINCE VICTOR PLANS A COUP.

A statement has been published on behalf of Prince Victor Bonaparte, declaring that he is preparing to act as soon as certain events, which are nearer than is supposed, occur. It is useless—the manifesto continues—to attempt anything by legal means. The Prince is therefore planning to act forcibly, aided by the military prestige and talents of his brother Louis.

(FROM THE "HUGO NEWS.")

THE DREYFUS CASE.

EXAMINATION OF M. CASIMIR-PERIER.

London, Dec. 29, 1898.

The Court of Cassation has examined M. Casimir-Perier.

MR. STEWART LOCKHART.

London, Dec. 29.

Mr. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary and Registrar General of Hongkong, has sailed for Hongkong.

THE RIOTS IN MILAN.

AMNESTY ANNOUNCED.

London, Dec. 29.

King Humbert has amnestied 2,700 persons condemned to various terms of imprisonment for complicity in the riots at Milan last summer.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

MARITIME ACCIDENT NEAR AMOY.

Amoy, December 29.

The American sailing vessel *Berlin* has gone ashore inside Dodd Island. The *Berlin* is laden with kerosene oil.

Amoy, December 23.

The Douglas steamer *Haitan* reports that the American sailing vessel *Berlin*, which went ashore inside Dodd Island, near Amoy, is now under water.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

U.S. TROOPS SENT TO ILOILO.

Hongkong, Dec. 29.

Two Regiments of Infantry, with two batteries of Artillery, under General Miller, left Manila on the 26th inst. for Iloilo, under escort of the cruises *Baltimore*.

It is said that dissensions have broken out at the native headquarters at Mololos and that a strong section is endeavouring to oust Aguinaldo.

(FROM THE "ASAMI SHIMBUN.")

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

THE NEWCHANG RAILWAY.

Peking, Jan. 2.

The Chinese Government has given the concession for the Railway between Shanghai-Kwan and Peking to the same British capitalists who obtained the concession for the Newchang Railway.

THE CLAIMS OF THE POWERS.

The claims of Germany for the murder of missionaries have been almost settled. Great Britain does not put forward any claims on the Chinese Authorities. The Japanese claims for the disturbance and sacking of a Japanese shop in Soochow are also almost on the point of settlement. Some of the local officials have been discharged.

Peking, Jan. 4.

An Imperial Ordinance has been issued to the effect that the chief military officials of the the provinces are to be accredited to the Tsung-li Yamen, and to take part in conferences on foreign matters.

(FROM JAPANESE SOURCES.)

MARQUIS ITO.

Osaka, Jan. 5.

This morning Marquis Ito went to the Detached Palace in Numa to pay his New Year Compliments to H.I.H. the Crown Prince.

THE "BANJO."

Kobe, Jan. 5.

This morning, the warship *Banjo* arrived here from Toba.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Antec 1	F. Jan. 6
Hongkong	M. N. Co.	Laos 2	W. Jan. 11
America	P. & O. Co.	City of Peking 3	W. Jan. 11
America	P. & O. Co.	Gaelic 4	Th. Jan. 20
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 5	Su. Jan. 25
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	M. Jan. 26
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Tu. Jan. 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Jan. 28
Hongkong	T. E. K.	America Maru	M. Jan. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	Th. Jan. 29

- 1 Left Moji on the 4th inst.
- 2 Left Shanghai on the 5th inst.
- 3 Left San Francisco on the 23rd Dec.
- 4 Left San Francisco on the 24th Dec.
- 5 Left Hongkong on the 3th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. & O. Co.	Antec	Tu. Jan. 20
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	W. Jan. 21
Shanghai	N. V. E.	Saikio Maru	W. Jan. 21
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Jan. 22
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	F. Jan. 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of India	M. Jan. 26
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Jan. 27
Europe, via S'hal.	M. N. Co.	Laos	W. Jan. 28
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	F. Jan. 29
America	T. E. K.	America Maru	W. Jan. 29
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	F. Jan. 29

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at Wright's Hotel on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 400.

WHITE.
1—B to R sq
2—Kt to Q B 7 mate
3—Kt to K B 4 mate
4—P takes P mate
5—B to Kt 2 mate
6—R takes Kt mate

BLACK.
1—Kt (K-q) moves
2—Kt (R 4) moves
3—P to B 5
4—P to B 7
5—P takes P (Kt 6)

Correct Solutions received from W. H. S. Vail, M. P., S. S., Omega, and Marco.

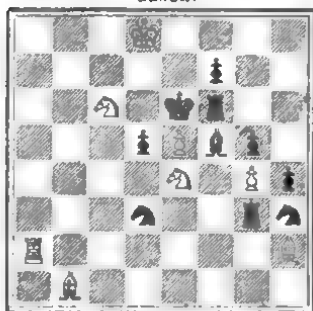
PROBLEM NO. 404.

By THE "DOMINE."

Dedicated to "Happy" Bampton of the Franklin Chess Club.

(From the Times, Philadelphia.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White mates in two moves.

GAME NO. 465.

VIENNA OPENING.

White—J. M'Connell. Black—E. Lasker.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	20 P Q5	P B4
2 Q Kt B3	Q Kt B3	21 R K q	P B5
3 P B4	P x P (a)	22 B Kt q	Kt B4
4 B B4(b)	Q R5ch	23 K Kt Q4	Kt Q6
5 K B-q	B B4	24 B x Kt	P x B
6 Q K2(c)	P Q3(d)	25 B B6(h)	B x Kt (Q4)
7 Kt B3	Q Q-q	26 B x B	B x Kt
8 Kt Q5(n)	Kt B3	27 Q P x B	Kt B5
9 P B3	P Q R3	28 Q x P	Kt K4
10 P Q4	B R2	29 B x Kt	P x B
11 Q B x P	P K R3	30 R x P	Q B3
12 P K R3	Castles	31 R Q5	R K B-q
13 B Q3	B K3	32 K R2	Q K q
14 Q Q3	Kt Q2	33 R Q q	P O K q
15 H x R P	P H4(f)	34 P Q K3	P Q R4
16 Kt K5	Q B4	35 Q Kt3(i)	R x B P
17 Kt B4	B B2	36 R x R	Q K5ch
18 P x P	Kt R4(g)	37 Q K3	Q x R
19 Kt K6	R K q	38 P K7	Resigns

(From the American Chess Magazine, October, with Mr. M'Connell's Notes.)

(a) White up to this point plays the Vienna Opening.

(b) This constitutes the initial move in the opening, which has certainly the claim of novelty, and is susceptible of very interesting variations. Another variation of Mr. M'Connell's is, instead of the text move, 4—B to B 4, to play 4—P to K 4. Both variations lead at once to an open game, and intricate situations seemingly new and worthy of careful study.

(c) The only move available for White to prevent Black's getting an immediate and decisive advantage.

(d) Here, instead of the text play of 6—P to Q 3, Black could play 6—Kt to Q 5. White's reply would be 7—Kt to B 3, resulting necessarily in an exchange either of the Queens or of the Knights, and in either event an apparently equal game, with probable advantage for White. The fact that Mr. Lasker adopted the more conservative move of 6—P to Q 3, followed on the next move by the retreat of the Queen, is in itself strong evidence of the soundness of this new opening.

(e) The early development of the Queen's Knight, followed by the opportune advance of the King's Rook's Pawn, constitute the leading features of the game.

(f) Probably the best move at Black's command, as he could not with safety accept the offered sacrifice of the Bishop.

(g) Evidently with the purpose of development on the Queen's side by advance of Q B P.

(h) A second offer of sacrifice of this Bishop, which Black cannot safely accept.

(i) Here, of course, a better play for the White would have been 35—P to K R 4, and the advance of the Pawns would have been irresistible. White's error in moving 35—Q to Kt 3 caused the loss of a valuable centre Pawn; but this was not sufficient gain to alter the result. Black's game was then hopeless.

GAME NO. 466.

HOW MR. BURN SACRIFICED HIS QUEEN.

KING'S GAMBIT.

White.—Mr. —.		Black.—Mr. Burn.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 Kt QB3(n)	Kt Kt K5
2 P KB4	P x P	16 K K2	Kt KB7
3 Kt KB3	P K K4	17 Q K2	B Kt6ch
4 B QB4	B Kt2	18 R B3(f)	Kt K4ch
5 Castles	P Q3	19 K B4	R Kt q
6 P K K3(a)	P K K5	20 B x B	Kt x Bch
7 Kt KR4	P KB6	21 K B5	Castles
8 P Q4	B KB3	22 Kt Q5	QR K-q
9 Kt P(h)	P x Kt	23 P QB3	Kt QB3
10 Q x P	B x Pch	24 Q K B-q(x)	
11 K R-q	Q KB3		Kt KB7(l)
12 Q KR5	Q x Rch(c)	25 P x B(i)	K x Q Pch
13 R x Q	Rt KB3	26 K B4	R x K Pmate
14 Q Q-q(d)	Kt QB3		

Notes by W. H. S. Mouch in *Common Sense*, Dublin.

(a) Of doubtful excellence.

(b) Perhaps best. It gives him a good attack. The position is similar to the Muzio.

(c) The sacrifice is now necessary, but Black could have avoided it by playing Q to K 2 instead of Q to K B 3 on the preceding move. Q to K 2 would only have cost a P and deprived him of the power of castling.

(d) This seems weak, but White has no good move.

(e) Here Mr. Van Vliet, in the *Hereford Times* (from which this game is taken), recommends B to Q Kt 5.

(f) Playing to win. Had he moved the K to Kt-q, it is doubtful whether Black could do more than accept the draw by repetition of checks.

(g) Of course if he takes the B, Black wins the Q by retaking with Kt ch.

(h) Mr. Van Vliet marks this move as a strong one. It is probably good enough to win, but overlooks a forced mate in five moves, viz: 24—R to K 4 ch; 25—K to B 6, R to Kt 4 ch; 26—P takes B, R (Kt 4) to Kt 3 ch; 27—K takes P, Kt to Q-q ch; 28—K to K 7, R to K 3, mate; if 26—K takes P, mate follows thus: 26—K takes P, Kt to Q-q ch; 27—K to K 7, R (Kt 4) to Kt 2 ch; 28—Q interposes, R takes Q mate.

(i) Leading to mate in two moves. But it is not easy to see what to do. Besides the mate already pointed out, Black threatens R to K 3, R to K B 3 ch, and Kt to K 2 mate. I do not, however, see a forced mate in this position. White's best move seems to be K B 4, answering R to K 3 by P to K 5, when, if Black plays P takes P, he may continue with B to Kt 5.

NOTES.

A representative of the *Brooklyn Eagle* recently had an interesting interview with Steinitz. One of the first points touched on was the champion's present playing strength. He freely admitted that the pace to-day, especially in tournaments, was a bit too fast for him, and that he lacked the endurance so essential to success in long drawn-out contests. Barring this, he asserts that his chess powers are not failing him, and ascribes the cause of occasional set-backs to errors committed through weariness after long sittings. In the matter of position judgment, however, he will play second fiddle to no one, being of the firm belief that, given favourable surroundings, complete health and not too exacting a schedule, he would still have something to say concerning the championship. Mr. Steinitz, who, by the way, has been an American citizen since 1888, is still a game ahead of Pillsbury in personal encounters. He will not, however, issue a challenge at present, though ready if called on to play, as he is engaged with his professional duties as instructor of chess and busy with work on his book.

Referring to the Vienna tournament, Mr. Steinitz said that eight hours of play a day in a journey of such duration had proved too much for him, and that, furthermore, all the luck which figured in his games went against him, to the end that in all five and one-half points really due him

were thrown away and with them his chances of first prize, of which he had entertained sanguine hopes. The element of luck, acknowledged to affect contests of the kind to a certain degree, frequently plays havoc with the scores of competitors, especially when there are disturbing influences such as the peculiar tactics pursued by Walbrodt throughout the tournament. The young Berliner made it a practice to arrive late at the place of play, then to "play in the gallery" by making his moves with great rapidity, necessitated by the loss of time on his clock during his absence. He made a sensational draw with Tarrasch under these conditions, and again forfeited an entire game by non-appearance. On another occasion, to insure his presence for an important game, Shewalter was obliged to set out to his hotel for him in a carriage. Consequently, while he took second prize the previous year at Berlin, he finished fifteenth at Vienna.

Steinitz claimed to have had a win in his game with Pillsbury, whose Ruy Lopez he defeated with the famous 3—P to Q 3, but in an unguarded moment he took Pillsbury's sacrificed knight with the wrong pawn and lost the game. Against Blackburne he had two pawns to the good and with Janowski he had a sure draw in hand, both games being unfinished on the first day. After a long adjournment, during which he had somewhat lost his mental grasp on the positions, the games were resumed and he only drew in the first instance and lost to Janowski. On the score of adjournments the ex-champion had a grievance against the committee managing the congress. In case a game was adjourned a rule provided that there should be no examination of the position by the players during the interval. To this rule Steinitz has made it a practice to adhere, whether in force or not, merely from a sense of fairness, and doubtless has often suffered by it, to the advantage of an opponent not so exact. At Vienna there was a flagrant violation of the spirit of this rule, when the committee failed to interfere with open analysis of unfinished games by other players and spectators in the hall of the tourney. Mr. Steinitz was proud of the fact that he was the oldest of the competitors, excepting Schwarz, who went completely to pieces. The other veteran, Blackburne, was not placed among the prize winners.

Concluding, Mr. Steinitz, in answer to a question, said:—"I most positively still adhere to my belief in the soundness and efficiency of my defence to the Ruy Lopez, and also of my novel continuation against the Two Knights' defence, wherein the white knight is played out to K 3. Furthermore, I have still faith in my treatment of the Evans Gambit, and expect soon to have something to say concerning the Steinitz Gambit, which has recently been discredited on the strength of a single variation, which occurred in a game played blindfolded by me against two adversaries in consultation. These moves of mine are not eccentricities, as certain vivacities like to term them, but are based on the development of certain principles of play that I have adopted for guidance throughout the greater part of my career. As you well know, I do not hesitate to practice my theories with the best players of the day."

The championship of the Melbourne Club has been won by Mr. Watson, 19 years old, who made his debut in serious chess in this tournament with nine wins and two losses.

The latest Chess-magazine is the *Tygodnik Szachowy*, published in Warsaw, Russia.

In the Vienna Tournament, of the 342 games played there were 231 won games and 111 draws.

Richelin, in *The Times*, says that there are 400 towns in the United States able to support Chess clubs.

Curiously enough most players who have won a blue ribbon of chess have done so right away, and, comparatively speaking, shortly after they began, and not by successive stages of improvements. This is true of Lasker, Tarrasch, Pillsbury, as well as of most of the old players.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hi Sang, British steamer, 1,050, Crockett, 30th Dec.—Hongkong, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Vindobona, Austrian steamer, 2,680, Mersa, 30th Dec.—Trieste via ports, Hongkong, 23d Dec. General.—Browne & Co.
Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nube, 30th Dec.—Yokohama, 29th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kai-ka.
Ningpo, British steamer, 1,100, Philip, 30th Dec.—Manila, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, N. Ohno, 30th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 24th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F. W. Horton, 31st December, Otaru via ports, 26th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, 31st Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 29th Dec., General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, Filmore, 21st Dec.,—London via ports, Kobe, 30th Dec., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 31st December, Kobe, 29th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, K. Tada, 31st Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 30th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 31st Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 30th Dec., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F. W. Horton, 1st Jan.,—Otaru via ports, 27th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Foyledale, British ship, 1,666, McCann, 3rd Jan.,—New York, 29th July, Kerosene Oil.—Standard & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, James Jones, 3rd January, Australia via ports, Kobe 2nd January, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, S. B. Lockyer, 3rd January, Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe 2nd January, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 3rd January, Yokkaichi 2nd January, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, P. H. Gung, 4th Jan.,—London via ports, Kobe, 3rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fifeshire, British barque, 1,318, W. M. Caddell, 4th Jan.,—Antwerp, 14th May, via Cape Town, 24th Sept.,—Cast Iron Pipes.—To Order.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Tsuji, 5th Jan.,—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 3rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, S. Ishikawa, 5th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 4th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, K. Yabe, 5th Jan.,—Kobe, 3rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 5th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, 31st Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsairon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, K. Kato, 5th Jan.,—Kobe, 3rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibbals, 6th Jan.,—Kobe, 4th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yajo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Weilbach, 6th Jan.,—Hakodate, 3rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Frankistan, British ship, 1,900, Shepherd, 30th Dec.,—Royal Roads, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 30th December, Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, M. Yagi, 30th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Mumezono, 31st December, Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Tibbals, 31st Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

St. Mary's Bay, British barque, 1,115, James Macfarlane, 31st December, Portland Oregon, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, J. C. Williamson, Portland, Oregon via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Belgian King, British steamer, 2,170, T. L. Weiss, 31st Dec.,—San Diego, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,265, W. H. Cape, 31st December, Hongkong, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 31st Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 3rd Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F. W. Horton, 3rd January, Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinogawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 3rd January, Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indus, French steamer, 2,300, Chevalier, 4th January, Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, N. Ohno, 4th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 4th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Vindobona, Austrian steamer, 2,689, Mersa, 5th Jan.,—Tientsin via ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Tsairon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, K. Kato, 5th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer **City of Rio de Janeiro**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. Sutherland, Mr. and Mrs. E. Young, Mr. J. W. Young, and Mr. L. Cresole, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. C. E. Brown, Mr. J. Springer, Capt. H. Glass, Mr. L. Baskett, Mrs. B. Carrington, Mr. E. Hirschberg, Miss L. Carrington, Mr. H. Ryder, Mr. H. M. Leps, Mr. R. S. Maxwell, Mr. Sakhasoff, and Mr. G. L. Rathbone, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Rohilla**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Tsui Yuan Men, Miss Hiron, Mr. Wimp Man Lung, Mr. and Mrs. Ito, Mr. W. Ellis, Lieut. Jde. Lohmann, Mrs. Jde. Lohmann, Mr. Mareno Mess, Miss Omer, Captain Thomson, Captain James, Mr. F. Nakamura, Mr. H. E. R. yneth, and Mr. H. J. Rothwell in cabin; 6 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Empress of Japan**, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss B. J. Allen, Major G. Bowring, Captain R. E. Carey, Mr. Gerard Rowke, Dr. E. H. Horsey, Mrs. L. R. Johnson, Mr. C. Kawakami, Major R. A. Mathews, Mr. S. Matsuyata, Captain R. R. Renton, Mr. C. M. Reynolds, Mr. K. Sato, and Mr. W. E. Torrens, in cabin.

Per American steamer **City of Rio de Janeiro**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Allen, Mr. C. E. Brown, Mrs. B. Carrington and infant, Miss Lucile Carrington, Captain J. E. Carter, Lieut. M. B. Duncan, U.S.A., Mr. Robert S. Folsen, Captain H. Glass, U.S.N., Mr. E. Hirschberg, Lieut. C. E. Hooper, U.S.A., Mr. A. Imhoff, Mr. Elmo D. Kimbrell, Mr. A. Lee, Mrs. A. Lee, Mr. H. P. Leps, Mr. R. S. Maxwell, Lieut. E. B. McCormick, U.S.A., Mr. G. L. Rathbone, Mr. H. Ryder, Mr. J. Springer, Mr. Sakhasoff, and Mr. H. Haragaya, in cabin.

Per French steamer **Indus**, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. John Barrett, Mr. S. D. B. Wheeler, Mr. E. Rogers, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Philipoff, Mrs. Kosoroff, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Dumes, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wenyon, Mr. and Mrs. L. Salabelle and 3 children, Mr. K. Otani, Mr. S. Umegami, Mr. Ogawa, Mr. K. Sasaki, Mr. L. Poltoratsky, Mr. M. Tarletsky, Mr. W. A. Deane, Mr. E. Savouret, Mr. Cudenei, Mr. G. H. Wigley, Mr. F. W. Fowler, Mr. R. D. Neilson, Mr. J. Hood, Mr. W. C. Morrison, Mr. G. C. Vogel, Mr. E. Hug, and Mr. J. Gillespie in cabin: one passenger in steerage.

CARGO.

Per French steamer **Indus**, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 444 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 32 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

The godowns are now crammed with goods, and still no great demand comes from native buyers, who are probably waiting their time to secure favourable terms. At present the signs of a general revival are small.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER CANTAR.
Grey Shirtings—24h, 38h yds, 30 inches	\$2.55 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—24h, 38h yds, 35 inches	2.85 to 3.35
1 Cloth—7h, 21 yds, 35 inches	1.80 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 35 inches	1.60 to 2.30
Prints—Assorted, 21 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cottons—Italian and Sattoria black, 35 inches	0.14 to 0.25

WOOLLENS.

	PER CANTAR.
Flannels	0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds	0.18 to 0.40
Amazuline de l'anne—Cape, 21 yds, 35 inches	0.15 to 0.25
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 54 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 to 56 inches	0.40 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and green, 3 to 5h	0.55 to 0.67

	PER CANTAR.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 22 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—5.0 to 5.0h, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4h, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.50 to 3.40

CUTTED YARDS.

	PER CANTAR.
No. 16 24. Singles	\$34.50 to 36.50
No. 18 32. Singles	Nominal
No. 18 32. Singles	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32. Doubles	41.00 to 41.50
No. 48. Doubles	44.50 to 45.50
No. 1 60. Plain	64.00 to 65.00
No. 1 60. Plain	76.00 to 77.00
No. 2 100. Plain	97.00 to 99.00
No. 2 100. Gassed	70.00 to 75.00
No. 2 80. Gassed	84.50 to 90.00
No. 2 100. Gassed	112.00 to 115.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER CANTAR.
American Middling	\$18.50 to —
Indian Broach	18.25 —
Chinese	18.25 —

RICE & S.

The market is quiet at last quoted prices.

	PER CANTAR.
Round and square 4 lech. and upward	4.00 to 4.35
Iron Plates, assorted	4.25 to 4.65
Sheet Iron	3.00 to 3.20
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.05 to 6.35
Lin Plates, per bar	6.20 to 6.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.10
Loop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	3.00 to 3.25

IRON & S.

Last week's rates are maintained.

American	\$2.18 to 2.20
Russian	2.15 to 2.17
Langkat	1.95

SUGAR.

Trade is steady at the prices quoted last week.

	PER CANTAR.
Brown Takan	\$5.20 to 5.35
Brown Manila	5.40 to 6.00
Brown Daitong	4.80 to 6.25
Brown Canton	3.90 to 5.60
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 7.00
White Refined	7.95 to 8.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Since the holidays some fairly large shipments have been made, and the demand from America has improved.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/15, 10/15 den	\$630 to 930
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, 10/15 deniers	\$90 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 10/15 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 13/15 deniers	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/15 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/15 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 3, 13/15 deniers	Nominal
Kakadas—Extra	860 to 870
Kakadas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakadas—No. 11	830 to 840
Kakadas—No. 2	800 to 810
Kakadas—No. 21	800 to 810

WASTE SILK.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$110 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oahu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Medium	Nominal
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	67to 70
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 67
Noshi—Bushi, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Bushi, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshu, Good	55 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	50 to 55
Kibiso—Filature, Best	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	75 to 80
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 25

TKA.

The market is quite lifeless, and quotations are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	Nominal.
Finest	\$19 to 30
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	15 to 25
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[RUSSIAN, HAWAII & URU'S LIST.]

Yokohama, January 5th.

The following quotations received by wire from Hongkong show a marked improvement in the principal Hongkong stocks after the turn of the year, viz:—

H. & S. Banks	251% prem. Sales.
National Banks	\$17 Sellers.
China River	\$88 Buyers.
Hongkong Fires	\$320 Sales.

H. & W. Docks..... 201% prem. Sales.
H. & K. Wharfs \$76 Sales.
Douglases \$53 Sales.
Indo-Chinas \$61 Buyers.
Punjom Mines \$6 Buyers.
Raub Mines \$49 Buyers.
Hongkong Lauds \$74 Sales.
Union Insurance \$230 Sellers.
China Traders \$62.50 Buyers.
H. C. & M. Steamboats \$26.50 Buyers.
Smiths Insurance \$7 Sellers.
Raub Mines were purchased from Hongkong to-day at \$49.50.

LOCAL STOCKS.

Y. U. Club Debentures changed hands to-day at yen 101. Iron Works continue in demand at yen 225. Grand Hotels are wanted at yen 225. Club Hotels can be had at yen 105. Oriental Hotels Ordinary shares have sellers at yen 105. Founders' shares are nominal at yen 450. Japan Brewery old shares obtainable at yen 325 and new shares with yen 40 paid up at yen 135. Breits can be had at yen 9.50, buyers offer yen 9. North & Raes have buyers at yen 200. Langfeldts—A few shares can be had at yen 235. Japan Brewery Debentures are procurable at yen 110 and Oriental Hotel Debentures at yen 110 ex accrued interest in both cases as usual. Nagasaki Hotels have sellers at yen 40.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd. \$50 205 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. \$100, Old 325 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. yen 50 (yen 40 paid up) 135 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd. \$100 205 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. \$100 205 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. \$100 220 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdr.) \$10 450 N.
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd. yen 200 40 S.
North and Raes, Ltd. \$100 200 N.
Breit & Co., Ltd. \$100 9.50 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd. \$100 235 S.
Higo Gas Co., Ltd. \$100 180 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7% Deb. \$100 301 S.
Kobe Club 6% Deb. \$50 30 S.
Yokohama United Club 5% Deb. \$100 100 N.
Breit & Co., Ltd. 7% Deb. \$100 100 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb. \$100 110 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7% Deb. \$100 200 N.
Reserve Fund.—1, yen 110,000; 2, yen 3,200 equalization of dividends and yen 30,000 fluctuation of property; 3, yen 17,770-80; 4, yen 16,208-44.
N.Y.—S. Sellers, B.—Buyers, Se.—Sales, St.—steady.
N.—Nominal, W.—Weak E.—Enquiries.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 5th.
Rates unaltered, with silver from London and sterling quotations from China the same as yesterday. The Specie Bank was closed to-day, being Japanese holiday.

Bank T.T. 2/0 1/2 to 1 1/2
— Bills on demand ... 2/0 1/2 to 1 1/2
— 4 months' sight ... 2/0 1/2 to 1 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight ... 2 1/4
— 6 months' sight ... 2 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight 259 to 1 1/2
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ... 264 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand ... 49 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight ... 51 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight 1.09
— Private 4 months' sight ... 2.14 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight 4 1/2% dis.
— Private to days' sight 5 1/2 to 6% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight 75 1/2
— Private to days' sight ... 76 1/2 to 7
On India—Bank sight 153
— Private 30 days' sight ... 15 1/2
No. Silver (London) 27 1/2

989



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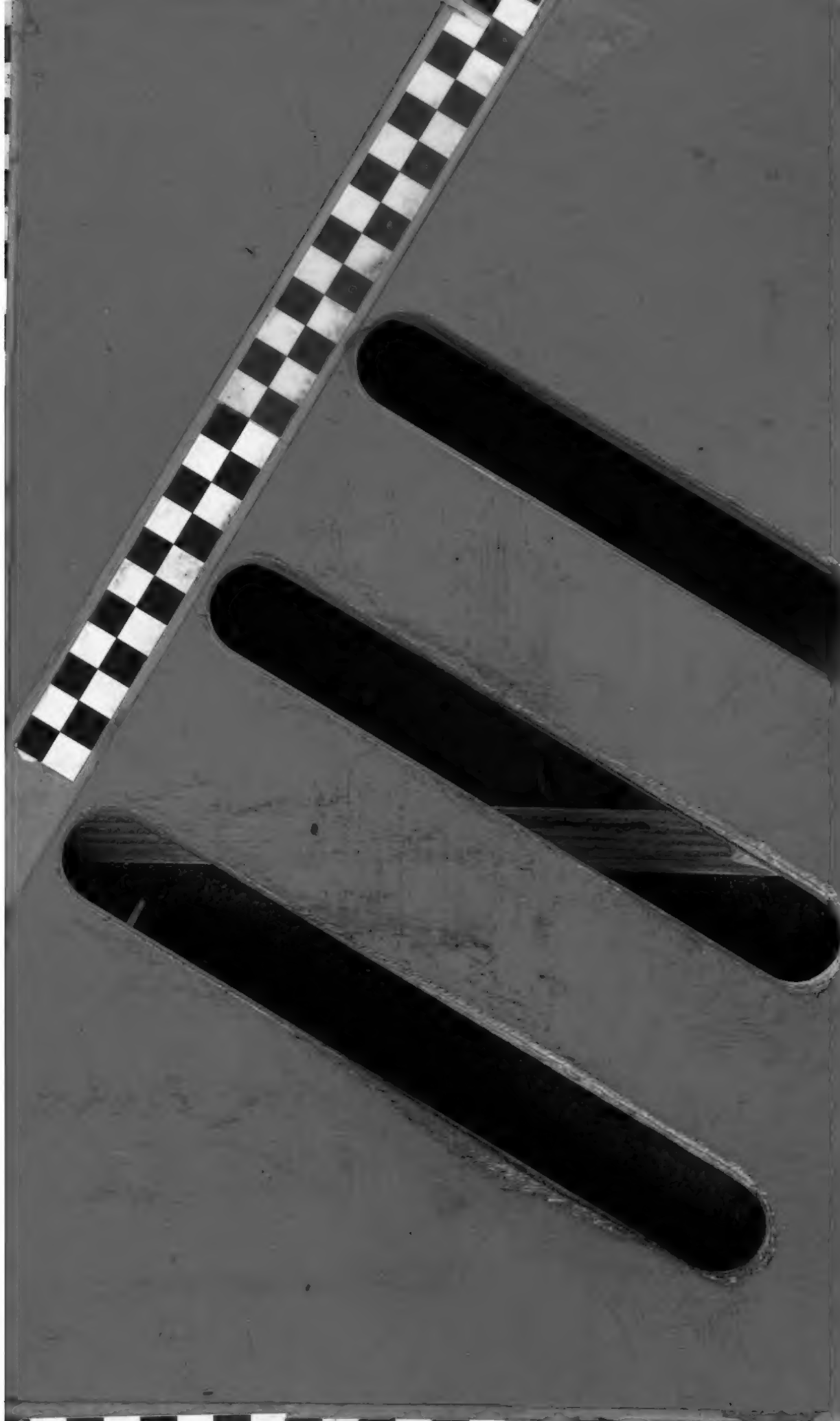
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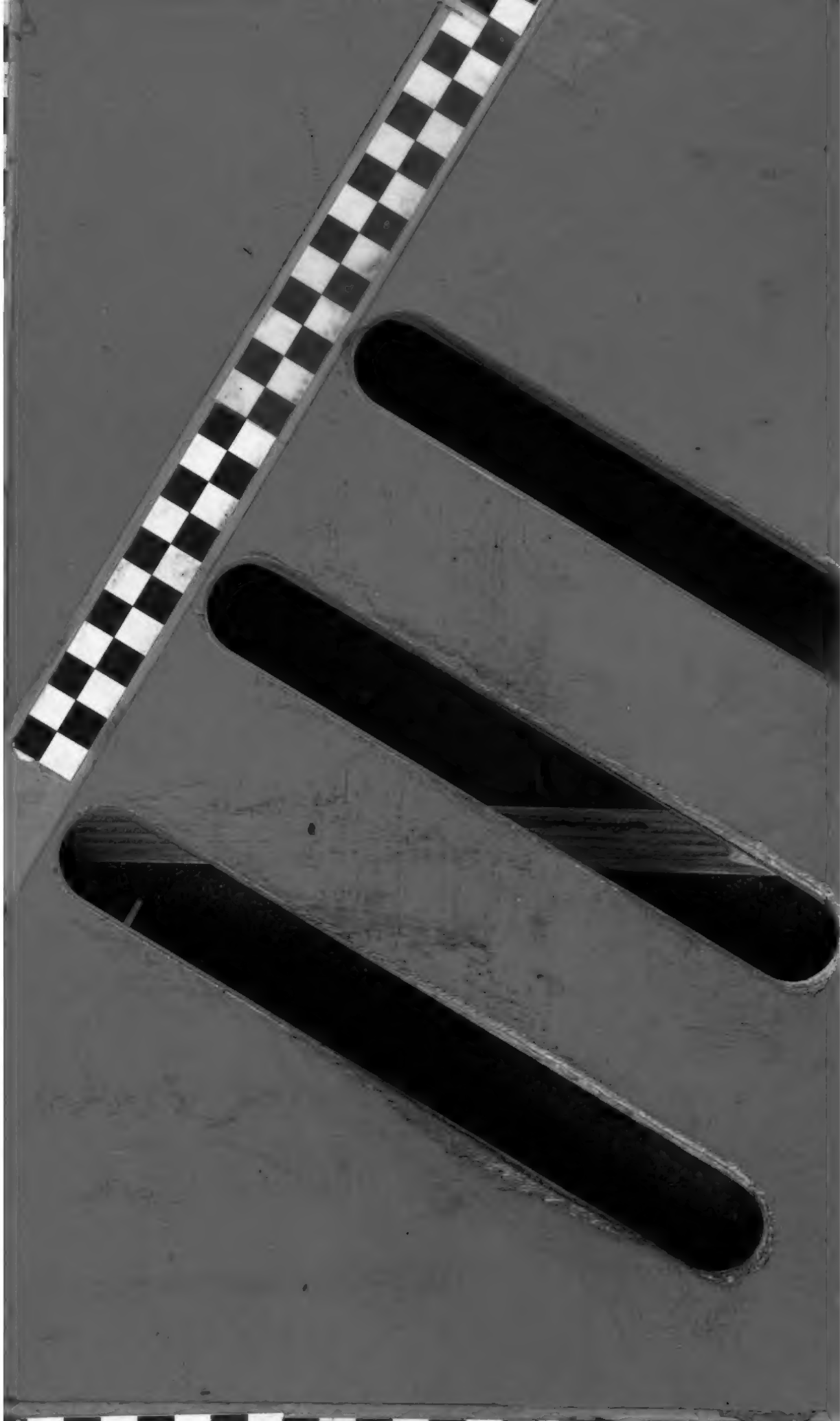
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